Curtins Farm Walk Notes 14-03-17

Farm Details:
Area available 48 ha
Farm Cover 1013 kg/DM/Ha (342kg DM /cow)
Growth rate has averaged 21 kg/DM/ha per day.
Demand is 44 kg DM / ha/day
Supplement: Concentrate 1 kgs /cow/day.

Grass Supply

Growth rate was 21 kg DM/ha per day and demand was set at 44 kg DM/ha. Growth is good. Average farm cover (AFC) is 1013 kg DM/ha and is ahead of target. We are currently grazing covers of 1300kg DM/ha to increase our area grazed. To date there is 52% of the farm grazed. Target Pre-grazing yield is 1776 kg DM/ha and we are allocating 15 kg DM of grass, and 1 kg of concentrate.
Grazing conditions
Ground conditions are excellent and post grazing residuals are on target (<3.5 cm). We are using 12hr strip wires and allocating 15 kgs of grass / day. Cows are out full time since 6th Feb. We have let out 20 dry cows to increase our demand to reduce our AFC and also increase the % grazed by the 20th of March.

Supplements
Cows are being fed 1 kg of a high energy (0.94 UFL), low protein (14%) concentrate.

Fertiliser
On the 19th of Jan 65% of the farm got 23 units of Urea / acre. The remaining 35% got 2500 gallons of slurry / acre. On the 27th of February 20% of the area grazed got 2000 gallons of slurry / acre. On the 10th of March we blanket spread the farm with 40 units of Urea / acre.

Milk Production
- 21.0 litres / cow/ day
- 5.28% Fat
- 3.43% Protein
- 1.88 kg MS
- SCC 206,000

Calving
Calving started on the 2nd Feb, to date we have 84% of the herd calved. Heifer calves are reared on farm until weaned then sent off to be contract reared. Bull calves are sold at 10 days of age.

Priorities
- Area grazed – targeting 60-65% by 20th March
- Good Utilisation.
- Minimise damage to paddocks