Curtins Farm Walk Notes 12-06-17

Farm Details:
Area available 48 ha
Farm Cover 530 kg/DM/Ha (156kg DM /cow)
Growth rate has averaged 68 kg/DM/ha per day.
Demand is 58kg DM / ha/day
Supplement: Concentrate 0.2 kgs /cow/day.

Grass Supply

Growth rate was 68 kg DM/ha per day and demand was set at 58 kg DM/ha. Average farm cover (AFC) is 530 kg DM/ha and cover / cow is 156 kg DM/ Ha, which is on target. We are currently grazing covers of 1200 kg DM/ha. We have two paddocks taken out as surplus one of which was cut today. Target Pre-grazing yield is 1156 kg DM/ha and we are allocating 17 kg DM of grass, and 0.2 kg of concentrate.
Grazing conditions
Ground conditions are good and improving with good weather forecast for the next week. Post grazing residuals are on target (<4.0 cm) and are easy to achieve when grazing covers of 1200 kg DM/Ha. We are allocating on a 24-36 hr basis.

Supplements
Cows are being fed 0.2 kg of a high energy (0.94 UFL), low protein (14%) concentrate. This is to help cow flow at milking time. Minerals (Mg, I, Se, Zn, Cu and Co) are being administered through the water.

Silage
We cut 10% of the area on the 11\textsuperscript{th} of May. This area was skipped in the first rotation. It yielded 6 bales to the acre. First cut silage was cut on the 30\textsuperscript{th} of May; this yielded 13 bales to the acre. We now have 60% of our winter forage conserved. We have skipped two paddock as surplus (>1800kgs DM/ Ha) one of which was cut today.

Fertiliser
We are currently following the cows with 27 units Sulpha CAN.

Milk Production
- 20.2 litres / cow/ day
- 4.85% Fat
- 3.55 Protein
- 1.74 kg MS
- SCC 89,000

Breeding
Breeding began on the 25\textsuperscript{th} of April. We achieved a 94% submission rate in 21 days. We used artificial insemination for 6 weeks and are now using AA stock bulls.

Bulls Selection for 2017
- FR2385 Nextgen Candy
- FR2007 Nextgen Brigade
- FR2053 Ballybride Cardiff
- FR2053 Kildarra Maestro
- FR2005 Kealfincheon Norman
- FR4103 Rossbare Leo
- JE2438 Conrad
- JHC Hijinx

Priorities
- Monitor grass wedge and cover / cow
- Good Utilisation.
- Breeding