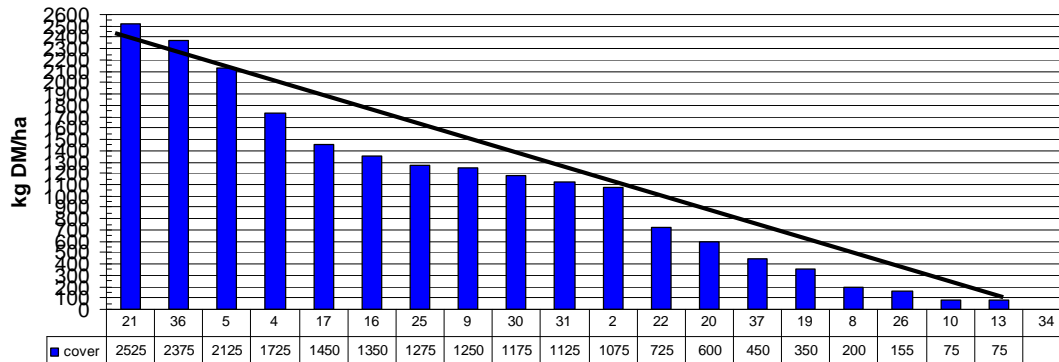


## Ballyhaise Weekly report 02/10/2008

### 1. Farm feed wedge.

#### Farm cover 1055kg DM/ha (334/LU)



2. Average growth for the past 7 days was 55 kg DM/ha/day.
3. Mean soil temperature today is 11.1deg Celsius.
4. Total rainfall for the last 7 days was 21.4mm.
5. Average milk yield is 17.27kg at 4.30% Fat, 3.67% Protein ( 1.37kg MS/cow), SCC 420k and TBC 24k.
6. Total milk solids supply to September 1<sup>st</sup> is up 8.8% on 2007 levels (22,964 vs. 21,102).
7. Fertilizer applied to September 15<sup>th</sup> is 242 kg N per Ha.
8. Critical short term actions :

- Amended autumn budget targets are below.

| Week   | Grass cover | Cover/LU | Growth | Cow diet    |       |
|--------|-------------|----------|--------|-------------|-------|
|        | (kg dm/ha)  |          |        | (kg dm/day) | Grass |
| 13-Sep | 892         | 282      | 58.5   | 12          | 4     |
| 20-Sep | 1037        | 328      | 50.9   | 12          | 4     |
| 27-Sep | 1128        | 357      | 40.7   | 12          | 4     |
| 04-Oct | 1148        | 363      | 33.6   | 12          | 4     |

- Rotation length is currently 33 days and post-grazing height is 4.5cm.
- Cover is on target, growth is similar to budget so 4kgs of concentrate will stay in.
- Allocating grass every 12 hrs with strip wire and back fencing.

## Dairy Production Research in the Northeast

### Objective:

To increase the profitability of milk production per hectare in the BMW region through improved pasture management and utilisation in combination with genetic improvement using the Economic Breeding Index.

| Year                      | 2004   | 2007   | Target 2008 |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|-------------|
| Grazing season (days)     | 226    | 271    | 280         |
| Herd EBI (€)              | 28     | 51     | 55          |
| Stocking Rate (Cows/ha)   | 2.2    | 2.6    | 2.9         |
| Concentrate (kg/cow)      | 700    | 400    | 250         |
| Milk (kg/ha)              | 12,381 | 11,890 | 13,340      |
| Milk Solids (kg/ ha)      | 928    | 931    | 1,150       |
| 6 week pregnancy rate (%) | 38     | 55     | 65          |
| Farm Profit (30 ha)       | 37,417 | 56,182 | -           |

| Week:02/10/2008          | HG system |       |       | HS system |       |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|
|                          | ALL       | HF2   | JFX2  | ALL       | HF2   | JFX2                  |
| Milk yield (kg/cow/day)  | 17.27     | 17.44 | 19.11 | 17.22     | 18.36 | 17.98                 |
| % Fat                    | 4.27      | 4.00  | 4.72  | 4.18      | 4.01  | 4.62                  |
| % Protein                | 3.67      | 3.57  | 3.77  | 3.58      | 3.45  | 3.72                  |
| % Lactose                | 4.63      | 4.67  | 4.71  | 4.55      | 4.58  | 4.63                  |
| Milk solids (kg/cow/day) | 1.37      | 1.32  | 1.61  | 1.32      | 1.37  | 1.48                  |
| Supplement (kg/cow/day)  |           |       |       |           |       |                       |
| Concentrate              |           | 4.0   |       |           | 6.0   |                       |
| Silage                   |           | 0     |       |           | 3.5   |                       |
| <b>Cumulative</b>        |           |       |       |           |       |                       |
| Milk yield (kg/cow)      | 3,953     | 4,004 | 4,185 | 4,212     | 4,204 | 4,200                 |
| % Fat                    | 4.27      | 4.16  | 4.63  | 4.26      | 4.16  | 4.52                  |
| % Protein                | 3.36      | 3.30  | 3.48  | 3.39      | 3.27  | 3.53                  |
| % Lactose                | 4.68      | 4.69  | 4.73  | 4.69      | 4.71  | 4.76                  |
| Milk solids (kg/cow)     | 301       | 300   | 338   | 322       | 312   | 338                   |
| Bodyweight (kg)          | 504       | 510   | 466   | 530       | 528   | 489                   |
| Body Condition Score     | 2.78      | 2.68  | 2.83  | 2.74      | 2.78  | 2.69                  |
| Supplement (kg/cow)      |           | 482   |       |           | 762   |                       |
| Mean Calving Date        |           |       |       |           |       | 4 <sup>th</sup> March |



