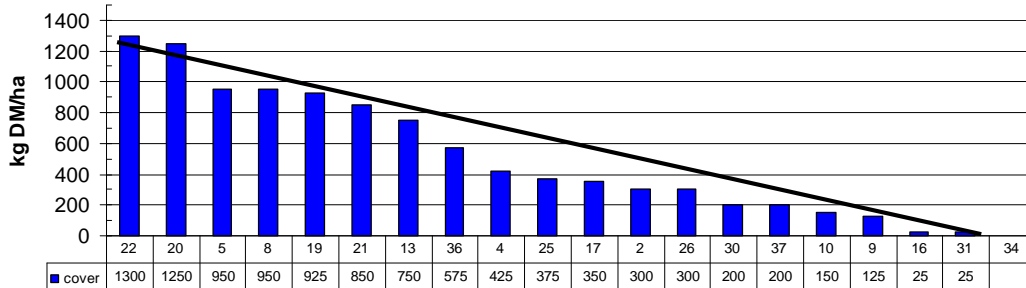


## Ballyhaise Weekly report 6/11/2008

### 1. Farm feed wedge.

**Farm cover 486kg DM/ha (154/LU)**



2. Average growth for the past 7 days was 18kg DM/ha/day.
3. Mean soil temperature today is 8.5 deg Celsius.
4. Total rainfall for the last 7 days was 4.8mm.
5. Average milk yield is 12.63kg at 4.80% Fat, 3.82% Protein (1.09kg MS/cow), SCC 259k and TBC 9k.
6. Total milk solids supply to October 1<sup>st</sup> is up 9.4% on 2007 levels (26,791 vs. 24,474).
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 |
| 25-Oct | 894         | 283      | 13.1   | 12          | 4     |
| 01-Nov | 721         | 228      | 8.6    | 9           | 6     |
| 08-Nov | 582         | 198      | 9.5    | 9           | 6     |
| 15-Nov | 450         | 153      | 6.0    | 5           | 6     |

- Rotation length is currently 36 days and post-grazing height is 3.2cm.
- Allocating 5kgs of grass every 12 hrs with strip wire and back fencing.
- Concentrate has been increased from 4kgs to 6kgs.
- Targeted 60% of the farm closed by the 5<sup>th</sup> of November (72% closed to date).

## 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:2/11/2008           | HG system |       |       | HS system |       |       |
|--------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Stocking rate (cows/ha)  | 2.9       |       |       | 4.5       |       |       |
|                          | ALL       | HF2   | JFX2  | ALL       | HF2   | JFX2  |
| Milk yield (kg/cow/day)  | 12.63     | 13.33 | 13.98 | 16.72     | 18.30 | 17.02 |
| % Fat                    | 4.59      | 4.58  | 5.05  | 4.58      | 4.34  | 5.14  |
| % Protein                | 3.85      | 3.82  | 3.96  | 3.82      | 3.67  | 3.97  |
| % Lactose                | 4.61      | 4.64  | 4.66  | 4.63      | 4.67  | 4.70  |
| Milk solids (kg/cow/day) | 1.06      | 1.11  | 1.26  | 1.39      | 1.44  | 1.53  |
| Supplement (kg/cow/day)  |           |       |       |           |       |       |
| Concentrate              |           | 6.0   |       |           | 6.0   |       |
| Silage                   |           | 0     |       |           | 3.5   |       |
| <b>Cumulative</b>        |           |       |       |           |       |       |
| Milk yield (kg/cow)      | 4,485     | 4,574 | 4,751 | 4,832     | 4,899 | 4,816 |
| % Fat                    | 4.30      | 4.18  | 4.67  | 4.31      | 4.24  | 4.59  |
| % Protein                | 3.42      | 3.36  | 3.54  | 3.43      | 3.29  | 3.57  |
| % Lactose                | 4.68      | 4.69  | 4.73  | 4.68      | 4.69  | 4.76  |
| Milk solids (kg/cow)     | 345       | 345   | 388   | 373       | 367   | 393   |
| Bodyweight (kg)          | 512       | 519   | 476   | 558       | 547   | 507   |
| Body Condition Score     | 2.69      | 2.68  | 2.73  | 2.84      | 2.94  | 2.78  |
| Supplement (kg/cow)      |           | 637   |       |           | 996   |       |
| Mean Calving Date        |           |       |       |           |       |       |

4<sup>th</sup> March



