

Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 8/6/2009

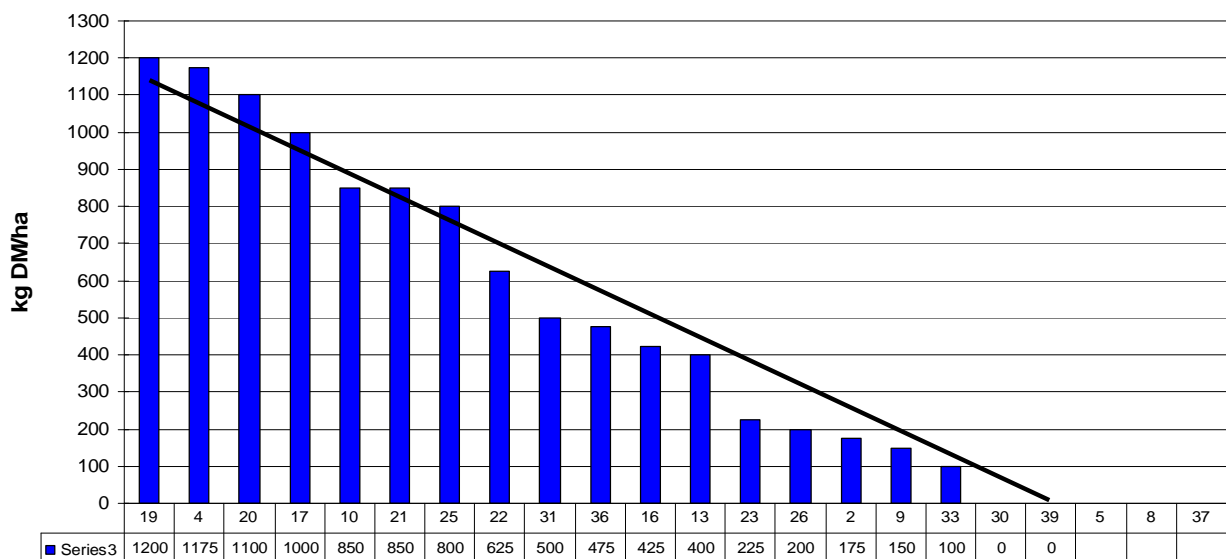
A. Critical Issues

1. Maximise cow intakes of pasture and maintain residual at 3.5cm
2. Ensure cows are getting better fed each week

B. On farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 13°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 2.1mm
3. Average growth was 54kgDM/ha, (20% DM)
4. Grass supply below target (134 vs. 150/cow)
5. Farm feed wedge (8/6/09)

Farm cover 523kg DM/ha (134/LU)



6. Paddocks 30 and 39 were cut for first cut silage and are now back in the grazing rotation. Paddock 8 has a cover of 1600kgsDM/ha so this will be baled this week. Paddocks 5 and 37 have also been skipped because of poor grass quality, they will be baled next week.
7. At stocking rate of 3.9 cows /ha, a 16kg per cow grass allowance and an 18 day rotation length our ideal pre-grazing yield is now 1125kg DM/ ha (3.9*16*18= 1125).
8. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.4cm.
9. Rotation length 19 days.
10. 30 units of N being spread on grazed paddocks.
11. Submission rate of 78% after third week of breeding season.
12. Average milk yield is 17.75kg at 3.99% fat and 3.11% protein (1.26kg MS/cow), lactose 4.77%, SCC 338k, TBC 34k.

C. Critical short term actions :

- 1kg of concentrate.
- Allocating grass on a 24hr basis.
- Cows moved when residual is reached.

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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	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:24/05/09	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	17.75	17.86
% Fat	4.42	4.32
% Protein	3.19	2.95
% Lactose	4.78	4.82
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.33	1.29
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	2	4
Silage	0	0
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	1861	1862
% Fat	4.58	4.55
% Protein	3.27	3.17
% Lactose	4.79	4.82
Milk solids (kg/cow)	145	143
Bodyweight (kg)	452	441
Body Condition Score	2.76	2.79
Supplement (kg/cow)	265	376
Mean Calving Date		4 th March

