

## Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 22/6/2009

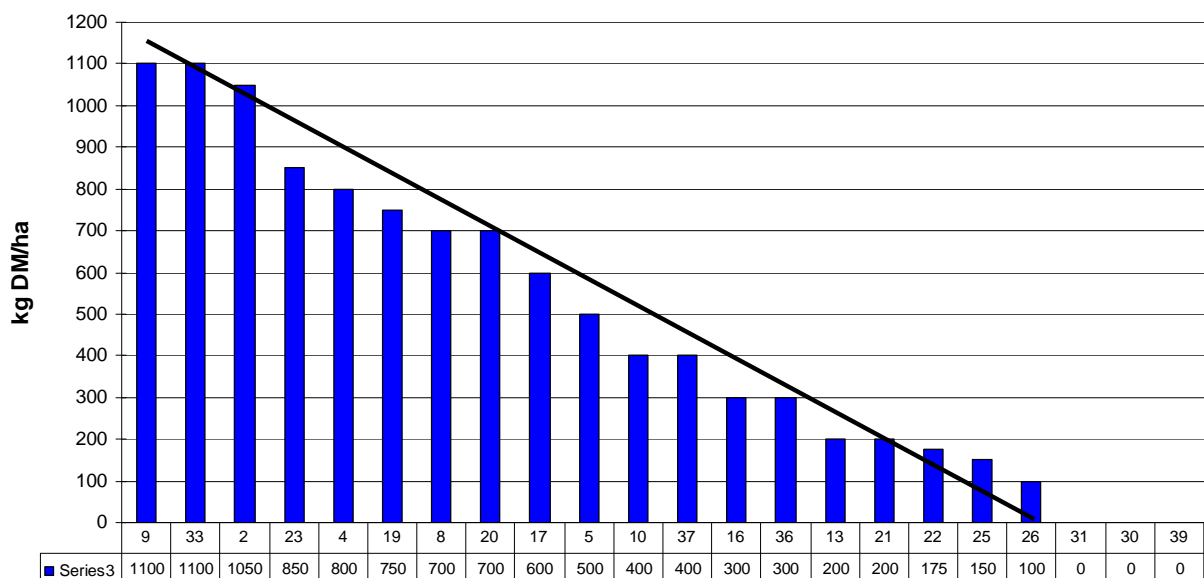
### A. Critical Issues

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 14.8°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 30.2mm
3. Average growth was 71kgDM/ha/day, (18% DM)
4. Demand is 64kgDM/ha/day (4.04 SR \* 16kgDM/cow/day).
5. Grass supply below target (141 vs. 150/cow)
6. Farm feed wedge (22/6/09)

#### Farm cover 569kg DM/ha (141/LU)



7. Paddock 31 has been skipped, this paddock had a cover of 1600kgsDM/ha and was well above the target pre-grazing yield. This has left the cover/cow slightly low at 141kg/cow but with growth of 71kgDM/ha and a demand of 64kgDM/ha this should not be a problem. This paddock will be baled next week.
8. At stocking rate of 4.04 cows /ha, a 16kg per cow grass allowance and an 18 day rotation length our ideal pre-grazing yield is now 1160kg DM/ ha (4.04\*16\*18= 1160).
9. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.4cm.
10. Rotation length 20 days.
11. 30 units of N is being spread on grazed paddocks. These paddocks are also receiving 2000gals of watery slurry from the lagoon.
12. Submission rate of 78% after third week of breeding season.

13. Average milk yield is 18.8kg at 3.89% fat and 3.33% protein (1.35kg MS/cow), lactose 4.78%, SCC 220k, TBC 50k.

**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:21/06/09                  | HG system  | HS system             |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Stocking rate (cows/ha)</b> | <b>3.1</b> | <b>4.6</b>            |
| Milk yield (kg/cow/day)        | 18.8       | 18.21                 |
| % Fat                          | 3.89       | 4.45                  |
| % Protein                      | 3.33       | 3.21                  |
| % Lactose                      | 4.82       | 4.76                  |
| Milk solids (kg/cow/day)       | 1.36       | 1.38                  |
| Supplement (kg/cow/day)        |            |                       |
| Concentrate                    | 2          | 5                     |
| Silage                         | 0          | 0                     |
| <b>Cumulative</b>              |            |                       |
| Milk yield (kg/cow)            | 2102       | 2142                  |
| % Fat                          | 4.46       | 4.53                  |
| % Protein                      | 3.28       | 3.17                  |
| % Lactose                      | 4.79       | 4.81                  |
| Milk solids (kg/cow)           | 162        | 165                   |
| Bodyweight (kg)                | 450        | 454                   |
| Body Condition Score           | 2.75       | 2.79                  |
| Supplement (kg/cow)            | 291        | 445                   |
| Mean Calving Date              |            | 4 <sup>th</sup> March |



