

Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 20/7/2009

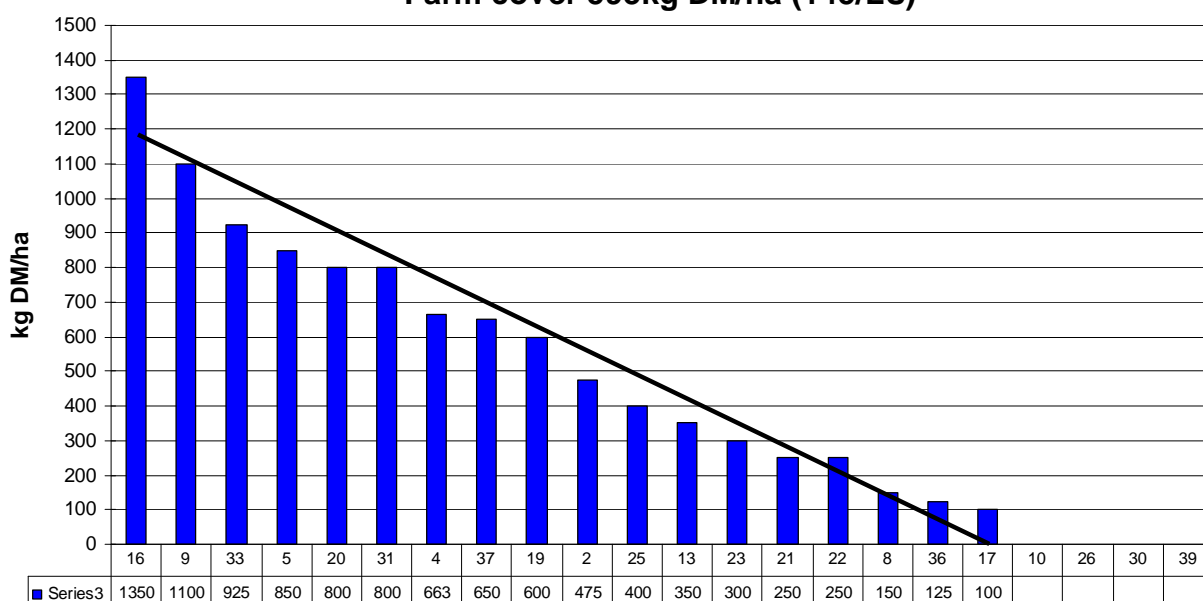
A. Critical Issues

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 15.5°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 29mm
3. Average growth was 87kgDM/ha/day, (14% DM)
4. Demand is 66kgDM/ha/day (4.1SR * 16kgDM/cow/day).
5. Grass supply is on target (124 vs. 150/cow)
6. Farm feed wedge (20/7/09)

Farm cover 593kg DM/ha (145/LU)



7. The wedge is showing plenty of grass on the farm for this week. Paddock 10 was skipped last Friday and will be baled when it reaches a cover of 2500kgDM/ha. The farm cover is on target but as growth is well ahead of demand (87 vs 66kgDm/ha/day) another cover will be done on Friday to determine if more paddocks need to be skipped.
8. At stocking rate of 4.1 cows /ha, a 16kg per cow grass allowance and an 18 day rotation length our ideal pre-grazing yield is now 1300kg DM/ ha (4.1*16*18= 1180).
9. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.5cm.
10. Rotation length 16 days.
11. 20 units of N are being spread on grazed paddocks. Total N usage to the first of July is 160kg/ha.
12. Submission rate of 82% after third week of breeding season.

13. Average milk yield is 18.08kg at 5.53% fat and 3.44% protein (1.63kg MS/cow), lactose 4.62%, SCC 166k, TBC 26k.

C. Critical short term actions :

- 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:19/7/09	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	18.08	19.73
% Fat	5.53	5.13
% Protein	3.44	3.38
% Lactose	4.62	4.61
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.63	1.67
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	0.5	0.5
Silage	0	0
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	2649	2733
% Fat	4.54	4.5
% Protein	3.31	3.2
% Lactose	4.77	4.79
Milk solids (kg/cow)	207	210
Bodyweight (kg)	486	473
Body Condition Score	2.82	2.77
Supplement (kg/cow)	303	478
Mean Calving Date		4 th March

