

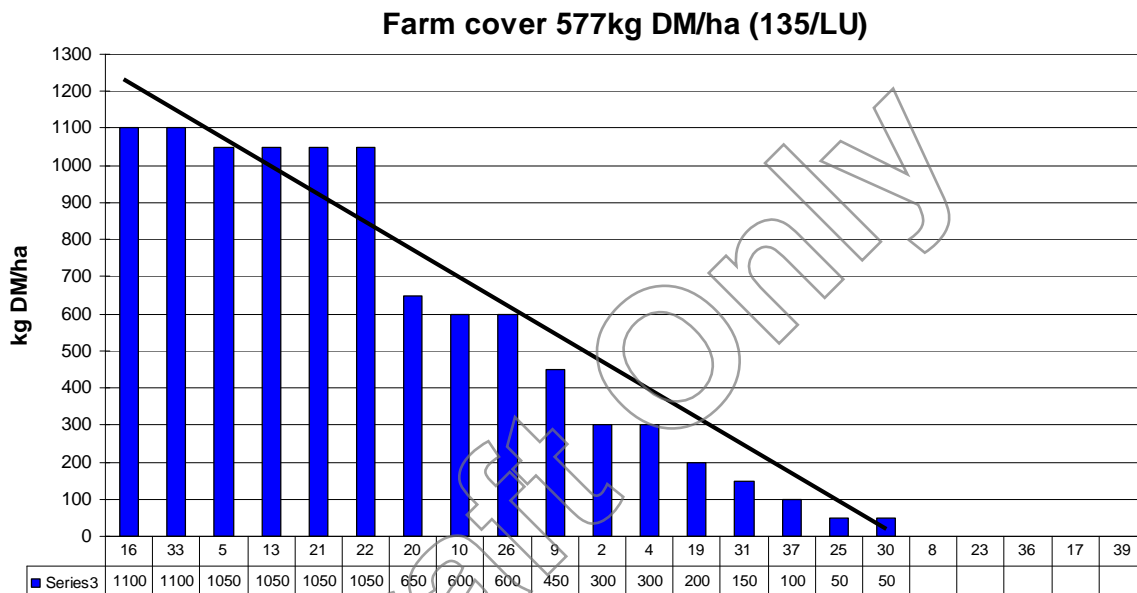
Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 4/8/2009

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 15.1°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 19.2mm.
3. Average growth was 79kgDM/ha/day, (14% DM).
4. Demand is 69kgDM/ha/day (4.29SR * 16kgDM/cow/day).
5. Grass supply is slightly below target (135 vs. 150/cow).
6. Farm feed wedge (4/8/09).



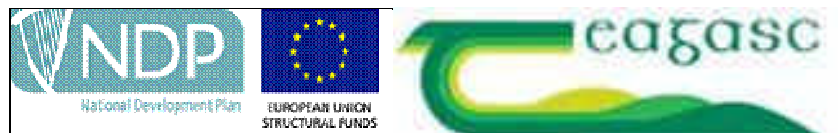
7. Growth this week was ahead of what we were expecting, therefore paddocks 8, 23, 36 and 17 will be baled this week. These paddocks have covers of 1200 to 1400kgDM/ha. They will be baled by the weekend allowing us to begin building covers by the end of next week.
8. At stocking rate of 4.29 cows /ha, a 16kg per cow grass allowance and an 18 day rotation length our ideal pre-grazing yield is now 1235kg DM/ ha (4.29*16*18= 1235).
9. Post grazing height on the last paddock grazed was 3.7cm.
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 15.1kg at 4.63% fat and 3.40% protein (1.19kg MS/cow), lactose 4.71%, SCC 119k, TBC 4k.

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:3/8/09	HG system	HS system
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	3.1	4.6
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	15.1	17.23
% Fat	4.63	4.19
% Protein	3.40	3.37
% Lactose	4.71	4.74
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.19	1.29
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	0.5	1
Silage	0	0
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	2860	2960
% Fat	4.53	4.47
% Protein	3.31	3.21
% Lactose	4.77	4.79
Milk solids (kg/cow)	223	227
Bodyweight (kg)	464	465
Body Condition Score	2.82	2.77
Supplement (kg/cow)		
Concentrate	315	501
Silage	60	110
Maize	0	180
Conserved silage (kgDM/cow)	618	56
Mean Calving Date		4 th March

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