

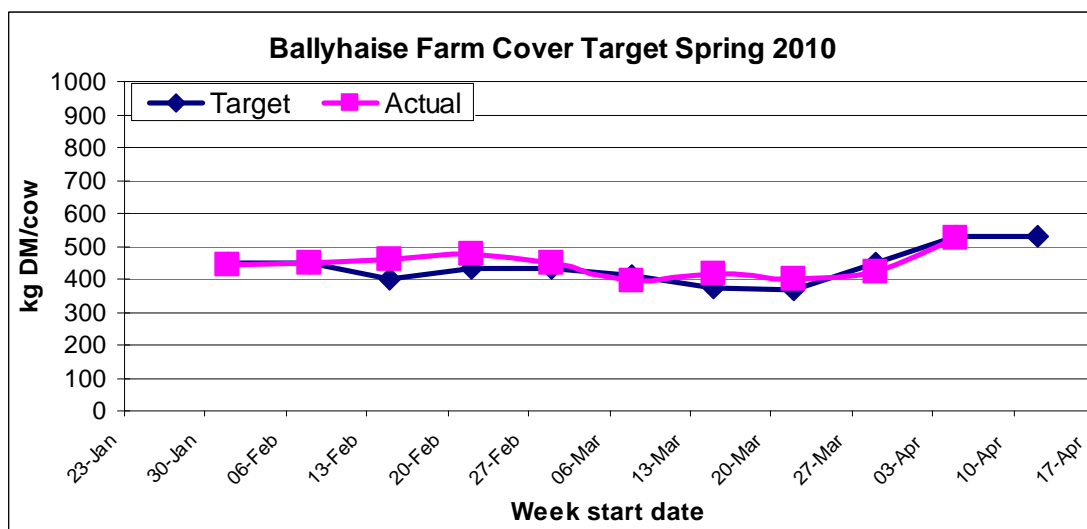
## Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 8/4/2010

### A. Critical Issues

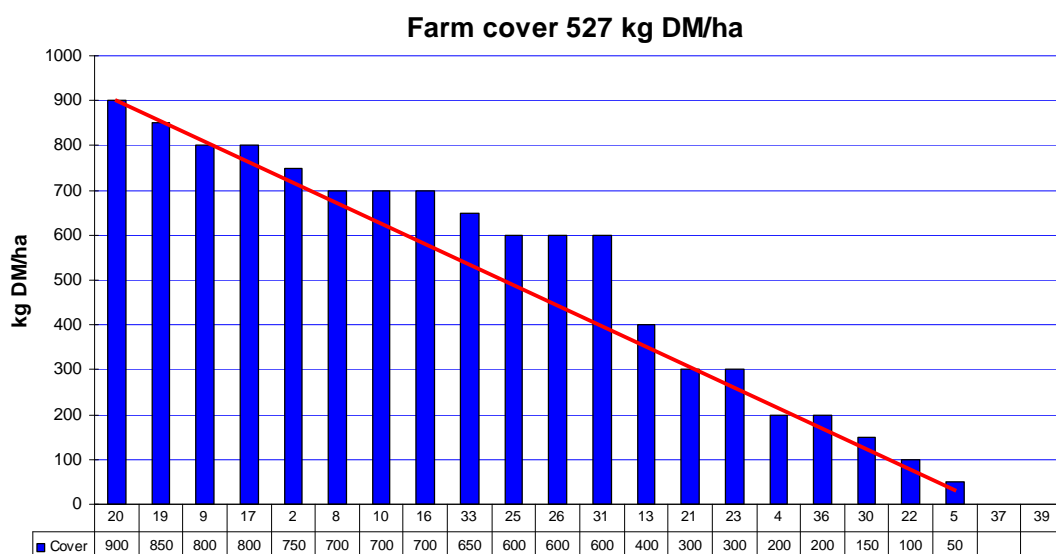
1. Maximise cow intakes of pasture and maintain residual at 3.5cm.
2. Ensure cows are getting better fed each week.
3. Minimise risk of mastitis infection around calving.

### B. On farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 6.5°C.
2. Total weekly rainfall is 61mm.
3. Average growth was 14kgDM/ha/day, (20% DM).
4. Feeding 4kg of concentrate.
5. Spring budget.



### 6. Farm feed wedge (8/4/10).



7. Paddocks 37 and 39 have been removed from rotation for reseeding. This means that the stocking rate on the area is now 3.77 cows/ha. The ideal pre-grazing yield is 900 kgDM/ha ( $3.77 \times 12 \times 20$ ).
8. Feeding 4kg of concentrate to maintain intake at 16kg DM / cow per day.
9. 15.58 ha grazed to date (78% of total area). This is behind target on the rotation planner (93%). This is due to cows being house for three days following heavy snowfall. This week's allocation will be 0.8ha/day, which is  $1/20^{\text{th}}$  of the total area minus 3.36ha for reseeding.
10. Average milk yield is 21.38kg at 4.52% fat and 3.26% protein (1.67kg MS/cow), lactose 4.78%, SCC 310k, TBC 26k.
11. Six cows with high cell counts have been CMT tested and quarter sampled. They have been removed from tank and are being used to feed calves.

**C. Critical short term actions :**

- Allocating grass in 24hr blocks.
- On/off grazing during wet conditions.
- Cows calved on paddocks to reduce incidence of mastitis.

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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	-

<b>Week:04/04/10</b>	<b>HG system</b>	<b>HS system</b>
<b>Stocking rate (cows/ha)</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	21.38	19.92
% Fat	4.52	4.78
% Protein	3.26	3.20
% Lactose	4.78	4.80
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.67	1.60
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	6	6
Silage	3	6
<b>Cumulative</b>		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	696	747
% Fat	4.82	4.99
% Protein	3.32	3.32
% Lactose	4.78	4.76
Milk solids (kg/cow)	59	61
Bodyweight (kg)	452	443
Body Condition Score	2.9	2.9
Supplement (kg/cow)		
Concentrate	123	139
Silage to milking cows (kg DM/cow)	110	87
Maize (kg DM/cow)	0	82
Conserved silage (kg DM/cow)	817	126
Total silage fed ( kg DM/cow)	930	1233