

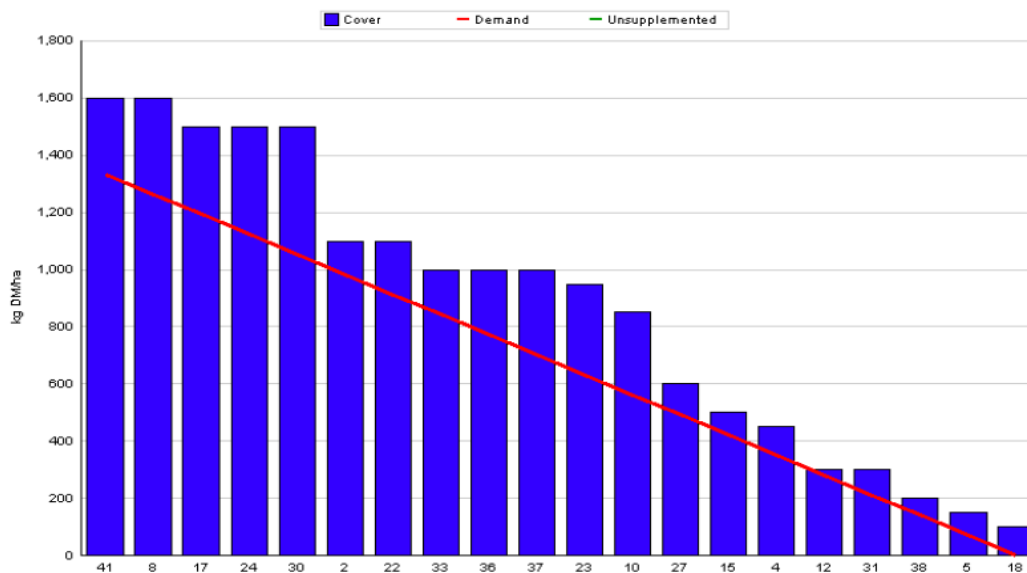
Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes - Monday 17/09/2012

A. Critical Issues

1. Feed supplements to increase grass cover.
2. Maintain cow condition.
3. Keep young stock moved regularly.

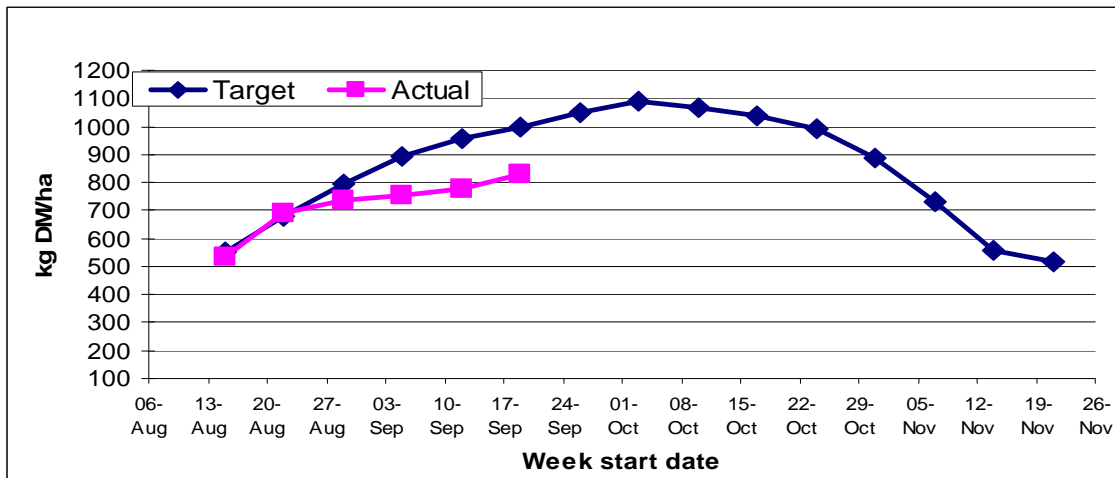
B. On farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 14°C.
2. Total rainfall over the past seven days was 14mm.
3. Average growth was 66kgDM/ha/day, (16% DM).
4. Feeding 3kg of concentrate.
5. Farm cover 830 kg DM / ha (267 kg DM / ha).
6. Farm feed wedge (13/09/12).



7. Farm cover is 830 kg Dm / ha (267 kg DM / LU), and cows are grazing covers of 1600kg DM / ha. Farm cover is well below target for this week so concentrate will continue to be fed to reduce demand. Silage was fed for two days last week and then removed.
8. Grazing conditions have been variable this week with some heavy showers causing problems. Conditions were good over the weekend and we managed to graze off two reseeded paddocks with covers of 1800 kg DM ha. Most of the paddocks in line for grazing this week are good dry paddocks.

9. Autumn Budget

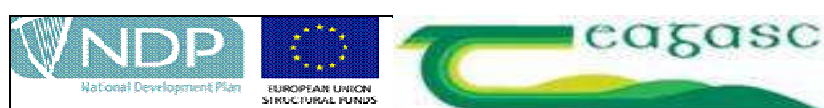


10. The graph above shows the target farm cover for each week over the autumn period. The target is to reach a peak average farm cover of 1100 kg DM / ha on the first week of October. The target closing cover is 500 kg DM / ha. Managed to lift farm cover this week.
11. Grass is being allocated in 12 hour blocks to help maintain a good grazing residual. The average residual on the paddocks grazed this week was 3.4 cm.
12. Watery slurry is being spread on paddocks grazed over the past week as ground conditions allow. This is being spread at a rate of 2500 gals per acre with an umbilical system to minimise soil damage.
13. In-calf heifers were weighed last week; they averaged 381kg which is on target. These are predominantly jersey crossbred animals with a mature live weight of 520kg. There are 4 very small heifers that are below 360kg. Heifer calves will be weighed and dosed this week.
14. Full herd scan was done on the 30th of August. There were 8 cows empty out of 114 cows milking (7%) over a 13 week breeding season. The six week in-calf rate was 71% (81 cows); these are due to calve before the 22nd of March next year. There was one heifer empty out of 35 (3%) over a seven week breeding period. There are 25 heifers in-calf to first service (71%) and the rest were served with the stock bull. This is a total of 140 cows and heifers scanned in calf for next spring which will give us scope to do some voluntary culling.
15. There was one clinical case of mastitis this week and bulk tank SCC has risen to 260K in the last lift.
16. Production per cow this week was 13.7kg at 4.66% fat and 3.72% protein (1.18 kg MS/cow), lactose 4.57%, SCC 260k, TBC 5k.

C. Critical short term actions :

- Allocating grass in 12 hr blocks.
- Feeding concentrate.
- Fresh grass to calves twice weekly.
- Feeding smaller calves separately.

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The herd is split on the bases of cow breed with 60 pure Friesian cows in one group and 56 crossbred cows in the other group.

Genetics 2012	Fr	Crossbred
EBI	142	148
Milk sub index	46	46
Fertility sub index	90	91
Milk kg	72	-26
Fat Kg	10	9
Fat %	0.14	0.2
Prot Kg	7	5.5
Prot %	0.09	0.13
Age profile (lactations)	3	2.7

Fertility 2012	Fr	Crossbred
EBI	142	148
Fertility sub index	90	91
24 day Submission rate (%)	90	91
Pregnancy rate to 1 st service (%)	48	56
42 day in-calf rate (%)	73	69
Straws per cow	1.75	1.74
13 week empty rate (%)	5	7

Week:16/09/12	Fr	Crossbred
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	2.9	3.15
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	14.2	13.3
% Fat	4.54	4.93
% Protein	3.69	3.95
% Lactose	4.51	4.53
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.17	1.18
Supplement (kg/cow/day)		
Concentrate	3	3
Silage	0	0
Cumulative		
Milk yield (kg/cow)	3998	3827
% Fat	4.40	4.59
% Protein	3.47	3.59
% Lactose	4.78	4.82
Milk solids (kg/cow)	315	313
SCC	135,000	111,000
Body Condition Score	2.71	2.88
Supplement (kg/cow)		
Concentrate	590	584
Silage to milking cows (kg DM/cow)	285	292
Conserved silage (kg DM/cow)	130	140
Sires	RUU, HZO, UYC TZD, CWJ, SBH	WAS, CJY, GHK KLK, ULK

*** These are raw data and have not been statistically analysed.**