

A. Critical Issues

1. Maintain grass quality.
2. Reduce pre-grazing yield to below 1400kg DM / ha.
3. Reach target residual of 4cm

B. Whole farm situation

1. Soil temperature today is 13.5°C.
2. Total rainfall over the past seven days was 14mm.
3. Average growth was 67kgDM/ha/day, (15% DM).

C. 2013 Calving date trial

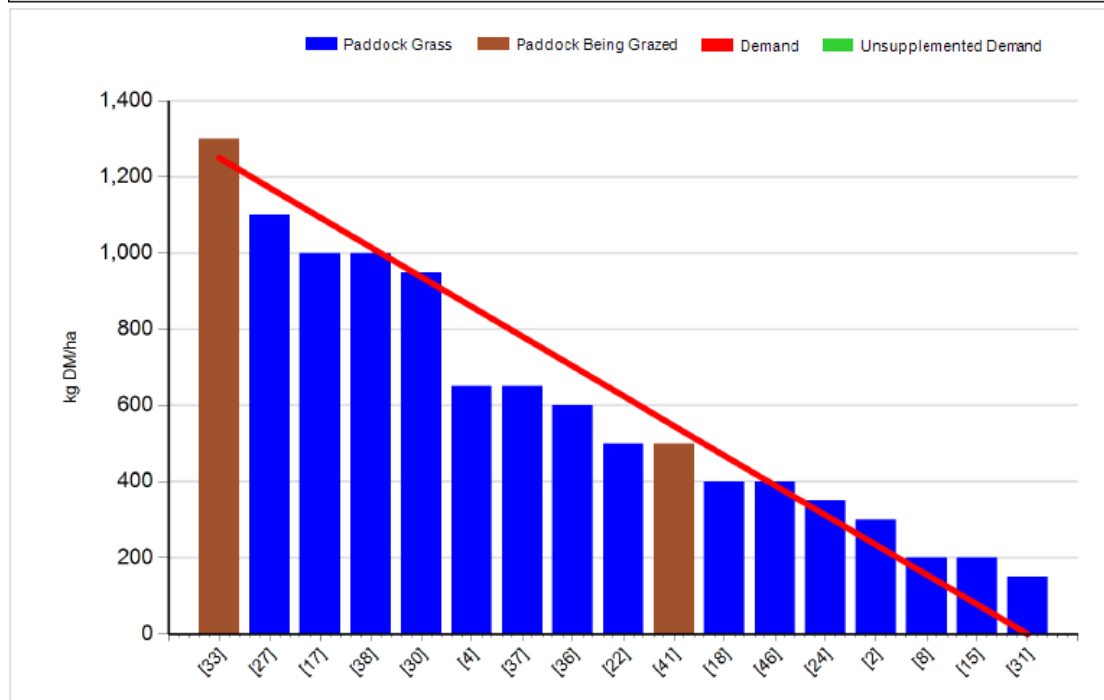
- The herd is split into two separate calving dates
- Early calving group – mean calving date is the 20th of Feb.
- Late calving group – mean calving date is the 10th of March.
- Stocking rate is 2.9 cows per ha for both groups and fertiliser input will be constant (250Kg N / ha).
- Within each group there are equal numbers of Friesian and crossbred cows

Early calving Group

Rotation Length (days):	21	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	16.0	Residual Height (cm):	3.5
No. of Cows:	60		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	1.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	16.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	64
Total Livestock (LU):	60.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	60
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	638	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1250
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	172		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.72		



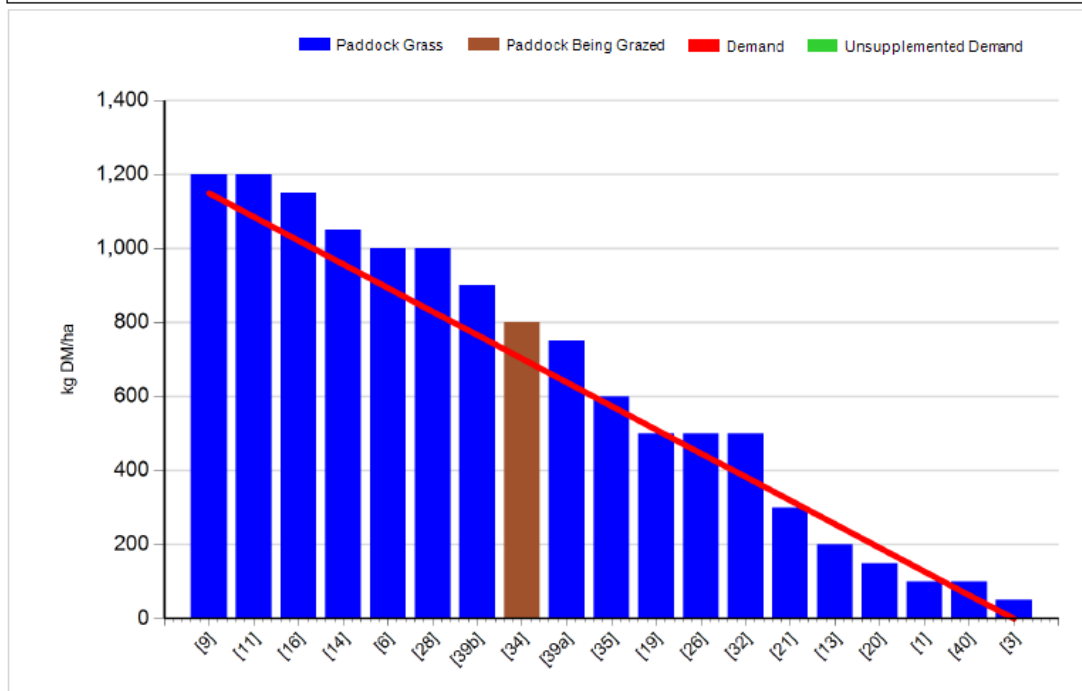
1. Farm cover is 638 kg DM / ha (172 kg DM / cow) and pre-grazing cover is 1300 kg DM / ha.
2. Growth has increased this week and farm cover has lifted as a result. Pre-grazing yield is within ideal range but we have skipped over 2 more paddocks that are steamy and poor quality.
3. There is one paddock ready for baling this week with a cover of 2500kg DM / ha. The other paddock skipped last week was grazed over the weekend to hold rotation length at 21 days.
4. Grazing residual is variable depending on sward type – after grass and clean swards are being grazed down to 4cm but some of the poorer quality clumpy paddocks are only being grazed to 4.6cm.
5. Have conserved 19% of silage requirement from the grazing block to date.
6. Eight weeks of AI done with one late calving cow not submitted (98% submitted). The 24 day non-return rate is 60%.
7. Stock bulls have been introduced this week to mop up. There are two bulls with 60 cows – one young bull (JFX) and one mature bull (Hereford).

Late Calving Group

Rotation Length (days):	21	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	16.0	Residual Height (cm):	3.5
No. of Cows:	60		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	1.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	16.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	69
Total Livestock (LU):	60.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	55
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	653	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1149
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	191		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.42		



1. Farm cover is 653 kg DM / ha (191 kg DM / cow) and pre-grazing cover is 1200 kg DM / ha.

2. Have skipped 2 paddocks for silage this week to match demand to current growth rates. One paddock has been baled
3. Have conserved 18% of silage requirement from the grazing block to date.
4. Have done 6 weeks of AI and all cows are submitted.

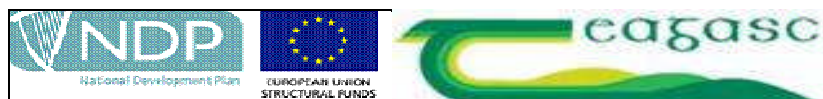
C. Critical short term actions :

- Skip 10% of area for silage
- Skip paddocks with poor quality grass
- Spread 30 units of Sul-CAN after grazing

D. Bulk tank details :

Milk yield 21.6kg, Fat 4.18%, Protein 3.56% (1.67kg MS) SCC 119,000, TBC 5,000.

www.agresearch.teagasc.ie/moorepark/



Date : 24/06/2013	Early	Late	FR	JFX
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	21.1	21.3	22.3	19.8
% Fat	4.64	4.46	4.50	4.76
% Protein	3.57	3.51	3.48	3.60
% Lactose	4.74	4.83	4.78	4.81
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.73	1.69	1.78	1.65
Supplement (kg/cow/day)				
Concentrate	1	1	1	1
Silage	0	0	0	0
Cumulative				
Milk yield (kg/cow)	2613	2060	2336	2195
% Fat	4.63	4.63	4.56	4.75
% Protein	3.49	3.50	3.42	3.56
% Lactose	4.81	4.81	4.79	4.82
Milk solids (kg/cow)	210	168	186	182
Weight	480	489	514	455
Body Condition Score	2.83	2.78	2.76	2.85
% Calved	100	100	100	100
Supplement (kg/cow)				
Concentrate	490	362		
Silage to milking cows (kg DM/cow)	309	159		
Conserved silage (kg DM/cow)	236 (19%)	222 (18%)		

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