

A. Critical Issues

1. Build covers.
2. Use strip wire to maintain residual.
3. Split out small in-calf heifers.

B. 2013 Calving date trial

- The herd is split into two separate calving dates
- Early calving group – mean calving date is the 25th 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

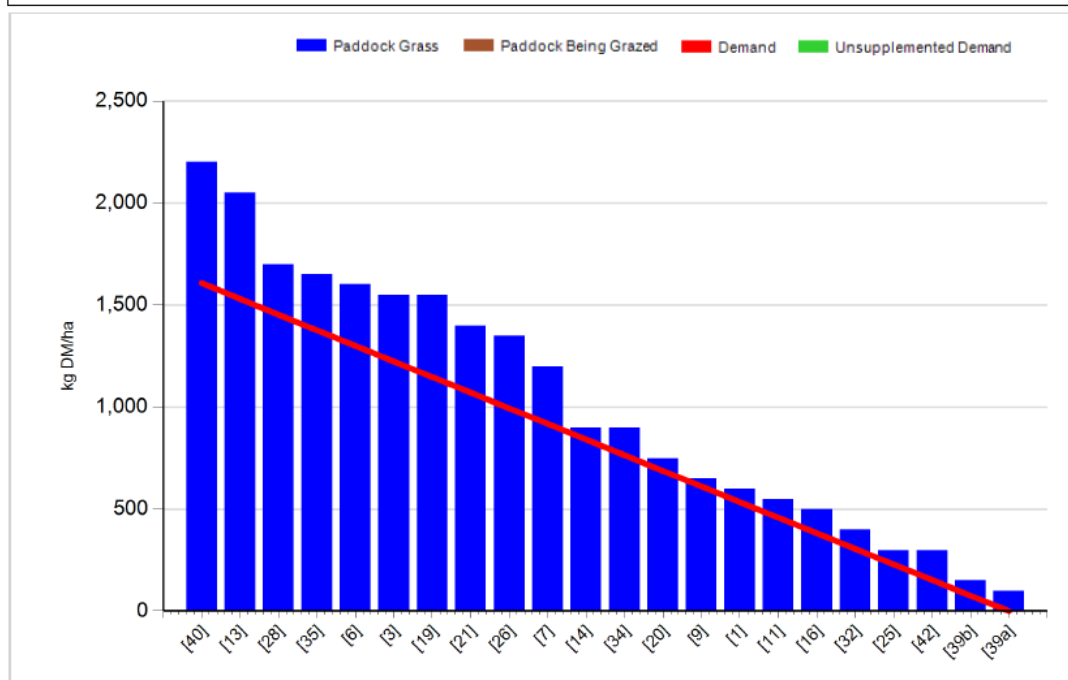
C. Whole farm situation

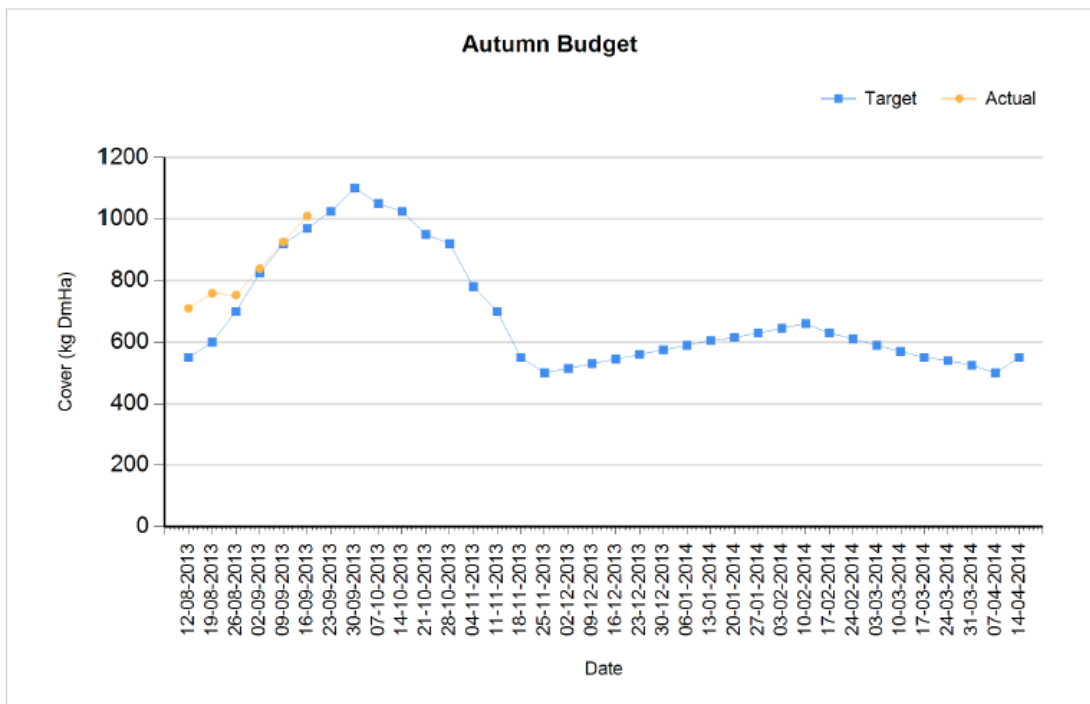
1. Soil temperature today is 14.2°C.
2. Total rainfall over the past seven days was 25mm.
3. Average growth was 59kgDM/ha/day, (13% DM).
4. Rotation length 38 days.
5. Feed wedge 16/09/2013

Rotation Length (days):	38	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	14.0	Residual Height (cm):	3.5
No. of Cows:	60		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	2.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	14.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	59
Total Livestock (LU):	60.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	42
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	1010	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1607
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	334		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.02		





6. Farm cover is 1010 kg DM / ha (334 kg DM / cow) and pre-grazing cover is 2100 kg DM / ha.
7. Autumn budget is on target so no surpluses were removed this week. Concentrate has been increased to 2kg given that at predicted growth rate of 50kg DM / ha and current demand farm cover should build by another 60 – 80 kg DM / ha this week which will bring AFC to the target for next week.
8. Some heavy showers over the past few days have started to affect utilisation; we are now allocating fresh grass every 12 hrs to achieve good graze out.
9. Total N spread to date is 225 kg N / ha, a further 35 kg will spread on a third of the farm this week.
10. Total growth to date is 10.2 tons DM / ha.
11. In-calf heifers were weighed last week; the average weight gain was 0.6kg / day which is behind target. Average weight of the Fr heifers is 393kg which is slightly behind target. Average weight of the cross bred heifers is 370kg which is on target. Even though average weights are close to target 40% of animals are below target weight and will be split from the main group and grazed ahead to help catch up.
12. Cows and heifers were scanned on the 30th of August. The empty rate in the cows after 12 weeks of breeding was 9%. Pregnancy rate to first service was 51% and 6 week pregnancy rate was 76%. Heifer empty rate was 10% over 7 week breeding period with 72% conception to 1st service AI and the remainder in-calf to jersey stock bulls. There are 145 animals scanned in-calf for next year so will have 20 surplus animals to sell.

C. Bulk tank details :

Milk yield 15.1kg, Fat 4.72%, Protein 3.83% (1.29kg MS) SCC 230,000, TBC 3,000.

Date : 15/09/2013 Mean calving date	Early 25 th Feb		Late 10 th March	
	FR	JFX	FR	JFX
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	15.9	14.1	17.4	14.7
% Fat	4.17	4.64	4.02	4.14
% Protein	3.61	3.89	3.62	3.81
% Lactose	4.52	4.56	4.58	4.60
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	1.24	1.21	1.33	1.17
Supplement (kg/cow/day)				
Concentrate	1	1	1	1
Silage	0	0	0	0
Cumulative				
Milk yield (kg/cow)	4,295	3,965	3,900	3,536
% Fat	4.43	4.65	4.49	4.68
% Protein	3.41	3.65	3.48	3.56
% Lactose	4.72	4.77	4.74	4.76
Milk solids (kg/cow)	336	329	311	291
Weight	505	456	523	455
Body Condition Score	2.79	2.88	2.75	2.80
Supplement (kg/cow)				
Concentrate		674		554
Silage to milking cows (kg DM/cow)		330		180
Conserved silage (kg DM/cow)		576 (48%)		605 (50%)

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

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