Ballyhaise Weekly Farm Notes – Monday 06/05/2014

A. Critical Issues

- 1. 36 hour allocations.
- 2. Maintain target residual (4cm).
- 3. Reach target 21 day submission rate of 90%.

B. 2014 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.
- Within each group there are equal numbers of Friesian and crossbred cows.

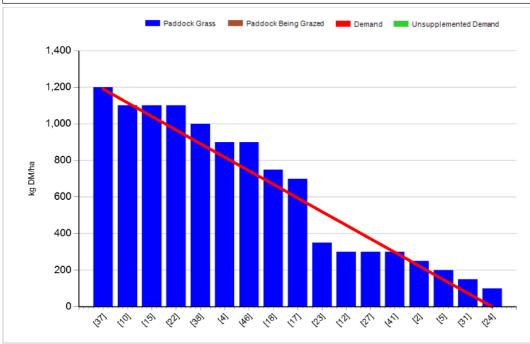
C. Whole farm situation

- Soil temperature today is 11.5°C.
- On the third round of Nitrogen (27 units of sul-CAN).
- Pre-breeding scan done, one G3 cow to be washed out, 12 G2 cows to be washed out, no CIDRs or other treatments needed.
- Milk yield 25.81kg, 4.26% fat, 3.42% protein (2.04kg Ms / cow), SCC 170,000 and TBC 22,000.

D. Early group

Rotation Length (days):	23	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	13.0	Residual Height (cm):	3.5
No. of Cows:	60		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	4.0		

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	13.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	71
Total Livestock (LU):	60.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	52
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	624	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1190
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	157		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.98		



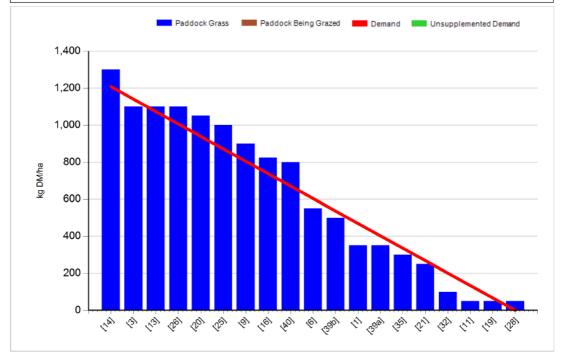
- 1. Farm cover is 624 kg DM / ha which is similar to last week.
- 2. Growth rate is 71kg DM / ha this week. There is 25% of the area closed for silage. Paddocks closed for silage have been topped up with 30 units of CAN and will be cut in mid-May.
- 3. Pre-grazing yield is below target so we are feeding 4kg of concentrate until the cover increases to 1400kg DM / ha.
- 4. Grazing down to 4.2cm on average. Ground conditions have deteriorated over the past few days with some paddocks too wet to graze which is reducing our options (2 of the paddocks above 1000kg DM cover are too wet to graze).
- 5. Started AI on the 28th of April, 38% submitted in the first week.

C. Late Group

Rotation Length (days):	23	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	15.0	Residual Height (cm):	3.5
No. of Cows:	59		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	2.0		
Cover Parameters			

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	15.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	67
Total Livestock (LU):	59.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	52
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	601	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1208
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	172		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.50		



- 1. Farm cover is 601 kg DM / ha which has increased from 571kg DM / ha last week.
- 2. Growth rate was 67kg DM / ha and demand is 52kg DM / ha.
- 3. 15% of the farm has been closed for silage; more will be closed when cover per cow rises above 180kg DM / cow.

- 4. Pre grazing yield is below target so 2 kg of concentrate is being fed until we hit the target of 1400kg DM / ha.
- 5. Grazing out to 4.3cm on average.
- 6. Ai due to start on the 12th of May.

D. Critical short term actions:

- Focus on good heat detection.
- Start to AI heifers.
- Feeding concentrate to increase pre grazing yield.

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Date: 04/05/2014	Early		Late		
Mean calving date	25 th Feb		10 th March		
	FR	JFX	FR	JFX	
Stocking rate (cows/ha)	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.9	
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	27.5	24.2	27.7	25.0	
% Fat	4.05	4.26	4.21	4.28	
% Protein	3.51	3.64	3.58	3.60	
% Lactose	4.93	4.99	4.90	4.90	
Milk solids (kg/cow/day)	2.08	1.92	2.16	1.97	
Supplement (kg/cow/day)					
Concentrate	2	2	1	1	
Silage	0	0	0	0	
Cumulative					
Milk yield (kg/cow)	1,747	1,625	1,404	1,371	
% Fat	4.09	4.32	4.48	4.44	
% Protein	3.22	3.37	3.40	3.41	
% Lactose	5.00	5.05	4.93	4.87	
Milk solids (kg/cow)	128	125	111	108	
Weight	468	443	500	439	
Body Condition Score	2.86	2.96	2.80	2.81	
Supplement (kg/cow)					
Concentrate	225		166		
Silage to milking cows					
(kg DM/cow)	125		80		
Conserved silage (kg					
DM/cow)	0		0		