

Weekly update Clonakilty Dairy – 19 May 2014

Tetraploid swards (2.75 cows/ha)



Date Produced: 20-05-2014

PastureBase-Ireland

Grass Measurement Report

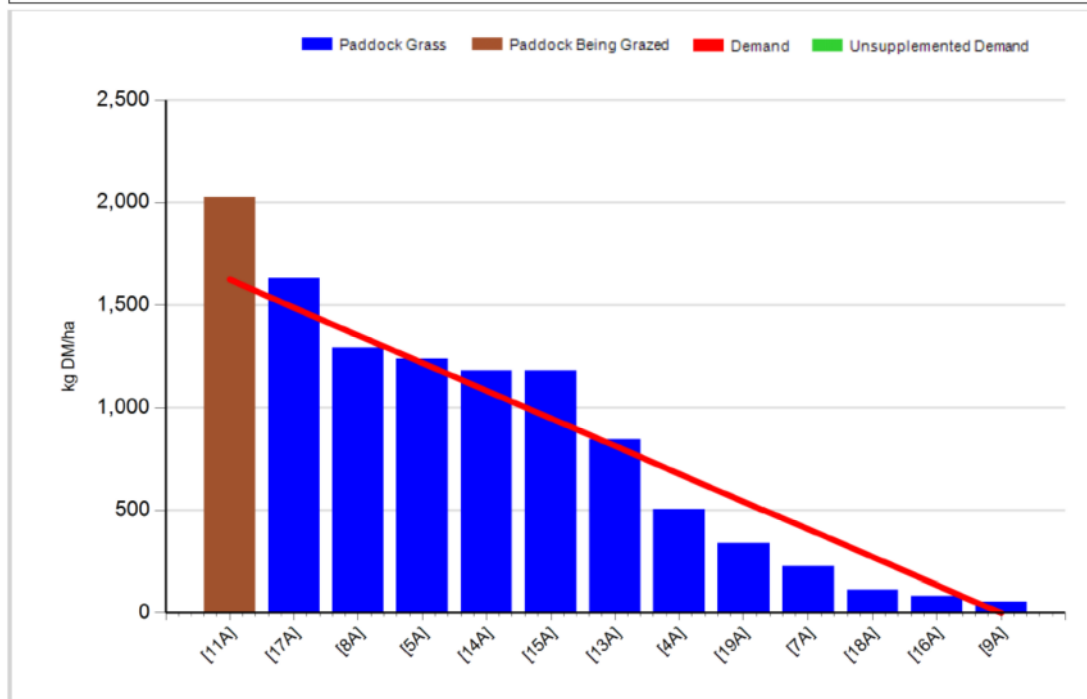
Group:	Cover Date: 19/05/2014
Farm: Clonakilty Farm	Treatment: T

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	21	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	17.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.0
No. of Cows:	30		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	17.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	70
Total Livestock (LU):	30.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	77
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	847	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1624
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	186		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	4.55		



1. Average farm cover (AFC) is 847 kg DM/ha (186 kg DM/LU)
2. Growth rate last week was 70 kg DM/ha per day which is similar to the growth of 67 kg DM/ha per day the previous week.
3. Stocking rate is 4.55 LU/ha and demand is 77 kg DM/ha per day
4. We cut out paddock 18 for bales last week and it is now back in the rotation again. Growth rate is still only fair for the time of year but our AFC and cover/LU is still good. With the mild humid weather forecast this

week we expect growth to pick up and we will probably have a surplus next week so we will take out a paddock for bales if we need to.

- Pre-grazing yield is 2000 and we are allocating 17 kg DM of grass per cow. No concentrate is being fed. Minerals are being given to the cows through the dosatron into the water. The minerals the cows are receiving are Mg, I, Se, Zn, Cu and Co.

Diploid swards (2.75 cows/ha)



Date Produced: 20-05-2014

PastureBase-Ireland

Grass Measurement Report

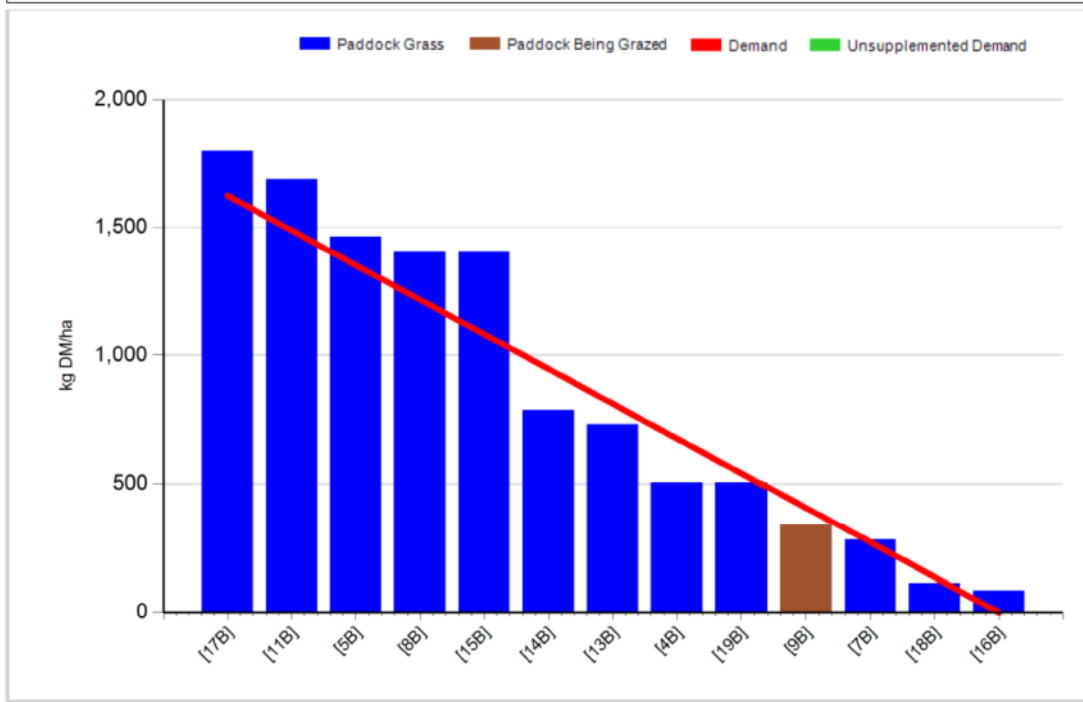
Group:	Cover Date: 19/05/2014
Farm: Clonakilty Farm	Treatment: D

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	21	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	17.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.0
No. of Cows:	30		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	17.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	74
Total Livestock (LU):	30.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	77
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	871	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1624
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	191		
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	4.55		



- Average farm cover 871 kg DM/ha (191 kg DM/LU)
- Growth rate last week was 74 kg DM/ha per day
- Stocking rate is 4.55 LU/ha and demand is 77 kg DM/ha per day

4. We cut out paddock 18 for bales last week and it is now back in the rotation again. Growth rate is still only fair for the time of year but our AFC and cover/LU is still good. With the mild humid weather forecast this week we expect growth to pick up and we will probably have a surplus next week so we will take out a paddock for bales if we need to.
5. Pre-grazing yield is 1800 and we are allocating 17 kg DM of grass per cow. No concentrate is being fed. Minerals are being given to the cows through the dosatron into the water. The minerals the cows are receiving are Mg, I, Se, Zn, Cu and Co

Whole farm update

1. We had 193 cows to calve this year and all cows are now calved. There are 179 cows being milked, 2 cows died, 8 cows were sold after they calved, another 3 cows have been dried off early and will be sold and we had one abortion.
2. Cows are currently milking 22.9 kg/day at 4.46% fat, 3.60% protein and 4.88 % lactose. Milk solids per cow are 1.84 kg/day. Latest results from the processor 4.45% fat, 3.51% protein, 4.94% lactose 76 SCC and TBC is 3. Average bodyweight of milking cows is 493 kg and average body condition score is 2.93.
3. Average farm cover on the general area is 636 kg DM/ha (134kg DM/LU). Demand is 54 kg DM/ha per day and growth rate on the general area last week was 71 kg DM/ha per day. We cut 3 paddocks for bales last week. These are now back in the rotation. Stocking rate is 4.74 LU/ha. We are getting a small bit tight for grass on the general area due to our high stocking rate so we have put the general cows on 4 kg of concentrate to help us increase AFC on the general area. We have 60 general cows milking and they are being allocated 13 kg DM of grass and 4 kg of concentrate. We have also taken out a paddock for reseeding, we have done some drainage work (cleaned out open drains, installed new pipe drains and ripped the paddock) before spraying off for reseeding. This paddock was the poorest performing paddock on the farm so hopefully it will perform much better after draining and reseeding.
4. We have 35 calves weaned and they are now out on grass. Holstein-Friesian and 3way calves are being weaned at 90 kg and JEX calves are being weaned at 85 kg.
5. We have started breeding on the 20th of April. We are using a mixture of Holstein-Friesian (JRE, WLY, PSZ, AKZ, WDS and MDW), Jersey (PKA, OKT and HWY) and Norwegian Red (VSK, VLX, EKE and EGE) bulls on the cows and heifers.
6. Breeding is going well; we have had 169 cows served in 4 weeks (95%). We will scan the remaining 10 cows to be served this week, to see if they are cycling and we will treat them if needed. 47 out of the 49 heifers were bred to AI in the first 11 days of the breeding season. Two Friesian bulls have now been let off with the heifers.