## Weekly update Clonakilty Dairy – 15 September 2014

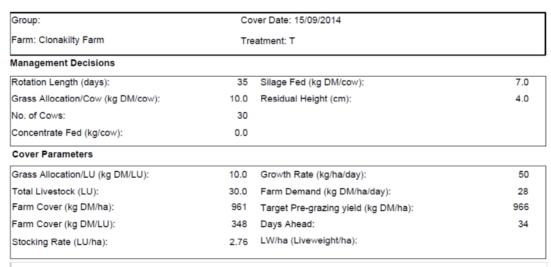
# Tetraploid swards (2.75 cows/ha)

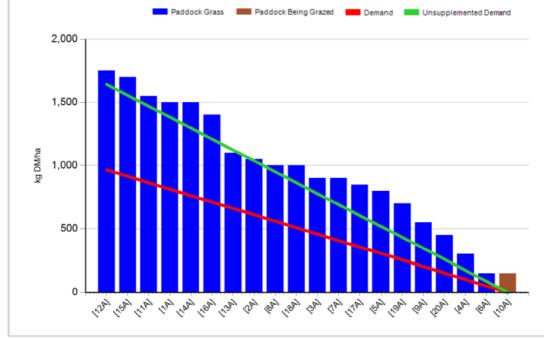


Date Produced: 16-09-2014

### PastureBase-Ireland

**Grass Measurement Report** 





- 1. Average farm cover (AFC) is 961 kg DM/ha (348 kg DM/LU)
- 2. Growth rate last week was 50 kg DM/ha per day
- 3. Stocking rate is 2.76 LU/ha and demand is 28 kg DM/ha per day
- 4. Grass growth increased last week from 42 kg DM/ha per day the previous week to 50 kg DM/ha per day this week. This in combination with feeding silage (7 kg DM/ cow per day; a demand of 28 kg DM/ha per day) has allowed AFC to increase to 961 kg DM/ha, which is right on target (See

budget below). However, growth rates are still not high enough for us to stop supplementing, as we would have a demand of 47 kg DM/ha per day if we stopped feeding silage. We need to keep feeding silage to build AFC. We may reduce the amount of silage depending on grass growth; we will monitor the situation closely.

5. Pre-grazing yield is 1700 and we are allocating 10 kg DM of grass per cow. Cows are being allocated 7 kg DM of silage, which they eat after morning and evening milking. No concentrate is being fed. Minerals are being given to the cows through the dosatron into the water.

## Diploid swards (2.75 cows/ha)



500

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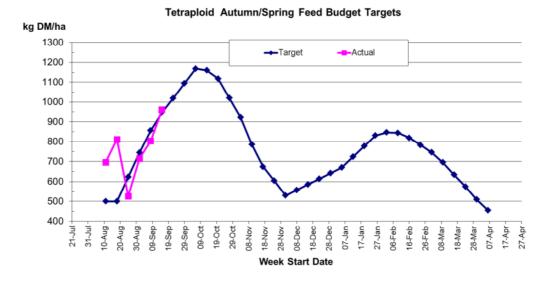
Date Produced: 16-09-2014

### PastureBase-Ireland

**Grass Measurement Report** 

| Group:                            | Co           | ver Date: 15/09/2014                      |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|---|--------------|
| Farm: Clonakilty Farm             | Treatment: D |   |              |
| Management Decisions              |              |   |              |
| Rotation Length (days):           | 35           | Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):                   | 7.0          |
| Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow): | 10.0         | Residual Height (cm):                     | 4.0          |
| No. of Cows:                      | 30           |   |              |
| Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):         | 0.0          |   |              |
| Cover Parameters                  |              |   |              |
| Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):   | 10.0         | Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):                  | 36           |
| Total Livestock (LU):             | 30.0         | Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):               | 28           |
| Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):            | 976          | Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):      | 966          |
| Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):            | 354          |   |              |
| Stocking Rate (LU/ha):            | 2.76         |   |              |
| 2,000                             | ck Grass     | Paddock Being Grazed 📕 Demand 🔜 Unsupplem | ented Demand |
| 1,500                             |              |   |              |
| ечу<br>И 1,000                    |              |   |              |

- 1. Average farm cover 976 kg DM/ha (354 kg DM/LU)
- 2. Growth rate last week was 36 kg DM/ha per day
- 3. Stocking rate is 2.76 LU/ha and demand is 28 kg DM/ha per day
- 6. Grass growth decreased last week from 49 kg DM/ha per day the previous week to 36 kg DM/ha per day this week. However AFC still increased (to 976 kg DM/ha, which is on target) due to the fact that we were feeding silage (7 kg DM/ cow per day; a demand of 28 kg DM/ha per day). However, growth rates are still not high enough for us to stop supplementing, as we would have a demand of 47 kg DM/ha per day if we stopped feeding silage. We need to keep feeding silage to build AFC. We may reduce the amount of silage depending on grass growth; we will monitor the situation closely.
- 4. Pre-grazing yield is 1600 and we are allocating 10 kg DM of grass per cow. Cows are being allocated 7 kg DM of silage after morning milking. No concentrate is being fed. Minerals are being given to the cows through the dosatron into the water.



### Whole farm update

- 1. Cows are currently milking 16.5 kg/day at 5.00% fat, 4.13% protein and 4.71% lactose. Milk solids per cow are 1.49 kg/day. Latest results from the processor 4.87% fat, 4.03 % protein, 4.79% lactose, 119 SCC and TBC is 4. Average bodyweight of milking cows is 524 kg and average body condition score is 2.88.
- 2. Average farm cover on the general area is 892 kg DM/ha (360 kg DM/LU). Demand is 37 kg DM/ha per day and growth rate on the general area last week was 56 kg DM/ha per day. Stocking rate is 2.48 LU/ha. General cows are receiving 3 kg concentrate/day to lower demand to increase AFC.
- 3. Breeding started on the 20<sup>th</sup> of April with the stock bulls being removed on Monday, the 14<sup>th</sup> of July, after a 12 week breeding season. 47 out of the 49 heifers are in-calf.
- 4. Overall empty rate for the herd is 10.5% this year.