

Weekly update Clonakilty Dairy – 10 October 2017

Tetraploid swards (2.75 cows/ha)

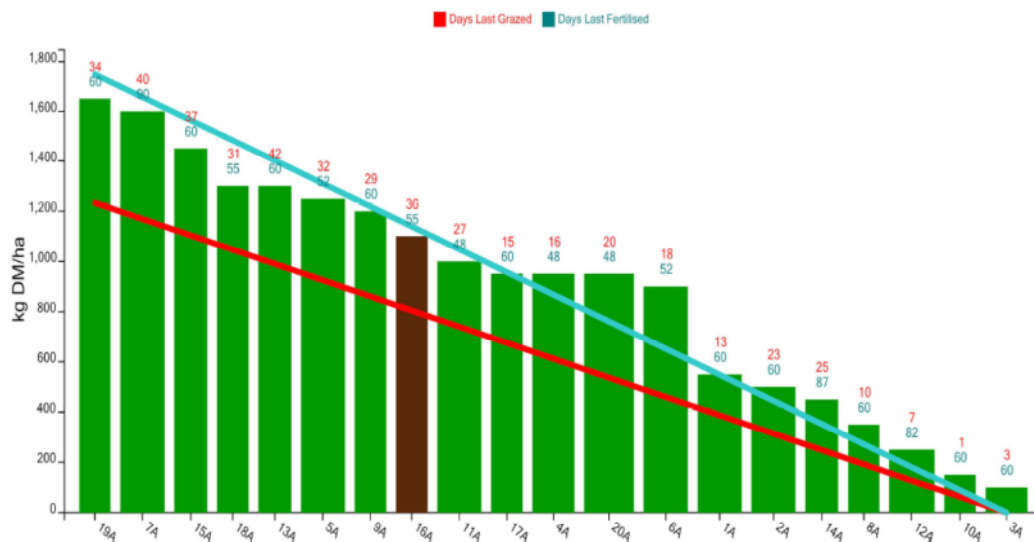
Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 09/10/2017
Farm: Clonakilty Farm	Treatment: T

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	40	Residual Height (cm)	4
Target Pre-Grazing (kg DM/ha):	1234		

Cover Parameters

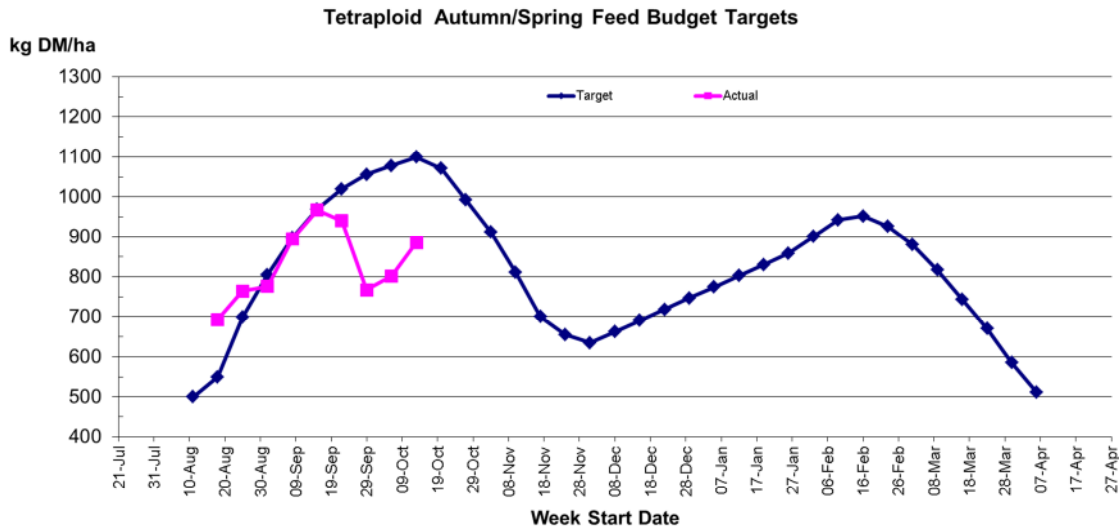
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	886.00	Total LU:	28.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	345.00	LU / ha:	2.57
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day):	41.00	Grazing Area:	20 (10.88 ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	31.00	Reseed:	0 (0.00 ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	336.00	Silage - Cut Later:	0 (0.00 ha)
Days ahead:	29.00	Silage - Cut Now:	0 (0.00 ha)
Kg LWT / ha:	0.00	Other:	0 (0.00 ha)



1. We have 28 cows milking in this group. Two cull cows were sold to the mart straight out of the parlour.
2. Average farm cover (AFC) is 886 kg DM/ha (345 kg DM/LU).
3. Growth rate last week was 41 kg DM/ha per day.
4. Stocking rate is 2.57 LU/ha and demand is 31 kg DM/ha per day.
5. Average farm cover is on below target (see budget below) and has been for the last few weeks. Growth rate for the last 2 weeks of September was significantly lower this year (30 kg DM/ha per day) compared with other years. As a result we have had to feed heavily (5 kg of silage per cow per day) for the last two weeks to increase farm cover. We had 14% of the farm grazed on Monday the 9th of October, which was on target. We have reduced silage this week to speed up the area we are grazing and to try and ensure good clean outs which has been difficult with the wet weather. We may

remove silage altogether to try and achieve this. We will also dry off some cows in the next week or two to reduce demand to keep cows out for as long as possible.

6. Pre-grazing yield is 1600 and we are allocating 12 kg DM of grass, 3 kg of concentrate and 2 kg of silage is being fed.
7. Cows are currently milking 17.8 kg at 4.90% fat and 4.29% protein giving 1.62 kg milk solids/cow.



Tetraploid + clover swards (2.75 cows/ha)

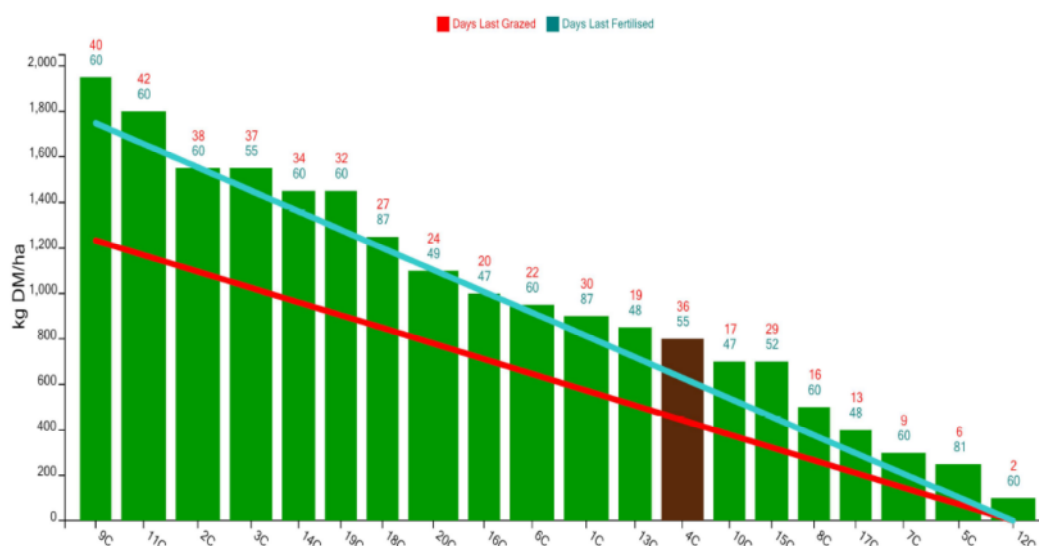
Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 09/10/2017
Farm: Clonakilty Farm	Treatment: TC

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	40	Residual Height (cm)	4
Target Pre-Grazing (kg DM/ha):	1234		

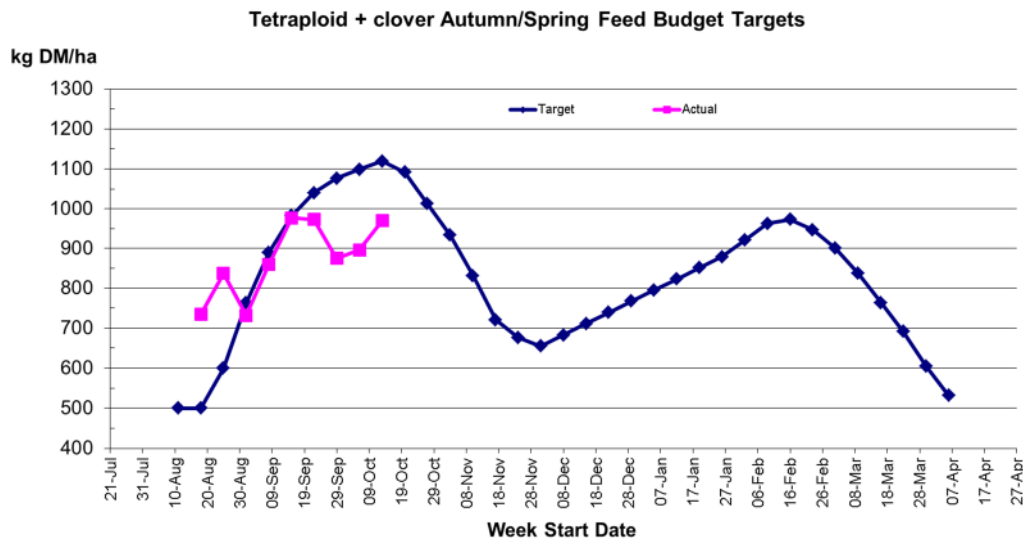
Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	970.00	Total LU:	28.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	377.00	LU / ha:	2.57
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day):	36.00	Grazing Area:	20 (10.88 ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	31.00	Reseed:	0 (0.00 ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	336.00	Silage - Cut Later:	0 (0.00 ha)
Days ahead:	31.00	Silage - Cut Now:	0 (0.00 ha)
Kg LWT / ha:	0.00	Other:	0 (0.00 ha)



1. We have 28 cows milking in this group. Two cull cows were sold to the mart straight out of the parlour.
2. Average farm cover (AFC) is 970 kg DM/ha (377 kg DM/LU).
3. Growth rate last week was 36 kg DM/ha per day.
4. Stocking rate is 2.57 LU/ha and demand is 31 kg DM/ha per day.
5. Average farm cover is on below target (see budget below) and has been for the last few weeks. Growth rate for the last 2 weeks of September was significantly lower this year (30 kg DM/ha per day) compared with other years. As a result we have had to feed heavily (5 kg of silage per cow per day) for the last two weeks to increase farm cover. We had 14% of the farm grazed on Monday the 9th of October, which was on target. We have reduced silage this week to speed up the area we are grazing and to try and ensure good clean outs which has been difficult with the wet weather. We may remove silage altogether to try and achieve this. We will also dry off some cows in the next week or two to reduce demand to keep cows out for as long as possible.

- Pre-grazing yield is 1900 and we are allocating 12 kg DM of grass, 3 kg of concentrate and 2 kg of silage is being fed.
- Cows are currently milking 17.8 kg at 4.90% fat and 4.29% protein giving 1.62 kg milk solids/cow.



Whole farm update

- We had 192 cows to calve this year and all cows are now calved. There are 172 cows being milked. Ten cull cows were sold at the mart.
- Cows are currently milking 16.9 kg/day at 5.27% fat, 4.26% protein and 4.68% lactose. Milk solids per cow are 1.60 kg/day. Latest results from the processor 5.08% fat, 4.10% protein, 4.73% lactose and 123 SCC, TBC 13. Average bodyweight of milking cows is 494 kg and average body condition score is 2.97.
- Average farm cover on the general area is 831 kg DM/ha (529 kg DM/LU). Demand is 16 kg DM/ha per day and growth rate on the general area last week was 29 kg DM/ha per day. Stocking rate is 1.57 LU/ha. We have 58 general cows milking and they are being allocated 11 kg DM of grass, 3 kg of concentrate and 3 kg silage.
- We started breeding on Monday the 25th of April. 97% of the cows were served in the first 21 days of the breeding season and all of the heifers were served in the first 12 days. Eighty two percent of the cows have been scanned incalf in the first 6 weeks of the breeding season. Overall empty rate for the herd was 5.5%