



FMG'S CRITICAL ISSUES	
1	Keep on top of the post grazing residuals
2	Emptying the effluent ponds
3	Apply the autumn fertilizer blend to the renovated paddocks
4	Trace mineral supplementation

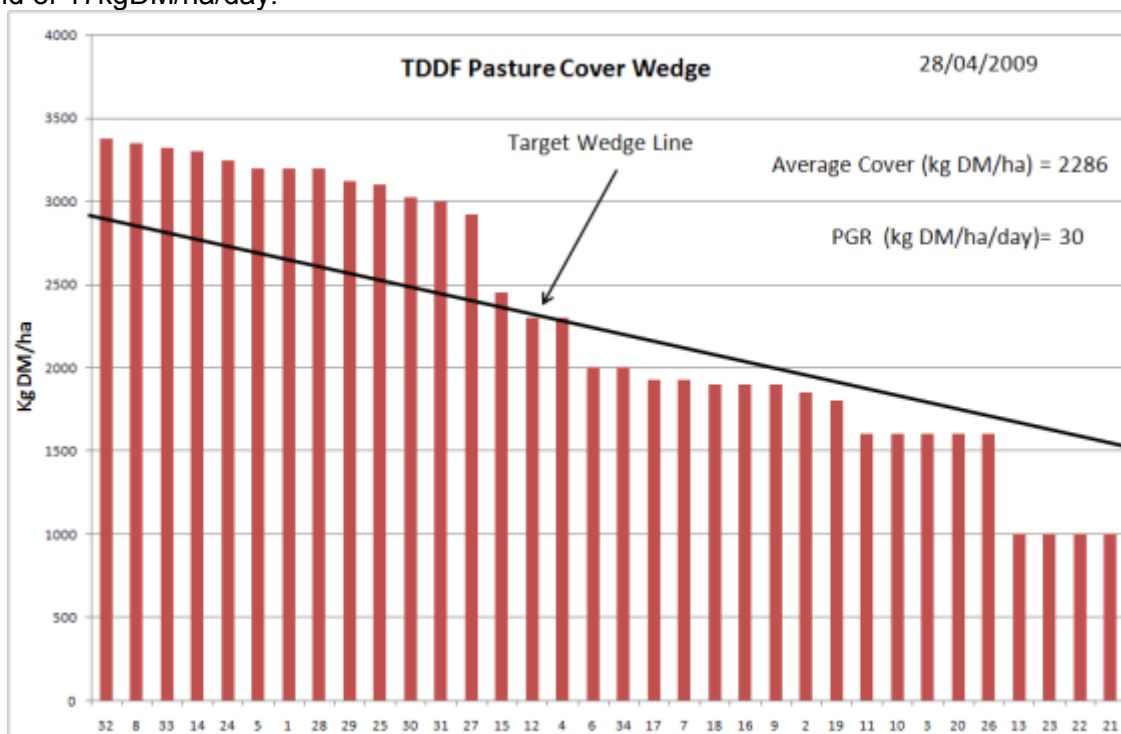


## SUMMARY OF FARMING OPERATION DATA

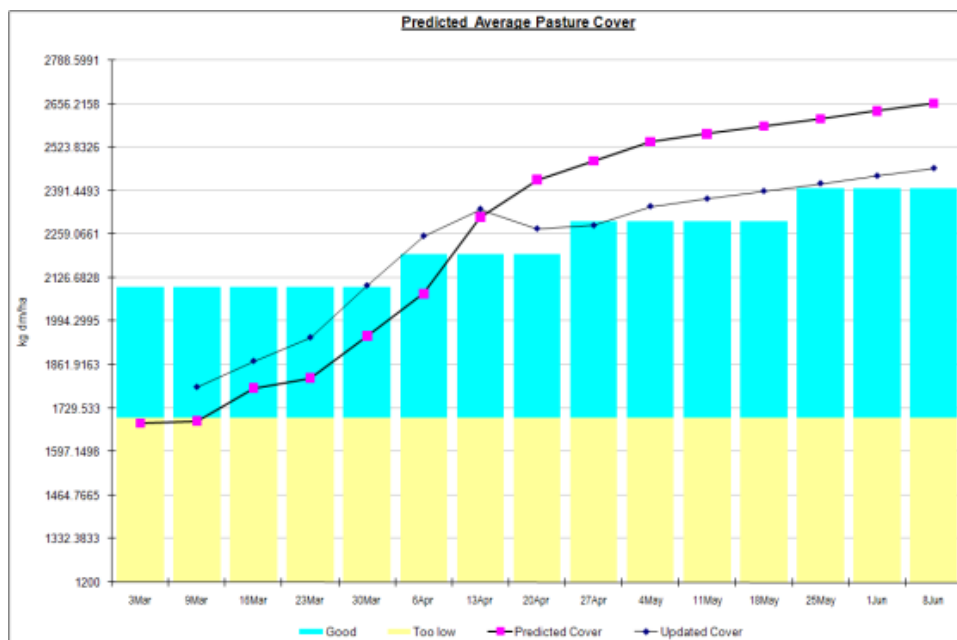
Pasture Information		Animal Production	
LER	14 days/leaf	Cows	668 (Dry)
Rotation Length	60 days	Litres/cow/day	-
Pasture Growth Rate	30 kgDM/ha/day	MS/cow/day	-
Average Pasture Cover	2286 kgDM/ha	MS/ha/day	-
Soil Temperature	12.0°C	Cow intake (total)	8 - 10 kgDM/cow/day
Rainfall (past 7 days)	43 mm	Supplement Fed	-
MOFC (\$/cow)	\$0.00	Body Condition Score	4.8

### Pasture Management

- 43 mm of rain fell over the past 7 days, significantly dampening the grazing platform. Soil tension has reduced to 6kpa from 8kpa last week. A very icy morning on the Tuesday of the farm walk saw soil temperatures drop to 12°C from 15°C last week.
- Pasture growth rate has decreased to 30kgDM/ha/day from 36kgDM/ha/day. This is still well above demand of 17kgDM/ha/day.



- Pre grazing pasture covers have lifted to 3400kgDM/ha. To maintain post grazing residuals of 1400 – 1600kgDM/ha we have no choice but to move out to a 90 day rotation length. Leaf emergence rate was calculated at 14 days per leaf. This difference of leaf emergence rate and rotation length is not of too much concern as pasture production and leaf emergence will start to slow as it gets colder. In addition, there are 60 hectares out of the rotation and we need to calve at an APC of 2500kgDM/ha.
- The month of May is predicted to be quite wet, so we have scaled back our budgeted growth rates from 30kgDM/ha/day to 25kgDM/ha/day. Even with those conditions, our feed budgeting is suggesting that we will reach our target APC at calving.



- We are very wary of our renovated pastures being nitrogen deficient (especially the 20ha that went into permanent pasture). There is a need to apply the autumn fertiliser blend to these areas, as they were bypassed when this was applied. As soon as weather conditions permit this blend will go on. The blend to be applied is a (23:4:3:4) at a rate of 160 kg/ha and so there is 37kgN/ha in this mix.

### Animal & Financial Performance

- 668 animals make up the milking herd.
- Herd nutrition information  
 $(3400 - 1500 = 1900\text{kgDM/ha} \times 3.5 \text{ ha} = 6500\text{kgDM} \div 668 \text{ cows} = 9.7\text{kgDM/cow/day}$   
**TOTAL 9.7kgDM/cow/day (107MJME/day)**

Animal demand is 70MJME/day (60MJME maintenance + 10MJME 7 month of pregnancy)

- The herd will be supplemented for selenium and copper in May. Trace mineral testing from the liver biopsies indicated a deficiency in these two key macro minerals. Copper and selenium pellets will be used.
- Herd body condition is 4.8, which compares very similarly to the score at the same time last year.

**THE NEXT WEEKLY TDDF FMG** farm walks will cease over the next 4 weeks. We'll let you know ASAP when they start up again.  
 TDDF Farm Management Group – Basil Doonan (Davey & Maynard), Rob La Grange (TIAR), Chris Haynes (TIAR), and Justin McGowan and Nicki Devantier (TDDF Sharefarmers).