



FMG'S CRITICAL ISSUES	
1	Supplement transferred cows with copper, selenium and vitamin B12
2	Maintain a 25 day rotation
3	Watch post grazing residuals to identify early silage paddocks
4	Ensure all calves are on fresh pasture

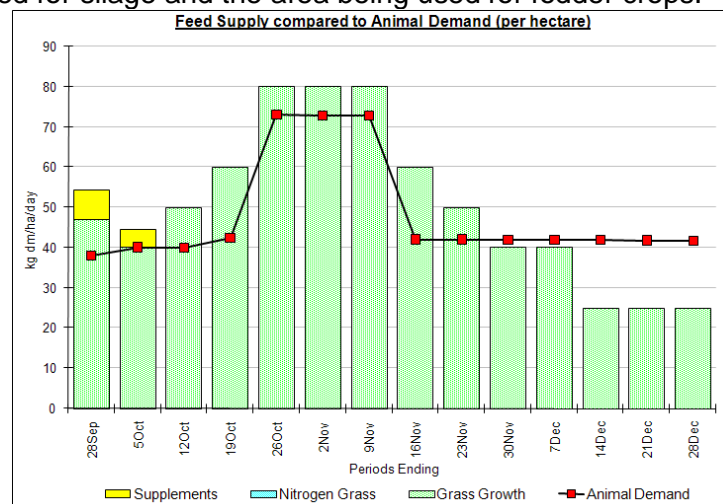


## SUMMARY OF FARMING OPERATION DATA

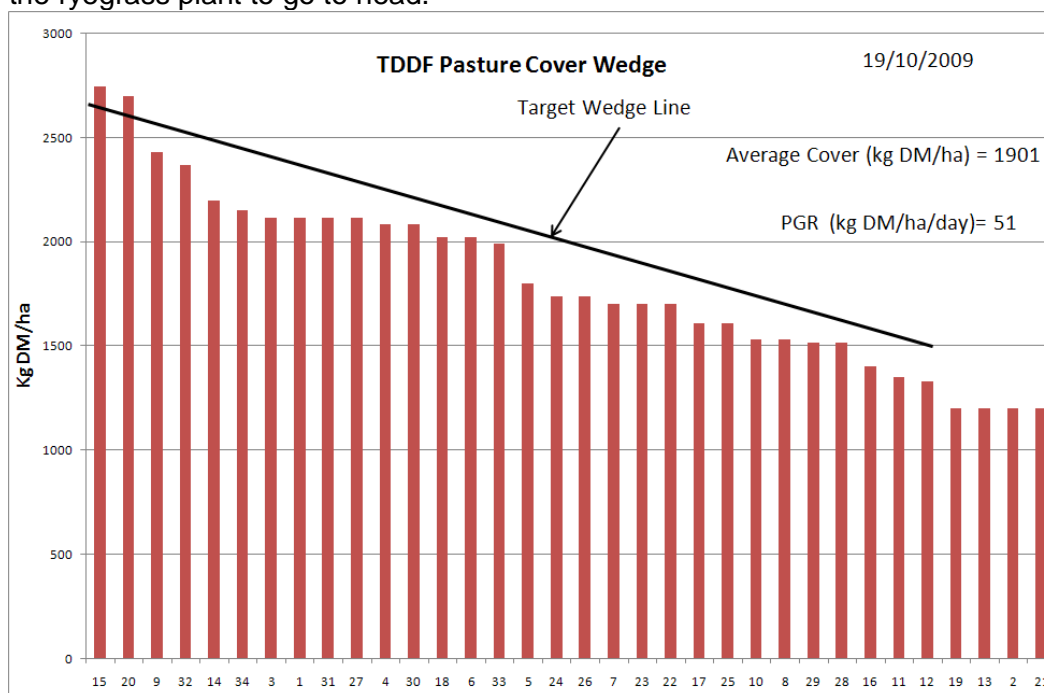
Pasture Information		Animal Production	
LER	9 days/leaf	Cows	611 (twice-a-day) 253 (once-a-day) 13 (sick herd)
Rotation Length	25 days	Litres/cow/day	15
Pasture Growth Rate	51 kgDM/ha/day	MS/cow/day	1.18kg
Average Pasture Cover	1901 kgDM/ha	MS/ha/day	2.79kg
Soil Temperature 9AM	11.4°C	Cow intake (allocated)	16 kgDM/cow/day
Rainfall (past 7 days)	6 mm	Supplement Fed	Nil (depending on pre-grazing)
MOFC (\$/cow)	\$1.87	Body Condition Score	4.4 (twice-a-day herd) 3.7 (once-a-day herd)

### Pasture Management

- Soil temperatures have increased to 11.4°C from 10.5°C. Soil tension has increased to 6kpa. The farm received 6mm over the past 7 days. Paddocks are still too wet to sow fodder crops; we are planning for these to be sowed 'weather permitting' by the start of next week October 26.
- Pasture growth rate has lifted to 51kgDM/ha from 40kgDM/ha/day. As the soil profile starts to dry out we expect this to increase to approximately 70 – 80kgDM/ha/day. The figure below illustrates the budgeted pasture growth versus demand over the next 6 weeks. It anticipates the extra demand with paddocks being removed for silage and the area being used for fodder crops.



- Rotation length has been maintained at 25 days. Leaf emergence has increased to 9 days per leaf. It will be important to monitor for seed head emergence especially with the colder weather, as it will stimulate the ryegrass plant to go to head.



- The feedwedge is showing a minor feed deficit, target APC is 2020kgDM/ha with the cropping area being out of the rotation. We can see a feed surplus develop in the middle of wedge, and providing we do not get a big drop in pasture growth, paddocks will be identified for silage later in this coming week. This shows the true power of the feedwedge in being able to identify early pasture surpluses. Paddocks furthest from the dairy will be shut up first. Under our current rotation length a pre-grazing of 2550kgDM/ha will give the herd an allocated intake of 16kgDM/cow/day which is budget.
- Nitrogen is being applied behind the herd at 37kgN/ha (80kg urea / ha)

### Animal Performance

- 877 cows still make up the total number of milking cows; 13 cows make up the sick herd. The majority of the sick herd are on drug withholding from the main herd.
- All cows that were transferred in will be supplemented with copper, selenium and vitamin B12. A deficiency in these vital trace minerals will affect milk production and live weight gain, especially copper.
- Under the current rotation length of 25 days (13.2 ha/day), 331 ha is available for grazing.
 

Pre grazing cover	2550kgDM/ha
Post grazing residual	1500kgDM/ha
Total available	1050kgDM/ha x 13.2ha = 13860kgDM
<b>Per cow from pasture</b>	<b>14520kgDM / 877 cows = 16kgDM pasture</b>
- Production has held steady again over the past week at 1.18kgMS/cow/day (4.3% fat and 3.4% protein). AI finished last Thursday, and we planning to do a herd test ASAP.
- Bulk milk cell count is averaging 180,000 up from 150,000. Bacto is steady at 60,000.
- The last of the calves will be removed out of the shed and onto fresh pasture this week. It is important to maintain fresh pasture in the diets of calves so they are able to maintain their live weight gains.

**THE NEXT WEEKLY TDDF FMG** farm walk will be on Tuesday October 27 starting at 10:30am.

Farm Management Group – Kevin Mills (Farm Manager), Chris Haynes (TIAR), Adrian Neasey (VDL) and Darryl Quilliam (Roberts)