



FMG'S CRITICAL ISSUES	
1	TDDF Field Day
2	Rotation length and supplementary feeding
3	Assess replacements for next season
4	Continue to prepare for calving



SUMMARY OF FARMING OPERATION DATA			
Pasture Information		Animal Production	
LER	16 days/leaf	Cows (dry)	866
Rotation Length	60 days	Litres/cow/day	0
Pasture Growth Rate	28 kgDM/ha/day	MS/cow/day	0kg
Average Pasture Cover	2125 kgDM/ha	MS/ha/day	0kg
Soil Temperature 9AM	12°C	Cow intake	9 – 11 kgDM/cow/day
Rainfall (past 7 days)	5 mm	Supplement Fed	-
MOFC (\$/cow)	\$0.00	Body Condition Score	4.9 (Heavy herd) 4.9 (Light herd)

*Note the herd gets body condition scored every 2 weeks.

Coming Events

Pencil this date in!

Thursday June 12, 10am - 2:30pm
(The Gums' Red Marsh Road, Woolnorth)

For the.....
2007/08 Seasonal Wrap-up Field Day

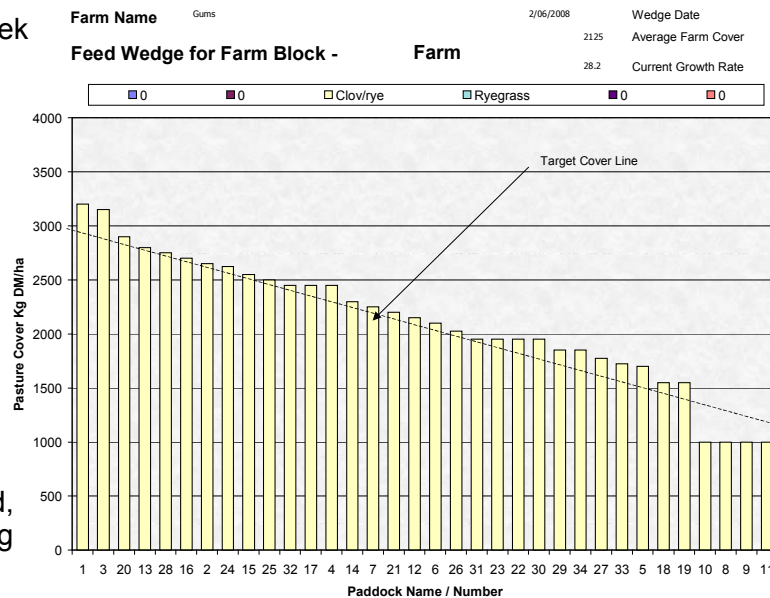
The day will cover:

- What has happened over the 2007/08 season;
- Plans for the 2008/09 season;
- Insights into the development of the Best Management Practice guidelines; and
- An opportunity for you to see all that is happening on-farm.

Lunch will be on-farm provided by Roberts Limited
Contact Chris Haynes on 0408 548 091 for more details

Pasture Management

- Average pasture cover has come back slightly to 2125kgDM/ha, which indicates that the farm is close to feeding out hay. However, there are 3 paddocks with high pre grazing covers (>3000kgDM/ha) that need to be grazed and this will most likely take a week.
- Pasture growth rates are holding at around 20 – 30 kgDM/ha/day. Since APC is not an issue at the moment and there is plenty of hay to be fed, the farm will not apply nitrogen unless a pasture deficit is looming.
- The FMG anticipate that hay will need to be fed at the start of next week and will target 5-6kgDM/cow/day with the balance coming from pasture. The herds will graze paddocks across the road, which are furthest away from the dairy. Since lameness was a big issue this past season, the FMG have tried to manipulate the wedge so that the dry herds will graze paddocks that are furthest away from the dairy reducing the distance walked by early lactation cows. It is more than likely that these herds, once across the road, will be on a 90-day rotation leaving post-grazing residuals of 1200kgDM/ha.



- Nitrogen will be applied to the 30 hectares of renovated paddocks at a rate of 25kgDM/ha. These paddocks are showing nitrogen deficiencies with yellowing in plant tillers.

Animal and Financial Performance

- 170 replacements have entered the herd bringing total dry cow numbers up to 886 on-farm. All replacements will be assessed this week and decisions will be made on whether these animals can get through the season. If these animals don't meet that criterion of getting through this coming lactation they will be culled immediately. Similarly, any animals in the other two dry herds that have failed to meet target liveweights and body condition score will also be culled.
- Both herds are maintaining body condition, the FMG expect only slight increases in body condition from now till calving, and therefore do not expect too much change in overall BCS. The herds are due to be condition scored next week.
- Magnesium oxide continues to be dusted onto pasture at 70grams/cow/day to address magnesium challenges around calving.
- Repairs and maintenance continues to be completed across the farm in preparation for calving. There is still work to be completed to damaged fences from the laneway work.

THE NEXT WEEKLY TDDF FMG farm walk will be on Tuesday June 10 at 10:30am.

TDDF Farm Management Group – Basil Doonan (Davey & Maynard), Rob La Grange (TIAR), Chris Haynes (TIAR), and Justin McGowan and Nicki Devantier (TDDF Sharefarmers).

“Make sure you get along to the Seasonal Wrap-up Field Day on Thursday June 12”