



FMG'S CRITICAL ISSUES	
1	BCS of the dry herd
2	Silage
3	Grazing management

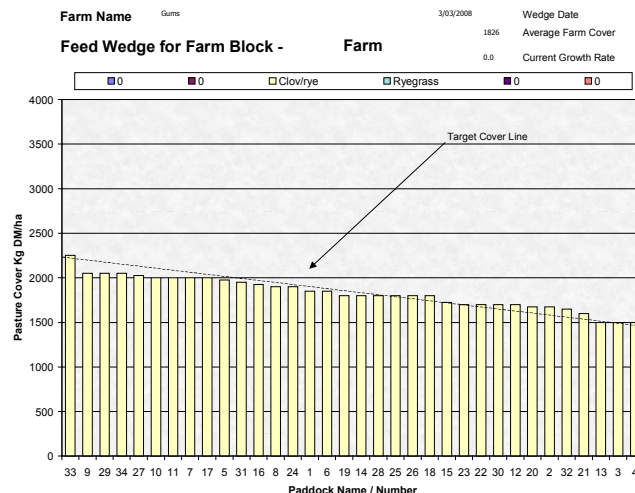


SUMMARY OF FARMING OPERATION DATA			
Pasture Information		Animal Production	
LER	30 days/leaf	Cows	480
Rotation Length	90 days	Litres/cow/day	7
Pasture Growth Rate	0kgDM/ha/day	MS/cow/day	0.59 kg
Average Pasture Cover	1826 kgDM/ha	MS/ha/day	0.72 kg
Soil Temperature	15°C	Cow intake	13 kgDM/cow/day
Rainfall (past 7 days)	4.6 mm	Supplement Fed	10 kgDM Silage
MOFC (\$/cow)	\$2.09	Body Condition Score	4.3

TDDF Grazing and Animal KPI'S

Pasture Management

- The grazing platform is still dormant with no significant rain.
- Average pasture cover has increased from last week, and is due to plate meter error. Herd pasture demand is 5kgDM/ha/day so with no rain this should reduce APC by 35kgDM/ha per week.
- Silage is continuing to be fed to the milking herd at 10kgDM/cow/day. Hay is being fed to the dry herd at 2kgDM/cow/day.
- Decisions have been made around increasing body condition of lighter animals in the dry herd. In last weeks walk notes, it was stated that the average BCS of the dry herd was 3.7, the FMG believe the score stated was too low and the herd average is 4.0. Cows below BCS of 4 will be preferentially fed by getting the new break before the larger better-conditioned animals. Members on the farm walk indicated that farm had up to the end of May to put condition back onto animals, as pregnancy would be a limiting factor in June.



Animal and Financial Performance

- There are 480 cows currently in the milking herd. 51 cows have been dried off over the past week increasing the dry herd to 301 and 5 cows have been culled due to animal health issues.
- Cows will continue to be dried off on body condition, milk production and cell count.
- Bulk milk cell count has reduced to 235,000 from 320,000. With the high cell count cows being dried off over the past few weeks this reduction was expected. The aim will be to keep this below 250,000 for the rest of lactation.
- The milk test is 4.85% Fat and 3.46% Protein. Milk production has fallen to 0.59kgMS/cow/day, with margin over feed cost being \$2.09/cow/day.
- Note: Currently the farm is witnessing similar issues each week, hence the short nature of this week's farm walk notes.

THE NEXT WEEKLY TDDF FMG farm walk will be on Monday March 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).