

**Report by:** Berni Saldias  
027 235 9731  
[bsaldias@farmright.co.nz](mailto:bsaldias@farmright.co.nz)

**Report for:** LUDF  
**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024  
**Visit Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024

	17 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 CURRENT	18 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 Last Month
<b>Total cows on farm</b>	559	558
<b>Cows Milkers</b>	552	551
<b>Penicillin/ colostrum</b>	7	7
<b>Springer/MT, CO cows</b>	-	-
<b>Milk solids: per day</b>	1011 kgMS *	1100kgMS *
<b>per cow</b>	1.83 kgMS/cow *	1.99 kgMS/cow *
<b>per ha</b>	6.31 kgMS/ha	6.87 kgMS/ha
<b>Somatic cell count</b>	107,000	138,000
<b>Average pasture cover</b>	2412 kgDM/ha *	2439 kgDM/ha
<b>Pre-grazing covers</b>	3342 kgDM/ha	3100 kgDM/ha
<b>Post-grazing covers</b>	1600 kgDM/ha	1580 kgDM/ha
<b>Effective area in round</b>	146.28 ha	146.28 ha
<b>Stocking rate</b>	3.82 cows/ha	3.81 cows/ha

\*kg MS /day was calculated as the average of 7 days.

\*The APC consider paddock S6.

### Cows and Mating

- Bulls are coming out this Thursday (9 weeks mating for the heifers).
- Mating results
 

	Actual	Target	Last Season
○ 3-week submission	89%	90%	91%
○ 5-week submission	97%	95%	96%
- Non-return rate currently is sitting at 59% (target above 64%).

### Regrassing and Cropping

- Paddock S6 (7.27ha) will be back in the round next week once the withholding period is over.
- Paddock N11 (6.45ha) has struck, and it's likely to be back in the round in mid-January.

### Pasture

- Current round length is 23 days based on 146.28ha effective of 6.36ha/day.
- Current feed demand is:
  - 68kgDM/ha/day at 18kgDM intake.
  - 70kgDM/ha/day at 18.5kgDM intake.
  - 72kgDM/ha/day at 19kgDM intake.
- Use post-grazing residuals as guidance to estimate feed demand.
- Recent growth rate was 92kgDM/ha/day.

- Current post-grazing residuals are higher than the target due to the level of docks in the paddock.
- Area allocation and pre-grazing targets for 23-day rotation on 146.28ha (160ha less 13.7ha for regrassing)

		Total Diet		18.5 kgDM			
Post-grazing		1550 kgDM/ha		Round length		23 days	
						Area 146 ha	
Herd	Cows	Pre-grazing target	Area in round	kgDM/cow offered	Supplement offered -kgDM/cow	ha/day	m <sup>2</sup> /cow /day
1st Herd	552	3,176	144 ha	18.5	0.0	6.3	114
Sick/lame cows	7	3,176	2 ha	18.5	0.0	0.1	114
<b>Total</b>	<b>559</b>			<b>18.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>6.4</b>	

- Currently, the feed wedge shows a surplus. However, it was discussed to evaluate the feed position next week due to the current weather forecast (lower temperatures and possibly rain).
- If the pasture position continues strong, look to cut baleage, especially after paddock S6 is back in the round.
- Area allocation and pre-grazing targets for 23-day rotation on 153ha (160ha less area out for regrassing - paddock N11; 6.45ha) will be:

		Total Diet		18.5 kgDM			
Post-grazing		1550 kgDM/ha		Round length		23 days	
						Area 153 ha	
Herd	Cows	Pre-grazing target	Area in round	kgDM/cow offered	Supplement offered -kgDM/cow	ha/day	m <sup>2</sup> /cow /day
1st Herd	552	3,107	151 ha	18.5	0.0	6.6	119
Sick/lame cows	7	3,107	2 ha	18.5	0.0	0.1	119
<b>Total</b>	<b>559</b>			<b>18.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>6.6</b>	

- Consider the points below when post-grazing topping is required more than once or twice a week to meet the target residual of 1550kgDM/ha.
  - Is cow demand lower than the target?
  - Is the pre-grazing cover above the target?
  - Is the allocated area correct?
  - Does area need to be taken out for baleage?
- You can always come back a couple of days later to graze a paddock locked in for baleage if the grass position gets tight.
- The plan for next visit is to generate an Autumn Feed Budget to use as guidance for extending the rotation length in order to capture potential pasture growth rates as growth slows.

#### Nitrogen / fertiliser

- Continue with N applications as per plan (20 units of N/ha).

*Any queries about this report or other issues please contact me.*

**Next scheduled visit: TBC Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> January at 9.00am.**

*Regards,*

*Berni Saldias*

*FarmRight Limited Consultant*