

Report by: Berni Saldias
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Report for: LUDF

Date: 23rd January 2025

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	23 rd January 2025 CURRENT	17 th December 2024 Last Month
Total cows on farm	558	559
Cows Milkers	552	552
Penicillin / colostrum	6	7
Springer/MT,CO cows	-	-
Milksolids: per day	928 kgMS *	1011 kgMS *
per cow	1.68 kgMS/cow	1.83 kgMS/cow *
per ha	5.8 kgMS/ha	6.31 kgMS/ha
Somatic cell count	114,000	107,000
Average pasture cover	2402 kgDM/ha *	2412 kgDM/ha *
Pre-grazing covers	3000 kgDM/ha	3342 kgDM/ha
Post-grazing covers	1500 -1550 kgDM/ha	1600 kgDM/ha
Effective area in round	160 ha	146.28 ha
Stocking rate	3.48 cows/ha	3.82 cows/ha

*kgMS /day was calculated as the average of 7 days.

*APC was measured at 2400kgDM/ha. However, grazing observations indicate that APC might be lower than the measured.

Cows and Mating

- Cows will be individually body condition scored soon.
- I have seen around a drop in cows' condition since December. However, the average body condition of the cows have been strong with a tight condition spread.

Regrassing and Cropping

- Paddock N11 (6.45ha) is back in the run.

Pasture

- Current round length is 25 days based on 160ha effective of 6.4ha/day.
- Current feed demand is:
 - 61kgDM/ha/day at 17.5kgDM intake.
 - 62.6kgDM/ha/day at 18kgDM intake.
- **Use post-grazing residuals as guidance to estimate feed demand.**

- Recent growth rate was 59kgDM/ha/day.
- Current post-grazing residuals are sitting around 1500 -1550kgDM/ha.
- Area allocation and pre-grazing targets for 25-day rotation on 160ha.

Total Diet 17.5 kgDM							
Post-grazing 1550 kgDM/ha		Round length 25 days		Area 160 ha			
Herd	Cows	Pre-grazing	Area in round	kgDM/cow	Supplement offered	m ² /cow	
		target		offered	–kgDM/cow	ha/day	/day
1st Herd	558	3,076	160 ha	17.5	0.0	6.4	115
Total	558			17.5	0.0	6.4	

- Continue targeting post-grazing residuals of 1550kgDM/ha.
- Ultimately, the cows will tell us how much is in the paddock.
- If post-grazing residuals and pre-grazing targets are lower than the target offer silage rather than speeding up the round length, this will protect the APC.
- Be quick to remove the silage if it is being fed, and post-grazing residuals start to lift.
- If pre-grazing covers aren't to target through the autumn, consider the following options are:
 - Cull low producing and high SCC empty cows earlier
 - Supplement with silage
 - Cull all remaining empty cows
- There needs to be a strong focus on ensuring pasture quality is maintained. Any paddocks that have not been grazed down to 1,550kgDM/ha, will need to be carefully managed. They will need to be grazed down hard the following grazing to ensure a stemmy base does not form.
- Below are some targets to continue extending the rotation length in order to capture potential pasture growth rates as growth slows. The targets are as follow:
 - late Jan 25 days
 - 1st March 30 days
 - 10th April 40 days

Final round with all culls gone

Nitrogen / fertiliser

- Continue with N applications as per plan.

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

Next scheduled visit: TBC Tuesday 25th February at 9.00am.

Regards,

Berni Saldias

FarmRight Limited Consultant