

Report by: Berni Saldias
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Report for: LUDF

Date: 26th March 2025

Visit Date: 25th March 2025

	25 th March 2025 CURRENT	25 th February 2025 Last Month
Total cows on farm	558	558
Cows Milkers	541	552
Penicillin / colostrum	16 (3 out of the vat)	5
Springer/MT,CO cows	1 dry	1 dry
Milksolids: per day	836 kgMS *	884 kgMS *
per cow	1.51 kgMS/cow	1.60 kgMS/cow
per ha	5.22 kgMS/ha	5.52 kgMS/ha
Somatic cell count	130,000	136,000
Average pasture cover	2490 kgDM/ha	2376 kgDM/ha
Pre-grazing covers	3350 kgDM/ha	3384 kgDM/ha
Post-grazing covers	1550 kgDM/ha	1550 kgDM/ha
Effective area in round	160 ha	160 ha
Stocking rate	3.48 cows/ha	3.48 cows/ha

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

Cows

- 56 light cows are on OAD with preferential feeding.
- Keep an eye on them and draft any other at-risk cow onto the OAD herd to support body condition gain.
- **The emphasis now needs to go on early calving light cows and 2nd calvers, as late calvers have additional time over winter to gain condition.**
- Use your next individual body condition to assess if any at-risk cow should be dried off early.
- Consider the estimated timeline (adjusted from DairyNZ) of the days dry required to reach the calving BCS target for cows fed autumn pasture only:

R3 BCS	MA Cows BCS	Days of dry required	Cows calving 1-4 weeks	Cows calving 5-8 weeks
3.5	3.0	160	5-Mar	5-Apr
4.0	3.5	130	5-Apr	5-May
4.5	4.0	100	5-May	End May
5.0	4.5	70	End May	End May

Pasture

- The estimated round length is 31 days based on 160ha effective of 5.1ha/day.
- Current feed demand is:
 - 57kgDM/ha/day at 16.5kgDM intake.
- Use post-grazing residuals as guidance to estimate feed demand.**
- Look to clean up the clamps that have not been grazed down to 1,550kgDM/ha to set up the farm for next spring. **Graze them down before the farm becomes too wet.**
- Use the current strong pasture position to continue extending the round to minimise supplement use of. I recommend targeting the following:
 - 10th March 35 days
 - 20th- 22nd April 40 days Final round with all culls gone
- Current situation:** Area allocation and pre-grazing targets for 31-day rotation on 160ha.

Post-grazing 1550 kgDM/ha		Round length 31 days		Area 160 ha			
		Pre-grazing		kgDM/cow	Supplement offered	m ² /cow	
Herd	Cows	target	Area in round	offered	–kgDM/cow	ha/day	/day
1st Herd	554	3,334	159 ha	16.5	0.0	5.1	92
Sick/lame cows	4	3,334	1 ha	16.5	0.0	0.0	92
Total	558			16.5	0.0	5.2	

- Area allocation and pre-grazing targets for 35-day rotation on 160ha and feeding 2kgDM silage/cow/day.

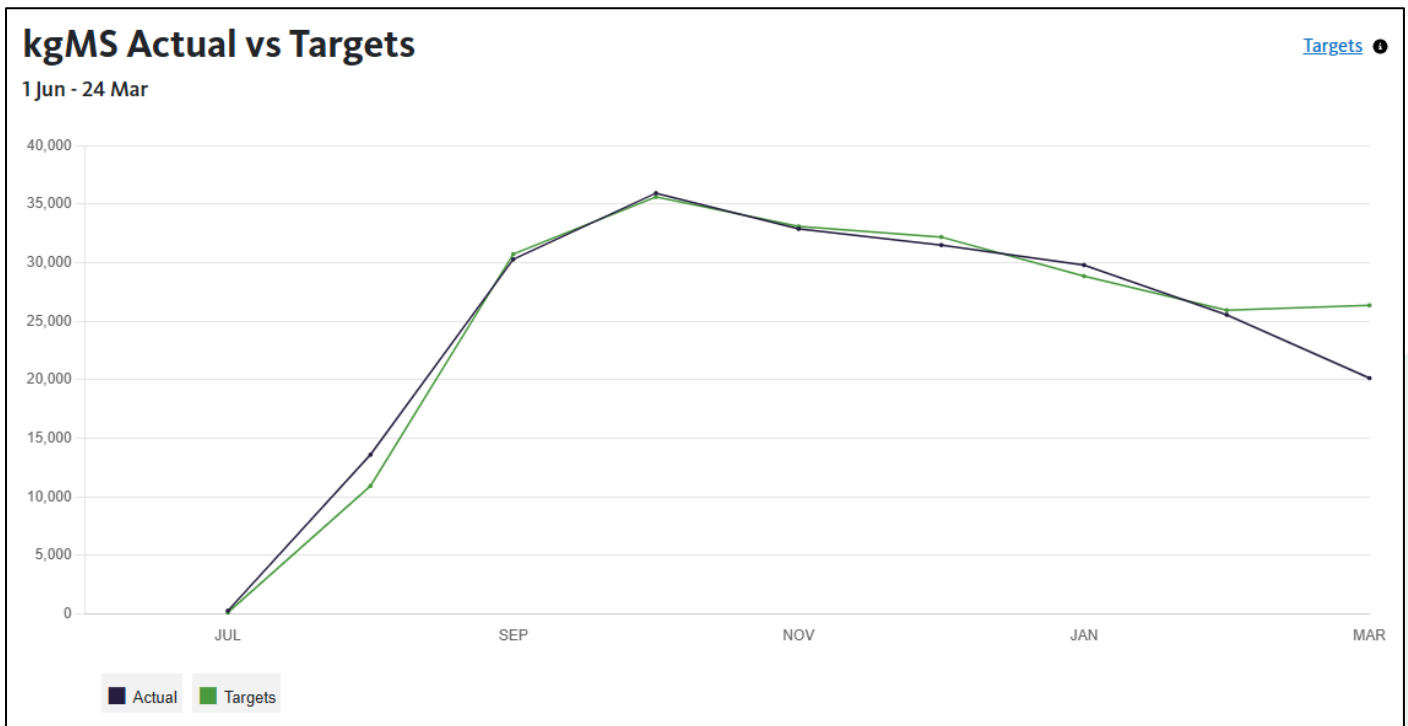
Total Diet 16.5 kgDM							
Post-grazing 1550 kgDM/ha		Round length 35 days				Area 160 ha	
Herd	Cows	Pre-grazing		kgDM/cow	Supplement offered	m ² /cow	
		target	Area in round	offered	–kgDM/cow	ha/day	/day
1st Herd	554	3,320	159 ha	14.5	2.0	4.5	82
Sick/lame cows	4	3,320	1 ha	14.5	2.0	0.0	82
Total	558			14.5	2.0	4.6	

- Area allocation and pre-grazing targets for 40-day rotation on 160ha, with 76 culls gone and feeding 2kgDM silage/cow/day.

Total Diet 16 kgDM							
Post-grazing 1550 kgDM/ha		Round length 40 days				Area 160 ha	
Herd	Cows	Pre-grazing target	Area in round	kgDM/cow offered	Supplement offered –kgDM/cow	m ² /cow ha/day	/day
1st Herd	478	3,237	159 ha	14.0	2.0	4.0	83
Sick/lame cows	4	3,237	1 ha	14.0	2.0	0.0	83
Total	482			14.0	2.0	4.0	

- 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.
- If pre-grazing covers aren't to target through the autumn, consider the following options:
 - Cull low-producing and high SCC empty cows earlier
 - Supplement with silage
 - Cull all remaining empty cows

Milk Production



Total STD production: 219,989 kgMS (24th March) vs 223,846 kgMS (budgeted to end of March).

Nitrogen / fertiliser

- Continue with N applications as per plan.

Other

- Two paddocks in the N block have extensive and focalised grass grub damage. That might require rolling.



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

Next scheduled visit: Tuesday 29th April at 9.00am.

Regards,

Berni Saldias

FarmRight Limited Consultant