

Report by: Berni Saldias
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Report for: LUDF

Date: 16th December 2025

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	16 th December 2025 CURRENT	11 th November 2025 Last Month	17 th December 2025 Last Season
Total cows on farm	547	548	559
Cows Milkers	539	548	552
Penicillin / colostrum	8		7
Springer/MT, CO cows	-	-	-
Milk solids: per day	1021 kgMS	1100 kgMS	1011 kgMS
per cow	1.89 kgMS/cow	2.01 kgMS/cow	1.83 kgMS/cow
per ha	6.38 kgMS/ha	6.87 kgMS/ha	6.31 kgMS/ha
Somatic cell count	130,000	116,000	107,000
Average pasture cover	2237 kgDM/ha	2408 kgDM/ha	2412 kgDM/ha
Pre-grazing covers	3048 kgDM/ha	3400 kgDM/ha	3342 kgDM/ha
Post-grazing covers	1550 kgDM/ha	1500 -1550kgDM/ha	1600 kgDM/ha
Effective area in round	160 ha	146.28 ha	146.28 ha
Stocking rate	3.41 cows/ha	3.76 cows/ha	3.82 cows/ha

Cows and Mating

- Bulls will be out of the heifers before Christmas.
 - Currently 70% in-calf rate to the CIDR program.
- Mating results

	Actual	Last Season
o 3-week submission	90%	89%
o 6-week submission	97%	97%

Regrassing

- Both new grass paddocks are back in the round.

Pasture

- Last week the round length was 24-day, with the grazing of the new grass paddocks.
- Current stocking rate is 3.41 cows/ha.
- Feed demand is:
 - 65kgDM/ha/day at 19kgDM intake.
 - 63kgDM/ha/day at 18.5kgDM intake.
- Use post-grazing residuals as guidance to estimate feed demand.
- Recent growth rate was 63kgDM/ha/day.
- Post-grazing residuals have been mostly on target.

- Look to target a 22–23-day round length now that the new-grass paddocks are back in the round.
- Area allocation and pre-grazing targets for 22-day rotation with a demand of 19kgDM/cow/day intake on 160ha.

		Total Diet		19 kgDM			
Post-grazing		1500 kgDM/ha		Round length		22 days	
						Area	
						160 ha	
Herd	Cows	Pre-grazing target	Area in round	kgDM/cow offered	Supplement offered –kgDM/cow	ha/day	m ² /cow /day
1st Herd	380	2,929	111 ha	19.0	0.0	5.1	133
2nd Herd	129	2,929	38 ha	19.0	0.0	1.7	133
3rd Herd	30	2,929	9 ha	19.0	0.0	0.4	133
Sick/lame cows	8	2,929	2 ha	19.0	0.0	0.1	133
Total	547			19.0	0.0	7.3	

- This will have a feed demand of 65 kg DM/ha/day.
- Area allocation and pre-grazing targets for 23-day rotation with a demand of 18.5 kg DM/cow/day intake on 160ha.

		Total Diet		18.5 kgDM			
Post-grazing		1500 kgDM/ha		Round length		23 days	
						Area	
						160 ha	
Herd	Cows	Pre-grazing target	Area in round	kgDM/cow offered	Supplement offered –kgDM/cow	ha/day	m ² /cow /day
1st Herd	380	2,955	111 ha	18.5	0.0	4.8	127
2nd Herd	129	2,955	38 ha	18.5	0.0	1.6	127
3rd Herd	30	2,955	9 ha	18.5	0.0	0.4	127
Sick/lame cows	8	2,955	2 ha	18.5	0.0	0.1	127
Total	547			18.5	0.0	7.0	

- This will have a feed demand of 63kgDM/ha/day.
- Currently, the feed wedge shows a false surplus; 1 or 2 paddocks are just slightly above the demand, and thereafter there is a small deficit.
- If growth rates become higher than demand over the Christmas period, consider earmarking a paddock for silage to continue managing pasture quality until the reproductive stage of the grass is mostly over (early in the New Year).
- You can always come back a couple of days later to graze a paddock locked in for baleage if the grass position gets tight.
- In the New Year use pasture surplus to extend the round length, target a 25-day late January.

Nitrogen / fertiliser

- Nitrogen has been applied at 23kgN/ha.
- Monitor the amount of N used per ha, so you have enough N to apply in late summer/early Autumn.

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

Next scheduled visit: TBC Tuesday 20th January at 9.00am.

Regards,
Berni Saldias
FarmRight Limited Consultant