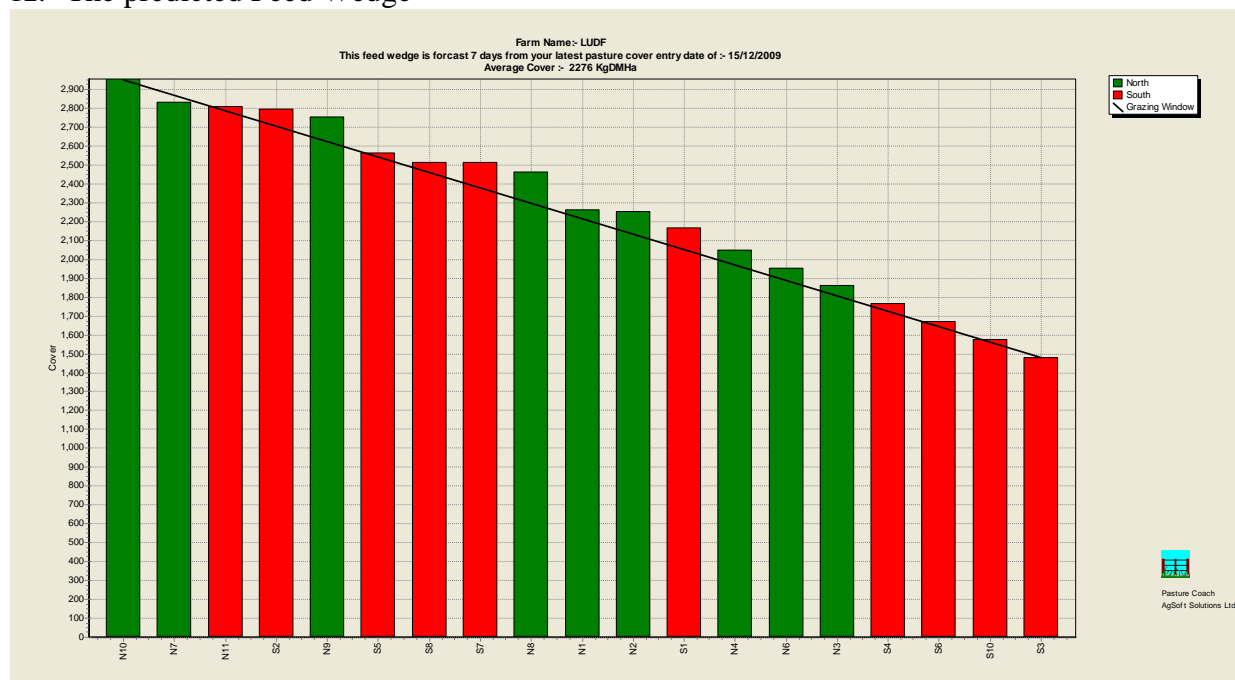


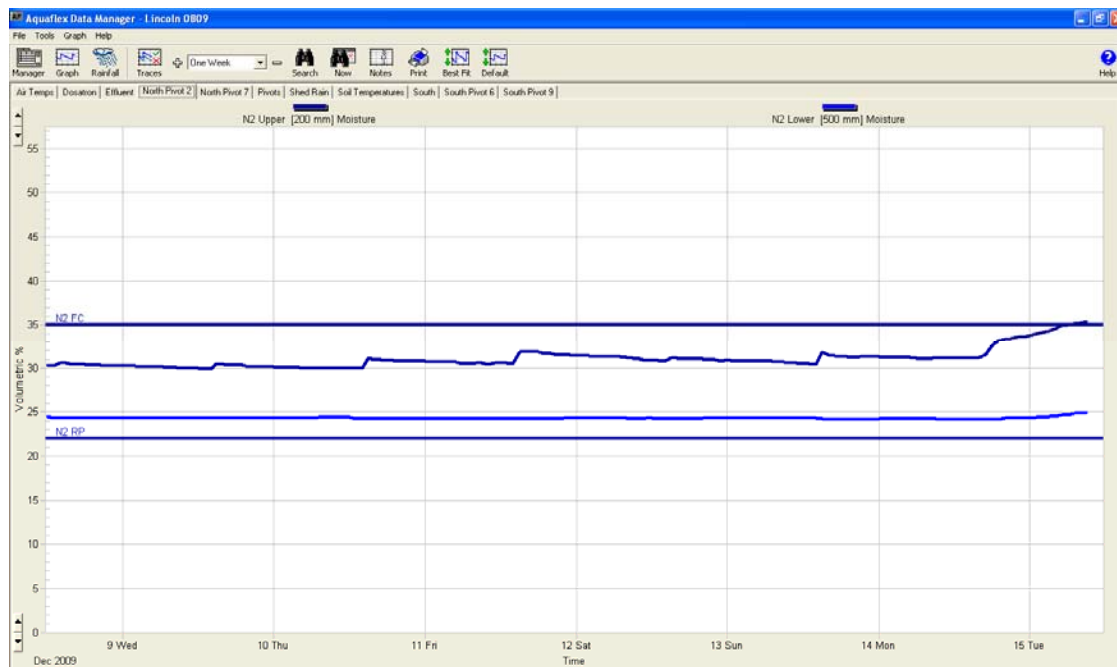
The target line in the wedge reflects the pre-grazing target of 2,951 kg DM/ha and a post grazing of 1480 kg DM/ha, which is the pre-grazing needed to feed the cows considering the stocking rate of 4.3 cows/ha (660 cows/152 ha)), cows eating 18 kg DM/cow/day and a rotation length of 19 days. The demand from the herd is 77 DM/ha/day. This Feed wedge has a surplus of 8t DM.

8. PASTURE GROWTH this week was 94 kg DM/ha, higher than the 86 kg DM/ha grown last week.
9. Average PASTURE COVER decreased to 2,275 kg DM/ha, from 2,303 kg DM/ha.
10. Stocking rate is currently 4.34 cows per ha because paddock S9 has been sprayed out, cultivated and sown with Bealey Ryegrass and two white clovers on the 4th of December.
11. Last week a feed surplus was available for taking as silage. Paddock S5 had 6.7 tonnes harvested off it during the week.

12. The predicted Feed Wedge



13. The predicted wedge above with paddock N5 out for silage and a predicted growth rate of 95 kg DM/ha/day has a surplus of 8t DM which gives us the confidence to take this paddock for silage.
14. We are using the soil moisture deficit information from our 4 Aquaflex sites around the farm to schedule our irrigation. Our aim in the late spring and summer, is to keep soil moisture levels just far enough below Field Capacity to allow for almost all rain events without exceeding Field Capacity and having leaching occur. This allows us to survive extended periods of evapo-transpiration rates that are higher than we can replace by irrigation on a daily basis and also gives us some time if a breakdown occurs. We make our energy and water savings by stopping irrigating earlier in the autumn and allowing soil moisture deficits to approach Stress Point just before the autumn rains.
15. This week we had 6 days of irrigation and 12mm of rain yesterday afternoon. The soil moisture graph for N2 shows the topsoil reaching field capacity this morning. The irrigator was turned off when the heavy rain came.



16. Cows will continue to be offered enough grass to achieve their potential intake and will be moved on when grazing residual targets are achieved.
17. We had two new cases of mastitis this week. SCC has been between 150,000 - 171,000.
18. There were 6 new lame cows this week, we have 15 in total. These cows are being milked once per day while they recover from the injury.
19. 657 cows are milking into the silo. Cows are producing 1.65kg MS/cow/day (last week 1.74) and 6.8 kg MS/ha/day (7.19 last week).
20. Continuing with Magnesium supplementation. The milking herd receives 75g of Mag Chloride/cow through the dosatron.
21. We started mating on the 30th of October and we had 90% of cows cycling before the planned start of mating. Six weeks of AB mating was completed last Thursday. Bulls are now running with the herd. We have 10 bulls and 5 are with the herd on a rotational basis. The bulls spend a day with the herd and are then rested for a day.
22. We mated 596 cows in 3 weeks achieving 90% Submission Rate in 3 weeks. 634 cows were mated after 4 weeks, 96%. At the end of 6 weeks 647 from the 660 cows had been mated once and 221 cows had received subsequent matings. No CIDR's have been used. The non return rate was 65%.
23. This week we applied 25kgN/ha to 30ha; this is likely to be the last N applied until mid February. Our main ryegrass varieties are primarily through the main seed head stage - reducing the need to retain N applications from a pasture quality perspective (additional N during seed head initiation and emergence helps promote tillering and maintain plants in a vegetative state). The feed budget will now be the driver for further N applications.

Next farm walk will be on **Tuesday, 22nd December 2009, at 9.00 am.**

Farmers or their managers and staff are always welcome to walk with us. Please call to notify us of your intention and bring your plate meter. Phone SIDDC – 03 325 3629

Management Group

Peter Hancox (Farm Manager), George Reveley (for SIDDC), Virginia Serra (DairyNZ).

Lincoln University Dairy Farm - Farm Walk notes

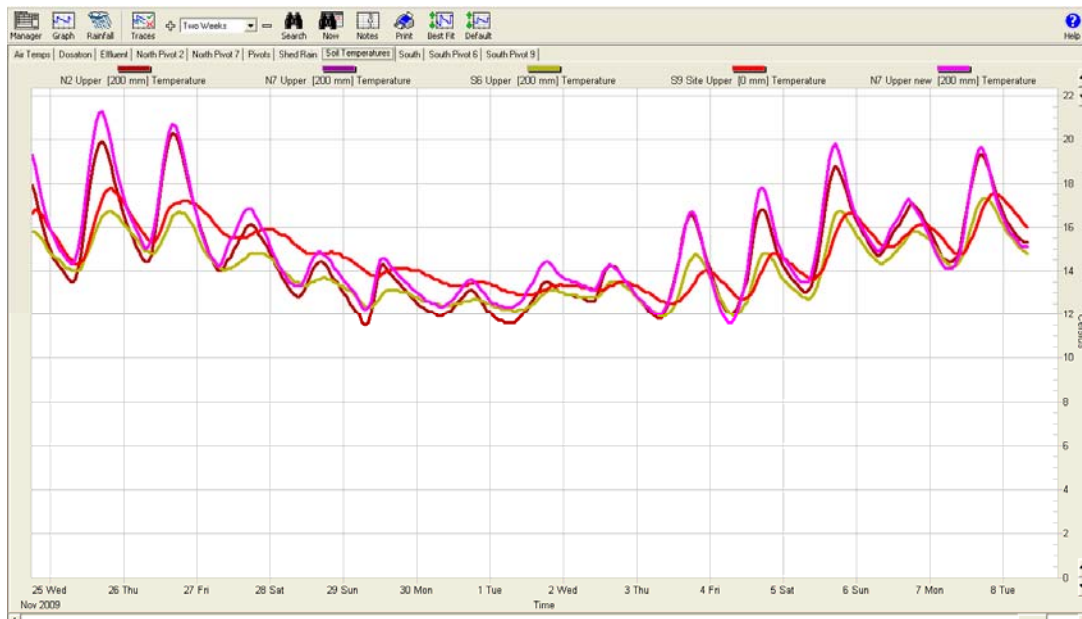
Tuesday, 8th December 2009

Critical issues for the short term

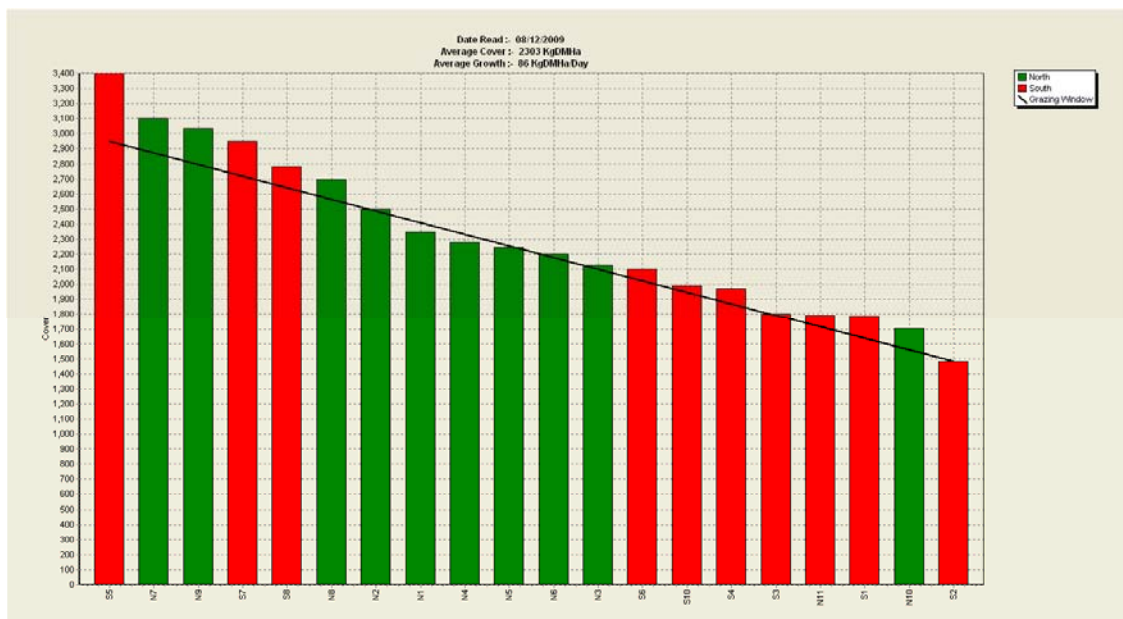
1. **Maintain pasture quality by regular monitoring and making necessary changes**
2. **Keep grazing residuals to the desired 7 clicks**
3. **Continue Mg supplementation in the water**
4. **Closely observe milking cows for mastitis**

Summary of Key Factors affecting Grazing Management & Animal Performance

5. Soil Temperatures at 9.00 am averaged 13.6°C for the week, the same as last week. The weather has remained very changeable as can be seen in the soil temperature readings. We had 8.0 mm of rain this week.

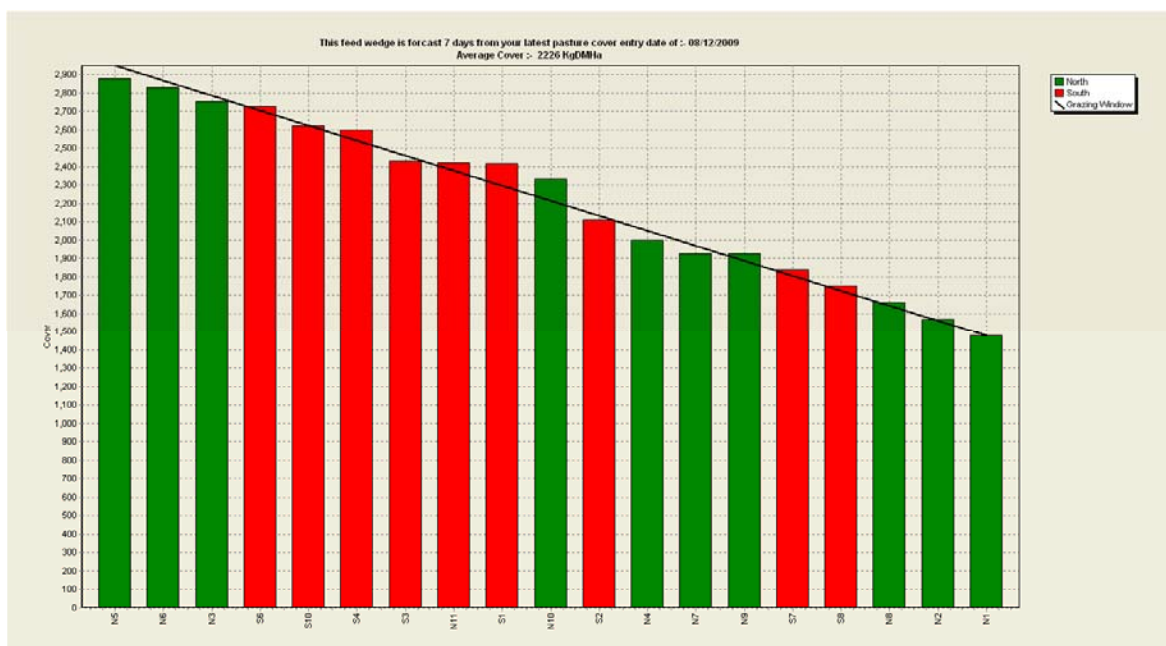


6. Last week the round was 19.5 days (7.78 ha per day). No silage was fed last week.
7. The Feed Wedge today



The target line in the wedge reflects the pre-grazing target of 2,951 kg DM/ha and a post grazing of 1480 kg DM/ha, which is the pre-grazing needed to feed the cows considering the stocking rate of 4.3 cows/ha (660 cows/152 ha), cows eating 18 kg DM/cow/day and a rotation length of 19 days. The demand from the herd is 77 DM/ha/day. This Feed wedge has a surplus of 15t DM.

8. PASTURE GROWTH this week was 86 kg DM/ha, higher than the 73 kg DM/ha grown last week.
9. Average PASTURE COVER increased to 2,303 kg DM/ha from 2,257 kg DM/ha.
10. Stocking rate has increased from 4.15 cows/ha to 4.34 because paddock S9 was sprayed out, cultivated and sown with Bealey Ryegrass and two white clovers on the 4th of December.
11. Because of the clear surplus in the feed wedge, paddock S5 will be cut for silage as soon as possible - hopefully tomorrow.
12. The predicted Feed Wedge



13. The predicted wedge with paddock S5 out for silage and a predicted growth rate of 90 kg DM/ha/day has a surplus of 1.4t DM which gives us the confidence to take this paddock for silage.
14. The soil moisture deficit information from our 4 Aquaflex sites around the farm is used to schedule our irrigation. The aim in the late spring and summer is to keep soil moisture levels just far enough below Field Capacity to allow for almost all rain events without exceeding Field Capacity and having leaching occur. This allows us to survive extended periods of evapo-transpiration rates that are higher than we can replace by irrigation on a daily basis and also gives us some time if a breakdown occurs. Energy and water savings are made by stopping irrigating earlier in the autumn and allowing soil moisture deficits to approach Stress Point just before the autumn rains.
15. This week we had 2 days of irrigation.
16. Cows will continue to be offered enough grass to achieve their potential intake and will be moved on when grazing residual targets are achieved.

17. No new cases of mastitis this week. SCC has been between 126,000-170,000.
18. There were 6 new lame cows this week, 13 in total. These cows are being milked once per day while they recover from the injury.
19. 659 cows are milking into the silo. Cows are producing 1.74kg MS/cow/day (last week 1.77) and 7.19 kg MS/ha/day (7.4 last week).
20. Continuing with Magnesium supplementation. The milking herd receives 75g of Mag Chloride/cow through the dosatron.
21. 11 cows left to cycle and mate. Mating started on the 30th of October and 90% of cows cycled before the planned start of mating. Six of the light non-cycling cows are still being milked OAD. e 6 weeks of mating is nearly completed. The plan is to complete six weeks AB and begin running bulls with the herd.
22. 596 cows were mated in 3 weeks achieving 90% Submission Rate. 634 cows were mated after 4 weeks 96%. No CIDR's have been used. The non return rate is currently 61% which is below the target of 64%.
23. This week 30 ha had 25 kg N/ha. This week Nitrogen will be applied to paddocks S4 and S5 (new grass paddocks) since the clover content on them is not very strong and we are not confident that can provide enough nitrogen. The policy is to stop Nitrogen application when soil temperature rises above 15°C. At that point in soil with good organic matter content the mineralization process generates enough mineralised nitrogen for sustained high levels of pasture growth. Past experience on this farm has shown that Urea applications can cease from around now and begin again when soil temperature drops below 15°C. In previous seasons this has resulted in sufficient pasture to feed the herd with only small volumes of surplus pasture. Our main ryegrass varieties have passed the main seed head stages, reducing risk of poorer quality pasture. Nitrogen helps maintain pasture quality by promoting tillering and maintaining more plants in vegetative stage.

Next farm walk will be on **Tuesday, 15th December 2009, at 9.00 am.**

Farmers or their managers and staff are always welcome to walk with us. Please call to notify us of your intention and bring your plate meter. Phone SIDDC – 03 325 3629

Great to see Paul and Donald from the Hawkes Bay who came especially to the South Island for the farm walk.

Management Group

Peter Hancox (Farm Manager), George Reveley (for SIDDC), Virginia Serra (DairyNZ).

Lincoln University Dairy Farm - Farm Walk notes

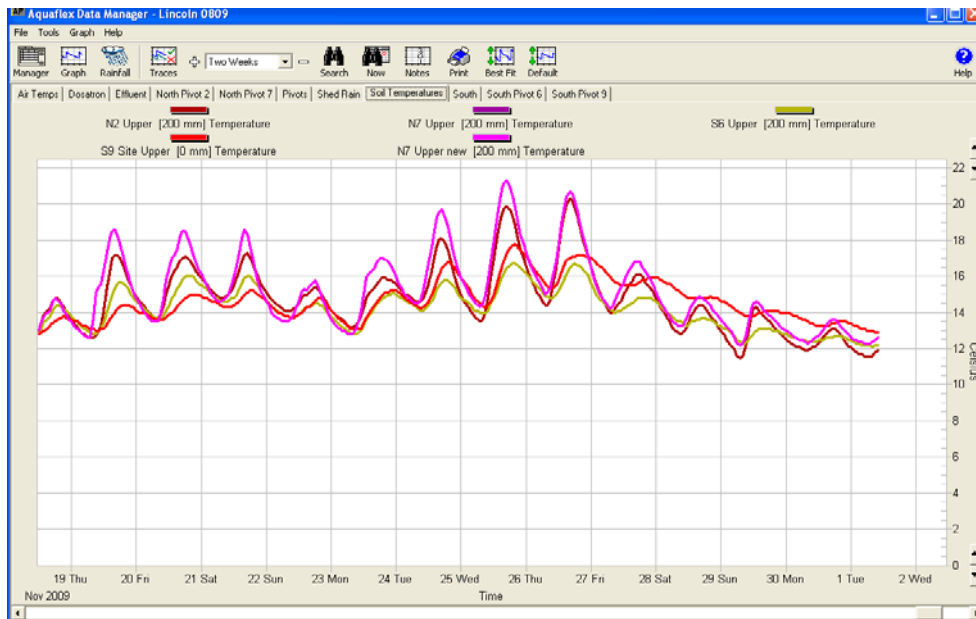
Tuesday, 1st December 2009

Critical issues for the short term

1. **Maintain pasture quality by regular monitoring and making necessary changes**
2. **Keep grazing residuals to the desired 7 clicks**
3. **Continue Mg supplementation in the water**
4. **Closely observe milking cows for mastitis**

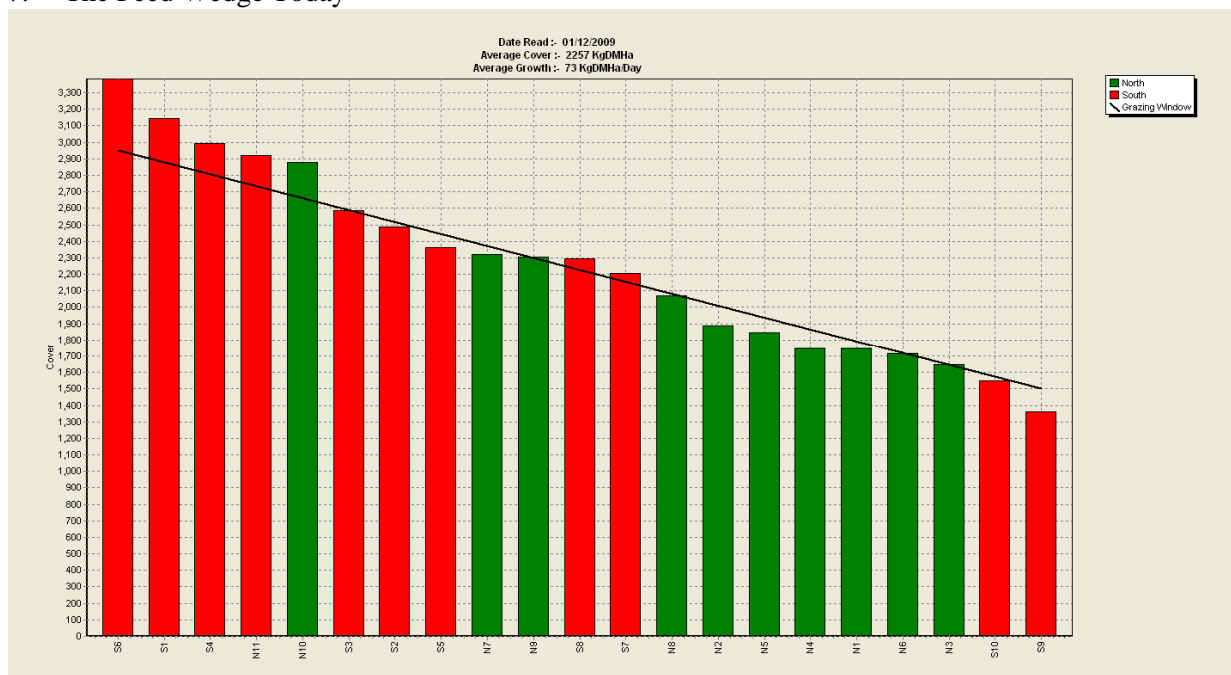
Summary of Key Factors affecting Grazing Management & Animal Performance

5. Soil Temperatures at 9.00 am averaged 13.6°C for the week, decreasing from 13.7°C last week. This temperature is higher than two weeks ago (11.7°C). The weather is very changeable as can be seen in the soil temperature readings. We had 9.0 mm of rain this week.



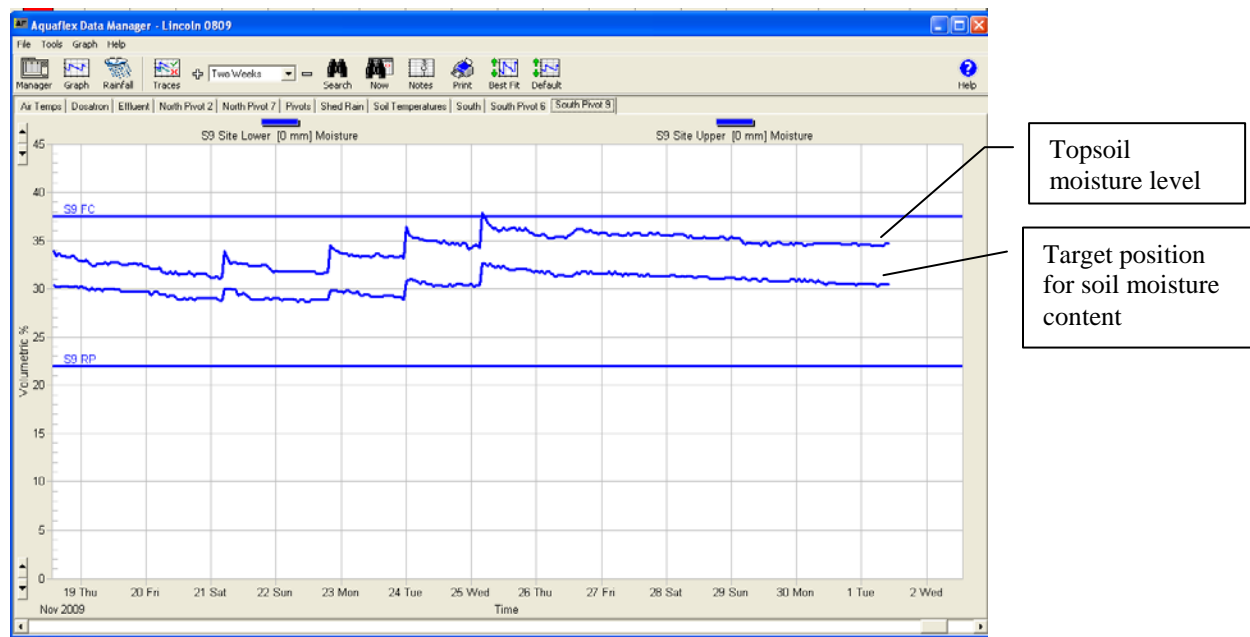
6. Last week the round was 18.8 days (8.08 ha per day).

7. The Feed Wedge Today



The target line in the wedge reflects the pre-grazing target of 2,951 kg DM/ha and a post grazing of 1480 kg DM/ha, which is the pre-grazing needed to feed the cows considering the stocking rate of 4.3 cows/ha (660 cows/152 ha)), cows eating 18 kg DM/cow/day and a rotation length of 19 days. The demand from the herd is 77 DM/ha/day. This Feed wedge has a surplus of 5.0 t DM.

8. PASTURE GROWTH this week was 73 kg DM/ha, lower than the 82 kg DM/ha grown last week.
9. Average PASTURE COVER increased to 2,257 kg DM/ha from 2,212 kg DM/ha.
10. Stocking rate has increased from 4.15 cows/ha to 4.34 because paddock S9 has now been sprayed out to prepare it for re-grassing.
11. Below is the soil moisture graphic over the recent fortnight showing Pivot irrigation and current steady level in cloudy drizzle conditions with irrigators not running. Upper site (Topsoil) soil moisture is just above the target position.



12. We are using the soil moisture deficit information from our 4 Aquaflex sites around the farm to schedule our irrigation. Our aim in the late spring and summer is to keep soil moisture levels just far enough below Field Capacity to allow for almost all rain events without exceeding Field Capacity and having leaching occurring. This allows us to survive extended periods of evapo-transpiration rates that are higher than we can replace by irrigation on a daily basis and also gives us some time if a breakdown occurs. We make our energy and water savings by stopping irrigating earlier in the autumn and allowing soil moisture deficits to approach Stress Point just before the autumn rains.
13. This week we had 5 days of irrigation.
14. Cows will continue to be offered enough grass to achieve their potential intake and will be moved on when grazing residual targets are achieved.
15. We have no new cases of mastitis this week. SCC has been between 133,000-141,000.
16. There were 5 new lame cows this week, we have 8 in total. These cows are being milked once per day while they recover from the injury.
17. 659 cows are milking into the silo. Cows are producing 1.77kg MS/cow/day (last week 1.83) and 7.4 kg MS/ha/day (7.56 last week).

18. Continuing with Magnesium supplementation. The milking herd receives 75g of Mag Chloride/cow through the dosatron.
19. We have 15 cows left to cycle and mate. We started mating on the 30th of October and we had 90% of cows cycling before the planned start of mating. Six of the light non-cycling cows are still being milked OAD.
20. We have mated 596 cows in 3 weeks achieving the industry target of 90% Submission Rate in 3 weeks. 634 cows were mated after 4 weeks 96%. No CIDR's have been used to date. Our vet inspected remaining non cyclers last week. No intervention followed this inspection. The non return rate is currently 62% which is below the target of 64%.
21. This week 35.6 ha had 25 kg N/ha.

Next farm walk will be on **Tuesday, 8th December 2009, at 9.00 am.**

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Management Group

Peter Hancox (Farm Manager), George Reveley (for SIDDC), Virginia Serra (DairyNZ).