

Coldstream Downs Dairy Farm

June - July 2014 Farm Report

Interpreted information covering the opening feed supply & stock on hand at the start of the season taken from the Farmwise Report

COVER

Based on the average pasture cover of 2400kgms/ha, the farm is very well placed to meet feed requirements for the coming months.

Area/Cover Summary				
Area	Total	Effective	Grass	Winter Crop
Existing Milking Platform	350	309	298.0	11

Key

Kgdm = kgs of dry matter
Kgms= kgs of milk solids
Ha = hectare
R1's = Rising 1 year olds
R2's = Rising 2 year olds
MA = Mixed age cows
Total Farm Area = 350ha
Effective area = 309ha

FEED SUPPLY

	298.0ha's		kgdm	Kgdm/ha
Pasture			-	2200
Palm Kernel				0
Silage	650m ³ @	200 kgsgdm/m ³	130000	436
TOTAL SILAGE	159kgsgdm	For 820 cows	Good Surplus reserves	
Baleage – Springers	20 bales @	200 kgsgdm/bale	4000	13
Baleage – Winter Crop	140 bales @	201 kgsgdm/bl	28140	94
Hay (Big Squares)	0 bales @	150 kgsgdm/bale	0	0
Crop - Kale	6.5 ha's @	13000 kgsgdm/ha	84500	284
TOTAL				3028

Coldstream is in a very good feed position. Target is to drip feed cows back on to farm in spring. 65 Cows wintered on farm have gone through quite a lot of crop.
On average the mixed age cows have wintered well.

STOCK ON HAND

	On Farm	Grazing 1	Total	Percentage
Mixed Age Cows	65	598	663	79%
In Calf Heifers		175	175	21%
TOTAL STOCK	65	773	838	100%

With most of the cows out to winter grazing, grass cover is in good supply to see through the rest of the season. Calving is planned for 10th August and the cows will slowly be introduced back to the farm as they get closer to calving. This is strategic planning so pasture growth is not slowed as would be if the whole herd returned at the same time.

Fertilizer

Target is to apply: **Non Effluent Area**

Aug -Sept 40kgs Nitrogen per ha from around mid August to early September.
Sept - Oct 30kgs Nitrogen post grazing mid September to mid October (until growth exceeds demand).
Oct - Dec 30kgs Nitrogen On 50% of farm per round from when grass growth exceeds demand. This is around mid to late October post mower(50% ha's grazed).
Dec - Feb 30kgs Nitrogen 50% of farm subject to growth rates & moisture.
Feb - April 30kgs Nitrogen 100% of farm to build wedge for Autumn.
April - May 30kgs Nitrogen 100% of farm to keep growth going and set wedge for winter.

	Kgs N/ha	%of Farm	Average kgsN/ha
Non Effluent	211	75%	158
Effluent Area	70	25%	18
TOTAL			176

If Nitrogen is applied in moist conditions we hope to get the maximum benefit and response. This would mean to apply while raining or apply later in the evening to make the most of the evening dew. Use into ex feed wedge and growth rates to ID rate of Nitrogen as a tool to having target pre grazing covers that will meet cow requirements.



Coldstream Downs Dairy Farm

July 2014 Farm Report

*Interpreted information of a Feedflo Budget for calving taken from the Farmwise Report
as at 1st August 2014*

Jack Ballam (Farm Wise Consultant) visited Coldstream Downs on the 1st August 2014 and developed this plan to help control the pasture management and round lengths. The first round will start on the 3rd August and will be 49 days. The effective area is 300ha, average paddock size is 3ha, cows wintered is 840 and the stock rate is 2.8 cows/ha.

Predicted calving spread

	Date (start of week)	No. Cows calving	Percentage of cows to calve	Total Cows Calved	Cows on Farm	Average Milking cows	Average Dry cows
Week 1	3-Aug	75	9%	75	220	38	183
Week 2	10-Aug	145	17%	220	365	148	218
Week 3	17-Aug	145	17%	365	510	293	218
Week 4	24-Aug	145	17%	510	585	438	148
Week 5	31- Aug	75	9%	585	655	548	108
Week 6	7-Sept	70	8%	655	720	620	100
Week 7	14-Sept	65	8%	720	760	688	73
Week 8	21- Sept	40	5%	760	795	740	55
Week 9	28-Sept	35	4%	795	825	778	48
Week 10	5-Oct	30	4%	825	840	810	30
Week 11	12-Oct	15	2%	840	840	833	
Total		840	100%	840	840	840	

Predicted Dry & Springing Cows

	Average dry cow	Area/cow/day M2	Pre grazing cover	Residual cover	Pasture Intake (kgdm)	Supplement (kgdm)	Total Intake	Area Grazed Per week
Week1	183	40	3400	1300	8.4	3.6	12.0	5.1ha
Week 2	218	40	3400	1300	8.4	3.6	12.0	6.1ha
Week 3	218	40	3400	1300	8.4	3.6	12.0	6.1ha
Week 4	148	40	3400	1300	8.4	3.6	12.0	4.1ha
Week 5	108	40	3400	1300	8.4	3.6	12.0	3.0ha
Week 6	100	40	3400	1300	8.4	3.6	12.0	2.8ha
Week 7	73	40	3400	1300	8.4	3.6	12.0	2.0ha
Week 8	55	40	3400	1300	8.4	3.6	12.0	1.5ha
Week 9	48	40	3400	1300	8.4	3.6	12.0	1.3ha
						Total Area Grazed		32.1ha

Predicted Milking Cows

	Average dry cow	Area/cow/day M2	Pre grazing cover	Residual cover	Pasture Intake (kgdm)	Supplement (kgdm)	Total Intake	Area Grazed Per week
Week 1	38	80	3400	1550	14.8	0.2	15	2.1ha
Week 2	148	80	3400	1550	14.8	0.7	15.5	8.3ha
Week 3	293	85	3400	1550	15.7	0.3	16.0	17.4ha
Week 4	438	90	3300	1550	15.8	0.8	16.5	27.6ha
Week 5	548	95	3100	1550	15.7	1.3	17.0	36.4ha
Week 6	620	105	3100	1550	16.3	1.2	17.5	45.6ha
Week 7	688	110	3100	1550	17.1	0.9	18.0	52.9ha
Week 8	740	115	3100	1550	17.8	.07	18.5	59.6ha
Week 9	778						19.0	
						Total Area Grazed		249.8ha

Coldstream Downs Dairy Farm

August 2014 Farm Report

Interpreted information covering the feed supply & stock on hand taken from the Farmwise Report 21st August 2014

COVER

	ACTUAL	TARGET
Average Cover	2760	2350
Pre Graze	>4000	3300
Post Graze	>1800	1600
Growth	?	>25
Round Days	75	60
	70	95

Key

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Ha = hectare
R1's = Rising 1 year olds
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MA = Mixed age cows
Total Farm Area = 350ha
Effective area = 309ha

Pasture cover is exceptional for spring this year. Leo has the pasture in great shape for the start of spring which has lead to magnifying growth rates.

Area/Cover Summary					
Area	Total	Effective	Grass	Winter Crop	Summer Crop
Existing Milking Platform	350	309	299.5	9.5	12

12 hectares will go to summer turnips which will be sown mid October. Turnips take 90 days to mature and should produce 108800kgsdm. Nine hectares will go to winter crop and this will need to be sown by 1st December

FEED SUPPLY

			kgdm	Kgdm/ha
Pasture			-	2760
Palm Kernel			5000	17
Silage	100m ³ @	200 kgsdm/m ³	20,000	67
Baleage – on crop	40 bales @	200 kgsdm/bale	8000	27
Straw	30 bales @	150 kgsdm/bale	4500	15
Crop - Kale	1.5 ha's @	12000 kgsdm/ha	18000	60
TOTAL				2945

As per the feed budget there is surplus feed on hand (approx 90000kgsdm from 2760 average cover). If the good weather continues there is the potential to drop out 25 to 30 ha of the longest feed for supplements. At present feeding of longer grass on extended grazing and build up more long feed ahead of the milkers

PRODUCTION POTENTIAL 2014 - 2015

	POTENTIAL			ACTUAL		VARIANCE	
	%	Monthly KGS	YTD Kgs	Monthly kgs	YTD kgs	Monthly	YTD
August	2.50%	8250	8000	8513.2	8513.2	3%	3%
September	9.50%	31350	39600				
October	13.5%	44550	84150				
November	13.5%	44550	128700				
December	12.75%	42900	171600				
January	11.75%	37950	209550				
February	10.50%	34650	244200				
March	10.50%	34650	278850				
April	9.50%	29750	308550				
May	6.00%	21450	330000				
	100%	330000					

To date the farm is well set up to achieve targeted production of 303,000kgms, but also has the potential to reach 330,000kgms as per above chart.

REGRASSING / CROPPING

Area out of Production	Regrassing / Cropping
Total Ha's	309
Ha's to re-grass ex crop	11
Ha's to Summer crop	8.8
Ha's to Winter crop	9.0
Cows in milk	810

Month	Total Ha's	Summer Crop	Winter Crop	Re-grass	Ha's Available	Cow Numbers	Cows/ha
September	309	0	11	0	298.0	820	2.75
October	309	8.8	0	11	289.2	810	2.80
November	309	8.8	0	11	289.2	810	2.80
December	309	8.8	9	11	280.2	805	2.87
January	309	8.8	9	0	291.2	800	2.75
February	309	8.8	9	0	291.2	795	2.73
March	309	0	9	8.8	291.2	790	2.71
April	309	0	9	8.8	291.2	770	2.64
May	309	0	9	0	300.0	720	2.40

The aim is to have the crop paddocks back in grass by 20th October and the Summer crop paddocks need to be grazed off by late February and sown with Nitrogen by 1st March. Overlap in December between new and old seasons crops.



Leo & his Team

Coldstream Downs Dairy Farm

August 2014 Farm Report

*An Email from the Sharemilkers describing the new season so far,
13th August.*

Hello Everyone,

Things are going well here. We've calved 160 cows so far.

There have been no downer cows yet, this is a great achievement considering the weather has not been ideal. The 57 heifer calves we have so far are doing very well.

There has been no mastitis so far. But quite there are a few Heifer mastitis despite the teat seal this winter. Only one heifer has died as she slept under the fence in a channel overnight. This is unavoidable sometimes.

The weather has been atrocious lately. In the past fortnight we have had 160 mm of rain as well as 15cm of snow. The forecast does not indicate much improvement in the next few days. I have already used 5 hectares of the sacrifice paddocks (due for cropping this October), but we had to made up a calving pad under shelter to give the springers a chance to transition and calve in sort of normality. It is working so far but it can be costly straw wise.

Avoiding pugging is the number two priority after feeding cows properly. Utilization is poor in milkers and colostrums mobs but we will get through that.

Looking around the district we feel privileged. There is a lot of flooding, cows deep in mud on the roadside and cows standing off where they shouldn't and other welfare issues. On the hind side it is happening with under 20% of the herd calved. 60% of the cows are still on crop.



Leo Pekar & Maricel Prado



A few photo's of the farm



