**Pasture Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Farm</th>
<th>Irrigated</th>
<th>Rain-fed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grazed milking area (ha)</td>
<td>112.3</td>
<td>37.2</td>
<td>75.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leaf appearance rate (days per leaf)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Pasture Cover (kgDM/ha)</td>
<td>2357</td>
<td>2374</td>
<td>2297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Grazing Biomass (kgDM/ha)</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrogen applied YTD (kgN/ha)</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note all pasture calculations detailed above are based on the current Grazed Milking Area*

**Milk Production**

- **Average No. cows in milk (vat)**: 255, 267, 12
- **Litres per cow**: 23.6, 23.6, -0.0
- **% Fat**: 4.07, 3.99, -0.08
- **% Protein**: 3.14, 3.26, 0.12
- **MS/cow/day**: 1.70, 1.69, -0.01
- **MS/ha/day**: 3.83, 3.99, 0.16
- **BMCC**: 103, 184, 81
- **Average Liveweight (kg)**: 0, 0, 0

- **Total Milk Production (kgMS YTD)**: 21,334, 12,835, -60%

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**Key Summary Points**

1. Irrigation has commenced.
2. Pasture growth rates declined this week.
3. Cows were metrichecked.

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**Milk Production**

![Milk Production Graph]

**Average Pasture Cover**

![Average Pasture Cover Graph]

**Pasture Growth Rate**

![Pasture Growth Rate Graph]
Based on readings from soil moisture tools, irrigation has started at TDRF. There are three types of irrigation used on the farm - pivot, k-lines and fixed sprinklers. Despite starting on-time, pasture growth rates have decreased this week and as a result, pasture cover has also decreased. Pasture growth rates aren’t peaking as high this spring as what we normally expect. Because of this and the drier than average spring forecast across Tasmania (which means potentially less fodder available for purchase, and any that is available will probably be more expensive), nitrogen rates have been lifted from 70 kg/ha to 100 kg/ha to boost spring pasture growth and create a surplus for silage production. Any cows that have been calved for 4 weeks or longer were metrichecked this week. 3.5% of the cows checked had a uterine infection, most of these were first calvers. Cows with infections were treated with the aim to have them healthy by the start of mating. Pre-mating heat checks are being carried out using 'scratchies' to identify any non-cycling cows so any issues they have can be addressed at the start of mating rather than after the first round of AI.
Average pasture cover decreased this week to 2169 kg DM/ha with lower soil temperature most likely contributing to reduced growth rates, currently averaging 14 kg DM/ha/day.

Work continues with calf shed modifications.

26 September 2018

Average farm pasture cover (kg DM/ha) = 2295
Area in Rotation (ha) = 112
Pasture Growth Rate (kg DM/ha/day) = 31
Predicted Growth Rate Next 7 Days (kg DM/ha/day) = 30