TIA Dairy Research Facility Weekly Report 10 October 2018

Report 15

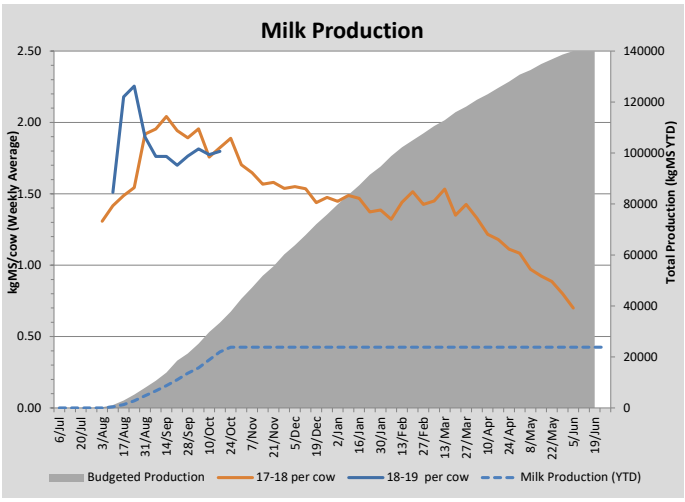
Key Summary Points

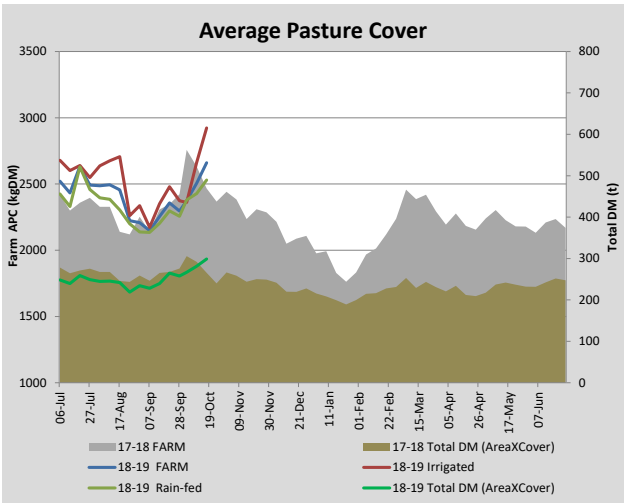
1	Pasture growth and average pasture cover has increased.
2	Milk fat percentage is low.
3	Young stock have been weighed and are on target.

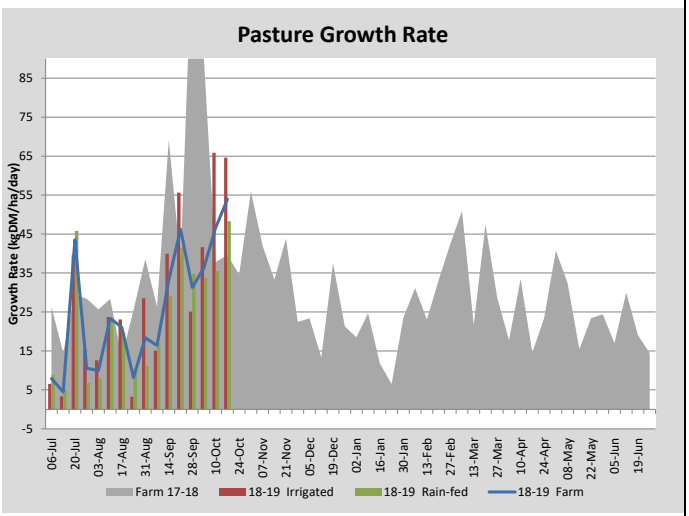
PASTURE INFORMATION	Farm			Irrigated			Rain-fed		
	Last Week	This Week	Variation	Last Week	This Week	Variation	Last Week	This Week	Variation
Grazed milking area (ha)	112.3	112.3	0.0	37.2	37.2	0.0	75.2	75.2	0.0
Leaf appearance rate (days per leaf)	14	13	-1	13	11	-2	14	14	0
Average Pasture Cover (kgDM/ha)	2374	2505	131	2362	2662	300	2380	2428	48
Pasture Growth Rate (kgDM/ha/day)	36	47	10	42	66	24	34	36	2
Post Grazing Biomass (kgDM/ha)	1610	1700	90						
Nitrogen applied YTD (kgN/ha)	26	28	2	16	5	-11	0	0	0

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

MILK PRODUCTION	Last Week	This Week	Variation
Average No. cows in milk (vat)	287	309	22
Litres per cow	25.4	25.4	-0.0
% Fat	3.86	3.71	-0.15
% Protein	3.29	3.26	-0.03
MS/cow/day	1.81	1.78	-0.04
MS/ha/day	4.61	4.85	0.24
BMCC	182	204	22
Average Liveweight (kg)	0	0	0
	Budget	To Date	Variation
Total Milk Production (kgMS)	29,738	18,894	-64%
MS/ha YTD	261		







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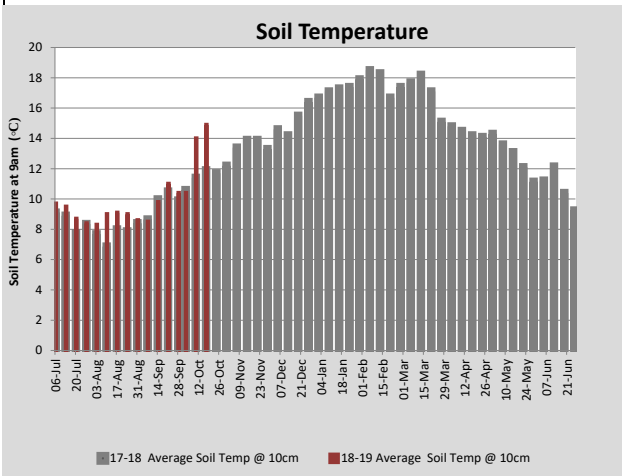
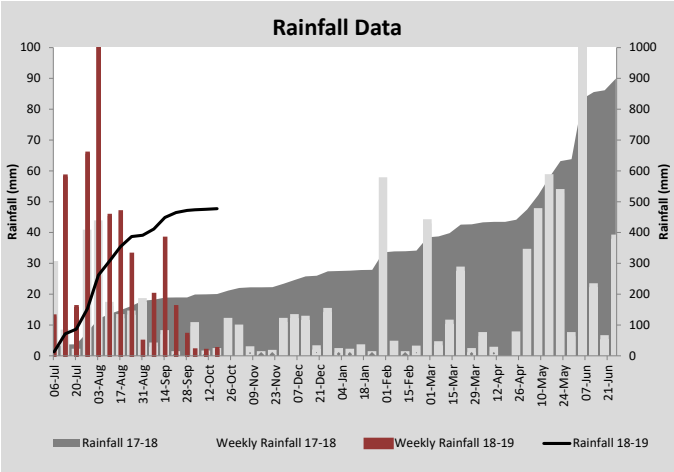
Last 7 days					
Milkers Diet	kg DM	MJ ME	CP (%)	NDF (%)	$/cow
Pasture Intake	14.0	11.8	23.4	46.2	0.0
Concentrates	5.0	12.5	14.0	20.0	0.0
Silage	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grazed forage	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other feeds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	**19**	**227.7**	**20.9**	**39.3**	**0**
Target		**210**	**16-18**	**>33**	**0**





Analysis			
Expected growth rate next 7 days (kgDM/ha/day)	45	Target Leaf Grazing Stage	2.5-3.0
Total Demand from Pasture (kgDM/ha/day)	37	Predicted APC 7 days time	2558
APC balance (kgDM/ha/day)	8	Predicted APC Change	52.9

Discussion

Pasture growth has been slower this season but has started to increase leading to an increase in average pasture cover. There has also been an increase in post-grazing residuals. Individual paddocks will be topped if needed but the main focus this season is on creating a surplus for fodder conservation. Milk production (litres) has increased over the past two weeks but milk fat test has been, and continues, to decline. In discussion with nutritionists, low milk fat test can be caused by three main factors (1) high intake of poly-unsaturated fatty acids; (2) fast rumen throughput; (3) altered rumen function. Through a process of elimination, it is suspected the cause at TDRF is high intake of poly-unsaturated fatty acids in the pasture. While it is uncertain why this is an issue this year, one hypothesis is the cooler temperature later into spring this year. Currently, there is no cost-effective fix so we are just waiting for this to improve. Young stock were weighed. The rising 2 year old heifers had an average liveweight of 337 kg. The heifers will be fixed-time AI'd on October 17. There were a small number of calves at weaning weight.

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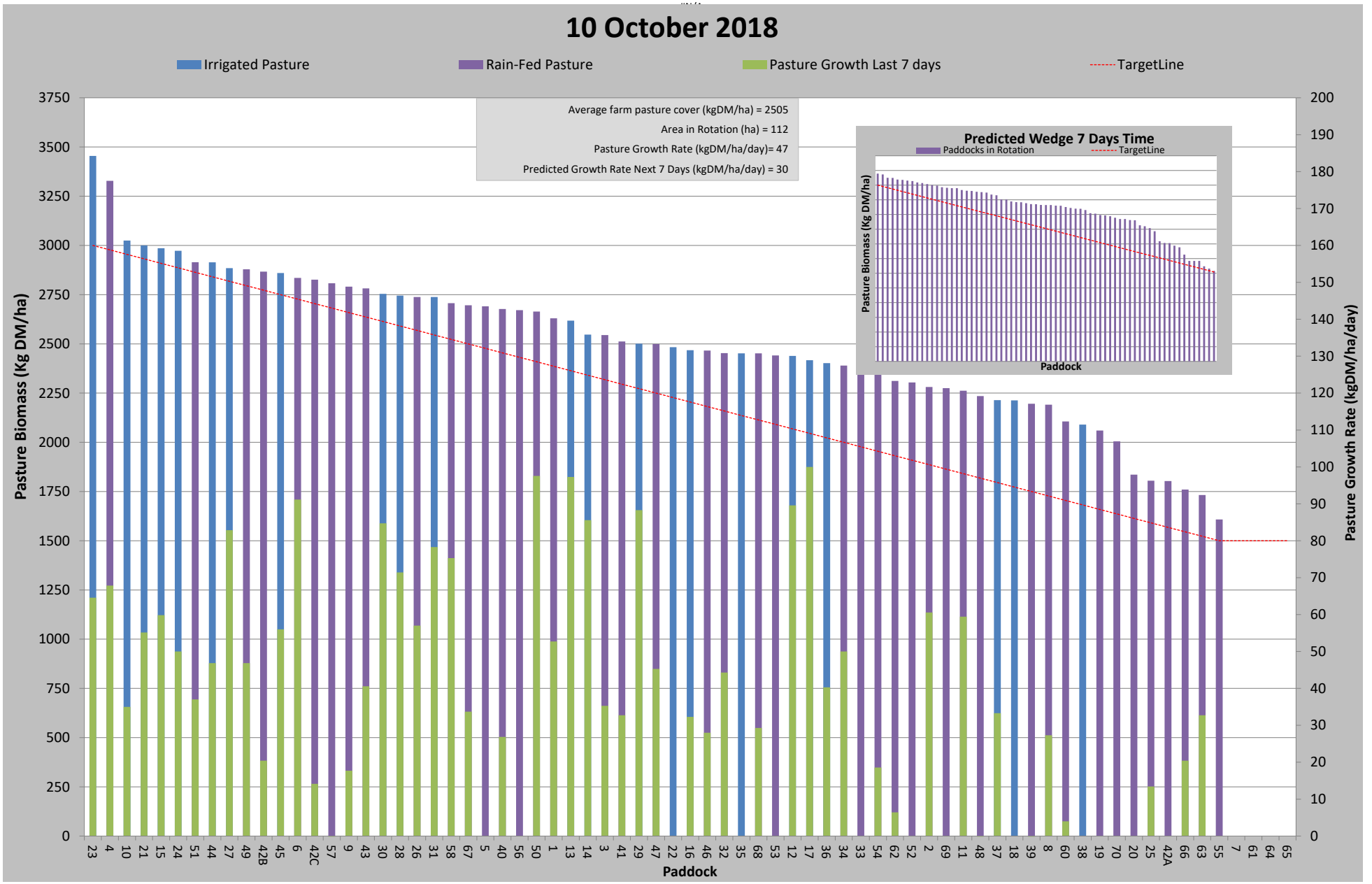
10 October 2018
Irrigated Pasture
Rain-Fed Pasture
Pasture Growth Last 7 days
TargetLine
Average farm pasture cover (kgDM/ha) = 2505
Area in Rotation (ha) = 112
Pasture Growth Rate (kgDM/ha/day)= 47
Predicted Growth Rate Next 7 Days (kgDM/ha/day) = 30
Predicted Wedge 7 Days Time
Paddocks in Rotation
TargetLine
Pasture Biomass (Kg DM/ha)
Paddock
Pasture Biomass (kg DM/ha)
Pasture Growth Rate (kgDM/ha/day)
Paddock
0 250 500 750 1000 1250 1500 1750 2000 2250 2500 2750 3000 3250 3500 3750
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140 150 160 170 180 190 200
23 4 10 21 15 24 51 44 27 49 42B 45 6 42C 57 9 43 30 28 26 31 58 67 5 40 56 50 1 13 14 3 41 29 47 22 16 46 32 35 68 53 12 17 36 34 33 54 62 52 2 69 11 48 37 18 39 8 60 38 19 70 20 25 42A 66 63 55 7 61 64 65