

DairyNZ

WTARS Research farm Hawera Taranaki – Farm Walk Notes

28 September 2009

Growth Rate: 60 kg DM/ha/day

Average Pasture Cover: 2370 kg DM/ha (with silage out)

Rainfall: 57 mls last 7 days
95 mls to date for September

10 cm Soil temperature: 10.4 degrees C average last 7 days
9.5 degrees C average for September

Current Situation

- Soil temperatures have risen on average 0.5 degrees C over the past week, and were 12 degrees C Monday 28th
- Significant rain fell late last week (41mm over 48 hours)
- Pasture growth rates have remained at similar levels to last week.
- Total cows numbers for the next 4 weeks will be 340, with removal of some feed conversion cows for rumen fistulation at Newstead, Hamilton. Stocking rate with all cows calved = 3.09 cows/ha (total 110 ha). 12 cows yet to calve
- Milkers are being allocated 120 sq m/cow/day - estimated allowance of 16 kg DM/cow/day – all grass.
- 25 ha of silage shut (23 % of farm)
- Cows currently grazing 1/22nd of the farm/day.
- Demand from pasture = 62 kg DM/ha/day
- 50 kg/ha urea being applied behind the cows