Farm Walk Pasture Cover Recorder

START HERE

Date:

Block / Herd:

A = Cover (Kg DM/ha Using x140 +500)
B = As you walk the farm, enter the paddock number beside the cover (A) it corresponds to in the table below

A		B								Notes
RPM Height	Kg DM Per ha	Paddock number								
24	3860									
23	3720									
22	3580									
21	3440									
20	3300									
19	3160									
18	3020									
17	2880									
16	2740									
15	2600									
14	2460									
13	2320									
12	2180									
11	2040									
10	1900									
9	1760									
8	1620									} **Post grazing target residual**
7	1480									
6	1340									
5	1200									
4	1060									
3	920									

The table above has ranked paddocks from longest to shortest cover making it easy to plot this information on a feed wedge.
The table over the page allows you to plot this information and look at a quick feed wedge for your farm

Quick average pasture cover calculator

Multiply the cover (**A**) by the number of total paddocks appearing beside that cover (**B**).
Do this for each row and add these numbers up to give (**C**).

Total cover on farm (C) =

Divide (C) by the number of paddocks on the farm to get an estimate of average pasture cover.

Estimate of Average Pasture Cover =

Feed Wedge Ready Reckoner (start over the page)

Date: Block / Herd:

Take the longest paddock from the Farm Walk Pasture Cover Recorder table and mark the cover with a shaded bar in column (1) below.

Follow with the next longest paddock and so on to make a bar graph of longest to shortest paddocks.

RPM height	KG DM per ha	1
24	3860	
23	3720	
22	3580	
21	3440	
20	3300	
19	3160	
18	3020	
17	2880	
16	2740	
15	2600	
14	2460	
13	2320	
12	2180	
11	2040	
10	1900	
9	1760	
8	1620	
7	1480	
6	1340	
5	1200	
4	1060	
3	920	
Paddock No.		

***Ideal pre-grazing cover (once all calved)**

= Cows/ha	e.g. 3.0
x Kg DM/cow	x 17
x Rotation Length	x 30
+ Target Residual Kg DM/ha	+ 1500
= KgDM per ha	= 3030

*Ideal pre-grazing cover = kgDM/ha (mark this in column (1) and mark with an A).

Ideal post grazing residual = kgDM/ha (mark this in the last column you fill in, mark with a B, now draw a straight line between A and B).

Are there paddocks above the line? = potential surplus. Are there paddocks below the line? = potential deficit.

Handy Hints:

- Check paddocks to be grazed next week will not be above ideal pre-grazing cover, given predicted growth rates.
- Estimate the paddock cover at next grazing, and mark on the wedge as a check.
- Do you have any paddocks with pasture species that require different pre-grazing decisions? Mark on wedge.
- How do the paddocks coming up in the grazing round suit the weather forecast? Should cows go into wetter paddocks early to prevent damage?
- Mark paddocks requiring N or effluent onto feed wedge

For further information and copies of the Feed Wedge Ready Reckoner go to www.dexcel.co.nz ›cows & grass› pasture growth & quality
Also check out LUDF's feed wedge by going to www.siddc.org.nz and clicking on LUDF and then Farm Walk Notes