

Macalister Demonstration Farm, Dairy Australia, Extension Project

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Macalister Demonstration Farm Update 313 (Week ending Aug 31, 2012)

The Macalister Demonstration Farm is now milking 71 cows grazing 22 hectares, a stocking rate of 3.2 cows per hectare. Last year at this time, there were 107 milkers, and the stocking rate was 3.0 cows per hectare. The daily allocation for the recent week remains at one 55th of the grazing area, and the actual grazing rest time was 57 days.

Compared to the previous week, milk production per cow is up from 1.48 to 1.68 kg milk solids (MS) per cow per day. Litres per cow per day are up from 18.5 to 22.1. Milk fat test has fallen from 4.35% to 4.05% (fat yield is up from 0.80 to 0.89 kg per cow per day). Milk protein test has fallen from 3.66% to 3.56% (protein yield has risen from 0.68 to 0.78 kg per cow per day). This time last year, milk production was 21.3 litres, 1.80 kg MS, 0.99 kg fat, and 0.81 kg protein per cow per day.

The daily pasture consumption from the grazing area is down from 31 to 29 kg dry matter (DM) per hectare per day. The pasture consumption per cow is down from 9.6 to 9.1 kg DM per cow per day. This time last year, pasture consumption was 35 kg DM per hectare per day, and 11.5 kg DM per cow per day.

The soil seemed dry and the tensiometers were showing 80 kPa, so some paddocks were irrigated; and then 22 ml of rain fell.

No irrigation water, 0.8 kg of nitrogen element, 0.05 kg phosphorus element, 0.19 kg of potassium element, and \$0.19 of pasture renovation, all per hectare per day, have contributed to the current pasture consumption. The daily spend on these pasture inputs totals \$1.85 per hectare per day. Based on those cash inputs only, the consumed pasture price is estimated to be \$64 per tonne of dry matter, up from \$59 last week.

Supplementary feed includes crushed wheat, and a pellet containing 25% protein, minerals, Rumensin, and Tylan, totalling 6.2 kg DM per cow per day, at an average price of \$369 per DM tonne.

The Bulk Milk Cell Count for the week is down from 113,000 to 101,000. This time last year the BMCC was 136,000.

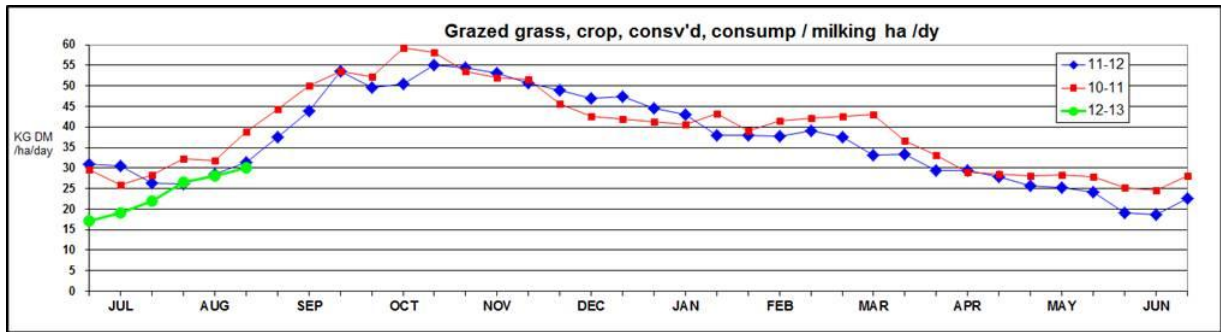
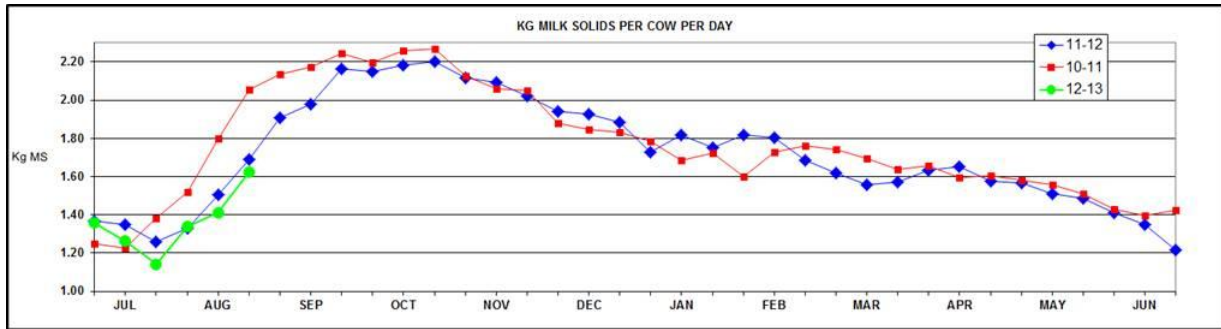
The milk price (less compulsory levies) the MDF anticipates receiving for the week's milk is \$4.49 per kg milk solids, or 34.2 cents per litre.

Our milk company announced a step-up in this season's milk price, but the milk price for these calculations doesn't change because this step-up is considered as one of the "anticipated" step-ups.

Milk income per cow per day is up from \$6.63 to \$7.51, made up of \$2.53 for the fat, \$5.55 for the protein, and minus \$0.57 for the litres. This time last year milk income per cow per day was \$8.91.

Feed cost per cow per day (including pasture and supplements) is up from \$2.22 to \$2.71 per cow per day, leaving a Margin over All Feed (MOAF) per cow of \$4.80, up from \$4.41. The margin over all feed per hectare is \$15.48. The whole farm feed margin is \$343, up from \$256 per day. This time last year the whole farm feed margin was \$728 per day.

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WEEKLY FEEDING PERFORMANCE	Last Year	Last week	This week	Units
Week to date:	02-Sep	24-Aug	31-Aug	
Milker graze area	35	18	22	ha
Milker nos	107	58	71	head
Stocking rate	3.0	3.2	3.2	cows/ha
Grazing allocation 1/	45	55	55	th of graze area
Average graze rest time	49	57	57	days
mm irrigation/hectare/day	0.0	0.0	0.0	mm water/ha/day
Element Nitrogen	0.9	0.8	0.8	kg element/ha/day
Element Phosphorus	0.00	0.05	0.05	kg element/ha/day
Element Potassium	0.06	0.19	0.19	kg element/ha/day
Renovation	\$0.19	\$0.19	\$0.19	\$/ha/day
Topping	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$/ha/day
Estm'd pasture consmp'n (incl cons'vd forage)	35	31	29	kg DM/ha/dy
Pasture consum'd per cow	11.5	9.6	9.1	kg DM/cow/dy
Daily spend / milking ha	\$1.62	\$1.85	\$1.85	\$/ha/day
Estm'd pasture price	\$46	\$59	\$64	\$/T DM
Conc (incl additives)supp fed/cow	4.2	4.5	6.2	kg DM/cow/dy
Hay/silage supp fed/cow	0.4	0.0	0.0	kg DM/cow/dy
PKE supp fed/cow	0.0	0.0	0.0	kg DM/cow/dy
Estim'd supp waste	4%	3%	3%	%
Conc (incl additives)supp avg price	\$337	\$369	\$343	\$/T DM
Hay/silage supp avg price	\$216	\$0	\$0	\$/T DM
PKE supp price	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$/T DM
Total feed intake/cow	16.0	14.0	15.1	kg DM/cow/dy
Estm'd body cond't'n change	0.00	0.00	0.00	kg LWT/cow/dy
Litres/cow	21.3	18.5	22.1	l/cow/day
Fat test	4.66%	4.35%	4.05%	%
Protein test	3.78%	3.66%	3.56%	%
Fat per cow	0.993	0.803	0.890	kg/cow/dy
Protein per cow	0.807	0.679	0.781	kg/cow/dy
MS per cow	1.80	1.48	1.68	kg/cow/dy

Anticipated final milk price (less levies)	\$4.95	\$4.47	\$4.49	\$/kg MS
Anticipated final milk price (/litre)	\$0.417	\$0.358	\$0.342	\$ per litre
Fat return per cow	\$3.12	\$2.28	\$2.53	\$/cow/dy
Protein return per cow	\$6.35	\$4.83	\$5.55	\$/cow/dy
Volume charge per cow	\$0.56	\$0.48	\$0.57	\$/cow/dy
Milk income/cow	\$8.91	\$6.63	\$7.51	\$/cow/dy
All feed cost/cow	\$2.05	\$2.22	\$2.71	\$/cow/dy
Margin over all Feed/cow	\$6.86	\$4.41	\$4.80	\$/cow/dy
MOAF /ha /day	\$20.85	\$14.26	\$15.48	\$/ha/day
Farm MOAF per DAY	\$728	\$256	\$343	\$/day
MOAF per month	\$22,191	\$7,803	\$10,471	\$/month
Energy density of diet	12.3	12.6	12.6	MJ ME/kg DM
Crude protein % of diet	20.2%	20.9%	19.6%	% CP
NDF Fibre level of diet	32.6%	30.6%	28.4%	% NDF
FCE kg MS per tonne DM food	111	105	109	
Tonne feed /day	1.7	0.8	1.1	tonne DM /day
Milk Return /tonne feed	\$550	\$470	\$491	\$/tonne DM
Average Price of feed	\$127	\$157	\$178	\$/tonne DM
Margin /tonne feed	\$423	\$313	\$313	\$/tonne DM
BMCC	136	113	101	