

Macalister Demonstration Farm, Dairy Australia, Extension Project

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Macalister Demonstration Farm Update 258 (Week ending July 22, 2011)

The Macalister Demonstration Farm is still drying off cows and is now milking 120, grazing 40 hectares, a stocking rate of 3.0 cows per hectare. Last year at this time, there were only 32 milkers, and the stocking rate was 2.1 cows per hectare. The daily allocation for the week is one 50th of the grazing area, and the grazing rest time is 50 days.

Compared to last week, milk production per cow is down from 1.36 to 1.34 kg milk solids (MS) per cow per day. Litres per cow per day are down from 17.1 to 16.9. Milk fat test has fallen from 3.95% to 3.76% (fat yield is down from 0.68 to 0.64 kg per cow per day). The protein test has risen from 4.03% to 4.14% (protein yield is up from 0.69 to 0.70 kg per cow per day). This time last year, milk production was 17.8 litres, 1.33 kg MS, 0.66 kg fat, and 0.66 kg protein per cow per day.

The daily pasture consumption from the grazing area is down from 32 to 29 kg dry matter (DM) per hectare per day. The pasture consumption per cow is up from 9.3 to 9.6 kg DM per cow per day. This time last year, pasture consumption was 22 kg DM per hectare per day, and 10.6 kg DM per cow per day.

The soil is now wet but not too bad. Some rain was needed. As it was starting to rain earlier in the week, digging exposed dry soil at 4 inches depth.

1.0 kg nitrogen element, 0.07 kg potassium, no phosphorus, no irrigation, no topping, 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 is \$1.78 per hectare per day. Based on those inputs only, pasture price is estimated to be \$63 per tonne of dry matter, up from \$56.

Supplementary concentrates include crushed wheat and minerals totalling 6.4 kg DM per cow per day, at an average price of \$312 per DM tonne, down from \$323.

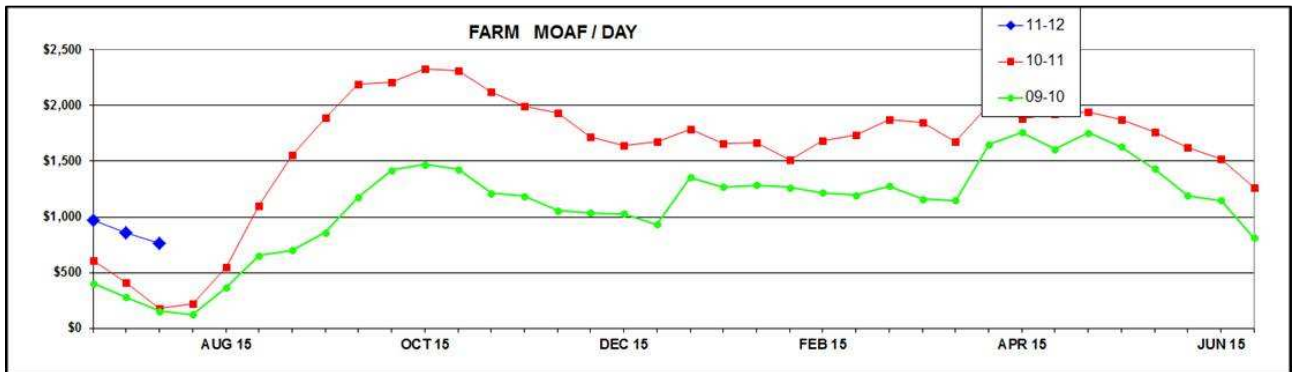
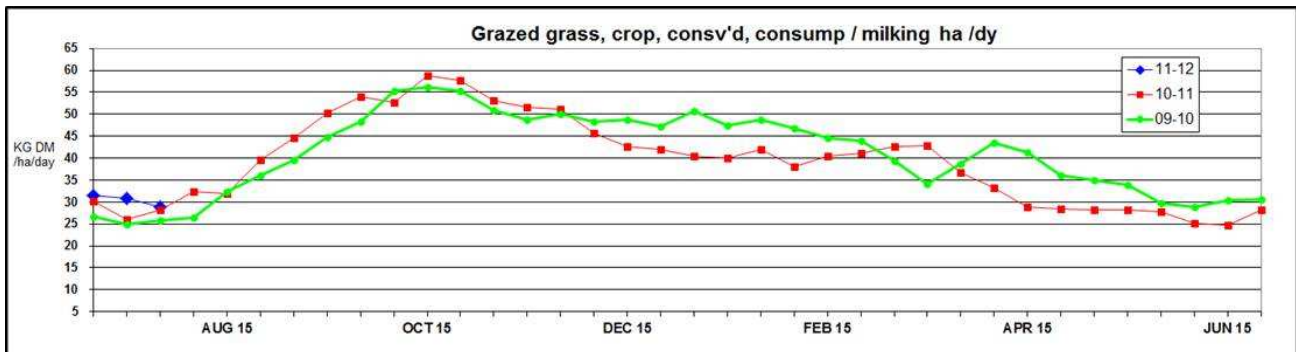
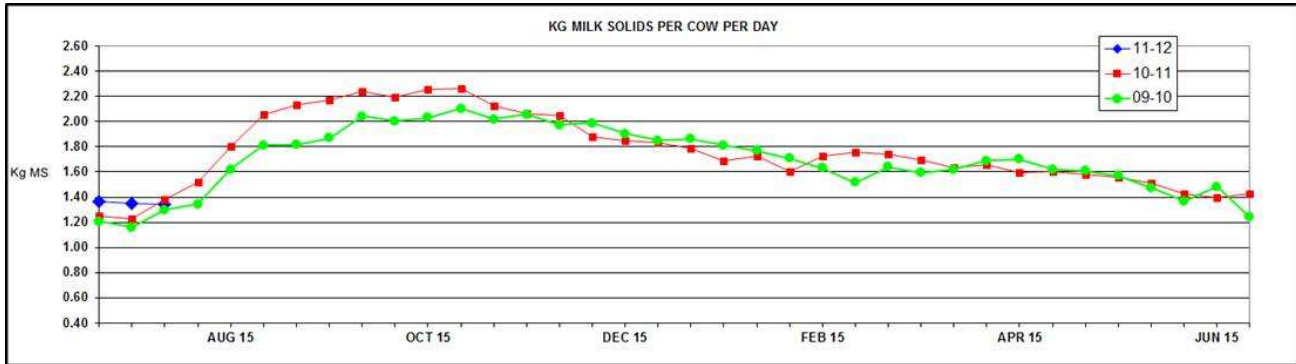
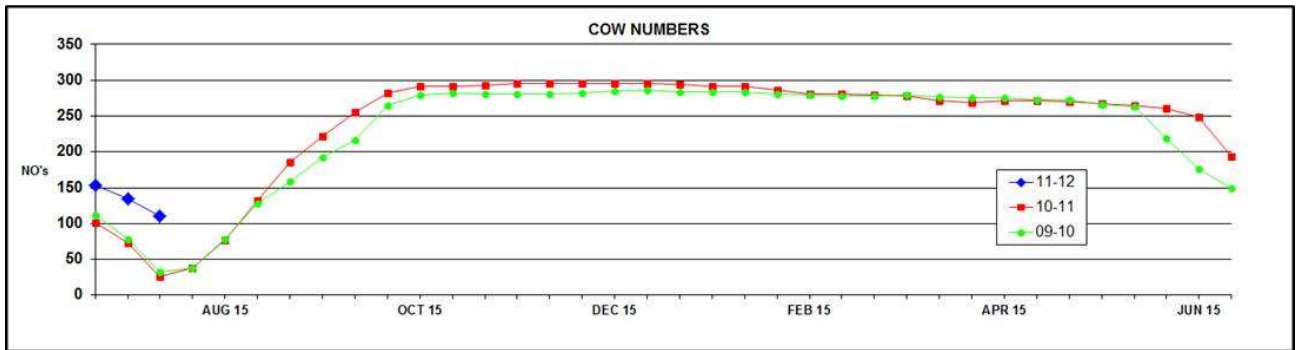
The BMCC has risen from 131 to 141. This time last year the BMCC was 135.

The milk price (less compulsory levies) that the MDF anticipates receiving for the week is \$6.84 per kg milk solids, or 54.0 cents per litre. Milk income per cow per day is the same at \$9.18, made up of \$2.56 for the fat, \$7.06 for the protein, and minus \$0.44 for the litres. This time last year milk income per cow per day was \$8.72.

Feed cost per cow per day (including pasture and supplements) is down from \$2.77 to \$2.61 per cow per day, leaving a Margin over All Feed (MOAF) per cow of \$6.57, up from \$6.41 per day. The margin over all feed per hectare is \$19.60. The whole farm feed margin is \$784, down from \$898 per day. This time last year the whole farm feed margin was \$202 per day.

There will be a **“Off with the Birds”** session at the MDF on Tuesday 2nd August, 2011 at 10.30 am. Mick Bramwell, a renowned local ‘birdo’ from DSE, will talk about the importance of protecting paddock trees for local bird life. The session will include a bird ID farm walk, viewing the fenced-off red gums and the emerging understorey plantings. BBQ lunch provided.

Frank Tyndall 0409 940 782 ftyndall@ozemail.com.au



WEEKLY FEEDING PERFORMANCE	Last Year	Last week	This week	Units
Week to date:	23-Jul	15-Jul	22-Jul	
Milker graze area	15	41	40	ha
Milker nos	32	140	120	head
Average days in milk		315	315	days
Stocking rate	2.1	3.4	3.0	cows/ha
Grazing allocation 1/	53	50	50	th of graze area
Average graze rest time	52	50	50	days
Element N/hectare/day	1.2	1.0	1.0	kg element/ha/day
mm irrigation/hectare/day	0.0	0.0	0.0	mm water/ha/day
Estm'd pasture consmp'n (incl cons'vd forage)	22	32	29	kg DM/ha/dy
Pasture consum'd per cow	10.6	9.3	9.6	kg DM/cow/dy
Daily spend / milking ha	\$2.06	\$1.78	\$1.78	\$/ha/day
Estm'd pasture price	\$95	\$56	\$63	\$/T DM
Conc (incl additives)supp fed/cow	4.6	6.9	6.4	kg DM/cow/dy
Hay/silage supp fed/cow	0.0	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	3%	3%	3%	%
Conc (incl additives)supp avg price	\$313	\$323	\$312	\$/T DM
Hay/silage supp avg price	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$/T DM
PKE supp price	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$/T DM
Total feed intake/cow	15.1	16.0	15.8	kg DM/cow/dy
Estm'd body cond't'n change	0.50	0.40	0.40	kg LWT/cow/dy
Litres/cow	17.8	17.1	16.9	l/cow/day
Fat test	3.82%	3.94%	3.76%	%
Protein test	3.67%	4.03%	4.14%	%
Fat per cow	0.664	0.675	0.638	kg/cow/dy
Protein per cow	0.657	0.689	0.703	kg/cow/dy
MS per cow	1.33	1.36	1.34	kg/cow/dy
Anticipated final milk price (less levies)	\$6.60	\$6.73	\$6.84	\$/kg MS
Anticipated final milk price (/litre)	\$0.482	\$0.536	\$0.540	\$ per litre
Fat return per cow	\$2.65	\$2.71	\$2.56	\$/cow/dy
Protein return per cow	\$6.55	\$6.92	\$7.06	\$/cow/dy
Volume charge per cow	\$0.48	\$0.45	\$0.44	\$/cow/dy
Milk income/cow	\$8.72	\$9.18	\$9.18	\$/cow/dy
All feed cost/cow	\$2.45	\$2.77	\$2.61	\$/cow/dy
Margin over all Feed/cow	\$6.27	\$6.41	\$6.57	\$/cow/dy
MOAF /ha /day	\$12.98	\$21.82	\$19.60	\$/ha/day
Farm MOAF per DAY	\$202	\$898	\$784	\$/day
MOAF per month	\$6,151	\$27,389	\$23,908	\$/month
Energy density of diet	12.4	12.2	12.2	MJ ME/kg DM
Crude protein % of diet	21.3%	19.2%	19.4%	% CP
NDF Fibre level of diet	31.6%	28.5%	29.0%	% NDF
FCE kg MS per tonne DM food	87	84	84	
Tonne feed /day	0.5	2.3	1.9	tonne DM /day
Milk Return /tonne feed	\$574	\$565	\$572	\$/tonne DM
Average Price of feed	\$161	\$170	\$163	\$/tonne DM
Margin /tonne feed	\$412	\$395	\$409	\$/tonne DM
BMCC	135	131	141	