

## **Macalister Demonstration Farm, Dairy Australia, Extension Project**

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### **Macalister Demonstration Farm Update 248 (Week ending May 13, 2011)**

The Macalister Demonstration Farm is milking 269 cows, grazing 73 hectares, a stocking rate of 3.7 cows per hectare. Last year at this time, the stocking rate was 3.9 cows per hectare. The daily allocation for the week is one 45th of the grazing area, and the grazing rest time is 38 days.

Compared to last week, milk production is down from 1.59 to 1.58 kg milk solids (MS) per cow per day. Litres per cow per day are down from 19.9 to 19.3. Milk fat test has risen from 4.07% to 4.33% (fat yield is up from 0.81 to 0.84 kg per cow per day). The protein test is down from 3.90% to 3.87% (protein yield is down from 0.78 to 0.75 kg per cow per day). This time last year, milk production was 19.3 litres, 1.59 kg MS, 0.83 kg fat, and 0.76 kg protein per cow per day.

The daily pasture consumption from the grazing area is down from 29 to 28 kg dry matter (DM) per hectare per day. The pasture consumption per cow is down from 7.8 to 7.6 kg DM per cow per day. This time last year, pasture consumption was 34 kg DM per hectare per day, and 8.7 kg DM per cow per day.

In the middle of May, a paddock with three leaves regrown since its last grazing in April has an average leaf appearance rate for the three leaves of about 14 days. This is much the same each year for the whole of Gippsland because leaf appearance is mostly driven by temperature which is very similar each year across the region. The recent early cold snap will lengthen the leaf appearance rate more quickly than usual so the grazing rotation may need lengthening a bit earlier, to get the higher growth rate of the third leaf.

The daily spend on pasture inputs is the same at \$1.89 per hectare per day. Pasture price is estimated to be \$68 per tonne of dry matter, up from \$65.

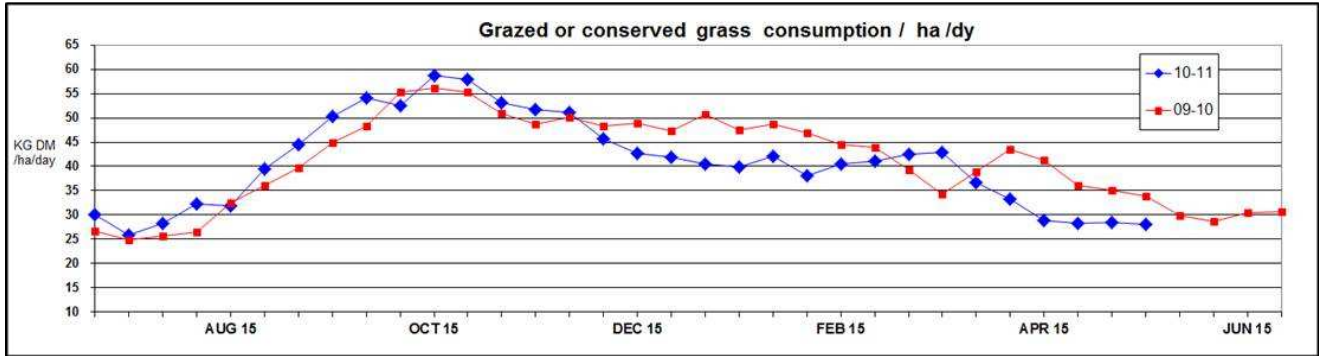
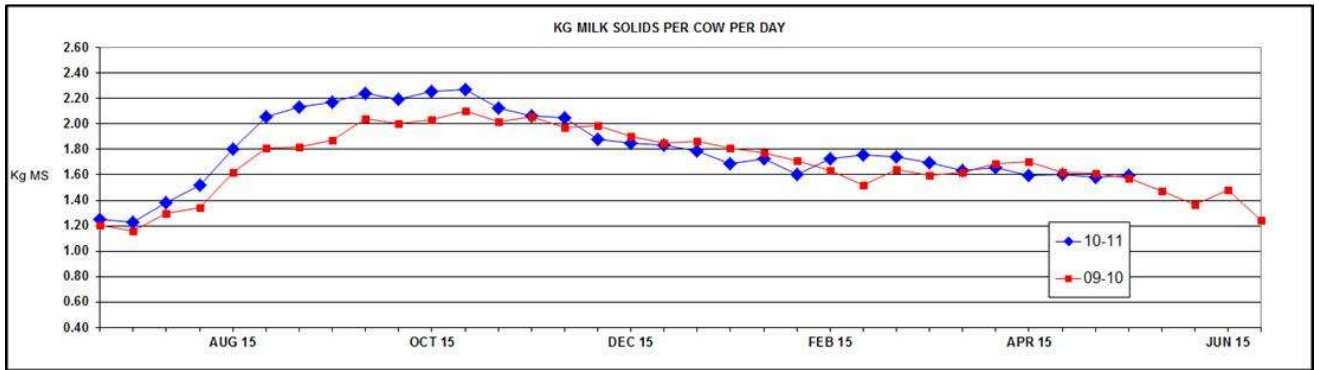
Supplementary concentrates include crushed wheat, and a wheat, canola, lupins, Rumensin, Tylan and mineral mix, totalling 7.7 kg DM per cow per day, at an average price of \$347 per DM tonne. 1.7 kg DM per cow per day of silage, cut from the farm in spring, is being fed also.

The BMCC has fallen from 113 to 105. This time last year it was 114. For the ten days to May 10 the MDF was ranked 10th out of 392 suppliers.

The milk price (less compulsory levies) that the MDF anticipates receiving for the week is \$6.71 per kg milk solids, or 55.0 cents per litre. Milk income per cow per day is \$10.62, down from \$10.76, made up of \$3.43 for the fat, \$7.69 for the protein, and minus \$0.50 for the litres. This time last year milk income per cow per day was \$9.32.

Feed cost per cow per day (including pasture and supplements) is the same at \$3.40 per cow per day, leaving a Margin Over All Feed (MOAF) per cow of \$7.21, down from \$7.36 per day. The margin over all feed per hectare is \$26.58. The whole farm feed margin is \$1,940, down from \$1,990 per day. This time last year the whole farm feed margin was \$1,719 per day.

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<b>WEEKLY FEEDING PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>Last Year</b>	<b>Last week</b>	<b>This week</b>	<b>Units</b>
Week to date:	14-May	06-May	13-May	
Milker graze area	69	73	73	ha
Milker nos	272	270	269	head
Stocking rate	3.9	3.7	3.7	cows/ha
Grazing allocation 1/	45	45	45	th of graze area
Average graze rest time	39	37	38	days
Element N/hectare/day	1.5	1.3	1.3	kg element/ha/day
mm irrigation/hectare/day	1.0	0.0	0.0	mm water/ha/day
Estm'd pasture consmp'n (incl cons'vd forage)	34	29	28	kg DM/ha/dy
Pasture consum'd per cow	8.7	7.8	7.6	kg DM/cow/dy
Daily spend / milking ha	\$3.07	\$1.89	\$1.89	\$/ha/day
Estm'd pasture price	\$90	\$65	\$68	\$/T DM
Conc (incl additives)supp fed/cow	6.4	7.7	7.7	kg DM/cow/dy
Hay/silage supp fed/cow	0.0	1.7	1.7	kg DM/cow/dy
PKE supp fed/cow	1.8	0.0	0.0	kg DM/cow/dy
Estim'd supp waste	5%	5%	5%	%
Conc (incl additives)supp avg price	\$282	\$347	\$347	\$/T DM
Hay/silage supp avg price	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$/T DM
PKE supp price	\$222	\$0	\$0	\$/T DM
Total feed intake/cow	16.5	16.6	16.4	kg DM/cow/dy
Estm'd body cond't'n change	0.30	0.20	0.20	kg LWT/cow/dy
Litres/cow	19.3	19.9	19.3	l/cow/day
Fat test	4.28%	4.07%	4.33%	%
Protein test	3.95%	3.90%	3.87%	%
Fat per cow	0.826	0.810	0.835	kg/cow/dy
Protein per cow	0.761	0.776	0.747	kg/cow/dy
MS per cow	1.59	1.59	1.58	kg/cow/dy
Anticipated final milk price (less levies)	\$5.87	\$6.78	\$6.71	\$/kg MS
Anticipated final milk price (/litre)	\$0.483	\$0.541	\$0.550	\$ per litre
Fat return per cow	\$2.97	\$3.32	\$3.43	\$/cow/dy
Protein return per cow	\$6.85	\$7.96	\$7.69	\$/cow/dy
Volume charge per cow	\$0.50	\$0.52	\$0.50	\$/cow/dy
Milk income/cow	\$9.32	\$10.76	\$10.62	\$/cow/dy
All feed cost/cow	\$2.99	\$3.40	\$3.40	\$/cow/dy
Margin over all Feed/cow	\$6.33	\$7.36	\$7.21	\$/cow/dy
MOAF /ha /day	\$24.91	\$27.26	\$26.58	\$/ha/day
Farm MOAF per DAY	\$1,719	\$1,990	\$1,940	\$/day
MOAF per month	\$52,423	\$60,692	\$59,169	\$/month
Energy density of diet	12.1	11.8	11.9	MJ ME/kg DM
Crude protein % of diet	19.5%	18.9%	18.8%	% CP
NDF Fibre level of diet	33.2%	29.3%	29.2%	% NDF
FCE kg MS per tonne DM food	94	93	94	
Tonne feed /day	4.6	4.2	4.1	tonne DM /day
Milk Return /tonne feed	\$551	\$697	\$697	\$/tonne DM
Average Price of feed	\$177	\$220	\$224	\$/tonne DM
Margin /tonne feed	\$374	\$477	\$473	\$/tonne DM
BMCC	114	113	105	