

Macalister Demonstration Farm, Dairy Australia, Extension Project

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Macalister Demonstration Farm Update 272 (Week ending Oct 28, 2011)

The Macalister Demonstration Farm is now milking 306 cows, up from 294, grazing 70 hectares, a stocking rate of 4.4 cows per hectare. Last year at this time, there were 292 milkers, and the stocking rate was 4.2 cows per hectare. The daily allocation for last week was one 32nd of the grazing area, and the actual grazing rest time was 28 days.

Compared to last week, milk production per cow is up from 2.18 to 2.21 kg milk solids (MS) per cow per day. Litres per cow per day are up from 29.3 to 29.6. Milk fat test has risen from 4.08% to 4.17% (fat yield is up from 1.20 to 1.23 kg per cow per day). The protein test has fallen from 3.36% to 3.33% (protein yield is the same at 0.98 kg per cow per day). This time last year, milk production was 30.4 litres, 2.26 kg MS, 1.24 kg fat, and 1.02 kg protein per cow per day. It is estimated that the cow are losing 0.3 kg live weight per cow per day.

The daily pasture consumption from the grazing area is up from 49 to 56 kg dry matter (DM) per hectare per day. The pasture consumption per cow is up from 11.7 to 12.7 kg DM per cow per day. This time last year, pasture consumption was 58 kg DM per hectare per day, and 13.7 kg DM per cow per day.

1.2 kg nitrogen element, 0.07 kg potassium, no phosphorus, 1.0 mm of irrigation water per hectare per day, 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 \$2.62 per hectare per day. Based on those cash inputs only, the consumed pasture price is estimated to be \$47 per tonne of dry matter, down from \$54.

Supplementary concentrates include crushed wheat, and a wheat-canola-mineral mix totalling 5.4 kg DM per cow per day, at an average price of \$326 per DM tonne. The cows have access to PKE (0.5 kg DM per day) at the dairy.

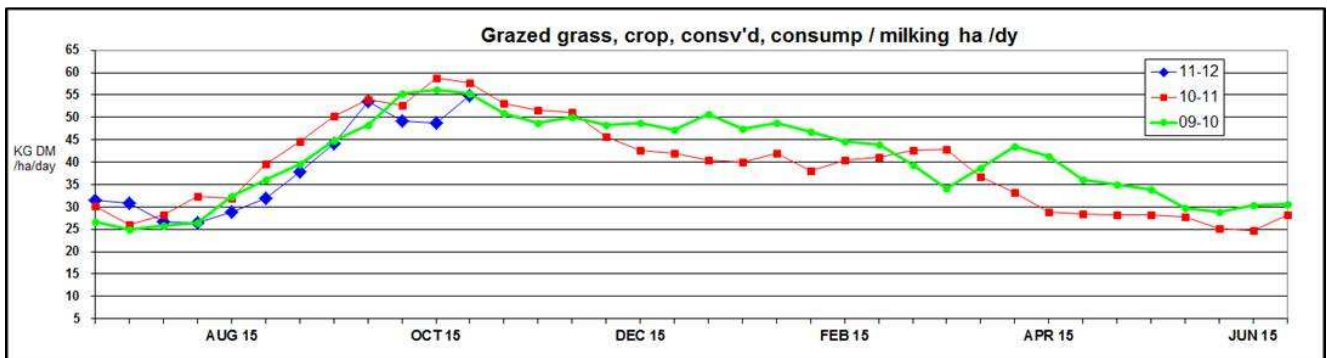
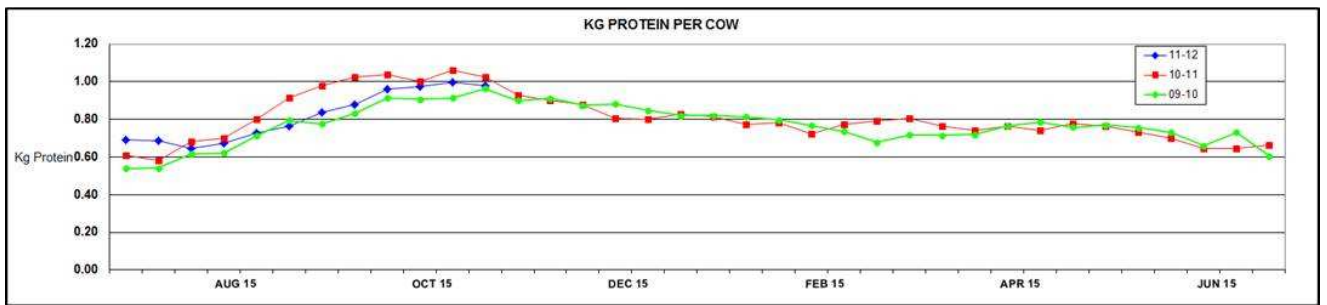
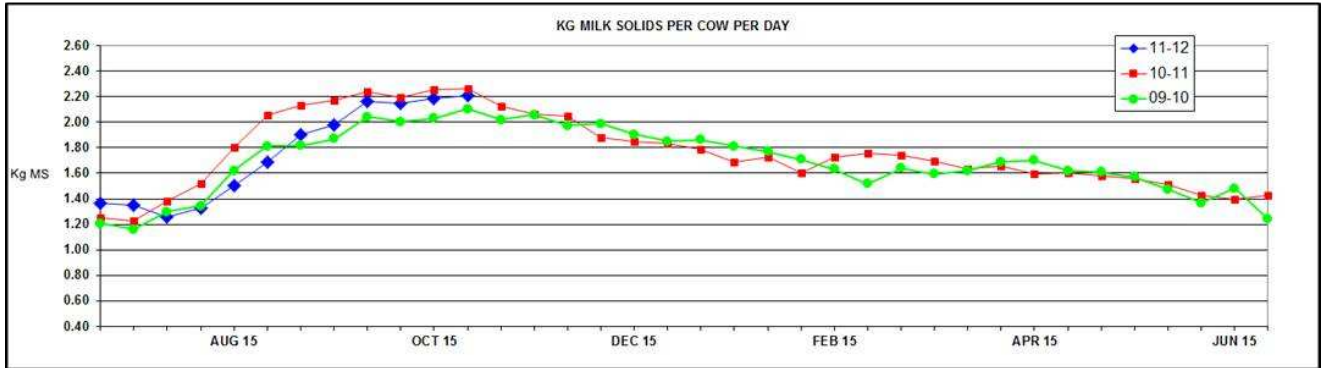
The Bulk Milk Cell Count has risen from 62,000 to 92,000. This time last year the BMCC was 97,000. The BMCC average for the ten days ending 20th October was 81,000, a milk factory ranking of 10th out of 382 farms.

Our milk company recently announced a milk price step-up. The milk price used in this report has been assuming similar step-ups to last year. However, our milk company also recently stated that this season's final milk price is now more likely to be at the lower end of the previously indicated range. With that information, this report will now lower the anticipated milk price by \$0.22 per kg MS (-4.5%).

So, the milk price (less compulsory levies) that the MDF anticipates receiving for the week's milk is \$4.69 per kg milk solids, or 35.2 cents per litre. Milk income per cow per day is \$10.39, made up of \$3.72 for the fat, \$7.44 for the protein, and minus \$0.77 for the litres. This time last year milk income per cow per day was \$11.06.

Feed cost per cow per day (including pasture and supplements) is down from \$2.59 to \$2.47 per cow per day, leaving a Margin over All Feed (MOAF) per cow of \$7.91, up from \$7.70. The margin over all feed per hectare is \$34.60. The whole farm feed margin is \$2,422, up from \$2,265 per day. This time last year the whole farm feed margin was \$2,323 per day.

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WEEKLY FEEDING PERFORMANCE	Last Year	Last week	This week	Units
Week to date:	29-Oct	21-Oct	28-Oct	
Milker graze area	69	70	70	ha
Milker nos	292	294	306	head
Stocking rate	4.2	4.2	4.4	cows/ha
Grazing allocation 1/	30	28	32	th of graze area
Average graze rest time	30	28	28	days
Element N/hectare/day	1.2	1.2	1.2	kg element/ha/day
mm irrigation/hectare/day	2.5	1.0	1.0	mm water/ha/day
Estm'd pasture consmp'n (incl cons'vd forage)	58	49	56	kg DM/ha/dy
Pasture consum'd per cow	13.7	11.7	12.7	kg DM/cow/dy
Daily spend / milking ha	\$3.48	\$2.62	\$2.62	\$/ha/day
Estm'd pasture price	\$60	\$54	\$47	\$/T DM
Conc (incl additives)supp fed/cow	5.7	5.2	5.4	kg DM/cow/dy
Hay/silage supp fed/cow	0.0	1.1	0.0	kg DM/cow/dy
PKE supp fed/cow	0.0	0.5	0.5	kg DM/cow/dy
Estim'd supp waste	3%	4%	4%	%
Conc (incl additives)supp avg price	\$400	\$320	\$326	\$/T DM
Hay/silage supp avg price	\$0	\$216	\$0	\$/T DM
PKE supp price	\$0	\$289	\$289	\$/T DM
Total feed intake/cow	19.2	18.1	18.3	kg DM/cow/dy
Estm'd body cond'n change	-0.10	-0.30	-0.30	kg LWT/cow/dy
Litres/cow	30.4	29.3	29.6	l/cow/day
Fat test	4.06%	4.08%	4.17%	%
Protein test	3.37%	3.36%	3.33%	%
Fat per cow	1.235	1.195	1.232	kg/cow/dy
Protein per cow	1.024	0.984	0.983	kg/cow/dy
MS per cow	2.26	2.18	2.21	kg/cow/dy
Anticipated final milk price (less levies)	\$4.90	\$4.72	\$4.69	\$/kg MS
Anticipated final milk price (/litre)	\$0.364	\$0.352	\$0.352	\$ per litre
Fat return per cow	\$3.86	\$3.61	\$3.72	\$/cow/dy
Protein return per cow	\$8.00	\$7.44	\$7.44	\$/cow/dy
Volume charge per cow	\$0.79	\$0.76	\$0.77	\$/cow/dy
Milk income/cow	\$11.06	\$10.29	\$10.39	\$/cow/dy
All feed cost/cow	\$3.11	\$2.59	\$2.47	\$/cow/dy
Margin over all Feed/cow	\$7.95	\$7.70	\$7.91	\$/cow/dy
MOAF /ha /day	\$33.66	\$32.22	\$34.60	\$/ha/day
Farm MOAF per DAY	\$2,323	\$2,265	\$2,422	\$/day
MOAF per month	\$70,840	\$69,071	\$73,862	\$/month
Energy density of diet	12.1	12.2	12.3	MJ ME/kg DM
Crude protein % of diet	21.3%	20.9%	20.2%	% CP
NDF Fibre level of diet	32.7%	32.7%	33.5%	% NDF
FCE kg MS per tonne DM food	116	118	119	
Tonne feed /day	5.7	5.2	5.7	tonne DM /day
Milk Return /tonne feed	\$570	\$585	\$560	\$/tonne DM
Average Price of feed	\$160	\$147	\$133	\$/tonne DM
Margin /tonne feed	\$410	\$437	\$427	\$/tonne DM
BMCC	97	62	92	