

#### **Grassland Management**



#### **Contents**

Why do an autumn feed budget?	. 1
,	
What average farm covers do I need to aim for?	. 1
S	
Appendix 1 - Guidelines for target Average Farm Cover	. 3

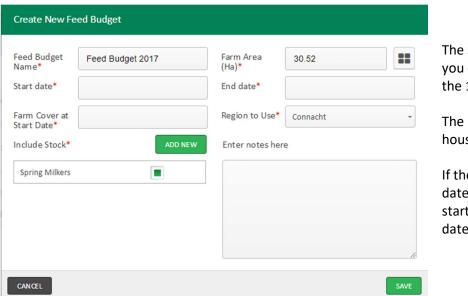
#### Why do an autumn feed budget?

An autumn feed budget is designed to allow you plan to have enough grass for feeding in October and November of the current year and that a suitable amount of grass is saved for early grazing in February of the following year. Effectively you build up extra farm cover in July, August and September for grazing in October and November and the following February.

#### What average farm covers do I need to aim for?

The target average farm covers to aim for depend on your stocking level. Heavily stocked farms need to aim for higher covers. See Appendix 1 on the last page of this document. For example, if your stocking levels in autumn will be approximately 3 LU/Ha, then the target average farm cover on October 1<sup>st</sup> is 1150 kgDM/Ha. Then aim to close the farm in November with an average farm cover of 600 to 650 kgDM/Ha.

Use the "Feed Budget" and then select "Add new feed budget".



The Start date is the date you create the budget for the 1<sup>st</sup> time.

The End date is the date of housing

If the Start date is a future date enter an estimated start farm cover on that date.



### **Grassland Management**



Details	Choose stock type: Spring Milkers  Cows Calving						
WEEK START	AREA (HA)	SPRING MILKERS	GRASS INTAKE	MEAL INTAKE	SILAGE INTAKE	TARGET COVER (KG DM/HA)	PREDICTED FARM COVER (KG DM/HA)
18/08/2017	30.52	85	16	1	0		600
25/08/2017	30.52	85	16	1	0		701
01/09/2017	30.52	85	16	1	0		767
08/09/2017	30.52	85	14	1	2		833
15/09/2017	30.52	85	14	1	2		945
22/09/2017	30.52	85	14	1	2		1029
29/09/2017	30.52	85	16	1	0		1106
06/10/2017	30.52	85	17	0	0		1145
13/10/2017	30.52	85	17	0	0		1128
20/10/2017	30.52	85	17	0	0		1105
27/10/2017	30.52	85	17	0	0		1039
03/11/2017	30.52	85	17	0	0		946
10/11/2017	30.52	85	17	0	0		817
17/11/2017	30.52	85	17	0	0		661

Note, in the example above, the farm cover peaks at 1145 on week starting 06/10. Note also that 2 kilos of silage were fed for 3 weeks in September to build up this extra grass for October.

The farm is closing in week starting 17/11 with a cover of 661. A cover of 1145 in early October and 661 cover at closing is a good autumn plan according to Appendix 1 below.

In the screen above, change the values in **Area**, **Spring Milkers** or **Grass Intake** columns to change the Predicted farm cover on future dates.

# **Grassland Management**



## **Appendix 1 - Guidelines for target Average Farm Cover**

Date Average Farm Cover							
Date	(AFC) Kg DM/Ha						
STOCKING RATE OF 2.5 LU/HA							
1 <sup>st</sup> February	900						
1 <sup>st</sup> March	700						
4 <sup>th</sup> April	500						
May, June, July	425						
Mid - August	500						
1 <sup>st</sup> September	750						
Mid-September	1,000-1,100						
1 <sup>st</sup> October	1,000						
Fully Housed	550-600						
STOCKING RATE OF 3.0 LU/HA							
1 <sup>st</sup> February	1000						
1 <sup>st</sup> March	750						
4 <sup>th</sup> April	550						
May, June, July	510						
Mid - August	750						
1 <sup>st</sup> September	990						
Mid-September	1100						
1 <sup>st</sup> October	1150						
Fully Housed	600-650						
STOCKING RATE OF 3.5 LU/HA							
1 <sup>st</sup> February	1000						
1 <sup>st</sup> March	800						
4 <sup>th</sup> April	650						
May, June, July	600						
Mid - August	770						
1 <sup>st</sup> September	980						
Mid-September	1200						
1 <sup>st</sup> October	1175						
Fully Housed	700-750						