

## GDF Dry off plan

**GDF objective is to calve every Rising 2yr and Rising 3yr heifer in condition score 3.5, and every mature cow in condition score 3.25.**

### GDF Planned Start of Calving - 1 Feb

| <b>COW<br/>C.S group</b> | <b>R 3yr<br/>C.S group</b> | <b>Dry of days<br/>required *</b> | <b>Early<br/>Calvers</b> | <b>Late<br/>Calvers</b> | <b>Very<br/>Late<br/>calvers</b> |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>2.25</b>              | <b>2.5</b>                 | <b>105</b>                        | <b>15 Oct</b>            | <b>5 Nov</b>            | <b>26 Nov</b>                    |
| <b>2.5</b>               | <b>2.75</b>                | <b>90</b>                         | <b>1 Nov</b>             | <b>21 Nov</b>           | <b>10 Dec</b>                    |
| <b>2.75</b>              | <b>3.0</b>                 | <b>75</b>                         | <b>15 Nov</b>            | <b>6 Dec</b>            | <b>27 Dec</b>                    |
| <b>3.0</b>               | <b>3.25</b>                | <b>60</b>                         | <b>1 Dec</b>             | <b>21 Dec</b>           | <b>11 Jan</b>                    |
| <b>3.25 plus</b>         | <b>3.5 plus</b>            | <b>45</b>                         | <b>15 Dec</b>            | <b>5 Jan</b>            | <b>26 Jan</b>                    |

\* Assumes that one condition score = 50 kg

Early calvers are due to calve in the first three weeks

All cows will be dried of on the 21 Dec even though their conditions core and calving date would allow continued milking.

**These dates are the ideal dates that these groups should be dried off. The expectation is that we can reliably get 30 kg weight gain /month and we have added extra days to dry of the cows as well.**

**Table1**

| <b>Score</b>               | <b>2.0</b>                                 | <b>2.5</b>                 | <b>2.75</b>                                   | <b>3.0</b>           | <b>3.25</b>                      | <b>3.5</b>                     | <b>4.0</b>                      |
|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Target times</b>        |  |                            | <b>&gt;Mating &amp; late dry off</b>          |                      | <b>Calving Cows</b>              | <b>Calving Heifers</b>         |                                 |
| <b>Description</b>         | Very Lean                                  | Lean                       | Lean but fit                                  | Fit                  | Firm not very fat                |                                | Fat                             |
| <b>Ribs</b>                | Obvious & feel hard                        | Obvious, little suppleness | Feel flatter & smoother                       | Smoothness           | Flat                             | Flat & not easily felt         | Fat under skin obvious          |
| <b>Backbone</b>            | Prominent, Saw toothed                     | Obvious notches            | Few notches                                   | Smooth               | Smooth                           | Flat                           | Flat                            |
| <b>Short Ribs</b>          | Sharp, Congruations Visible ¾ way to spine | Obvious                    | Smooth, need pressure to feel individual ribs | Flat                 | Flat & not easily felt           | Flat & not easily felt         | Tip barely visible              |
| <b>Hip Bone</b>            | Sharp edges. Depression on sides           | Very angular               | Angular                                       | Rounded              | Sacral ligament* visible         | Sacral ligament barely visible | Sacral ligament not visible     |
| <b>Thurl</b>               |  | V shaped                   | V shaped                                      | Flattened V          | U shaped                         | Well fleshed                   | Flat                            |
| <b>Pin Bones on points</b> | Sharp, no fat pad on points                | Angular, fat padded        | Feel smooth,                                  | Rounded              | Rounded                          | Well rounded apparent          | Fat becoming                    |
| <b>Tail Head</b>           | Very depressed                             | Depressed                  | Depression                                    | Depression is fuller | Full but firm, Ligaments Visible | Full & obviously fat           | Ligaments not visible. Very fat |

\*Sacral ligament is the ligament visible between the hip bone and backbone