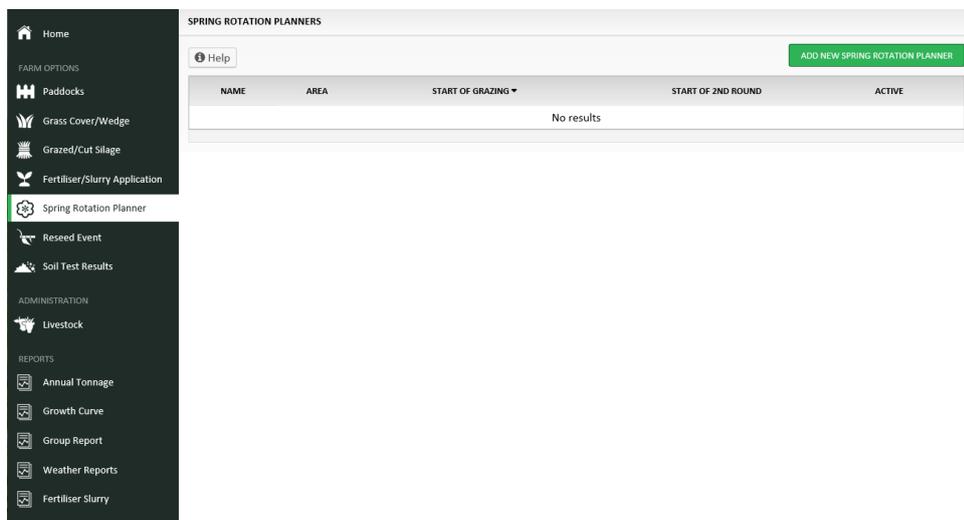


How do I create a Spring Rotation Planner?

The first task is to add your paddocks to the application. For this all you require is a paddock code and the area of each paddock in hectares. Click on 'Paddocks' on the left hand menu.

Once you have created your farm on the application, now you are ready to add a spring rotation planner. Click on 'Spring Rotation Planner' on the left hand menu. See below.

Spring Rotation Planner landing page



Now click on the green button 'Add New Spring Rotation Planner' on the top right of the screen.

This action will open the following pop up box;

Create a new Spring Rotation Planner - pop up box

Create New Spring Rotation Planner

Spring Plan Name *

Start of Grazing *

Farm Area (Ha) *

Start of 2nd Round *

Enter notes here

CANCEL
SAVE

The 'Spring Plan Name' is automatically filled in, but can be edited if you wish

The 'Farm Area (ha)' is the sum of the areas of all paddocks saved to your farm. This is the area that is available to graze in the first rotation.

Depending on the farm, all paddocks that are saved in the application may not be available for grazing in the first rotation.

Take for example, a paddock that young stock were out wintered on forage crops, or perhaps a paddock that has become flooded over the winter period and is very wet as a result.

You can only decrease the area available for grazing in this screen. To do this, click on the icon to the right of **'Farm Area (ha)'** and you can exclude paddocks and remember to save the changes at the bottom.

'Start of Grazing' and 'Start of 2nd Round' dates

'Start of Grazing' and 'Start of 2nd Round' dates will vary from farm to farm. The major factors influencing these dates are; soil type and location.

Dry free draining soil, stock can be left out in late January – early February as ground conditions will be good for grazing, but if soil type is heavy then a later turnout date is required.

Table 1 Guidelines on 'Start of Grazing' and 'Start of 2nd Round' dates

Location - South			
	Start Grazing	Start of 2nd Round	Range
	25-Jan	03-Apr	01/04 - 06/04
	01-Feb	06-Apr	03/04 - 09/04
	15-Feb	09-Apr	07/04 - 11/04
	01-Mar	13-Apr	11/04 - 15/04
	15-Mar	20-Apr	18/04 - 22/04
Location - North			
	01-Feb	04-Apr	01/04 - 08/04
	15-Feb	10-Apr	07/04 - 13/04
	01-Mar	15-Apr	13/04 - 17/04
	15-Mar	20-Apr	18/04 - 22/04

When all details are filled in, select **'Save'**.

At this stage you have created a Spring Rotation Planner.

How do I understand the plan report?

Comparison Chart

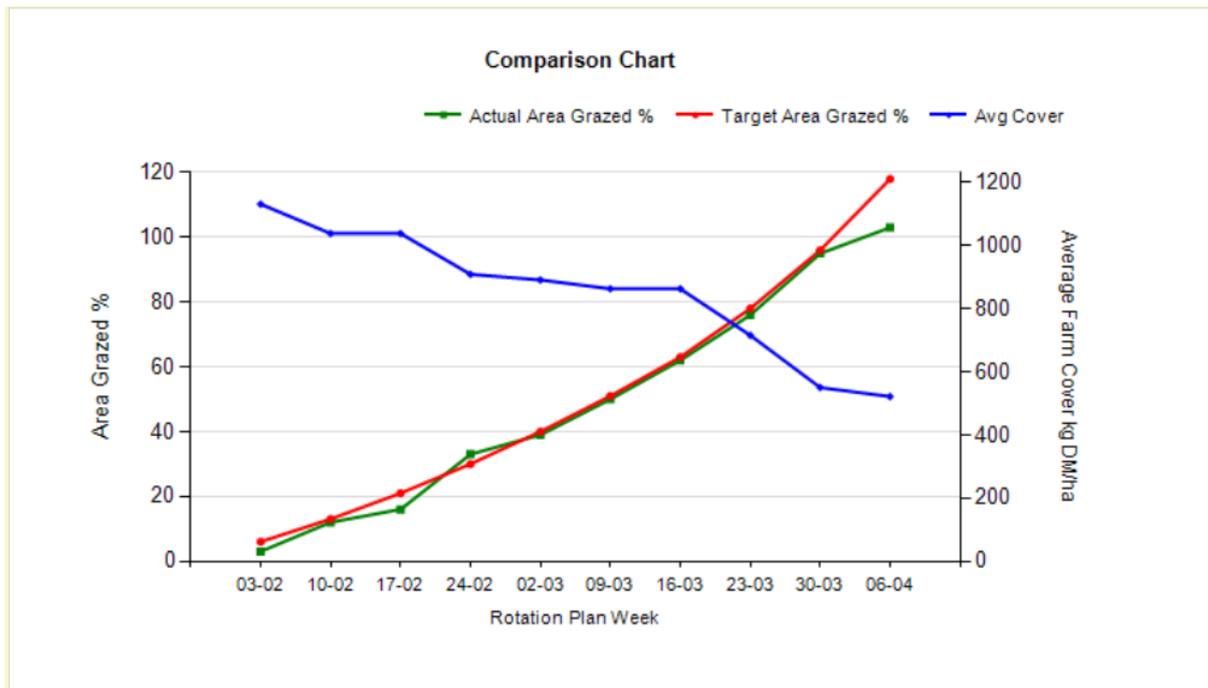
The 'Comparison Chart' is displayed at the top of the screen. The red line in the graph is the 'Target ha grazed by week end'.

As you record grass covers weekly during the spring period a green line, 'Actual ha grazed by week end' and a blue line, 'Actual Farm Cover kg DM/ha' will be displayed. The red target line needs to be as close as possible to the green actual line.

The actual and target lines can be read from the axis on the left while the average farm cover is read from the axis on the right.

Note that your actual farm cover should not go below 500kg DM/ha in the spring.

An example of a Comparison Chart for a complete Spring Rotation Planner



The area under the 'Comparison Chart' is editable. Remember, if you make an edit, click on 'Update'.

1. Table of Spring Rotation Plan details

The table below shows the details of the Spring Rotation Planner both in hectares and percentages.

It is important to hit weekly targets especially targets on March 1st and March 17th.

These two dates are critical to ensure that there is sufficient grass at the beginning of the 2nd round.

From the plan below 27% of the farm needs to be grazed by March 1st.

Table of Spring Rotation Plan details

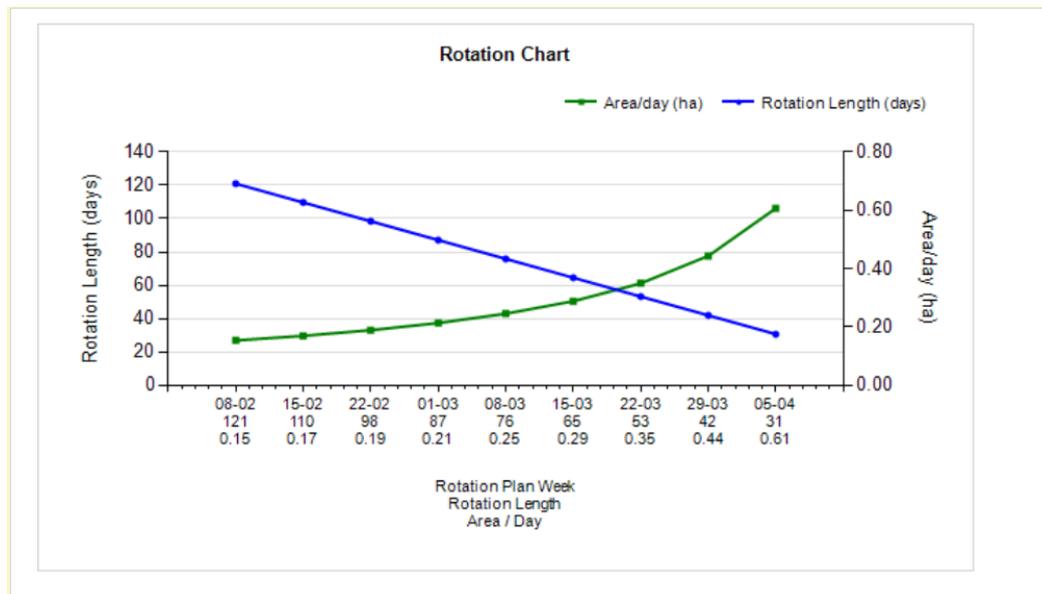
WEEK	TARGET HA GRAZED/DAY	TARGET HA GRAZED BY WEEK END	ACTUAL HA GRAZED BY WEK END	TARGET %	ACTUAL %
02/02/2016 - 08/02/2016	0.07	0.52		6	
09/02/2016 - 15/02/2016	0.08	1.09		12	
16/02/2016 - 22/02/2016	0.09	1.74		19	
23/02/2016 - 29/02/2016	0.10	2.46		27	
01/03/2016 - 07/03/2016	0.12	3.29		37	
08/03/2016 - 14/03/2016	0.14	4.26		47	
15/03/2016 - 21/03/2016	0.17	5.45		61	
22/03/2016 - 28/03/2016	0.21	6.95		77	
29/03/2016 - 04/04/2016	0.29	9.00		100	

As you record grass covers and enter graze dates during the spring period the 'Actual ha grazed by week end' and 'Actual %' will update.

2. Rotation Chart

The 'Rotation Chart' at the bottom of the spring rotation planner screen plots the 'Target ha grazed/day' against the 'Rotation length'.

An Example of a Rotation Chart



At the beginning of the rotation plan period you will be allocating a small area of your farm to graze each day, as a consequence the farm is on a long rotation length (approximately 100 days).

As the plan processes the area allocated per day will increase, and the rotation length will decrease.

It is envisioned that the farm will be on a rotation length of 18 – 24 days at the beginning of the 2nd round.