

Shinagh Dairy Farm Report 31-07-2019

Farm Update

There are 231 cows milking.

Breeding is finished after 11 and a half weeks. The bulls have been removed. The herd will be scanned on Aug 29th. It is planned to take 2nd cut silage this week.

The farm grass cover is 584kg/ha or 162kg/cow. Growth rate for the last week was 54 kg/day. The herd is stocked at 3.60 cows per hectare with a demand of 61kg/ha. There has been 8.1tonnes of drymatter per hectare of grass grown in 2019 up to 20th of July this is an increase of 2.3tonnes on the same period for 2018.

The current co-op milk details are as follows: 15.6litres/day at 4.60% fat, 3.75% protein, 4.66% lactose, 167,000 SCC and 11,000 TBC. That's 1.34 kg of milk solids per cow per day.

The silage paddock across the byroad that was reseeded on the 11th of May has now been grazed three times and it has tillered very well as a result. It will not be cut for silage until next year.

There are 53 in calf-heifers with the contract rearer in Fernoy. There are also 55 of this year's heifer calves and 5 bull calves.

This round of fertiliser we are using a protected Urea product. We have taken a decision to use protected urea products instead of CAN products because they are better from an environmental point of view and they are cheaper per unit of nitrogen. The product is 29:0:14 plus 3.5% sulphur.

Updates are on the Shinagh website: <http://www.shinaghdairy.ie/>