

Shinagh Dairy Farm Report 19-06-2019

Farm Update

There are 231 cows milking. One cow has been culled due to being a repeat offender for mastitis.

Breeding to AI started on May 3rd and finished on 14th June (6 weeks). The non-return rate is running at 71%. The herd got enough dairy AI straws to produce replacement heifers and then an easy calving Hereford AI bull from the Dairy Beef Index for the rest of AI. 5 bulls in groups of two are now being rotated in the herd to pick up any repeats.

The farm grass cover is 597kg/ha or 153kg/cow. Growth rate for the last week was 78 kg/day. The herd is stocked at 3.90 cows per hectare with a demand of 66kg/ha. Magnesium and trace elements are supplied in the drinking troughs daily.

The current co-op milk details are as follows: 21.06 litres/day at 4.33% fat, 3.79% protein, 4.79% lactose, 127,000 SCC and 4,000 TBC. That's 1.76 kg of milk solids per cow per day.

First cut silage was ensiled last week. The silage ground got 2,500 gals of slurry per acre. 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/>