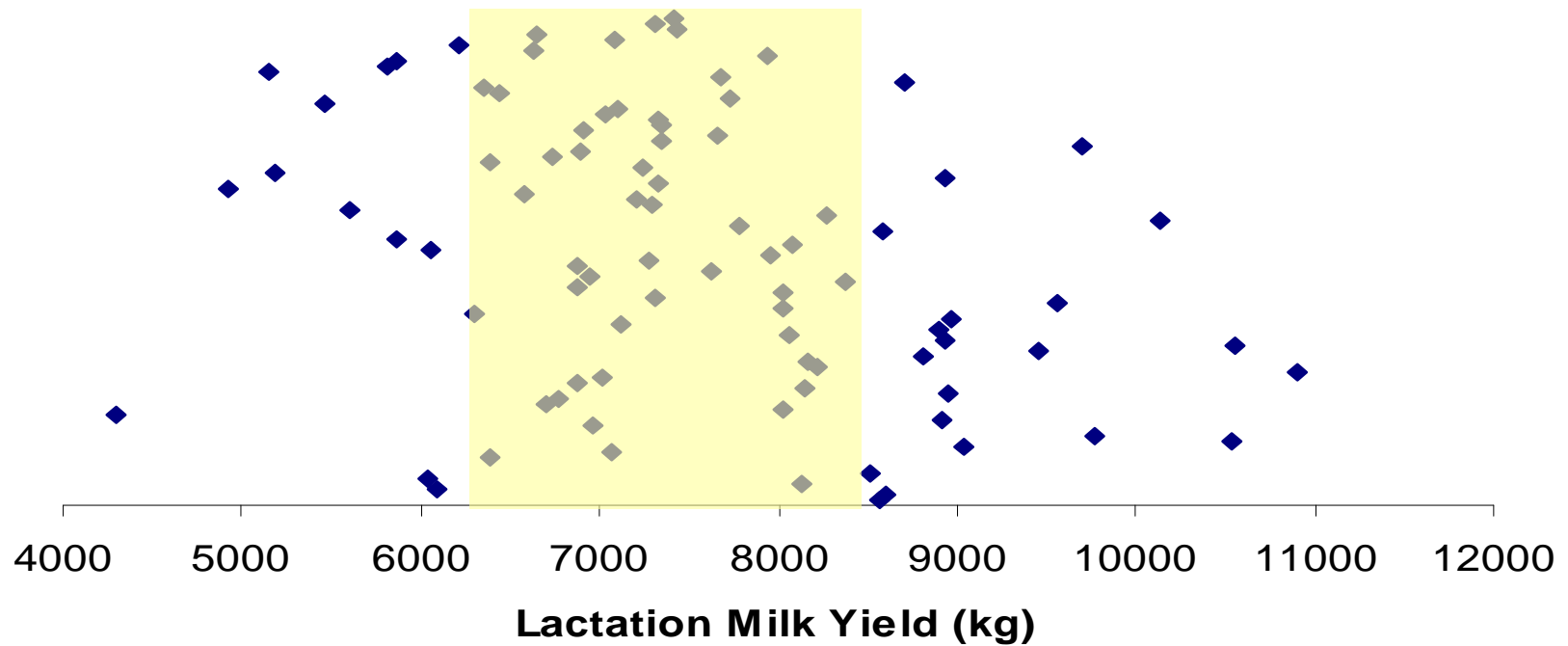


# Johnstown Castle- Herd Update

## March 5<sup>th</sup> 2014

## Johnstown Herd Details - Milk Yield per Cow



**7290kg @ 4.00% Fat 3.53% Protein**

We want...

- High Fertility
- High milk solids
- 160 -180kg milk
- Functional cows

Animal Group	Num of Cows	Milk Kg		Surv% CI Days	Milk % Cont	Fertility % Cont	Calv % Cont	Beef % Cont	Maint % Cont	Mgmt % Cont	Health % Cont	EBI €
		Fat	Prot									
Cows with EBI	132	169			€ 52	€ 80	€ 25	€ -4	€ 3	€ 2	€ 1	€ 159
Missing EBI*	0	9.1	0.05	2.0	31.3%	48%	15%	-2.3%	1.6%	1%	0.8%	
Total Cows	132	8.7	0.06	-4.5								

## 2. Dairy Youngstock

13 Calves	49	148			€ 62	€ 100	€ 33	€ -7	€ 6	€ 3	€ 1	€ 198
Missing EBI*	1	12.9	0.14	2.7	29.3%	47.3%	15.4%	-3.2%	2.8%	1.5%	0.4%	
Total Calves	50	9.3	0.09	-5.5								
12 Calves	31	141			€ 59	€ 100	€ 34	€ -5	€ 3	€ 3	€ 2	€ 195
Missing EBI*	0	11.6	0.12	2.5	28.6%	48.5%	16.7%	-2.5%	1.4%	1.3%	0.9%	
Total Calves	31	8.9	0.08	-5.6								

# Effect of calving interval on milk revenue losses for 100 cow herd

Herd Calving Interval	Herd Base <sup>2</sup> Production Level (litres)		
	6000	7000	8000
401	€9,660 <sup>3</sup>	€7,320	€4,380
422	€16,770	€13,620	€9,060
443	€23,760	€20,700	€14,970
464	€30,570	€28,020	€20,490
485	€37,290	€35,370	€26,520

<sup>1</sup>Relative to a 375 day calving interval

<sup>2</sup>Based on 305-d yield for a herd with 370 day calving interval

<sup>3</sup>Based on a 30cpl annualised milk price

Our objective is a 370 d calving interval  
Current 383 days

# Experiment 2012-14: Feed to Yield Trial on Split Calving Herds

## Objective:

‘To compare performance and profit of split calving herds managed under ***feed-to-yield*** or ***feed-to-budget*** systems’

# Feed to Yield System - “Reds”

‘Meet the nutritional requirements of the INDIVIDUAL COW while managing the system to maximise use of quality forage’

Stocking rate 3.1 cows per ha

## Indoor diet –

- Flat rate to stated yield e.g. 22 litres
- Supplement on a yield basis thereafter e.g. 0.5kg per litre to a threshold value

## At pasture –

- Estimate contribution of base pasture diet
- Use supplements to meet yield potential
- Maintain sward quality by managing pre-grazing yield

# Feed to Budget System - “Greens”

‘Meet nutritional requirements of THE HERD by maximising utilisation of forage on the grazing block and strategic use of supplements to manage feed deficits as dictated by budget’

Stocking rate 3.1 cows per ha

## Indoor diet –

- Flat rate meal feeding of fresh and stale cows (e.g. 7kg plus 3kg)
- Additional forage (e.g. maize) imported as per winter forage deficit

## At pasture –

- Conventional pasture budgeting practices
- Use supplement to address pasture deficits
- Maintain sward quality by standard management

## Current Situation- Dry and fresh calving cows

- 52% spring herd calved this week
  - Planned start date Feb 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Minimal calving problems/issues to date
- Dry cows on 2<sup>nd</sup> cut silage plus minerals - Extra Mag in water
  - Cows join milking herd from straw bedded area 24 hours after calving
  - Calves removed from cow immediately plus 3litres colostrum fed
- Starting fresh cows on 2kg concentrate and rising to full allocation by day 10



## Current Situation- Autumn Calving Sections

	Feed to Yield	Feed to Budget
<b><i>This Week (4/3/14)</i></b>		
Milk Kg	24.7	25.7
Fat %	4.45	4.50
Protein %	3.56	3.55
Milk Solids kg	1.98	2.05
Concentrate kg	5.6	7.0
Other supplement kg DM	7-12 kg silage	7-12kg silage
<b><i>Lactation to date (130 dim)</i></b>		
Milk kg	3711	3526
Milk Solids kg	280	268
Parlour Conc. date	450	466

## Current Situation- Spring Calving

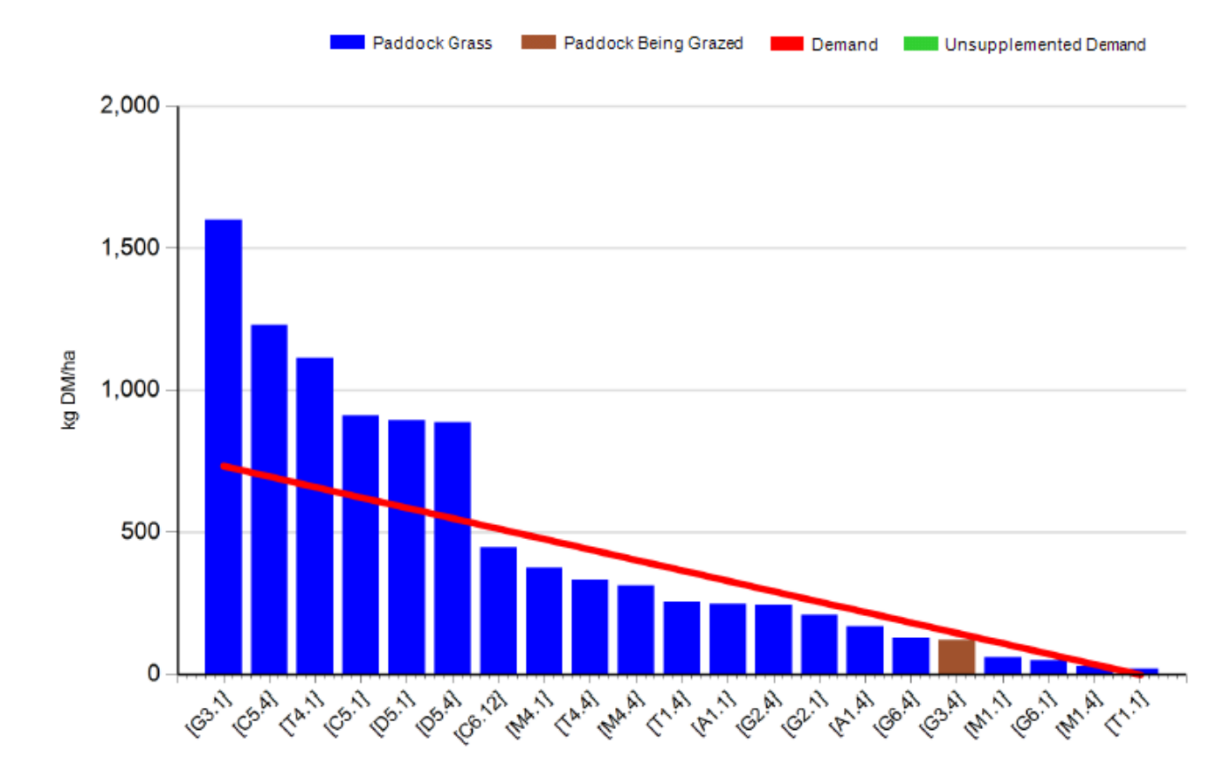
	Feed	Budget
<b><i>This Week (4/3/13)</i></b>		
Milk Kg		
Fat %		
Protein %		
Milk Solids kg		
Parlour Concentrate		
Other supplement kg DM		
<b><i>Cumulative (3 days in milk)</i></b>		
Milk kg		
Milk Solids kg		
Concentrate fed Parlour		

52% calved by this week  
 Start 4<sup>th</sup> Feb  
 Production data to follow

## Current Situation- Grazing and feeding

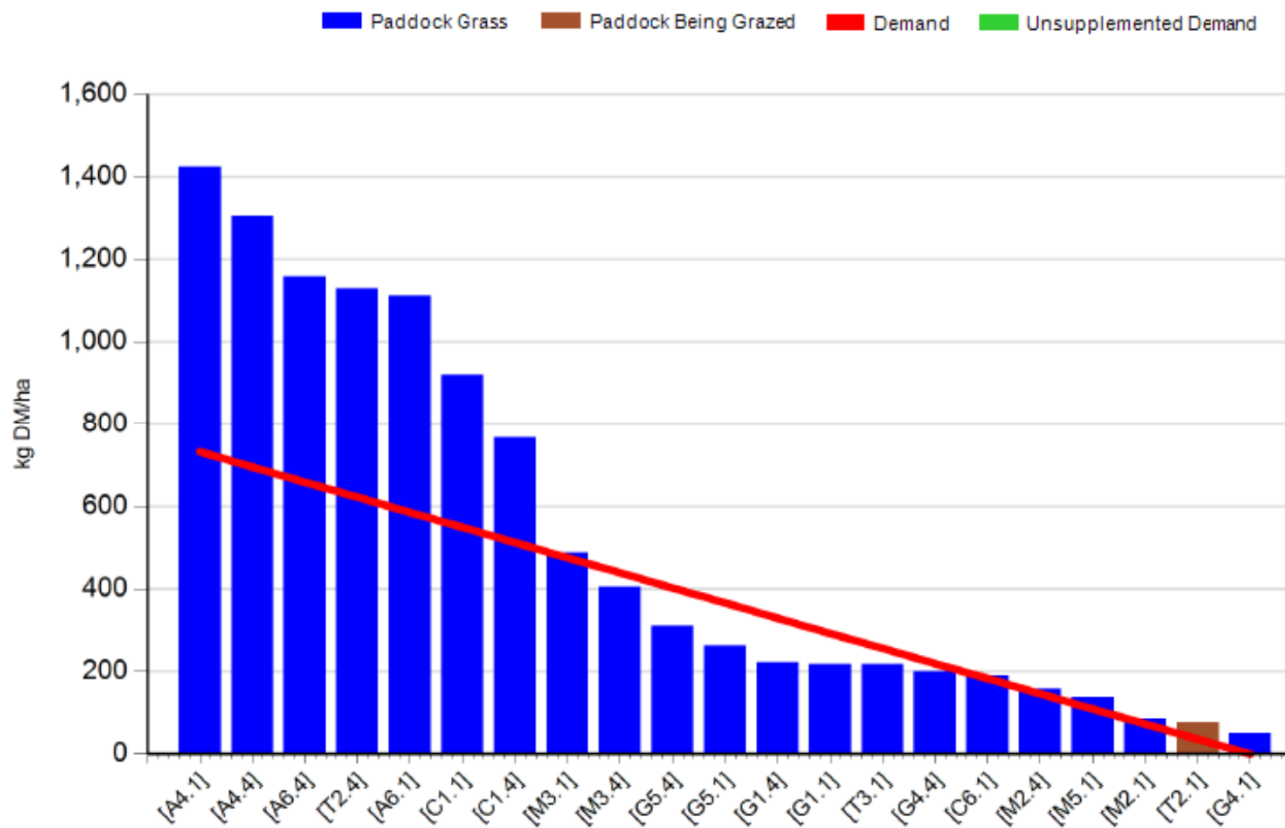
- Extremely wet
  - Rainfall for Feb was 174mm (220% of long term average)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> application Nitrogen being spread this week (30 units as Urea)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> application to follow in 3-4 weeks
  - No slurry applied
- Adequate silage and maize stocks to date
- Ground conditions poor
  - On-off grazing for 3-4 hours after morning milking
  - Daily grass intake approx. 5kg DM/day for the last week
  - Reducing silage and maize allocation for grazing days
  - Post grazing 5cm in wet conditions
- Plan to increase daily grass allocation to 8-10kg (2 bouts) this week

## Current Situation- Feed to Budget



- **Growth 12kg DM per day**
- Farm cover 464 kg DM ha
- Farm cover 152kg DM cow
- Grazing lighter covers first (1000kg DM)
- SR 3.01 cows ha
  - Meal 7kg
- Grass allocation 5g DM
- Residual ht 4.8cm

## Current Situation- Feed to Yield



- **Growth Rate 14kg per day**
- Farm cover 514kg DM ha
- Farm cover 169kg DM cow
- Grazing light covers first
- SR 3.0 cows ha
- Base Milking Diet
  - 5 kg DM grass
  - 8kg silage (12 if no grass)
  - 3 kg meal
  - 0.5kg meal per kg above 22 kg milk
- Residual 4.9cm