

# Johnstown Castle- Herd Update

## June 26<sup>th</sup> 2014

Animal Group	Num of Cows	Milk Kg	Fat %	Prot %	Surv% CI Days	Milk % Cont	Fertility % Cont	Calv % Cont	Beef % Cont	Maint % Cont	Mgmt % Cont	Health % Cont	EBI €
Cows with EBI	117	182				€ 53	€ 83	€ 25	€ -5	€ 2	€ 1	€ 2	€ 161
Missing EBI*	0	9.5	0.05	2.0	31.1%	48.5%	14.7%	-2.9%	0.9%	0.7%	1.1%		
Total Cows	117	9.0	0.06	-4.7									

## 2. Dairy Youngstock

14 Calves	19	211				€ 74	€ 101	€ 30	€ -9	€ 8	€ 2	€ 0	€ 206
Missing EBI*	0	12.6	0.09	2.7	33.1%	45%	13.1%	-4.2%	3.6%	1%	0%		
Total Calves	19	12.1	0.1	-5.6									
13 Calves	48	148				€ 61	€ 100	€ 32	€ -8	€ 5	€ 3	€ 1	€ 194
Missing EBI*	1	12.7	0.14	2.7	29.1%	47.3%	15.2%	-3.9%	2.5%	1.4%	0.6%		
Total Calves	49	9.2	0.09	-5.4									

We want...

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

# 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

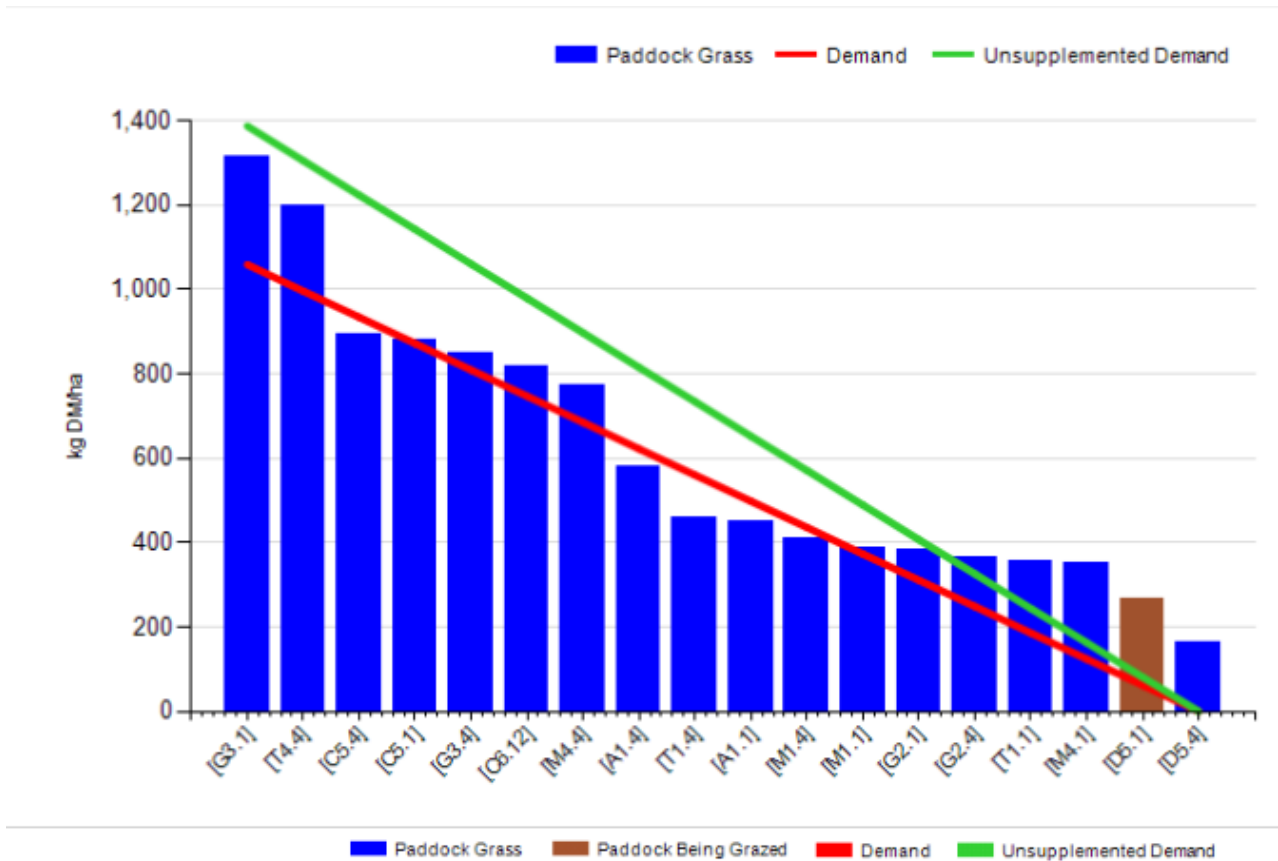
## Current Situation- Autumn Calving Sections

	Feed to Yield	Feed to Budget
<b><i>This Week (26/6/14)</i></b>		
Milk Kg	20.8	18.9
Fat %	3.84	4.00
Protein %	3.74	3.75
Milk Solids kg	1.56	1.45
Concentrate kg	1.01 avg	1.6
Other supplement kg DM	-	-
<b><i>Lactation to date (250 dim)</i></b>		
Milk kg	6329	6086
Milk Solids kg	480	467
Concentrate Fed	971	1019

## Current Situation- Spring Calving

	Feed to Yield	Feed to Budget
<b><i>This Week (26/6/14)</i></b>		
Milk Kg	30.6	26.2
Fat %	3.62	3.43
Protein %	3.44	3.45
Milk Solids kg	2.09	1.78
Parlour Concentrate kg	3.69	1.6
Other supplement kg DM	-	-
<b><i>Cumulative (105 days in milk)</i></b>		
Milk kg	3485	2967
Milk Solids kg	248	214
Concentrate fed	440	287

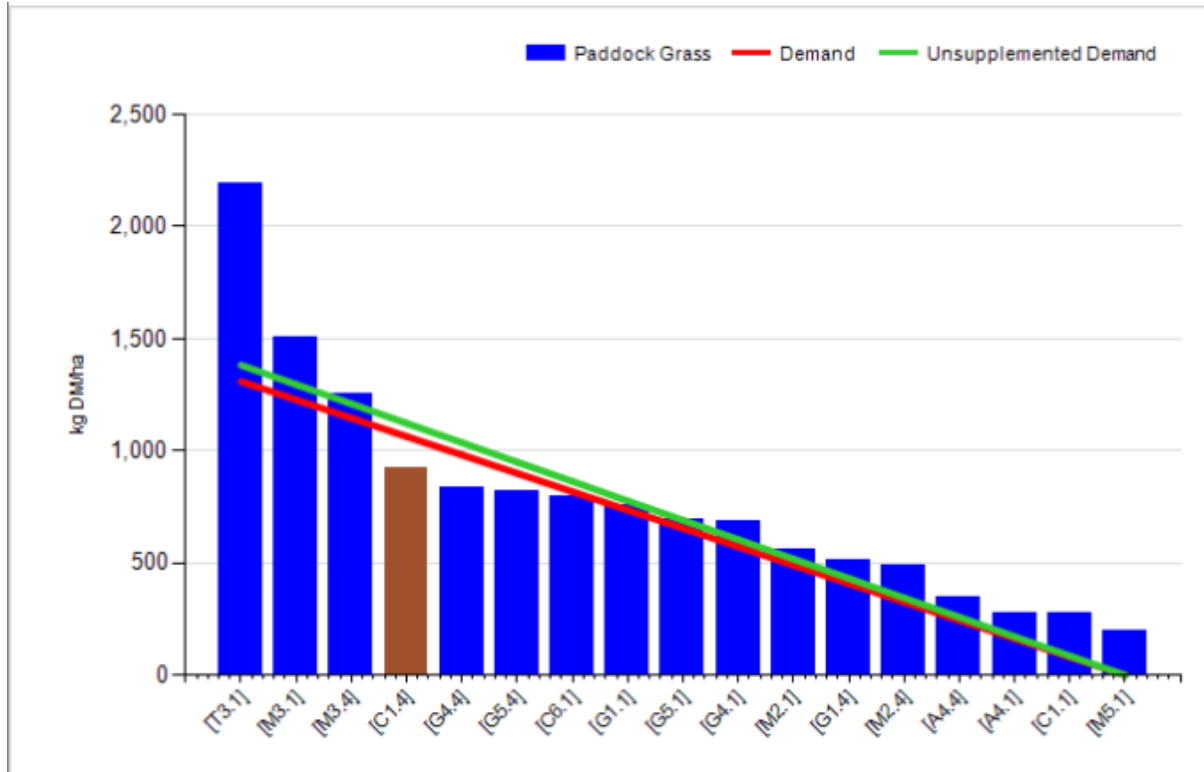
## Current Situation- Feed to Budget



- Farm cover 624 kg DM ha  
171kg per cow
- Growth 35kg DM per day
- Current SR 3.65 cows ha
- Grass allocation 18kg DM
  - Demand 53kg DM/day
- Feeding 1.6kg high energy conc.
- Grazing Residual 4.0cm
- Growth rate very low last week- rain needed. Will supplement with 4kg conc. for 7 days from Friday depending on rainfall.



## Current Situation- Feed to Yield



- Farm cover 772 kg DM ha  
202 per cow
- Growth 52kg DM per day
- Current SR 3.86 cows ha
- Grass allocation 18kg DM
  - Demand 69kg DM/day
- Feeding 0.6kg high energy conc.
  - Plus 0.5kg per 1kg milk above 22kg
  - Max conc. 10kg per day
- Grazing Residual 4.1cm
- Farm cover is higher than target due to paddock T3 @ 2200kg DM. Held off cutting due to drop in growth rate. Depending on rainfall, will skip to M3 and bale this out Friday

## Breeding and Bull Selection

- Herd is 60% Autumn and 40% spring
  - 2 x 10-week calving seasons
  - Spring breeding period commenced May 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Dairy AI complete 20<sup>th</sup> Jun – Hereford/AA bulls now with herd
- Compact calving and fertility targets:
  - 75% cows calving in first 6 weeks of each season
  - Calving interval 383 days- Increases annual milk sales per cow
  - Less than 5% carryover cows currently
- Must get a high submission rate (90%) in 3 weeks to achieve this:
  - BCS at dry off, calving and breeding
  - Rising plane of nutrition post-calving
  - Identify and treat problem cows in advance of breeding start date
  - Genetics\*
- Age at first calving 22 – 24 months. No recycled maiden heifers

## Breeding Bull Selection

- Herd produced 7123kg @ 4.07% fat and 3.56% protein in 2013
  - Target increase milk EBI sub-index by selecting bull team +30kg fat and protein
  - Milk volume of +180kg is adequate
- Fertility EBI sub-index has a huge impact on delivering herd potential for winter herds
  - More days in milk, less time dry, more mature cows
  - **Aiming to increase herd fertility sub-index to €100**
- Functional traits
  - Avoiding extremes negative scores for health EBI sub-index
  - Breeding for moderate/smaller size, positive for body condition score
  - Avoiding extreme scores for udders, feet
- Bull team of 9 sires (7 genomic) selected and matched to individual cows using HerdPlus (ICBF)

The following is the output of Sire Advice program for your herd.

	EBI(E)	EBI Sub Index							PTA's							
		Milk (E)	Fert (E)	Calv (E)	Beef (E)	Maint (E)	Mmgt (E)	Hlth (E)	M Kg	F Kg	P Kg	F+P Kg	F %	P %	CI days	SU %
<b>All Cows in Herd</b>	<b>159</b>	52	80	25	-4	0	2	1	169	9.1	8.7	17.9	0.05	0.06	-4.5	2.0
<b>Predicted 2015 Calves</b>	<b>234</b>	75	123	32	-7	6	3	0	180	14.6	11.5	26.0	0.14	0.11	-6.7	3.3
<b>Bulls Weighted Averages</b>	<b>308</b>	98	165	39	-9	12	3	0	192	20.0	14.2	34.2	0.23	0.15	-8.8	4.7