

Johnstown Castle- Herd Update

August 19th 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

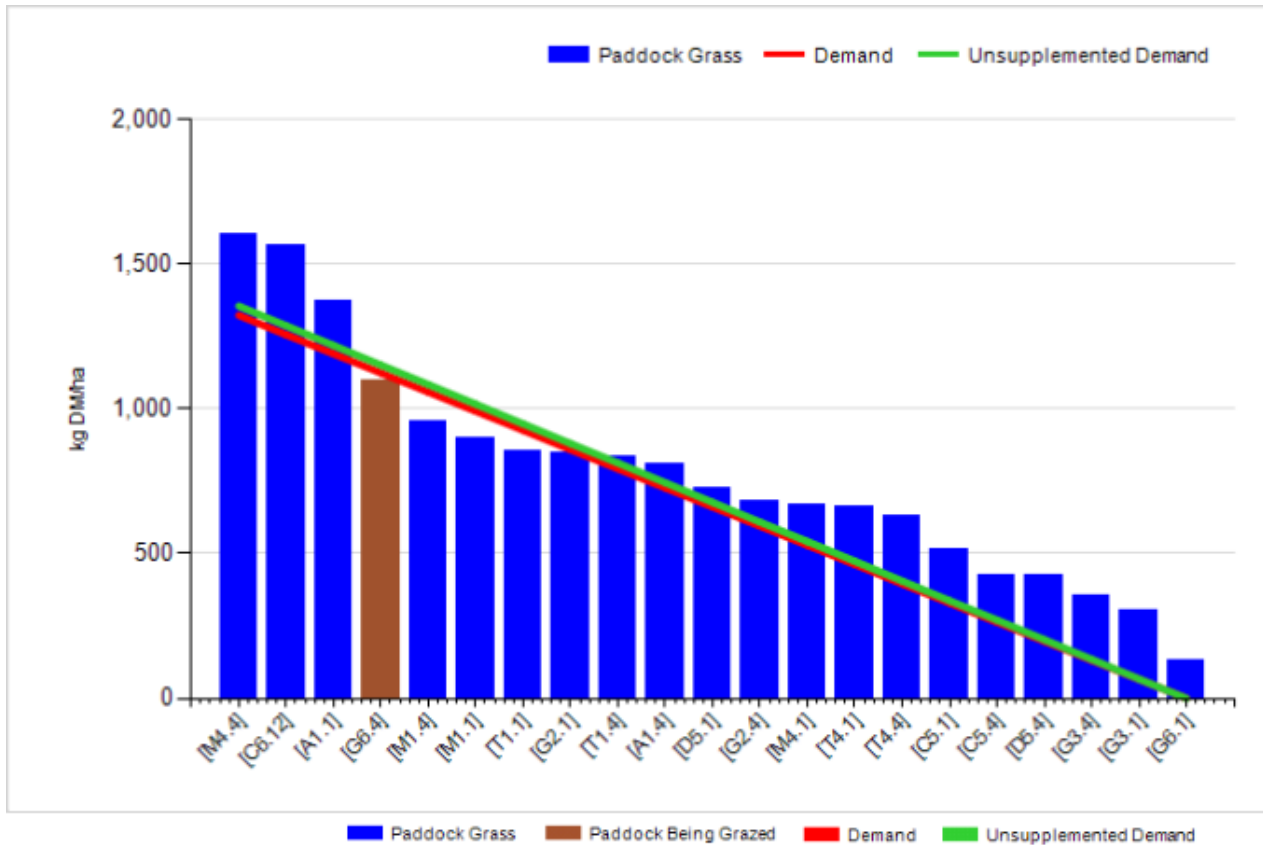
	Feed to Yield	Feed to Budget
<i>This Week (18/8/14)</i>		
Milk Kg	15.8	17.7
Fat %	4.08	4.25
Protein %	3.92	3.81
Milk Solids kg	1.22	1.40
Concentrate kg	0.5	0.5
Other supplement kg DM	-	-
<i>Lactation to date (300 dim)</i>		
Milk kg	7323	7164
Milk Solids kg	558	553
Concentrate Fed	1013	1155

20% of herd to be dried off this week

Current Situation- Spring Calving

	Feed to Yield	Feed to Budget
<i>This Week (18/8/14)</i>		
Milk Kg	27.3	26.2
Fat %	3.65	3.65
Protein %	3.64	3.53
Milk Solids kg	1.96	1.86
Parlour Concentrate kg		0
Other supplement kg DM	-	-
<i>Cumulative (159 days in milk)</i>		
Milk kg	5061	4461
Milk Solids kg	362	320
Concentrate fed	630	344

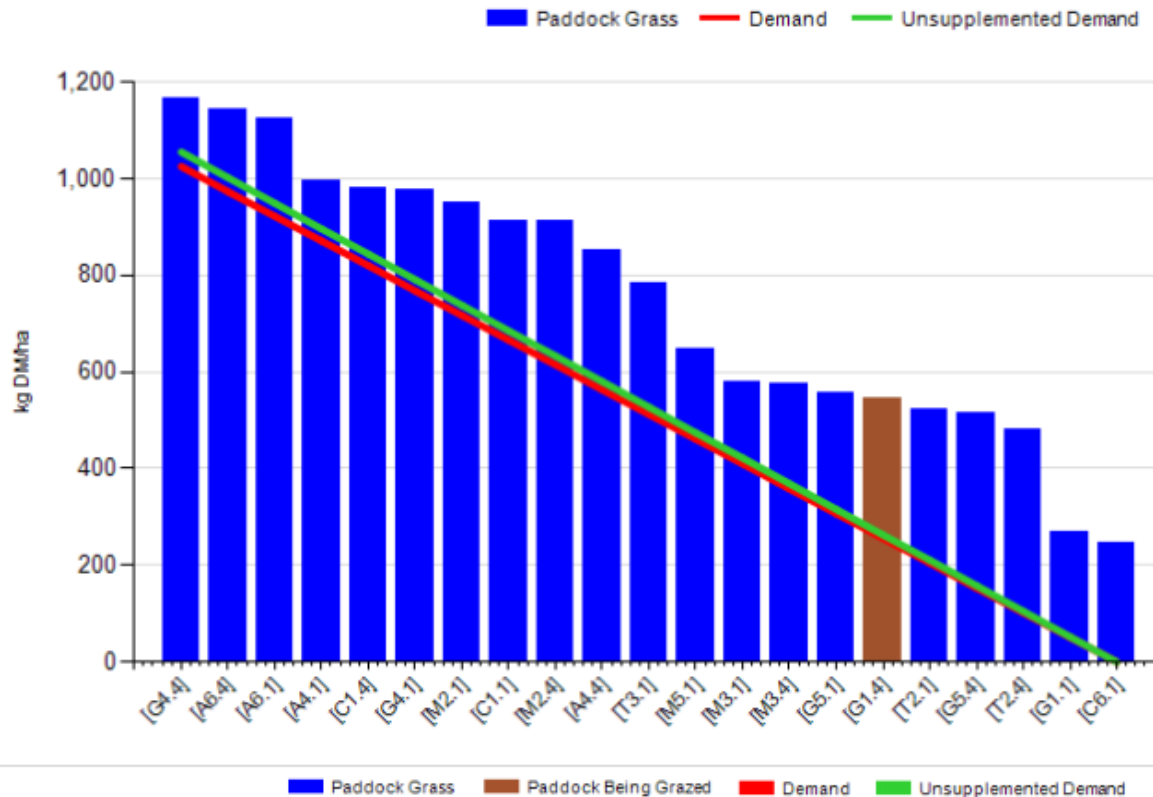
Current Situation- Feed to Budget



- Farm cover 781 kg DM ha
195kg per cow
- Growth 64kg DM per day
- Current SR 4.01 cows ha
- Grass allocation 16.5kg DM
 - Demand 63kg DM/day
- Feeding 0.5kg high conc.
- Grazing Residual 3.9cm
- Demand to fall with drying off commencing (20% of herd this) week
- Target to hold cover <800kg DM ha into early Sept- continue to bale surpluses to avoid excess cover building

Current Situation- Feed to Yield

- Farm cover 733 kg DM ha
240 per cow
- Growth 55kg DM per day
- Current SR 3.05 cows ha
- Grass allocation 18kg DM
 - Demand 51kg DM/day
- Feeding 0.6kg high energy conc.
 - Plus 0.5kg per 1kg milk above 22kg
 - Max conc. 10kg per day
- Grazing Residual 4.0cm
- Pre-grazing yield on target but potential surplus emerging with numerous paddocks 900-1000kg DM. Will continue to take out surpluses to hold cover at <800kg DM/ha for early Sept



Breeding and Bull Selection

- Herd is 60% Autumn and 40% spring
 - 2 x 10-week calving seasons
 - Spring breeding period commenced May 1st
 - Breeding complete July 28th
- 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 %
All Cows in Herd	159	52	80	25	-4	0	2	1	169	9.1	8.7	17.9	0.05	0.06	-4.5	2.0
Predicted 2015 Calves	234	75	123	32	-7	6	3	0	180	14.6	11.5	26.0	0.14	0.11	-6.7	3.3
Bulls Weighted Averages	308	98	165	39	-9	12	3	0	192	20.0	14.2	34.2	0.23	0.15	-8.8	4.7