

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

17/08/15

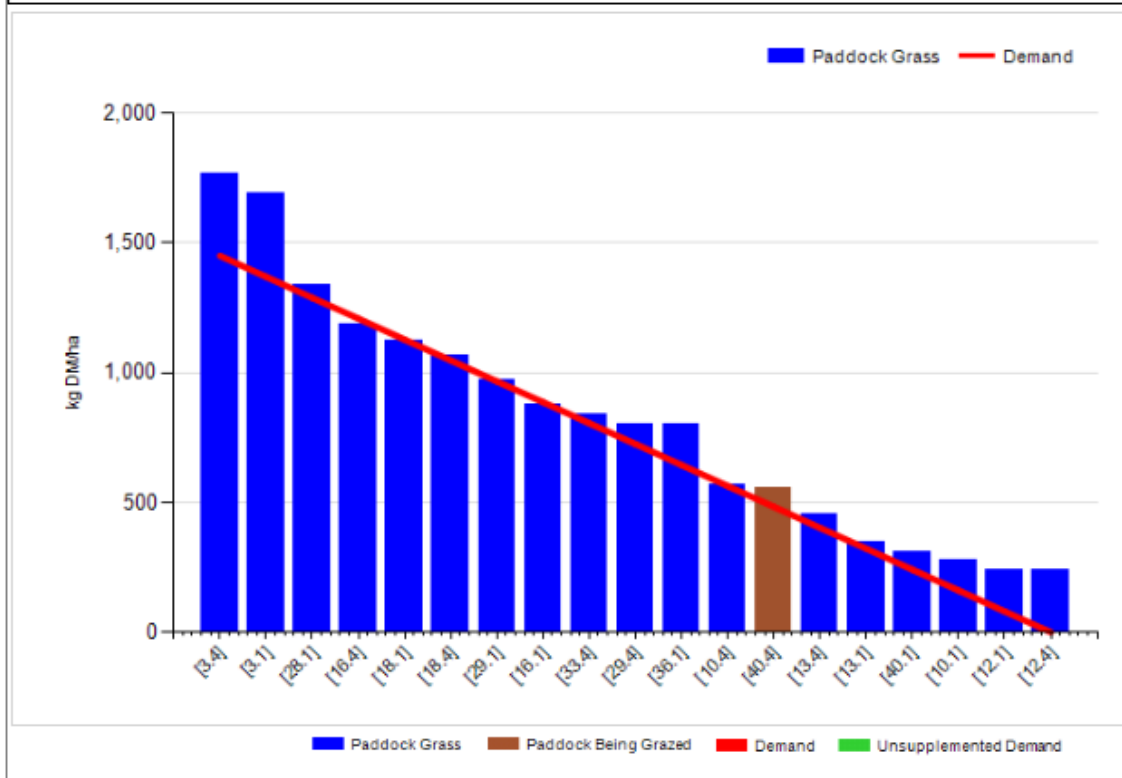
Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 14/08/2015
Farm: Johnstown Dairy	Treatment: 1

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	23	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	18.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.0
No. of Cows:	28		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	9.7	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	65
Total Livestock (LU):	52.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	34
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	845	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1450
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	243	Days Ahead:	25
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.48	LW/ha (Liveweight/ha):	932



Management Comments

- Rainfall of 0.8 mm and soil temp of 17.1°C for last week. We've had a total of 26mm rain for the month of August to date. Grazing conditions and grass growth have been excellent for the past couple of weeks.
- 75% of autumn calving herd have been dried (46% of total herd), Demand is low & growth rates are high, we've skipped 3 paddocks for silage (14%) of total area & I expect to take out a further 2-3 paddocks. Our main focus is to ensure we don't build too heavy of covers for freshly calved autumn cows in Late Sep/Oct. (max pre-grazing of 1900kgs in late Sept.)
- Cows are grazing 2nd cut silage after-grass at present, covers are higher than target, but quality is excellent as its after-grass, we don't want to have to cut this area again for a third time.

Milk production and feed details

	Autumn Calving Section	Spring Calving Section
<i>This Week (17/0815) – cows in milk</i>		
Milk Kg	18.8	23.0
Fat %	4.54	4.38
Protein %	3.82	3.62
Milk Solids kg	1.56	1.84
Parlour concentrate (kgs)	0	0
Silage kg dry matter per cow	0	0
Grazed grass kg cow	18	18
% of Herd Dry	75%	0%
<i>Lactation to date – all cows</i>		
Days in Milk	306	168
Milk kg	7267	4510
Milk Solids kg	560	339
Concentrate Fed	942kg parlor & 356kg tmr	352kg parlor & 105kg tmr