

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes-

28/09/15

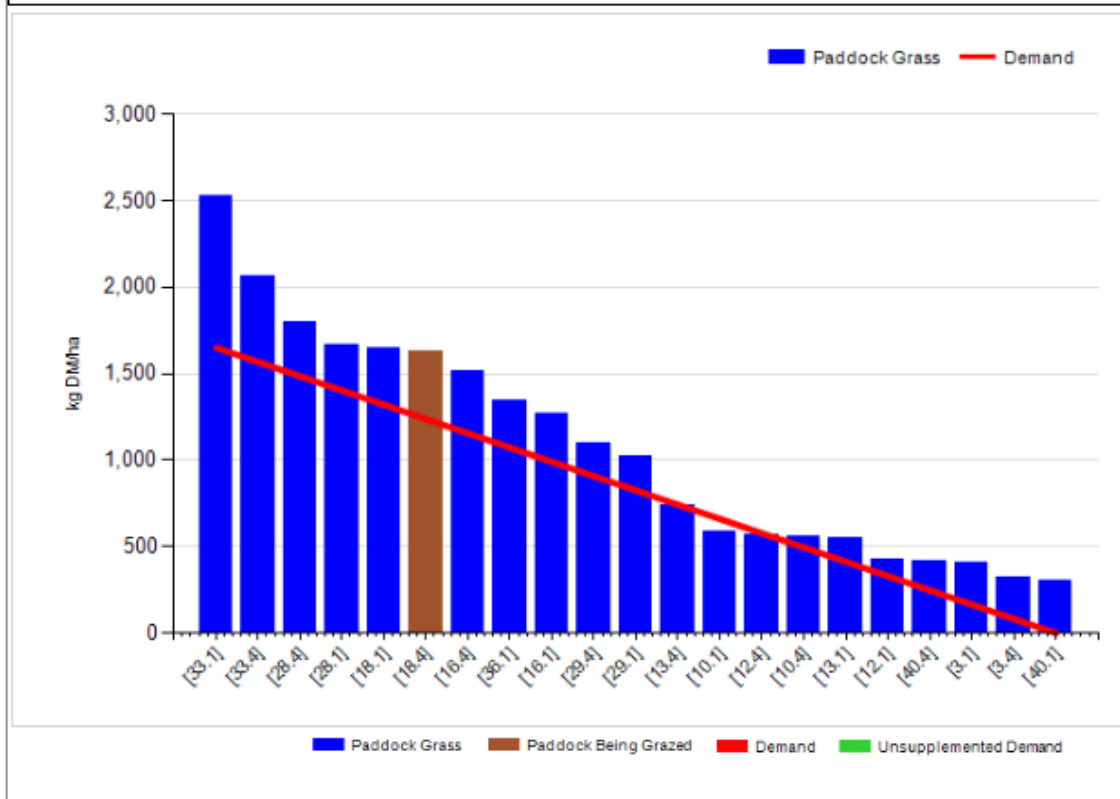
Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 29/09/2015
Farm: Johnstown Dairy	Treatment: 1

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	38	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	16.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.0
No. of Cows:	38		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	2.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	14.8	Growth Rate:	61
Total Livestock (LU):	52.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	45
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	1178	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1650
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	385	Days Ahead:	26
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.06	LW/ha (Liveweight/ha):	478



Management Comments

- Rainfall of 4.3mm and soil temp of 12.9°C for last week. Grazing conditions are excellent, but with the exceptional growth, our covers are ahead of target, we plan to either bring in heifers to graze off paddock with the heaviest cover, or take it out for silage.
- Cows within 2-3 weeks of calving are brought to a calving paddock, where they'll be checked regularly. Their diet will be ~3kgsDm of strong stemmy grass, hay ad-lib (~6-7kgs) & 1kg of ration which carries the pre-calver minerals. After calving, their straight back to the milking herd.
- 45% of Autumn herd are now calved, so grass demand starting to increase again, calving will slow up now & remainder will stretch out till end of November. Conditions are very good for calving outdoors, we had a couple of calf deaths at calving, but otherwise going well.

Milk production and feed details

	Autumn Calving Section	Spring Calving Section
<i>This Week (28/09/15) – cows in milk</i>		
Milk Kg	0	20.2
Fat %	0	4.30
Protein %	0	3.96
Milk Solids kg	0	1.66
Parlour concentrate (kgs)	2	2.0
Silage kg dry matter per cow	0	0
Grazed grass kg cow	14	16
% of Herd Milking	45%	100%
<i>Lactation to date – all cows</i>		
Days in Milk	306	210
Milk kg	7330	5404
Milk Solids kg	563	409
Concentrate Fed	946kg parlor & 356kg tmr	382kg parlor & 105kg tmr