Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

Management Comments - 26/10/15

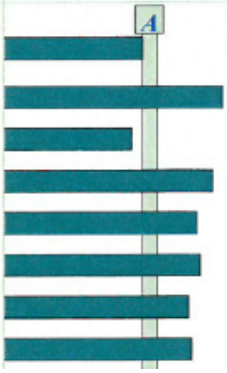
- Rainfall of 15.5mm up to Monday, but probably close to a further 25mm in the last 24 hours, soil temp of 11.1°C for last week. Back to 12 hour grass allocations this week.
- Despite all the dry weather of late, ground conditions are more challenging this week. We're on approx. 72% of ground closed at the moment, which is near our target of 80% by end of October. Ideally we would like to graze fulltime for another week & then house by night, but if the weather & ground conditions remain unsettled, we'll go in by night this week
- Maize silage, still to be harvested, unfortunately it wasn't ripe enough during the dry spell, hopefully if we get a few settled days, it'll be ok then.
- See below for some results of silage analysis, yet again we failed to meet our target for main 1st cut pit silage to come in at >75DMD, but we're not far off it, target cutting date was 14/05/15 & actual cut date was 21/05/15, this will be the grass silage for winter milking cows . There may be some variation in the surplus bales, but overall quality should be very good, we'll use some of these when housing by night in the next week or so, until such time as maize is available. We also plan to keep some good quality bales for next spring, for periods of grass deficit/poor grazing conditions. The final sample is from this year's second cut silage, which initially suffered a mini drought in June & then had harvest date delayed due to weather in July, we'd still be happy with this silage to feed to Dry spring calving cows & replacement heifers.

Milk production and feed details

	Autumn Calving Section	Spring Calving Section
This Week (26/10/15) – cows in milk	*high % of freshly calved cows so figures may be inconsistent*	
Milk Kg	25.2	18.4
Fat %	5.29	4.61
Protein %	3.70	4.18
Milk Solids kg	2.25	1.61
Parlour concentrate (kgs)	4	4
Silage kg dry matter per cow	0	0
Grazed grass kg cow	14	14
% of Herd Milking	74	100
Lactation to date		
Days in Milk	35	238
Milk kg	792	5944
Milk Solids kg	71	455
Concentrate Fed	100	444kg parlor & 105kg tmr

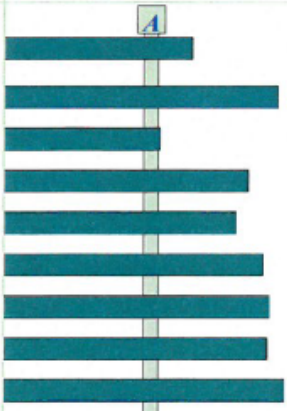
First Cut Silage - Pit

Item	Units	Desirable Values	Result	Status
Dry Matter	%	20 - 30	28.5	-
pH	-	4 - 4.7	4.2	Good
Ammonia N	% of Total N	< 10.1	8.3	Good
ASH	%	< 8.6	9.1	Moderate
NDF	%	< 45.0	45.80	Moderate
DMD	%	> 68.9	73.7	Good
ME	MJ/kg	> 9.8	10.6	Good
Crude Protein	%	13.5 - 17	14.0	Good

Item	Units	Normal Range	Result	Status
PDIN	g/kg	65 - 102	83	
PDIE	g/kg	58 - 83	77	
PDIA	g/kg	16 - 37	25	
UFL	per kg	.65 - .90	0.83	
UFV	per kg	.59 - .89	0.79	
SFU	per kg	1.04 - 2.81	1.61	
LFU	per kg	.95 - 1.89	1.29	
CFU	per kg	.96 - 1.92	1.30	

Surplus Baled

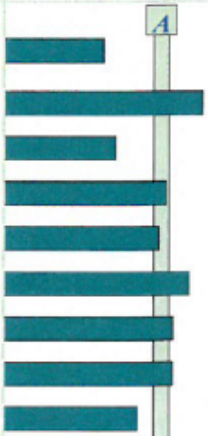
Item	Units	Desirable Values	Result	Status
Dry Matter	%	20 - 30	42.0	-
pH	-	4 - 4.7	4.9	Moderate
Ammonia N	% of Total N	< 10.1	13.2	Moderate
ASH	%	< 8.6	9.8	Moderate
NDF	%	< 45.0	44.20	Good
DMD	%	> 68.9	76.0	Good
ME	MJ/kg	> 9.8	11.0	Good
Crude Protein	%	13.5 - 17	15.0	Good

Item	Units	Normal Range	Result	Status
PDIN	g/kg	65 - 102	89	
PDIE	g/kg	58 - 83	82	
PDIA	g/kg	16 - 37	27	
UFL	per kg	.65 - .90	0.86	
UFV	per kg	.59 - .89	0.83	
SFU	per kg	1.04 - 2.81	1.23	
LFU	per kg	.95 - 1.89	1.03	
CFU	per kg	.96 - 1.92	1.05	
DM Intake Cattle	g/kg $W^{0.75}$	70 - 130	128	

Silage

Second cut silage - Pit

Item	Units	Desirable Values	Result	Status
Dry Matter	%	20 - 30	24.3	-
pH	-	4 - 4.7	4.1	Good
Ammonia N	% of Total N	< 10.1	5.8	Good
ASH	%	< 8.6	9.0	Moderate
NDF	%	< 45.0	49.60	Moderate
DMD	%	> 68.9	69.9	Good
ME	MJ/kg	> 9.8	10.0	Good
Crude Protein	%	13.5 - 17	13.0	Low

Item	Units	Normal Range	Result	Status
PDIN	g/kg	65 - 102	77	
PDIE	g/kg	58 - 83	74	
PDIA	g/kg	16 - 37	24	
UFL	per kg	.65 - .90	0.78	
UFV	per kg	.59 - .89	0.74	
SFU	per kg	1.04 - 2.81	1.76	
LFU	per kg	.95 - 1.89	1.38	
CFU	per kg	.96 - 1.92	1.40	
DM Intake Cattle	g/kg $W^{0.75}$	70 - 130	96	