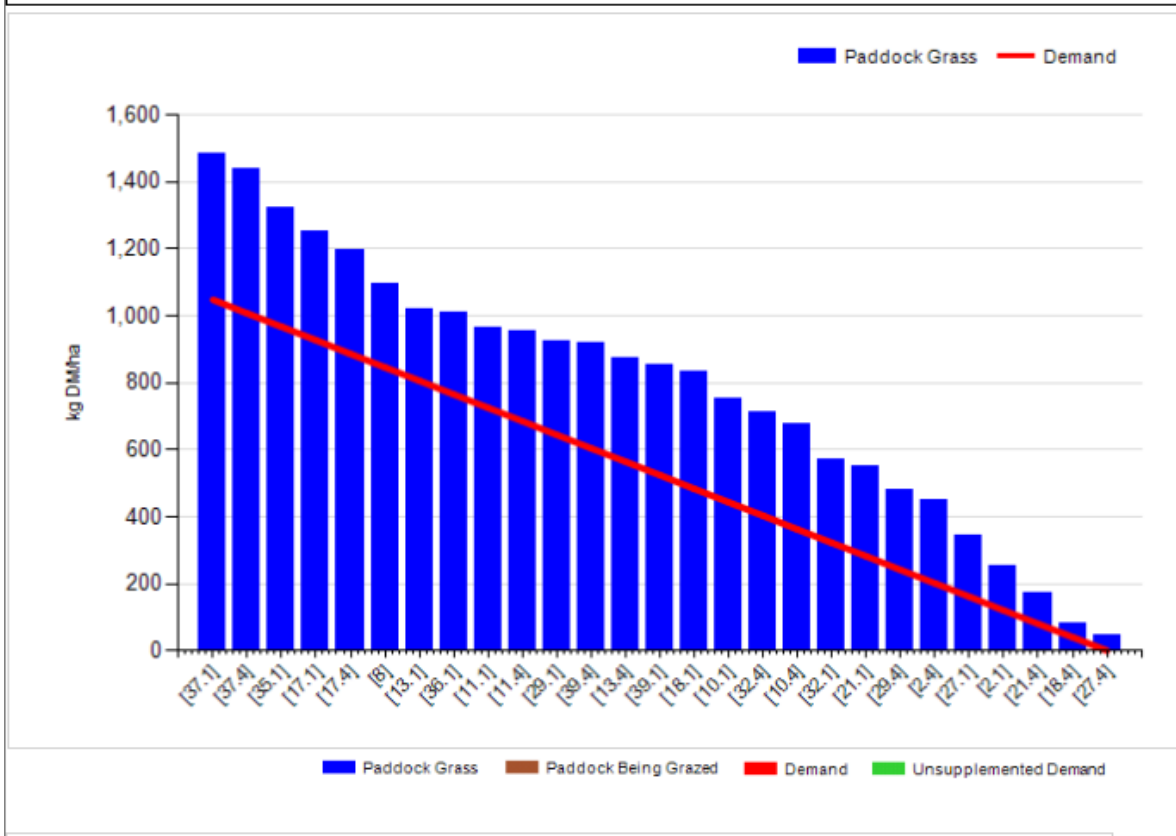


Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

29/02/16

- Good drying in the middle of last week saw ground conditions temporarily improve, we got 2 x 4 hour grazing bouts in for a few days (cows housed @ 8pm & fed 30% of daily diet), however 12mm of rain on Friday/Saturday made grazing conditions messy again. With further rain this morning we've basically we've run out of "dry" paddocks and the broken weather means we can't get a settled spell of grazing. Total rainfall for the past week was 13.9mm with an average soil temperature of 5.5 °C.
- We had planned to go with our second round of fertiliser this week, – 35kgsN/ha in the form of urea, any paddock that got slurry last week or that we plan to spread this week will not get fertiliser. Given the mixed weather forecast for this week, it's likely we'll hold off till next week on the 2nd round of fertilizer.
- Breeding for the autumn calving herd has finished, were not expecting any great improvement compared to other years, we had a good few repeats in the past 3-4 weeks.
- We have 75% of the spring herd calved to date, based on due dates we expect the remainder will calve gradually over the next 4 – 5 weeks.

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|------|
| Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU): | 6.0 | Growth Rate: | 13 |
| Total Livestock (LU): | 60.0 | Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day): | 17 |
| Farm Cover (kg DM/ha): | 772 | Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha): | 1048 |
| Farm Cover (kg DM/LU): | 265 | Days Ahead: | 45 |
| Stocking Rate (LU/ha): | 2.91 | LW/ha (Liveweight/ha): | 0 |



| Spring Rotation Plan | Target | Actual |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| % farm grazed by 29 th Feb | 34% | 28% |
| Pre-grazing cover | 1200 | 1050 |
| Post grazing height (cm) | 3.5 | 4.1 |
| % grazed by 7 th Mar | 48% | |
| | | |

Milk production and feed details

| | <i>This week (29/02/16)</i> | Autumn Calving Section | Spring Calving Section |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Production | % of Herd Milking | 100 | 75% |
| | Milk Kg | 26.8 | 25.3 |
| | Fat % | 4.51 | 4.25 |
| | Protein % | 3.60 | 3.26 |
| | Milk Solids kg | 2.11 | 1.90 |
| Intake | Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow | 14 | 11 |
| | Silage kgs/dm/cow | 3 | 2 |
| | Maize silage kgs/dm/cow | 1.8 | 1 |
| | Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow | 2.3 | 0 |
| | Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow | 0.8 | 2.5 |
| Totals | Lactation to date | Mean calving date 6 th Oct | Mean calving date – cows calved 10 th Feb |
| | Days in Milk | 146 | 19 |
| | Milk kg | 3926 | 508 |
| | Milk Solids kg | 295 | 38 |
| | Concentrate Fed | 222 parlour & 896 kgTMR | 63kgs |
| | | | |