Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

09/05/16

- Great growing conditions for the past few days with plenty of heat & moisture, the focus now is to ensure we can keep good quality grass ahead of the cows. Rainfall of 14mm & a soil temperature of 11.9 °C for the past week. (Sunday-Sunday) however we had persistent heavy rain for Monday evening & throughout the night, giving us more than 25mm of rain overnight, cows had to be moved on after 12 hours of their 24 hr. allocation as ground had got very messy on the surface, with more heavy rain forecast for Today (Tuesday) we'll switch to 12 hour allocations for the next couple of days.
- Two weeks of breeding & number of cows submitted is below target (55% v 70%), we'll need a busy third week to catch up, 95% of heifers have been served.
- We had planned to take some surplus bales off our replacement area this week, as our grazing rotation on this wetter section was messed up during the bad weather, this will help to get a better wedge to our grass supply on this area. We also plan to take out two paddocks on the autumn treatment that we've skipped, leaving these run into 1st cut silage would leave us too exposed during any potential period of poor growth. It will depend on weather conditions if we get to take these out this week now, if we end up "messing " some grass, we may have to graze a bit bextra.

Cover Parameters Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU): 19.0 Growth Rate: 59 Total Livestock (LU): 66.0 82 Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day): Farm Cover (kg DM/ha): 1500 761 Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha): Farm Cover (kg DM/LU): 177 Days Ahead: 9 LW/ha (Liveweight/ha): Stocking Rate (LU/ha): 4.31 Paddock Grass = Demand 2,000 1,500 1,000 500 Williamiller On Or Selen Deller Her Bulle Buller Con Con Or Or Paddock Grass Paddock Being Grazed Demand Unsupplemented Demand

	This week (09/05/16)	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	100%
	Milk Kg	24.2	29.4
	Fat %	4.19	3.78
	Protein %	3.85	3.47
	Milk Solids kg	1.92	2.11
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow	19	18
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	0	0
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow		0
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow		
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	0.5	1.5
Totals	Lactation to date per cow	Mean calving date 6 th Oct	Mean calving date 17 th Feb
	Days in Milk	216	84
	Milk kg	5603	2124
	Milk Solids kg	425	156
	Concentrate Fed	692 parlour & 740 kgTMR	247kgs