Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

16/05/16

- We've had an explosion of growth in the past week to ten days, the heavy rainfall early last week coupled with high temperatures and nitrogen led to ideal growing conditions. We baled some surplus paddocks yesterday & have skipped a couple more for baling later this week if conditions allow (Paddock 35.1 to come out of wedge) Rainfall of 24.8mm & a soil temperature of 14.2 °C for the past week. Ground conditions improved quickly after the heavy rainfall & we were able to switch back to 24hr allocations by Thursday of last week.
- We're just finished the first three weeks of breeding & we had hoped to have a higher percentage of cows submitted at this stage (87% versus our target of 95%), hopefully we'll pick up a few more in the next couple of days, as were just the bare 21 days breeding as yet.
- If conditions are good, we hope to cut some 1st cut pit silage next week. We had approx. 20% closed with the cows by early April (should be at least 30%) & this has bulked up well in the last 10 days, we also have some replacement area which had not been grazed due to the wet spring & this will need to be cut. With the Autumn herd we have to target quality & let the quantity come when it does.

Cover Parameters Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU): 122 19.0 Growth Rate: Total Livestock (LU): 92 65.0 Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day): Farm Cover (kg DM/ha): 1010 Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha): 1450 Farm Cover (kg DM/LU): 209 Days Ahead: 11 LW/ha (Liveweight/ha): Stocking Rate (LU/ha): 4.84 Paddock Grass = Demand 2,500 2.000 1.500 kg DM/ha 1,000 500 Prilly the the Buts By the But By By the the Paddock Grass Paddock Being Grazed Demand Unsupplemented Demand

	This week (16/05/16)	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	223	91
	Milk kg	5772	2326
	Milk Solids kg	439	170
	Concentrate Fed	696 parlour & 740 kgTMR	258kgs