

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

05/09/16

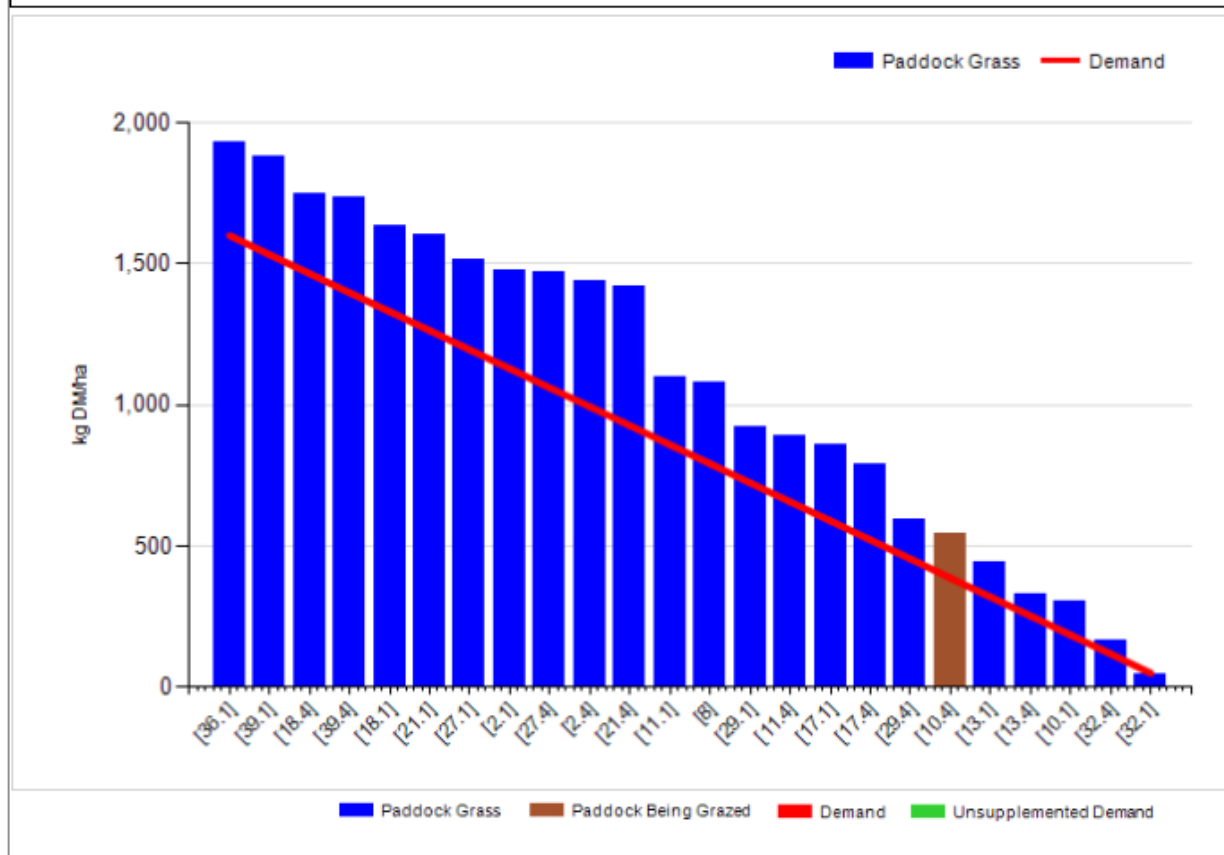
- Rainfall for the past 7 days was 44.5mm with a soil temp of 16.6°C, grazing conditions are still fine & with the mild weather, grass continues to grow well. Hopefully we won't get too much more wet weather; I can't see a lack of moisture being a problem for the remainder of the year, at this stage.
- All autumn cows are still dry, hopefully we'll get another week or so before any begin to calve, although a few heifers are getting close. We had one cow abort a calf last week, cause unknown as yet, she was approx. 7 months & only recently dried off, she will be culled.
- We'll be picking out 15-20 of the cows/heifers closest to calving (~due date 2-3 weeks) and putting these in our 'calving paddock', where they'll be allocated approx. 3-4kgs of strong, stemmy grass, ad lib access to stemmy haylage & some pre-calver minerals mixed in with 1kg of ration/cow/day. This regime along with having cows in B.C.S of ~3, has worked well in helping us control the risk of milk fever over the past few years
- With the good growth & low demand, we'll need to take out at least one, possibly two more paddocks for silage. We had hoped to do this Today (Tuesday), but conditions are poor, so it's likely to run to next week now.

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	28	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	18.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.2
No. of Cows:	0		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	12.0	Growth Rate:	64
Total Livestock (LU):	65.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	43
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	1118	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1600
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	316	Days Ahead:	26
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.54	LW/ha (Liveweight/ha):	2125



	<i>This week (05/09/16)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	0%	100%
	Milk Kg		16.6
	Fat %		4.29
	Protein %		3.61
	Milk Solids kg		1.32
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow	13	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	0
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 6 th Oct	Mean calving date 17 th Feb
	Days in Milk	307	203
	Milk kg	7261	4762
	Milk Solids kg	563	354
	Concentrate Fed	736 parlour & 740 kgTMR	335kgs

Replacement Weights

Group	Autumn 2013 D.O.B: 8/10/13 Avg EBI: 206	Spring 2014 D.O.B: 25/02/14 Avg EBI: 205	Autumn 2014 D.O.B: 3/10/14 Avg EBI: 221	Spring 2015 D.O.B: 17/02/15 Avg EBI: 230	Autumn 2015 D.O.B: 01/10/15 Avg EBI: 232	Spring 2016 D.O.B: 09/02/16 Avg EBI: 253
Birth	38	39	39	36	41	37
28-May-14	216					
22-Jul-14	284	155				
22-Sep-14	335	226				
11-Dec-14	377 (breeding)					
6-Feb-15		297				
21-Apr-15	468	391 (breeding)	186			
28-Jul-15	562	471	288	158		
31-Aug-15	597	518	317	191		
30-Sep-15		549	351	220		
11-Dec-15		589	381 (breeding)	267	93	
20-Jan-16		615	403	294	136	
30-Mar-16			441	330	183	
25-Apr-16			445	351 (breeding)	203	
10-Jun-16			503	404	258	129
12-Jul-16			527	417	279	166
24-Aug-16			579	471	309	208