

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

13/02/17

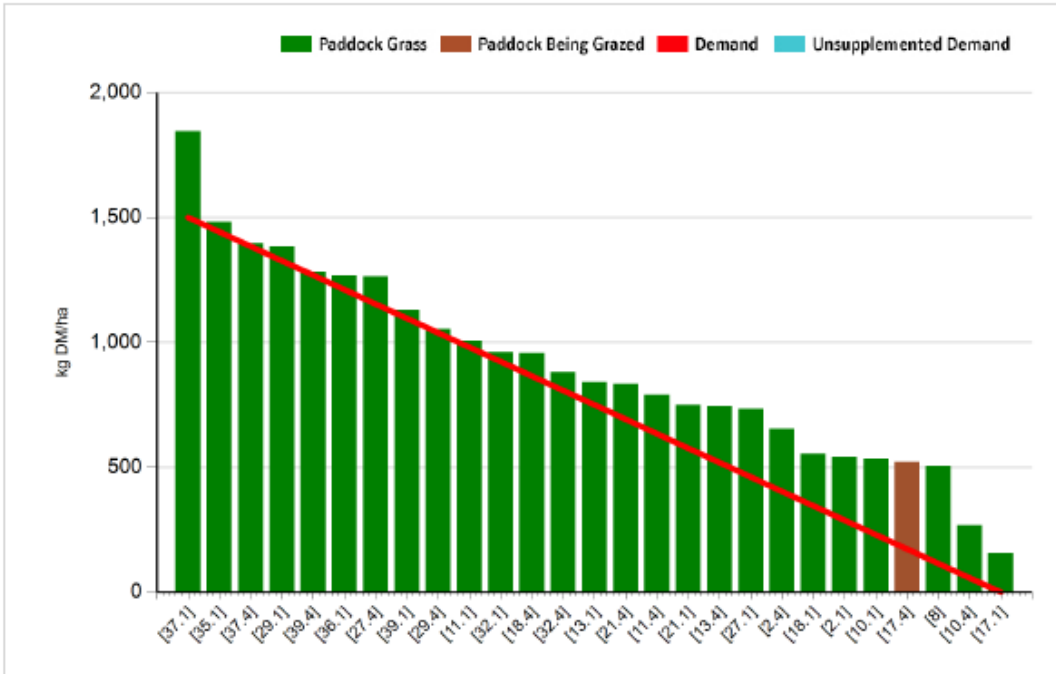
- After heavy rainfall on Monday last, conditions improved for the rest of the week & we got out grazing again on Thursday, total rainfall for last week was 20.2mm, with average soil temp taking a big drop down to 4.8°C. We're happy enough with grazing conditions, but a small amount of rain would be enough to make ground messy.
- We're hoping to get two grazing bouts with the spring herd (house @ 21.00), if weather conditions allow. Given the good overall farm cover & low demand, in order to keep on target with proportion of ground grazed, we would need to be grazing pretty much fulltime with the spring herd. We have no plans to go out fulltime with the autumn herd, as grazing by day is matching our spring rotation plan, we can easily move through ground fast on this herd if we feel we need to get more of the farm grazed at any stage.
- We have a nice wedge of grass on the autumn herd & the paddocks are looking well despite the cold week. With the heavy rainfall in late January/early February, all the paddocks which got slurry are well cleaned off & available for grazing when required, The band spreader is a big help in this regard. (see photo 1)

	<i>This week (13/02/17)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	35%
	Milk Kg	28.0	
	Fat %	4.09	
	Protein %	3.42	
	Milk Solids kg	2.08	
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	6	5
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	5.5	5
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	2.5	0
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	2.0	0
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	6.0	4
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 10 th Oct	
	Days in Milk	126	
	Milk kg	3422	
	Milk Solids kg	260	
	Concentrate Fed	677in parlour (801kg total)	

Autumn herd grass wedge

Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	897.00	Total LU:	60.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	308.00	LU / ha:	2.91
Growth / Ha (kg DM/ha/day):		Measured:	27 (20.61 Ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	15.00	Reseeded:	0 (0.00 Ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	300.00	Silage:	0 (0.00 Ha)
Days ahead:	60.00		
Kg LWT / Ha:	0.00		





Plot 17 Pre grazing
Autumn herd back grazing 9/02/17
PGY 1650kgs/fm/ha



Plot 17 - post
After 4 hrs grazing - good cleanout
No damage & cows are content



Plot 37
Re-seeded sward - 16/08/16
Grazed - 08/10/16
25kg/N/ha applied 17/01/17
PGY - 1740

Plot 37 after grazing
Post height 3.45
Marked a little but ok

