

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

06/03/17

- Similar story again this week, with very disagreeable grazing conditions, we avoided most of the heavy rain in the early part of last week, but for the weekend and Monday we didn't get out grazing at all despite only a total of 20.5mm rain for the week. Soil temperature dropped back again to 6.3°C.
- Our target would have been to have 40% of the farm grazed at this stage, we're still behind this target with 28% grazed on the autumn farm & just 20% on the spring farm. With the high demand on the autumn herd we had been moving through ground quite well on the autumn herd until the weekend.
- We would have been planning on going with the second application of nitrogen this week, this will obviously be put on hold until conditions improve, I've noticed over the past week that a lot of the paddocks have lost their rich green colour (see photos) & are showing signs of a lack of nitrogen, which isn't surprising given the recent wet weather and excellent earlier growth since the 1st application of 25Kgs N/ha in late January.

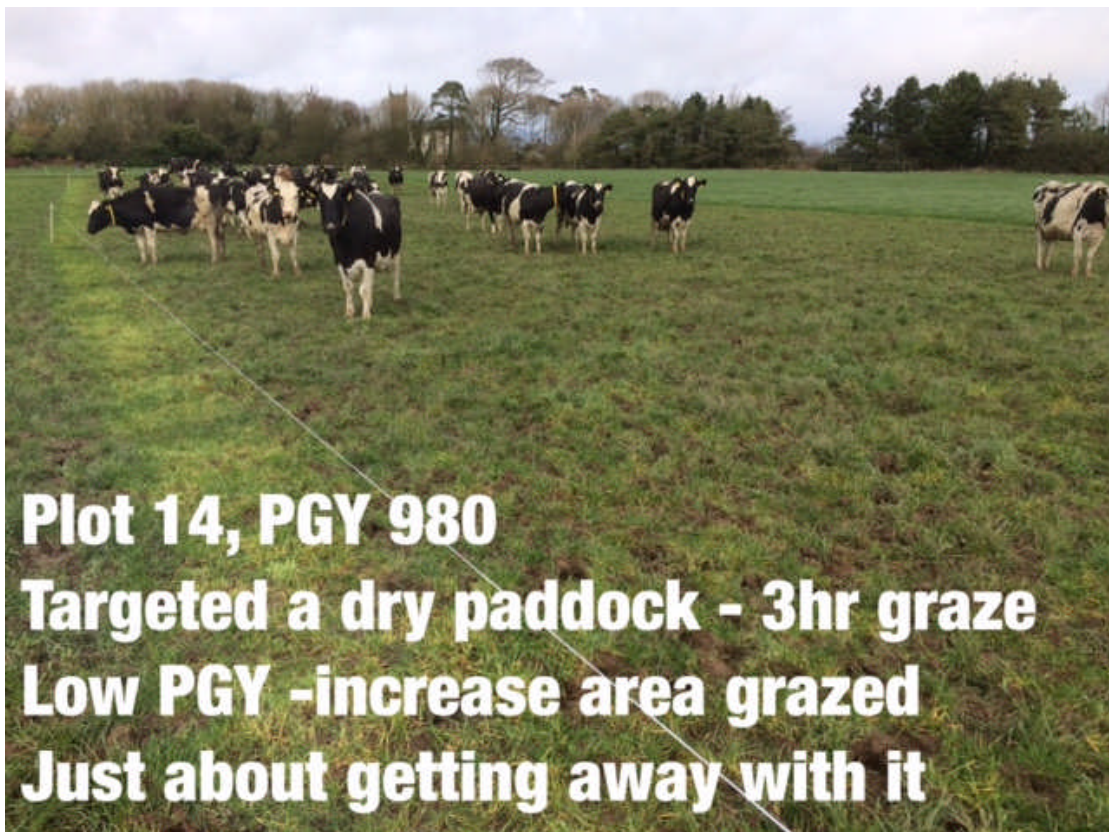
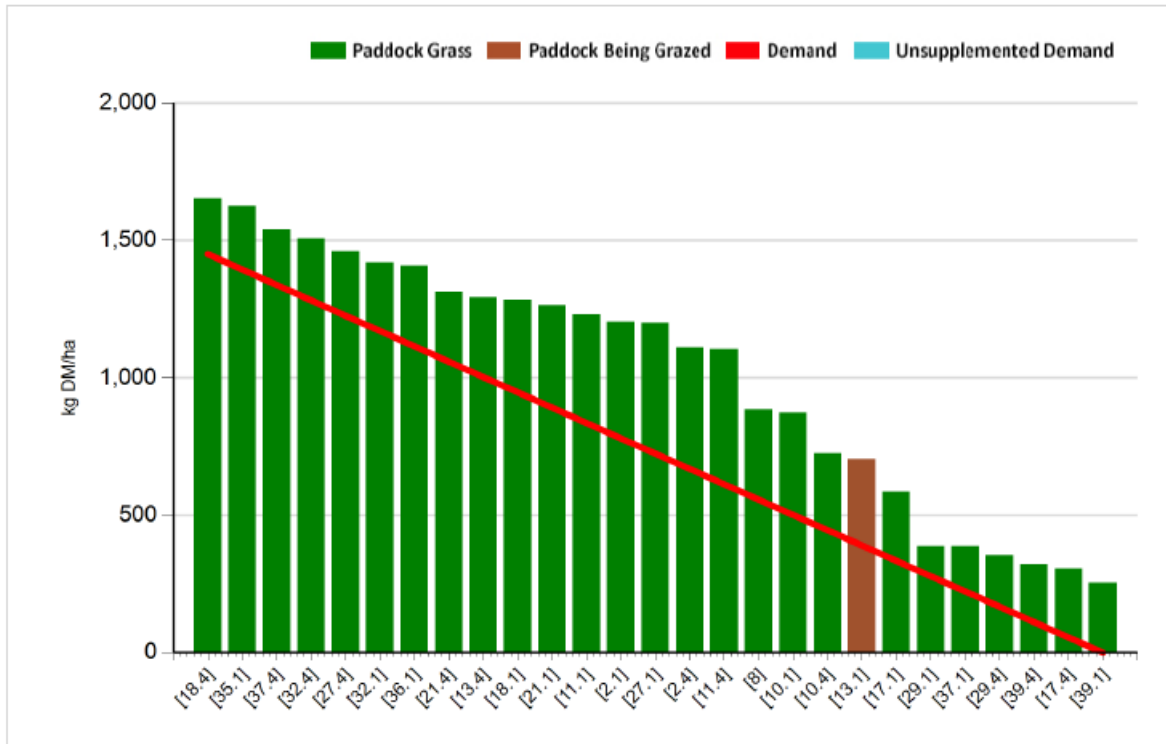
	<i>This week (06/03/17)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	60%
	Milk Kg	26.5	22.9
	Fat %	4.14	4.10
	Protein %	3.28	3.37
	Milk Solids kg	1.95	1.71
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	7	7
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	5.5	4
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	2.5	0
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	2.0	0
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	5	4
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 10 th Oct	Expected mean calving date 27 th February
	Days in Milk	147	30
	Milk kg	3979	764
	Milk Solids kg	301	55
	Concentrate Fed	794kg in parlour (967kg total)	112

Autumn herd - grass wedge 08/03/17

Rotation Length (days):	80	Residual Height (cm):	4
Target pre-gaze (kg DM/ha):	1450		

Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	1036.00	Total LU:	60.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	356.00	LU / ha:	2.91
Growth / Ha (kg DM/ha/day):	14.00	Measured:	27 (20.61 Ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	20.00	Reseeded:	0 (0.00 Ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	420.00	Silage:	0 (0.00 Ha)
Days ahead:	52.00		
Kg LWT / Ha:	0.00		





Plot 9, PGY 1300kgs
Post height 4.5cm
Small group of spring Calvers
Dry paddock, but not today!!



Plot 2, 1205 kgs/Dm
Slurry on 18/01 - No nitrogen
Yellowing at tips of grass



Plot 3, 1450 kgs/fm
25kgs N/ha 17/01
Yellowing of grass here also.
Nitrogen & grazing required!