

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 05/06/17

- The weather over the past week or more has been very changeable, luckily enough we managed to get a window to harvest the remainder of our 1st cut silage late last week. Yesterday (Bank Holiday Monday), brought torrential rain - 30.2mm for the day, this left conditions a bit sloppy this morning, but otherwise ground is still holding up well. On the positive side, the frequent rainfall coupled with good soil temperatures has resulted in very good grass growth. Total rainfall for May was 67.6mm. with an average soil temperature of 13.2°C Rainfall for the past week 43.8mm, with soil temperatures averaging 16.1°C.
- We have topped a couple of paddocks which we felt needed to be cleaned up and where it was unlikely we'd be taking them out for surplus wraps. Pre-grazing covers are near on the target of ~1400kgs. Slurry will be going out this week on the silage ground cut last week.
- Very disappointing news in terms of our TB status, following a re-test on a couple of doubtful cows, they have shown up as reactors, leaving us a restricted herd.
- All spring calved cows have been submitted for service at this stage, with the few late calvers served last week following an 8 day cidr program. Three week return rates look to be reasonably low at the moment and in general we're happy with how the herd are performing at the moment.

	<i>This week (05/06/17)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	100%
	Milk Kg	22.9	29.0
	Fat %	4.13	3.79
	Protein %	3.90	3.46
	Milk Solids kg	1.82	2.09
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	16	17
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	0	0
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	0	0
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	0	0
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	2	2
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 10 th Oct	Mean calving date 7 th March
	Days in Milk	238	90
	Milk kg	6221	2423
	Milk Solids kg	478	177
	Concentrate Fed	1071kg in parlour (1254kg total)	239

Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 06/06/2017
Farm: Johnstown Dairy	Treatment: Autumn

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	20	Residual Height (cm)	4
Target pre-gaze (kg DM/ha):	1450	Estimation Method:	Visual Assessment - Available

Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	588.00	Total LU:	60.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	173.00	LU / ha:	3.39
Growth / Ha (kg DM/ha/day):	84.00	Measured:	27 (20.61 Ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	58.00	Reseeded:	0 (0.00 Ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	1020.00	Silage:	4 (2.92 Ha)
Days ahead:	10.00		
Kg LWT / Ha:	0.00		

