

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 26/06/17

- Excellent weather and grazing conditions over the past couple of weeks with a total rainfall for the past week of 5.8mm, and an average soil temp of 16.2°C. (Last night's heavy overnight rain not included).
- On the autumn herd we had a number of paddocks that had been taken out for silage or surplus grass, this has affected our wedge, where our pre-grazing covers are below target (1000-1200) when we'd like them up at the 1400kgs/ha level. We fed 3 bales of quality silage to the 60 cow herd over the weekend to carry us through this temporary blip, we have enough grass per LU and with a reasonably low SR and plenty of rainfall again this week, we should be fine. The farm is well set up to supply excellent quality grass for the next month, at which stage we'll be drying off about half of the herd as they reach end of lactation.
- Similar story with the spring calved cows, pre-grazing yields on the low side, but adequate grass and very good quality. After taking a big drop about 15 days ago, during the heavy rainfall week, production for the past couple of weeks has been very steady. The sweeper bulls are entering their final couple of weeks with the cows and activity seems to be low.
- We have more silage to come out as soon as the weather settles down for a couple of days again.

| | <i>This week (26/06/17)</i> | Autumn Calving Herd | Spring Calving Herd |
|-------------------|---|--|---|
| Production | % of Herd Milking | 100% | 100% |
| | Milk Kg | 19.0 | 26.1 |
| | Fat % | 4.36 | 3.99 |
| | Protein % | 3.94 | 3.44 |
| | Milk Solids kg | 1.56 | 1.93 |
| Intake | Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate) | 15 | 17 |
| | Silage kgs/dm/cow | 1 | 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 | 259 | 111 |
| | Milk kg | 6627 | 2970 |
| | Milk Solids kg | 512 | 217 |
| | Concentrate Fed | 1113kg in parlour (1294kg total) | 281 |
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|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms | Cover Date: 26/06/2017 |
| Farm: Johnstown Dairy | Treatment: Autumn |

Management Decisions

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|-----------------------------|------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Rotation Length (days): | 20 | Residual Height (cm) | 4 |
| Target pre-gaze (kg DM/ha): | 1400 | Estimation Method: | Visual Assessment - Available |

Cover Parameters

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| Farm Cover (kg DM/ha): | 696.00 | Total LU: | 60.00 |
| Cover / LU (kg DM/LU): | 205.00 | LU / ha: | 3.39 |
| Growth / Ha (kg DM/ha/day): | 68.00 | 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: | 12.00 | | |
| Kg LWT / Ha: | 0.00 | | |

