

## Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 11/09/17

- All of the autumn herd are Dry (but not for long, I expect we'll have a few calves by the weekend, about a week before their due date. The autumn herd are now grazing covers of 1600-1800kgs/dm/ha. As there is no milking group they have access to very good grass & we need to graze them tight in order to keep an eye on B.C.S. Based on E.C.D and physical signs, cows will move into the calving paddock ~ 7-10 days pre calving.
- We still have some silage to take out – paddocks we skipped over two weeks ago, but due to the very mixed weather we had little opportunity to take these out. Grass supply is not a problem & with the good growth rates we're likely to still run into covers higher than we'd like. We will measure weekly & decide then on whether to take out more surplus silage or to chance letting it build. (we would prefer not to be taking out silage at this stage of the year, but we don't want to have pre-grazing covers greater than 1900kgs for the freshly calved cows either)
- Rainfall for the past week was about normal at 22mm, we've had 70mm so far for the month of September, ground conditions are ok, with good drying in between the downpours. We could do with a good settled spell for the remainder of September
- Replacements weighed again this week, we need to keep an eye on the autumn maiden heifers, their about 30kgs behind last year's group (there are more younger heifers this year). This group were probably pushed a bit harder this year, due to TB restriction, I still think with good grass they'll be on target come December.

	<i><b>This week (11/09/17)</b></i>	<b>Autumn Calving Herd</b>	<b>Spring Calving Herd</b>
<b>Production</b>	% of Herd Milking	0%	100%
	Milk Kg		18.4
	Fat %		4.51
	Protein %		3.73
	Milk Solids kg		1.51
<b>Intake</b>	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	14	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	0	1
<b>Totals</b>	<i><b>Lactation to date per cow</b></i>	Mean calving date 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Mean calving date 7 <sup>th</sup> March
	Days in Milk	309	181
	Milk kg	7554	4715
	Milk Solids kg	589	350
	Concentrate Fed	1191kg in parlour (1360kg total)	393

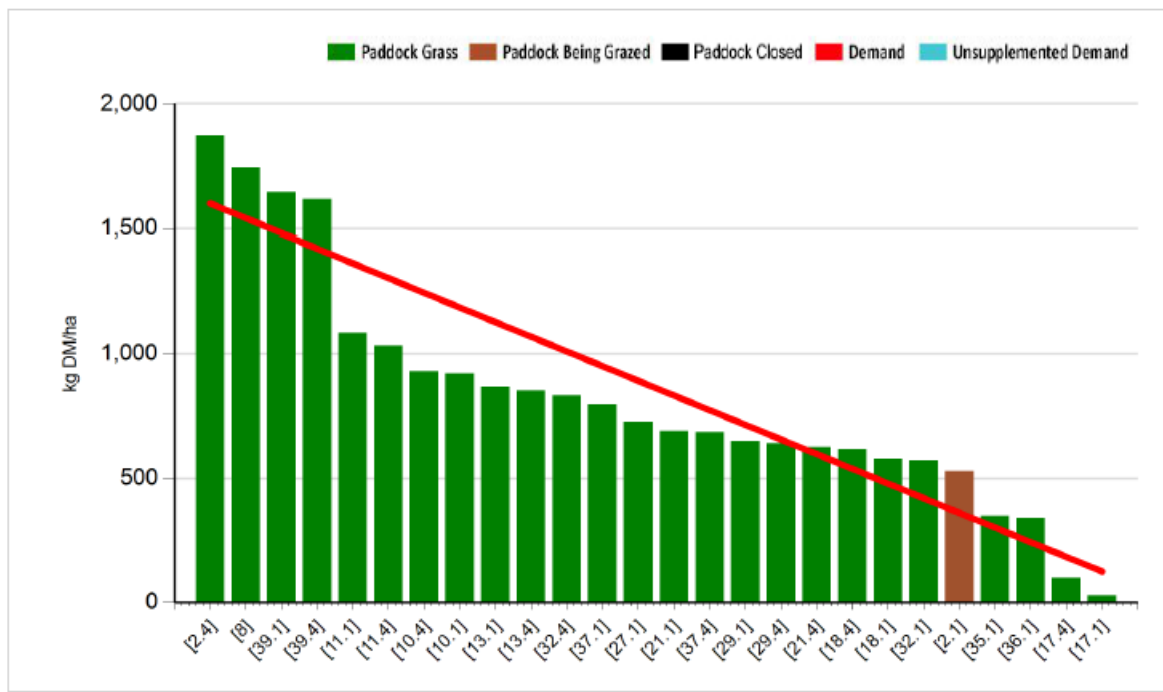
Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 11/09/2017
Farm: Johnstown Dairy	Treatment: Autumn

**Management Decisions**

Rotation Length (days):	32	Residual Height (cm)	5
Target pre-gaze (kg DM/ha):	1600	Estimation Method:	Visual Assessment - Available

**Cover Parameters**

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	827.00	Total LU:	64.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	257.00	LU / ha:	3.22
Growth / Ha (kg DM/ha/day):	42.00	Measured:	27 (20.61 Ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	39.00	Reseeded:	0 (0.00 Ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	768.00	Silage:	1 (0.74 Ha)
Days ahead:	21.00		
Kg LWT / Ha:	1933.00		



## Replacement Heifer weights

Group	Autumn 2014 D.O.B: 3/10/14 Avg EBI:	Spring 2015 D.O.B: 17/02/15 Avg EBI:	Autumn 2015 D.O.B: 01/10/15 Avg EBI: 142	Spring 2016 D.O.B: 09/02/16 Avg EBI: 144	Autumn 2016 D.O.B: 06/10/16 Avg EBI: 150	Spring 2017 D.O.B: 19/02/17 Avg EBI: 153
Birth	39	36	41	37	41	38
21-Apr-15	186					
28-Jul-15	288	158				
31-Aug-15	317	191				
30-Sep-15	351	220				
11-Dec-15	381 (breeding)	267	93			
20-Jan-16	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		
10-Oct-16		508	345	258		
3-Nov-16		548		280		
12-Dec-16		553	370 (breeding)	303		
11-Jan-17		568	377	296	110	
12-Apr-17			443	336 (breeding)	170	
21-Jun-17			539	421	229	129
25-Jul-17			557	457	260	162
12-Sep-17			592	482	294	211