

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 14/11/17

- Rainfall for the past week was 20.6mm, with an average soil temp back to 8.6 °C. Cows are housed by night & will finish up “grazing by day” later this week & move fully onto their indoor winter diet. This will leave us near enough to where we want to be with the first of the paddocks closed from 30th September carrying a cover of 1430kgs, Average farm cover at closing will be ~620kgs/dm/ha.
- Calving remained slow over the past 2 weeks, we expect a bit of a final surge towards the last week of November. (12% still to calve)
- Both first cut pit silage & maize silage pits have been opened, quality appears good for both forages, we should have the analysis next week.
- We will be drying off a few of the spring calved cows early next week (low yielders, low B.C.S.), due to housing constraints we plan to sell off some of the empty spring cows, straight from the parlor hopefully next week also.
- Spring born weanlings & spring born I.C.H are still out at grass, probably will be housed next week, as they’ll be finished up their last rotation at that stage – spring weanling being supplemented with 1.5kgs heifer rearer nut.
- Winter breeding will begin in mid-December, a team of 9 sires have been provisionally selected & we’ll be looking at ordering these over the next couple of weeks (see below)

	<i>This week (14/11/17)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	88%	96%
	Milk Kg	25.3	14.3
	Fat %	4.39	4.55
	Protein %	3.28	3.88
	Milk Solids kg	1.94	1.20
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	6	7
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	5	8
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	2.5	0
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	2.5	0
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	5	2.5
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>		Mean calving date 7 th March
	Days in Milk	42	244
	Milk kg	981	5725
	Milk Solids kg	77	433
	Concentrate Fed	194	531

Spec for Winter parlour 18 nut (to be fed at 6kg feeding rate)



Ingredient	% As Fed
Barley	20.0
Soybean Meal	17.0
Distillers	15.0
Beet Pulp	14.0
Soya Hulls	12.0
Maize	10.0
Molasses	6.0
Veg Oil blend	2.0
Mineral Pack (Limestone, Salt, DCP)	3.5
Cal Mag	0.5

Winter blend 24 (to be fed at 2.5kg feeding rate)



Ingredient	% As Fed
Beet Pulp	25.0
Soybean Meal	25.0
Barley	20.0
Rapeseed Meal	20.0
Maize	10.0

	EBI(€)	EBI Sub Index							PTA's						CI days	SU %
		Milk (€)	Fert (€)	Calv (€)	Beef (€)	Maint (€)	Mmgt (€)	Hlth (€)	M Kg	F Kg	P Kg	F+P Kg	F %	P %		
All Cows in Herd	114	35	50	30	-7	3	2	1	44	7.2	4.7	11.9	0.10	0.05	-2.5	1.6
Predicted 2018 Calves	180	51	89	40	-10	6	2	1	44	9.5	6.7	16.2	0.14	0.09	-4.5	2.8
Bulls Weighted Averages	246	66	129	51	-14	10	3	1	44	11.8	8.8	20.5	0.17	0.13	-6.5	4.0