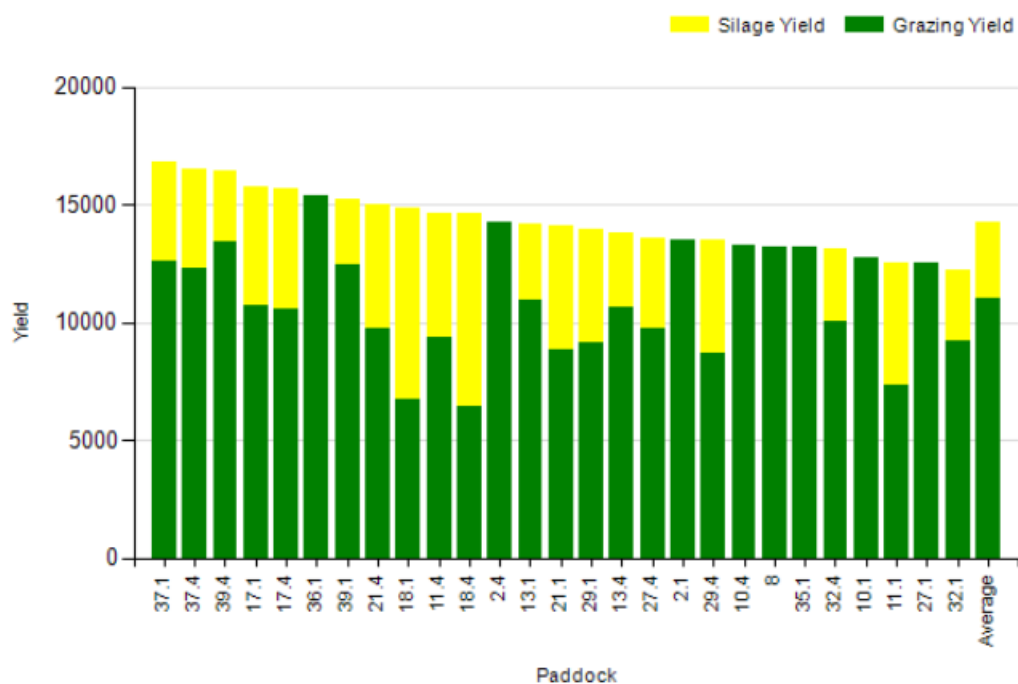# Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 08/01/18

- Total rainfall for the month of December was 108mm, with an average soil temp of 5.6°C. Whilst the weather for the past week has been unsettled we've escaped the worst of it with just some heavy rainfall periods, followed by a few very cold days over the weekend. Total rainfall for the last week was 23.8mm, with an average soil temp was 5.2 °C. Ground conditions are still very soft and given this week's forecast it's unlikely we'll be able to apply slurry next week when the close period ends. As soon as ground conditions allow, we plan to apply ~2,500 gal/ac on the paddocks grazed last in the autumn (from 20th Oct approx.)

- We're over 3 weeks into the breeding season at this stage, we didn't reach our target of >95% cows submitted within the period, but we're not far off at 86%. All of the maiden heifers were served within the first 10 days, so hopefully with reasonable conception rates we'll have a good 3 week calving rate. All cows not yet served (including the couple of December calvers) will be handled this week and action taken where required.

- We're very happy with how the autumn herd are performing, their production since settling onto their winter diet has been very steady, overall condition score is good and has improved slightly and the general health of the herd has been good, with just the couple of mastitis cases being the only issue.

- The spring calving herd have been divided into 2 groups, first group of strong cows where condition is on or above target (3.0-3.5), the second group are the cows below target B.C.S, along with the in-calf heifers, these will be on the better dry cow silage (72dmd), which should be enough to give them the small lift in condition required, we have the option to form a third group of thin cows/twins etc & to feed them concentrate if needed.

	This week (08/01/18)	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	All Dry
	Milk Kg	29.7	
	Fat %	4.49	
	Protein %	3.53	
	Milk Solids kg	2.36	
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)		
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	9.8	13
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	5.2	
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	2.5	
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	5	
Totals	*Lactation to date per cow*	Mean calving date 11th October	Mean calving date 7th March
	Days in Milk	89	271
	Milk kg	2348	6013
	Milk Solids kg	189	461
	Concentrate Fed	487 in parlor (637 in total)	583

Item	Units	Normal Desirable Values	Result
			A
Dry Matter	%	22.0 - 35.0	32.1
pH	-	3.5 - 3.9	3.8
ASH	%	3.2 - 4.5	3.8
NDF	%	42.0 - 55.0	51.10
Starch	%	20.0 - 28.0	23.0
ME	MJ/kg	10.5 - 11.5	11.3
Crude Protein	%	6.5 - 10	5.0

Cumulative Paddock Yield to 05/12/2017

Legend: Silage Yield (yellow), Grazing Yield (green)

Y-axis: Yield (0 – 20000)

X-axis: Paddock — 37.1, 37.4, 39.4, 17.1, 17.4, 36.1, 39.1, 21.4, 18.1, 11.4, 18.4, 2.4, 13.1, 21.1, 29.1, 13.4, 27.4, 2.1, 29.4, 10.4, 8, 35.1, 32.4, 10.1, 11.1, 27.1, 32.1, Average

JOHNSTOWN CASTLE
WEXFORD

Certificate Number: **SE41301**

Farmer: PO 200221347

Sample Receive Date: 15/11/2017   Return Date: 16/11/2017   Lab Reference: SE88009

Item	Units	Desirable Values	Result	Status
Dry Matter	%	20 - 30	33.4	-
pH	-	4 - 4.7	4.1	Good
Ammonia N	% of Total N	< 10.1	8.4	Good
ASH	%	< 8.6	9.9	Moderate
NDF	%	< 45.0	40.50	Good
DMD	%	> 68.9	75.0	Good
ME	MJ/kg	> 9.8	10.8	Good
Crude Protein	%	13.5 - 17	15.4	Good

Item	Units	Normal Range	Result	Status
PDIN	g/kg	65 - 102	91	
PDIE	g/kg	58 - 83	86	
PDIA	g/kg	16 - 37	28	
UFL	per kg	.65 - .90	0.85	
UFV	per kg	.59 - .89	0.81	
SFU	per kg	1.04 - 2.81	1.45	
LFU	per kg	.95 - 1.89	1.19	
CFU	per kg	.96 - 1.92	1.20	
DM Intake Cattle	$g/kg\ W^{0.75}$	70 - 130	112	
DM IntakeSheep	$g/kg\ W^{0.75}$	60 - 140	104	

PREDICTED PERFORMANCE
(silage ad lib no meals)

WITH GOOD MANAGEMENT

Lactating Cows (Litres/Day)	13.4
Dry Cows (Kg/Day)	0.8
Beef Cattle / InCalf Heifers (Kg day)	0.7
Weanling (Kg/Day)	0.5

SUPPLEMENTATION

Dairy Ration Protein %	18
Kg/Day for 27 litres	6.5
Beef Ration Protein %	13
Kg/Day for 1Kg/day Gain	4.00
Weanling Ration Protein %	14
Kg/Day for 0.6 Kg/day Gain	0.5