

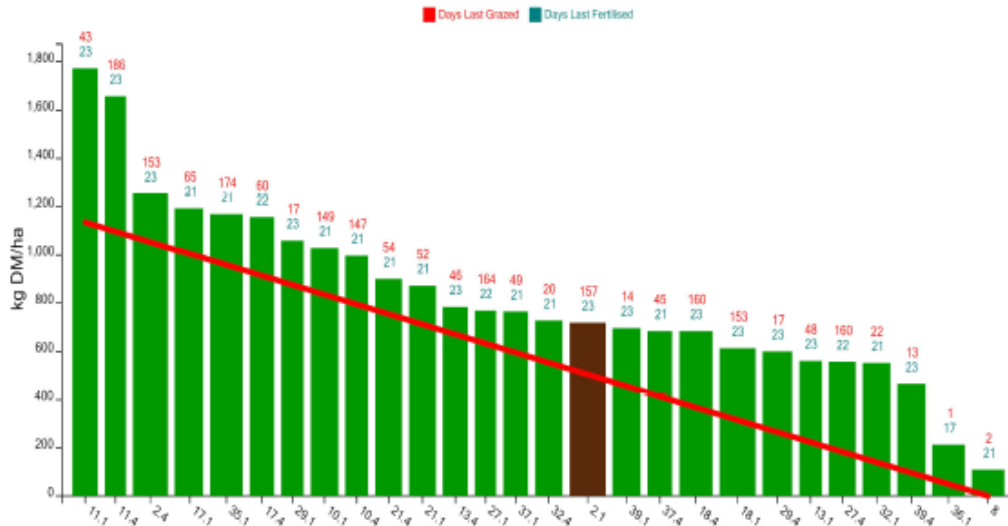
Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 11/04/18

- Last week's rainfall total was 22.4mm with a soil temp of 8.7°C, monthly figures for April so far are 73.4mm rain with an average soil temp of 7.3°C. Conditions are **slowly** improving, over the past few days we're getting two grazing bouts on most occasions, with cows being rehoused ~ 21.00 & getting ~2kgs silage DM. Some of the grazed fields are still very wet but on the positive side growth rates are averaging ~30kgs for the past couple of weeks – below normal, but still a big improvement from late March.
- The finish date of our first rotation will be determined by grazing conditions & growth rates, we have options, in that all fields can be either grazed or cut for silage, so we will monitor grass growth closely over the next week or so & close up silage ground when we have adequate grass to graze fulltime. Given the near saturated ground we're happy with the response to the fertiliser application spread ~ 20th March, but fields are beginning to show a slight yellowing again & we need to go again, we're hoping to get out some phosphorus in this application also. All fields will be getting 35kgs/N/ha bringing up to 115kgs/ha for most fields (lower where slurry applied).
- The spring herd finished up calving last weekend, with no great difficulties just the last cow that had twins, also had milk fever/tetany & is not in good health. Cows are showing good heat activity & are in reasonable B.C.S (2.78) given the long winter. Breeding season is just a couple of weeks away. Similar to most farms milk solids are down & feed inputs are well up, we really could do with a few dry mild weeks to get back on track!

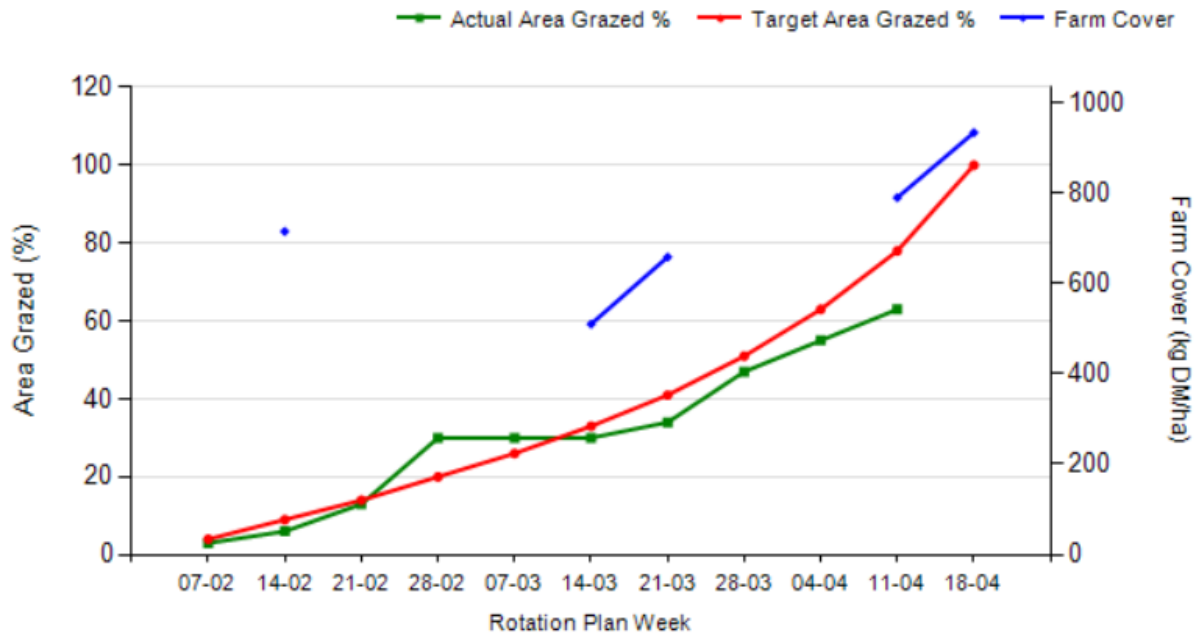
	<i>This week (09/04/18)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	100%
	Milk Kg	23.7	27.4
	Fat %	4.61	4.18
	Protein %	3.64	3.10
	Milk Solids kg	1.94	1.99
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	For past few days cows getting two grazing bouts (~12kgs total grass)	For past few days cows getting two grazing bouts (~12kgs total grass)
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	2	2
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow		
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	2.5	
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	4	4
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 11 th October	Mean calving date 25 th Feb
	Days in Milk	179	43
	Milk kg	4720	1311
	Milk Solids kg	375	93
	Concentrate Fed	1015 in parlor (1450 in total)	261

Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	816.00	Total LU:	60.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	280.00	LU / ha:	2.91
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day):	27.00	Grazing Area:	27 (20.81 ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	38.00	Reseed:	0 (0.00 ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	780.00	Silage - Cut Later:	0 (0.00 ha)
Days ahead:	21.00	Silage - Cut Now:	0 (0.00 ha)
Kg LWT / ha:	0.00	Other:	0 (0.00 ha)
		Rotation Length Back (Days):	162



Comparison Chart





PGY 1940kgs, one of the heaviest covers, soft paddock that we haven't been able to get into yet



**Spring herd happy 11/04.
Grass allocated @ each milking
Housed after evening grazing,
Hopefully only for few more days**



**Good dry field, PGY 1350
One of our better clean
outs this year - spring herd**