

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 09/07/18

- Still no rain & not likely to be for the next couple of weeks. Rainfall for all of June was just 12.7mm with average soil temperatures of 18.8 °C. Soil moisture deficits are in excess of 90, growth rates are approaching single figures. It is hard to recall a period (either summer or winter) when we've had less grass across the entire farm.
- We have been allocating ~ 4-5% of the available grazing area per day and up to now this has been adequate along with ~7kgs silage & 5kgs concentrate, within the next 5 days or so our pre-grazing covers will have dropped to probably below 500, at this stage with virtually no growth, the cows will effectively be on a full concentrate/grass silage diet, with the paddocks really only being used for the cows to rest on, at this stage we still plan to keep "grazing" in rotation. Cows are moving up to 6kgs of summer grazing nut (no cal-mag) from Today.
- All second cut silage has now either been grazed or cut (we were starting to loose yield ~ 5 bales/ac or 3400kgs/dm/ha). Our stocking rate is back down to ~2.9Lu/ha, but until we get significant rain & growth a low stocking rate is not going to help to any great extent.
- Our next round of fertiliser is not due for another 10 days or so, we won't be going with any more until we get rain, as it's unlikely the last round was used.

	<i>This week (09/07/18)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	100%
	Milk Kg	20.9	24.5
	Fat %	4.18	3.69
	Protein %	3.87	3.52
	Milk Solids kg	1.67	1.76
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow	6 kgs	5kgs
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	8 kgs	~8kgs
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow		
	Concentrate in TMR –		
	Parlour concentrate	5kgs, moving to 6kgs this week	5kgs, moving to 6kgs this week
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 11 th October	Mean calving date 25 th Feb
	Days in Milk	270	134
	Milk kg	6753	3568
	Milk Solids kg	539	261
	Concentrate Fed	1307 in parlour (1763 total)	563

"Autumn Herd" - grass wedge

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	22	Residual Cover (cm)	4
Target Pre-Grazing (kg DM/ha):	998		

Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	427.00	Total LU:	60.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	137.00	LU / ha:	3.12
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day):	14.00	Grazing Area:	27 (20.61 ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	25.00	Reseed:	0 (0.00 ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	480.00	Silage - Cut Later:	2 (1.39 ha)
Days ahead:	17.00	Silage - Cut Now:	0 (0.00 ha)
Kg LWT / ha:	0.00	Other:	0 (0.00 ha)
		Rotation Length Back (Days):	24

