

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd Weekly Management Notes - 08/07/19

- Rainfall totals for the past two weeks were just 0.7mm. Soil moisture deficits are coming in at around 40, generally for Johnstown, once smd exceed 35 growth rates are impacted, normally we'd need to go above 50 smd before grass starts to "burn". We could do with significant rainfall this week, without it we'll be in a drought scenario. Total rainfall for the month of June came in at 81.8mm which is above average, but the majority of this fell in the 1st half of the month.
- As a result of the dry weather growth rates for the past week are below target at around 50kg/dm/day, with growth predicted to fall closer to 30 for the coming week. Unlike last year, the drought is arriving about a month later, so we have good stocks of silage already on the farm (second cut silage harvested 5/7/19 average covers of ~4500kgs/dm/ha). Grazing conditions have been excellent for the past couple of months and both the milking herd & replacements have been very content and performing well.
- 25 kgs/N/Ha blanket spread on the 2nd July on all grazing paddocks in the form of protected urea.
- Paddocks re-seeded in early May did well over the past 3 weeks after a slow start initially, these were grazed around 20th June & have tillered out well since.
- We're coming into the last couple of weeks of the spring breeding season, activity quite low at this stage, we did have a couple of "6 week repeats" over the last 3 weeks, but nothing to be alarmed about.
- We plan to dry off the first batch of autumn calvers towards the end of the month, we might bring this forward by a week to 10 days depending on grass supply, dry off criteria – E.C.D - ~60 days dry, milk yd. - if less than 8L, B.C.S - (we don't really have any cows needing a longer dry period due to low B.C.S).

	<i>This week (08/07/19)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	100%
	Milk Kg	19.8	25.2
	Fat %	4.82	3.70
	Protein %	3.95	3.61
	Milk Solids kg	1.72	1.85
Intake Estimates	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow	17.0 kgs	17.0 kgs
	Silage kgs/dm/cow		
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow		
	Concentrate in TMR –		
	Parlour concentrate	2.0 kgs	2.0 kgs
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 10 th October	Mean calving date 20 th Feb
	Days in Milk	273	140
	Milk kg	7067	3664
	Milk Solids kg	574	281
	Concentrate Fed	1245kg in parlour (1535 kgs total)	430kg

Cover Date: 08/07/2019	
Farm: Johnstown Dairy	Treatment: Autumn Reds

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	20	Residual Cover (cm)	4
Target Pre-Grazing (kg DM/ha):	1231		

Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	623.00	Total LU:	40.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	172.00	LU / ha:	3.62
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day):	53(56)	Grazing Area:	11.05 ha (14)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	62.00	Reseed:	0.00 ha (0)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	680.00	Silage - Cut Later:	0.00 ha (0)
Days ahead:	10.00	Silage - Cut Now:	0.00 ha (0)
Kg LWT / ha:	0.00	Other:	0.00 ha (0)
		Rotation Length Back (Days):	21

