

## Derrypatrick Farm Notes week beginning 04/09/2017

### General details

All calves were weighed last week, birth weight (BW), live weight (LW) and average daily gain (ADG) figures are all presented in Table 1. The average date of birth for these calves is 15<sup>th</sup> of March. The figures presented below are behind calf performance at a similar stage in 2016. At this stage in 2016, heifer calves had an ADG of 1.17kg/d and a LW of 250kg while bull calves had an ADG of 1.31kg/d and weighed 280kg. This difference in performance may be due to the fact that 32% of cows are first calvers following a high level of culling in 2016

(kg)	BW	LW	ADG <sup>1</sup>
Heifers	41	226	1.09
Bulls	45	245	1.19

Table 1.

<sup>1</sup> ADG from birth to 01/09/2017

The last 7 days has brought 23mm of rain resulting in soft ground conditions and has subsequently proved quite challenging to achieve our target post-grazing sward height of 4-4.5cm.

Over the past number of weeks, we have had one cow that was repeatedly suffering from lameness. The same cow suffered with lameness throughout last year and given the performance of her calf in 2017, it's no surprise that she was retained. However, this cow was culled this week at a LW of 680kg and following a kill-out of 53%, resulted with a carcass weight of 360kg. Her bull calf showed no sign of stress following her cull and currently weighs 253kg with an ADG since birth of 1.33kg/d.

Next week will bring an end to the open period for fertiliser spreading. We will ensure to spread CAN (1bag/acre) until the closing period, weather depending, to help build our grass supply into the autumn.

*Grass10 Grazing Event: Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept @ 11am The Derrypatrick Herd, Teagasc Grange*

### Grassland management

- Farm cover: 900kg DM/ha
- Growth: 60 kgDM/ha/day
- Demand/ha: 42 kgDM/ha/day
- Days ahead: 25

### Weekly planner

- Spread CAN to help build grass supply
- Gradually increase concentrate supply to beef heifers and steers
- Final pregnancy scan to be carried out



PastureBase  
IRELAND

# GRASS10 Grazing Events

**Grow More → Graze More → Earn More!!**

*Topics discussed will include:*

- Building up Grass for Autumn
- Improving Soil Fertility
- Improving Grazing Infrastructure

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Sept @ 11am**

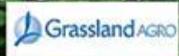
**Derrypatrick Herd, Teagasc Grange**

**Dunsany, Co.Meath**

This is a DAFM approved Knowledge Transfer  
Beef Event



The GRASS10 campaign is supported by:



    
[www.teagasc.ie](http://www.teagasc.ie)



**Picture 1.** Reseeded paddock on day heifers were moved



**Picture 2.** Same paddock as above 8 days post-grazing following CAN (bag/acre)



**Picture 3.** Bull calf KJB x 4 star SI cow LW 318kg ADG 1.49kg since birth



**Picture 4.** Selection of beef heifers currently receiving concentrate @ 3kg/head/day