

Derrypatrick Farm Notes Week beginning 07/09/2015

General Details

- Steers gaining 1.58 kg/day since 18th May (Average weight: 610kg on 27/08/2015)
- Late Maturing Heifers gaining 1.23 kg/day since 18th May (Average weight: 522kg on 27/08/2015)
- Early Maturing Heifers gaining 1.23 kg/day since 18th May (Average weight: 553kg on 27/08/2015)
- Male Calves gaining 1.24kg/day since birth (Average weight: 276kg on 26/08/2015)
- Female Calves gaining 1.09kg/day since birth (Average weight: 242kg on 26/08/2015)
- Replacement heifers weight was 512kg on 26/08/2015
- Average cow weight on 26th August was 735kg

• Grassland Details

- Average growth this week 68kg/DM/day
- Average farm demand 52kg/DM/day
- Average farm cover 1086 kg DM/Ha
- Stocking rate: 2595 kg/Ha
- Stocking Rate: 3.22 L.U./Ha
- 7 groups of Stock currently grazing
 - Currently 95 cows and calves at grass (3 groups)
 - 28 breeding heifers
 - 73 weanlings (49 heifers and 24 steers)
- Demand has dropped significantly with 2nd cut back in being measured
- Grazing conditions good with good growth this week.

Breeding Details

- Breeding period is 7th May- 17th July
- 61 cows synchronized (31 cows held to first service)
- Scanning rate was 83% in calf for first six weeks of calving 2016
- Next scan to take place on Friday 4th September
- The herd is split between early maturing sires (AA) and late maturing sires(CH and LM)
- AI Sires used on the main herd were **CH:** FSZ,FWO, **AA:** FPI,ZFL
- Heifers are being inseminated to **AA:** RGZ and **LM:** EBY
- Scanning completed, 2 cows not in calf out of 74 and 2 heifers not in calf out of 28
- 96% in calf rate after 11 weeks breeding

Key recommendations

- Dry cows to be fed meal at grass with calves with the aim of weaning early and slaughtering off grass before housing. Feed 4kgs/head/day along fence
- Start feeding concentrates to AA heifers, CH heifers and AA steers at grass at the rate of 2kgs rising to max of 4kg in 2 weeks
- 6 heifers and 4 steers to be killed on Tuesday 8th