

Derrypatrick Farm Notes Week beginning 11/01/2016

General Details

- Last of 2014 cattle to be slaughtered this week, 7 steers and 1 heifer
- Weanlings coughing and some treated with antibiotics, took nasal swabs to determine the problem and will be monitored closely
- 1 cow aborted this week, foetus sent to Backweston for analysis
- Cows receiving IBR vaccine this week and cows calving in February receiving scour vaccine
- Calving is now 1 month away, first cows due 14th February

• Grassland Details

- Slurry tanks becoming full, with heavy covers we will have problems identifying paddocks for slurry, we will spread minimum until we get some covers grazed
- May look at some on-off grazing from mid-Feb to get covers eaten off if ground conditions allow
- Average farm cover on 7/12/2015 was 1197kg/DM/Ha. This a little too heavy and we will struggle to get land for slurry.
- Soil samples will be taken this week

Housing Details

- Finishing steers housed on slats and getting 7kg concentrates and ad-lib first cut silage
- Weanling steers housed on slats and getting 2kg concentrates and ad-lib first cut silage
- Weanling bulls(U16) currently being built up to ad-lib and are on 5kgs/head/day
- Female weanlings housed on slats and getting 1.5kg concentrates and ad-lib first cut silage
- Cows housed on slats and cows over BCS 3 receiving 32kgs silage and 3kg straw with remainder on baled silage

• Key recommendations

- Monitor weanlings closely for any signs of pneumonia in sheds
- Water system continues to be upgraded and waiting on ground conditions to improve to install new drinkers
- One cow to be foot trimmed this week
- Last of finishing cattle to be slaughter on Monday 18th January
- Calving pens to be powerwashed and cleaned next week in preparation for calving
- Farm to be soil sampled this week
- IBR and scour vaccine to be given to cows this week
- Cows to be treated for lice with pour-on this week
- Cows to be Body Condition scored this week and penned according to calving date