

Derrypatrick Farm Notes Week beginning 17/08/2015

General Details

- 4 paddocks 115-118 reseeded last week with Agri-seeder one pass machine
- Steers gaining 1.53 kg/day since 18th May (Average weight: 563kg on 30/07/2015)
- Heifers gaining 1.27 kg/day since 18th May (Average weight: 504kg on 30/07/2015)
- Calves gaining 1.2kg/day since birth (Average weight: 226kg on 30/07/2015)
- Average cow weight on 30th July was 704kg

- **Grassland Details**
- Average growth this week 41kg/DM/day
- Average farm demand 47kg/DM/day
- Average farm cover 778 kg DM/Ha
- Stocking rate: 2372 kg/Ha
- Stocking Rate: 3.07 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 and grass utilisation is very good with all cattle grazing to 4-4.5cm.
- While there are some heavy covers they are good quality and will be grazed by cows. Rather than take them out we have opted to spray off another 4 paddocks for reseeding (9 acres)
- We will start building covers from this week on and AFC has risen by 60 kg/DM/Ha this week
- Reseeded paddocks got 3 bags/acre of granulated lime and 2000 gallons slurry/acre via trailing shoe and slug pellets spread after seeding at rate of 3lb/acre

Breeding Details

- Breeding period is 7th May- 17th July
- 61 cows synchronized (31 cows held to first service)
- Scanned last week and 83% in calf for first six weeks of calving 2016
- Next scan to take place in early 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

Key recommendations

- Sheds continue to be power washed and disinfected
- Faecal sampling to take place this week
- Paddocks 147 -150 to be over-sowed with chieftain clover at 4kgs/acre this week
- Weighing of all stock to take place on Thursday 27th August
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