

Derrypatrick Farm Notes Week beginning 05/06/2017

General details

Following the harvest of our first cut silage on Thursday of last week, any ground that is to be cut a second time received slurry (3,000 gallons/acre) and CAN (3 bags/acre). Any ground that was cut for 1st cut silage and is not subject to a second cut, will receive fertiliser as required, depending on whether clover is to be established or not. Any paddock destined for clover will not receive any nitrogen to help minimise competition between grass growth and clover establishment.

Replacement heifers, beef heifers and steers all received a Qualimec injection this week to reduce any possible worm burden. Animals received their injection, returned to their paddock for 24-36 hours and were subsequently moved to fresh pasture.

Our 16 month bulls are coming of age and this week saw 12 sent to the factory. This group of 12 had an average date of birth of 22/2/2016 and were on average, 712kg live-weight prior to slaughter.

The incorporation of clover into paddocks continued this week with another 8 paddocks completed. This brings our total paddocks sown with clover to 15, out the designated 34 paddocks.

Breeding

- Start date: 01/05/17
- 1 teaser bull with chin-ball per 25 cows
- Tail paint and visual observations other aids to heat detection
- AM:PM rule to be followed for AI
- 100% AI to be carried out
- 90% submitted for AI first 39 days
- Animals yet to be served include 1 heifer and 1 cow with the remainder 1st calvers

Grassland management

- Farm cover: 785 kg DM/ha
- Growth: 70 kg DM/ha/day
- Demand/ha: 51kg DM/ha/day
- Days ahead: 14
- The combination of headlands, increased grass growth and paddocks returning to the grazing rotation has reduced the demand/ha

Weekly planner

- Heat check cows and heifers 5 times daily for 20 minutes each group
- Top up tail paint as required
- Top up paint in chin-ball of the teaser bulls as required
- Ensure magnesium is being supplied through water to help prevent grass tetany
- Clover a top priority
- 0:7:30 to be spread on any paddock that receives clover