

Derrypatrick Farm Notes Week beginning 15/05/2017

General details

All yearlings were weighed this week (Table 1). Bulls will be 16 months of age from the middle of June and will be slaughtered around this period. Admittedly, the majority if not all the early-maturing Angus bulls are fit for slaughter at the moment however, age has been chosen as the reference point for slaughter and therefore these bulls will be slaughtered at 16 months also.

Weather conditions are currently perfect for establishing clover and this will commence early next week. Paddocks that are assigned to receive clover will do so following grazing or silage harvest over the coming weeks. Two bags of 0:7:30 will be spread at the time of sowing to aid the clover establishment in the sward.

Group	LW (kg)	ADG housing – 15/5/17	ADG ad-lib – 15/5/17
16M Bulls	628	1.34	1.66
	LW (kg)	ADG 10/3/17 (turnout) – 19/4/17	
Steers	482	1.04	
Heifers	443	0.99	

Table 1. Yearling live-weights (kg)

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
- 60% submitted for AI first 18 days

Grassland management

- Farm cover: 770 kg DM/ha
- Growth: 50 kg DM/ha/day
- Demand/ha: 80kg DM/ha/day
- Days ahead: 10

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
- Calving pens to be cleaned out
- Weigh yearlings