

Derrypatrick Farm Notes Week beginning 20/02/2017

General details

We had planned to let yearlings to grass this week but unfortunately, recent heavy rainfall has resulted in cattle remaining housed.

Cows are being drafted to the calving unit as required. Cows and calves, at least 10 days of age, are subsequently moved to slatted creep areas until turnout to facilitate more cows in the calving unit.

Calving

- Start date: 30/1/17
- Total calved : 14/86 = 16%
- Total live calves - 12
- Mortalities: 2 still-births
- Calf average birth-weight: 39kg

Yearling performance

	Weight @ housing	Current weight	ADG indoor period
Steers	360kg	405kg	0.46kg
Heifers	319kg	371kg	0.54kg
16-month bulls	377kg	478kg	1.05kg

- Bulls ADG 1.65 since *ad-lib* concentrates 1st week January

Grassland

- Farm cover: 770kg DM/ha
- Rainfall has delayed turnout
- Soil temperatures: <5°C first half of Feb 15th-20th Feb soil temp 7.5°C
- As soon as ground conditions allow, yearlings will be turned out to grass

Fertiliser

- 23 units urea/acre was spread on 70% of farm 25th of January
- 2,500 gallons slurry remaining 30% that didn't receive slurry (lowest covers)
- Aim to have spread 70 units N/acre by end of first rotation
- Fertiliser application will also be subject to soil test results are due back this week