

Teagasc Johnstown Castle
Teagasc/ABP Dairy Beef Research Programme

Update: 06-02-2019

Animal Performance:

Older cattle

- The steers were weighed on the 5th February, they averaged 589 kg. There is huge variation with the lightest bullock 428 kg, while the heaviest is 706 kg.
- We had two casualties over the last ten days- one bullock had to be killed as he was a TB reactor, while another broke its leg and had to be put down.
- Other than that, the health of the bullocks is excellent, with no pneumonia.
- The bullocks are being fed 30 kg silage (fresh weight) and 2 kg concentrates.

Steer performance (Average results)

	Live weight (kg)	ADG 2 nd Winter
High	583	0.91
Medium	604	1.01
Low	589	0.84

Yearlings

- The yearlings remain on 14 kg silage and 2 kg concentrates.
- They are performing well and it is hoped to get them out to grass mid February. They were weighted on the 5th February and averaged 326 kg.
- Since last week the yearlings have been increased to 17 kg silage (fresh weight) and 2 kg concentrates.

Yearling performance (Average results)

	Liveweight	ADG 1 ST Winter
High	330.6	0.85
Medium	325.9	0.78
Low	320.4	0.81

Grassland Management:

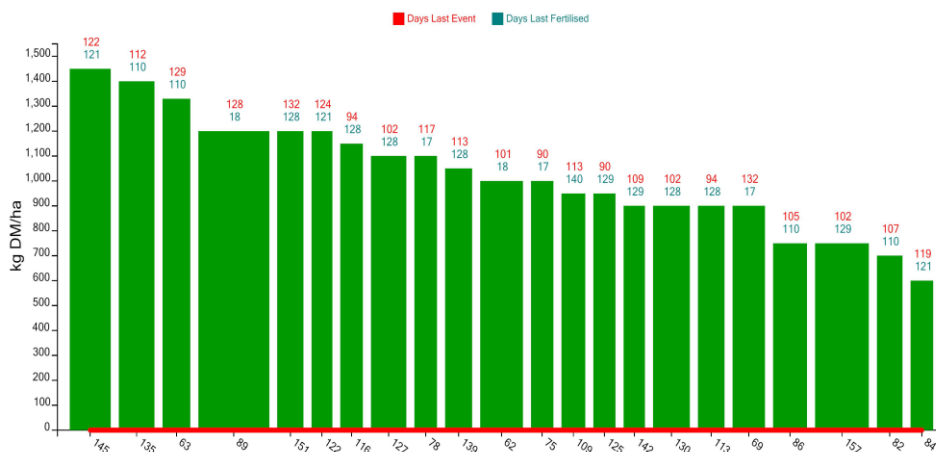
- A farm cover was completed on the 4th February. Since the last cover there had been a few sharp frosts, meaning there was minimal growth. There was a reduction in covers on some of the more exposed paddocks.
- Fertiliser spreading began yesterday (5th Feb). KAN is being spread at a rate of 65kg/ha on any paddock that has not received slurry.

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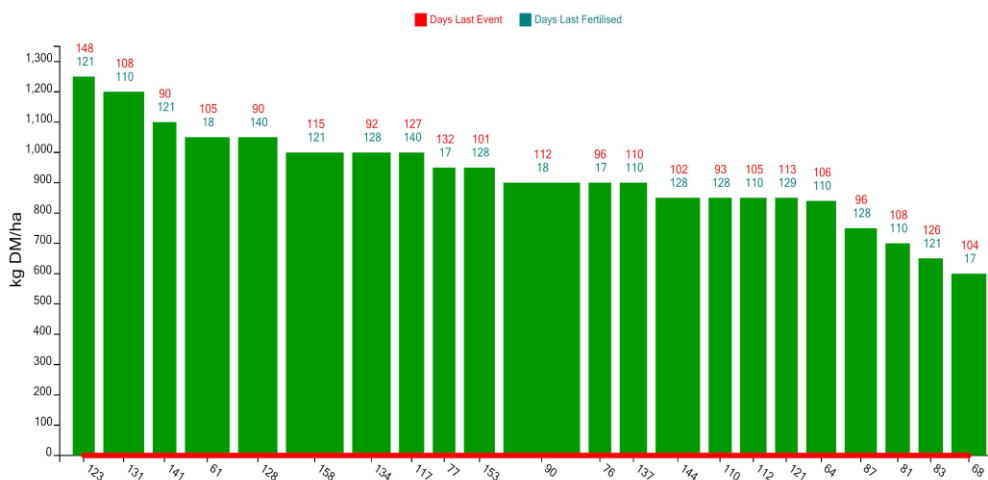
- Although it has been wet, ground conditions remain good. It is still hoped to get the lighter cattle out in the next 10-14 days weather permitting.

	Growth/ha	Demand/ha	Farm Cover	Grazing Area	Total LU	LU/ha	Days Ahead
	Kg DM/ha/day	Kg DM/ha/day	Kg DM/ha	Ha			
High	3	0	1034	22.32	0	0	0
Medium	4	0	925	24.26	0	0	0
Low	6	0	947	26.76	0	0	0

High stocking rate farmlet



Medium stocking rate farmlet



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Low stocking rate farmlet

