Teagasc Johnstown Castle
Teagasc/ABP Dairy Beef Research Programme

Update: 21-11-2018

Animal Performance:

**Older cattle**

- 40 heifers were killed on the 19th November. These averaged 252 kg carcass weight. 44 heifers remain on the farm, these are much lighter at present averaging 486 kg on the 16th November.
- The 62 heifers killed to date have averaged 526 kg LW, 254 kg CW, with KO% of 48.3%. Fat score has averaged 3=/3+ and conformation score O=/O+ thus far.
- Silage results were returned last week and were very good for both the first and second cut.
  - Pit 1: 32% DM, 15% CP, 10.25 MJ/kg ME
  - Pit 2: 28.2% DM, 16% CP, 10.5 MF/kg ME
- The steer diet has been amended to 5kg concentrate with 15kg silage; the heifers remain on 9kg conc., 2kg straw and 16kg silage.
- The steers were weighed, dosed and vaccinated for blackleg on the 8th November. They averaged 506 kg.

**Calves**

- The calves were reweighed on the 9th November following housing on the 6th Nov. They were dosed and vaccinated for both blackleg and pneumonia. They averaged 255 kg, which is drastically heavier than last year’s calves, who weighed 208 kg in November 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Live weight</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The calf diet has been amended to 9 kg silage (fresh weight) and 3 kg concentrate, removing the straw from the diet. This will be reviewed as the calves grow.
2017 vs 2018 Calf LW

- 2017
- 2018

June  July  August  September  October  November