

Teagasc Johnstown Castle
Teagasc/ABP Dairy Beef Research Programme

Update: 25-01-2019

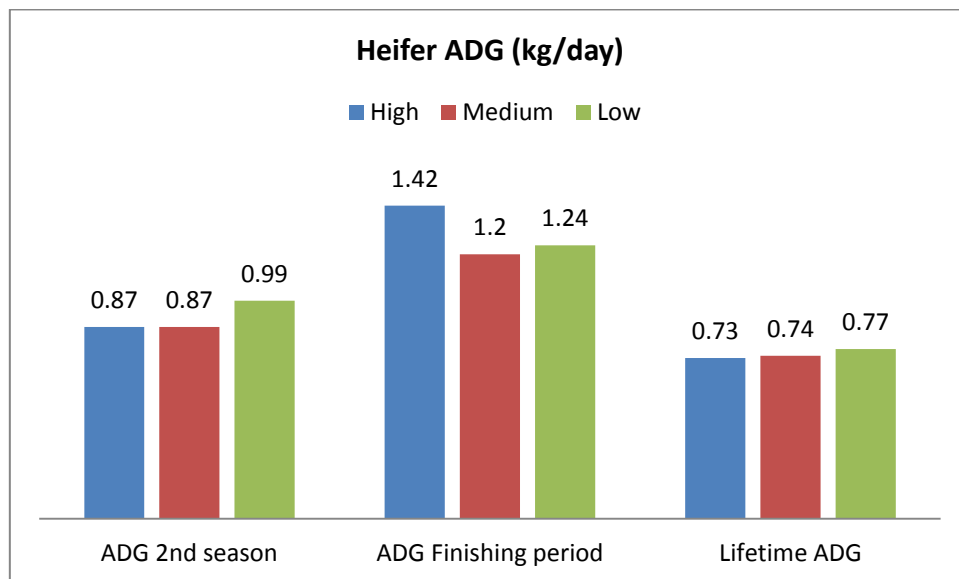
Animal Performance:

Older cattle

- All the heifers have now been killed. The last 22 averaged 501 kg live weight with 250 kg carcass weight (49.9% KO). They graded O=/O+ conformation score with 3+ fat score on average.

Heifer performance (Average results)

	Final Live weight (kg)	Carcass weight (kg)	KO%	Age at slaughter	Conf. Score	Fat Score
High	509.6	249.3	48.9%	643.6	O=	3=/3+
Medium	514.6	251.7	49.0%	643.1	O=/O+	3=/3+
Low	528.4	256.6	48.6%	635.3	O=/O+	3+



Yearlings

- A good few yearlings have become lame on the slats over the winter and have had to be treated. The reason for this is unknown.
- Overall, the health of the yearlings has been good to date with next no pneumonia or other respiratory issues.
- The yearlings are on 14 kg silage and 2 kg concentrates. The target weight at turnout for the early maturing 19-21 heifer and 26 month steer systems is 300 kg by March, and they have met that target already.

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Grassland Management:

- A farm cover was completed on the 17th January. Grass had grown quite well over the mild winter, with the farm cover much higher than anticipated considering how low the cover was at closing.
- Slurry and dirty water are being spread on some of the lower covers at a rate of 1800 Gal/acre. The first round of fertiliser (KAN) will be spread in the next week or so on the paddocks that did not receive slurry.
- It is hoped to turn the cattle out mid February onto some of the lower covers to start.

	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	8	0	1036	22.32	0	0	0
Medium	8	0	895	24.26	0	0	0
Low	8	0	995	26.76	0	0	0

High Stocking Rate Farmlet

