

Johnstown Castle Weekly Farm Notes- April 8th

Introduction

These management notes refer to the Johnstown Winter Milk Herd in Co Wexford. This herd has:

- 100% autumn calving
- A mean calving date of October 8th. Calving commences in early September and continues until early December.
- A Holstein Friesian base with an EBI of €119 (see page 3). Aim is a 50:50 balance for milk and fertility

The herd produces approximately 45% of annual supply from October to February inclusive. This includes 20% of annual supply in December and January.

A new experiment commenced in October 2011, comparing different concentrate feeding systems at similar stocking rates (3.25 cows per ha). Briefly, the systems compared are:

Feed to budget (GREEN): Maximizes the proportion of quality forage in the milking diet. Supplements used to balance feed availability and demand at a herd level. Flat-rate concentrate feeding at pasture and during housing.

Feed to yield (RED): Meets the daily nutritional demands of the cow while maximising quality forage in the diet. Concentrates offered on an individual cow basis, depending on yield and the base diet.

There are 42 cows per group. For reference, management notes will refer to the flat rate (GREEN) group

Management Issues

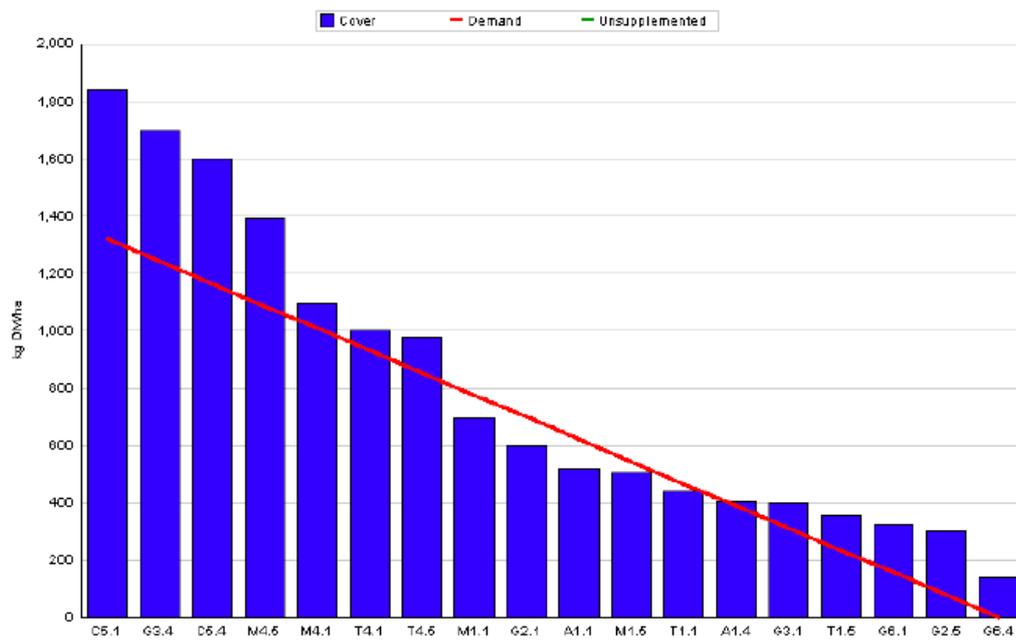
- Post grazing residuals- targeting 4cm
- Silage area- closing to increase stocking rate over 4.0 per ha
- Target pre-grazing yields 1400kgDM

Current Situation

- Pre-grazing yields currently above target at 1800kg DM. Farm cover is 247kg/cow, which is above target. Rotation length is currently 24 days (4.2 % of area grazed per day). Closing silage area had been postponed due to cold weather conditions, but growth now stands at 70kgDM. Silage area will be removed from rotation and cover calculations this week, which will reduce cover per cow and increase stocking rate to 4.2 cows/ha. A 20 day rotation will be set on the revised area.
- Grazing conditions have been excellent which is helping to achieve post grazing heights (current 4.0cm). Cows are currently being offered 1.6kg of concentrate

- Current yield is satisfactory at 25.9kg 3.80% fat 3.58% protein
- There have been no recorded cases of health problems in the herd this week.

| | | | |
|--|-----|--------------------------------------|------|
| Rotation Length : | 22 | Grass Allocation /LU (kg DM/LU) : | 18 |
| Number of Cows : | 49 | Farm Cover (kg DM/ha) : | 824 |
| Grass Allocation /cow (kg grass dry matter/LU) | 18 | Farm Cover (kg DM/LU) : | 247 |
| Concentrate Fed (kg/cow) : | 1.2 | | |
| Silage Fed (kg DM/cow) : | 0 | | |
| N Application Rate (units/acre) : | | Stocking Rate (LU/ha) : | 3.34 |
| N Application Rate (kg/ha) : | | Growth Rate : | 73 |
| Residual Height : | 3.3 | Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day) : | 60 |
| Total Livestock (LU) : | 49 | Target pregrazing yield (kg DM/ha) : | 1321 |



Weekly production sheet for week ending April 8th

| Detailed Data Update to week ending: 08-APR-12 | |
|--|--------|
| Feed System | Au |
| Genotype | Feed |
| Mean calving date of cows calved | 10-OCT |
| Farmlet size (ha) | |
| Farmlet stocking rate (cows/ha) | |
| Production Data This Week | |
| Supplementation (kg/cow/day) | 1.6 |
| Milk Yield (kg/cow/day) | 25.9 |
| Milk Solids (kg/cow/day) | 1.91 |
| Fat Composition (%) | 3.80 |
| Protein Composition (%) | 3.58 |
| Lactose Composition (%) | 4.65 |
| Body Weight (kg) | 412 |
| Body Condition Score | |
| Cumulative Production to date | |
| Days in Milk (days) | 184 |
| Supplement fed (kg/cow) | 915 |
| Milk Yield (kg/cow) | 4909 |
| Milk Solids (kg/cow) | 366 |
| Milk Solids (kg/ha) | |
| Fat Composition (%) | 4.04 |
| Protein Composition (%) | 3.41 |
| Lactose Composition (%) | 4.72 |

HERD EBI Johnstown Castle , January 2012

Data Exported: 24/10/2011

1. EBI Herd Summary

Average EBI for all dairy cows with: (i) a known sire (or milk recorded progeny with a known sire) and (ii) are currently on your farm.

* Missing Sires can be added through the 'Record Events' section of the HerdPlus website or by contacting the HerdPlus office - 1850 600 900

| Animal Group | Num of Cows | Milk Kg Fat Prot | % % | Surv% CI Days | Milk % Contrib | Fertility % Contrib | Calving % Contrib | Beef % Contrib | Mainten. % Contrib | Health % Contrib | EBI € |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------------|-------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Cows with EBI | 118 | 178 | | | € 40 | € 68.7 | € 17.4 | € -8.1 | € 1.3 | € -0.2 | € 119 |
| Missing a Sire* | 1 | 7.5 | 0.02 | 2.1 | 29.5% | 50.6% | 12.8% | -6% | 1% | -0.1% | |
| Total Cows | 119 | 7.7 | 0.04 | -3.7 | | | | | | | |
| 1st Lactation | 45 | 213 | | | € 41.2 | € 58.1 | € 18.7 | € -11.5 | € 1.5 | € -0.6 | € 107 |
| | | 7.6 | -0.01 | 1.7 | 31.3% | 44.1% | 14.2% | -8.7% | 1.1% | -0.5% | |
| | | 8.4 | 0.03 | -3.2 | | | | | | | |
| 2nd Lactation | 20 | 161 | | | € 38.3 | € 69.5 | € 20 | € -6.1 | € -0.9 | € -0.1 | € 121 |
| | | 8.7 | 0.05 | 2.2 | 28.4% | 51.5% | 14.8% | -4.5% | -0.7% | -0.1% | |
| | | 7.1 | 0.03 | -3.6 | | | | | | | |
| 3rd Lactation | 17 | 154 | | | € 50 | € 77.2 | € 15 | € -9 | € 2.6 | € -0.4 | € 135 |
| | | 9.6 | 0.07 | 2.3 | 32.4% | 50.1% | 9.7% | -5.8% | 1.7% | -0.3% | |
| | | 8.6 | 0.07 | -4.2 | | | | | | | |
| 4th Lactation | 15 | 130 | | | € 32.3 | € 84.5 | € 19.5 | € -4.9 | € 1.9 | € -0.3 | € 133 |
| | | 6.2 | 0.03 | 2.5 | 22.5% | 58.9% | 13.6% | -3.4% | 1.3% | -0.2% | |
| | | 6.0 | 0.03 | -4.6 | | | | | | | |
| 5th Lactation (+) | 21 | 170 | | | € 36 | € 72.6 | € 12.8 | € -4.4 | € 1.5 | € 0.6 | € 119 |
| | | 5.3 | -0.02 | 2.2 | 28.1% | 56.8% | 10% | -3.4% | 1.2% | 0.5% | |
| | | 7.4 | 0.03 | -3.9 | | | | | | | |

2. Dairy Youngstock

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----------|------------|------|------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 11 Calves | 37 | 153 | | | € 49.3 | € 93.9 | € 22.3 | € -10.3 | € 0.6 | € 2.5 | € 158 |
| Missing a Sire* | 0 | 9.6 | 0.07 | 2.6 | 27.6% | 52.5% | 12.5% | -5.8% | 0.3% | 1.4% | |
| Total Calves | 0 | 8.5 | 0.07 | -5.2 | | | | | | | |
| 10 Calves | 45 | 145 | | | € 52.3 | € 80.4 | € 20.9 | € -14.3 | € 2.7 | € 0.8 | € 143 |
| Missing a Sire* | 0 | 9.8 | 0.09 | 2.2 | 30.5% | 46.9% | 12.2% | -8.3% | 1.6% | 0.5% | |
| Total Calves | 37 | 8.9 | 0.09 | -4.5 | | | | | | | |

