

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

29/06/15

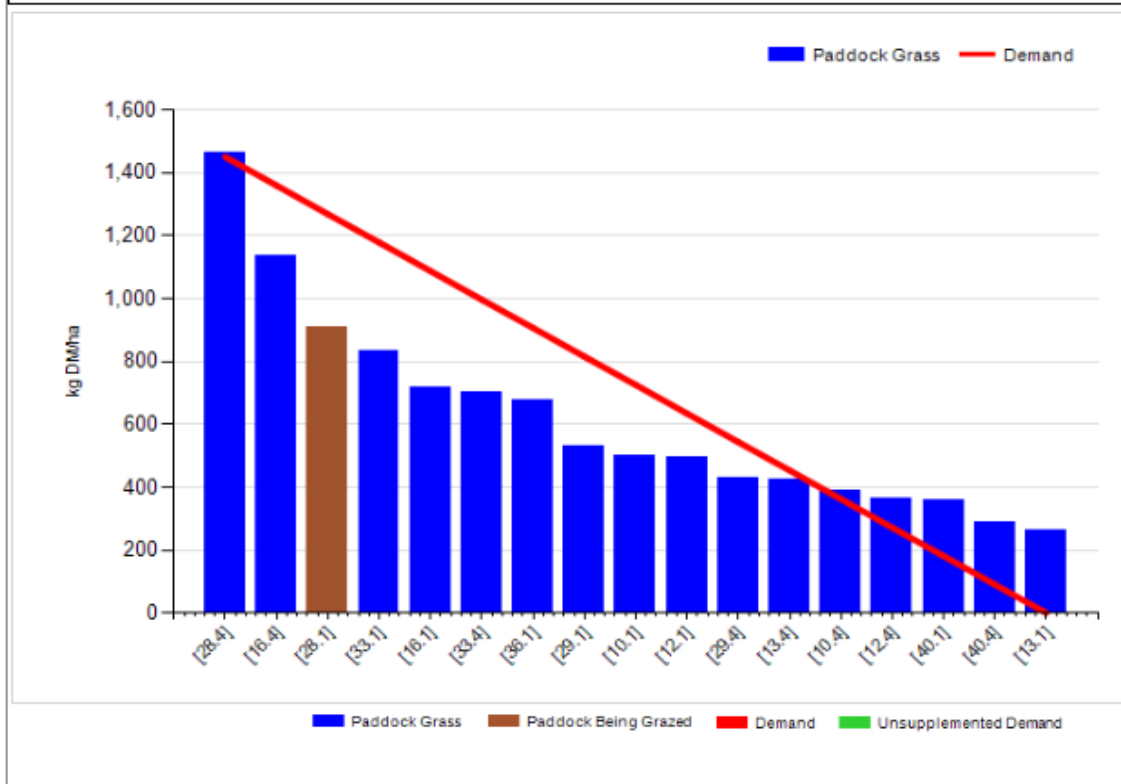
Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 29/06/2015
Farm: Johnstown Dairy	Treatment: 1

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	20	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	0.0
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	18.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.0
No. of Cows:	52		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	0.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	18.0	Growth Rate (kg/ha/day):	39
Total Livestock (LU):	52.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	69
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	665	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1450
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	175	Days Ahead:	10
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	3.81	LW/ha (Liveweight/ha):	



Management Comments

- Rainfall of 8.8 mm and soil temp of 17.8°C for last week. The rainfall which came mainly on Saturday night, whilst welcome was not enough to impact on soil moisture deficits which are now around 50, and are significantly impacting on growth.
- Pre-grazing covers & covers/LU are dropping, we still maintained a rotation length of approx. 20 days (due to surplus paddocks coming back in), but unless forecast changes, I expect this to decrease significantly within the next 5 days. The plan will be to introduce supplement when pre-grazing covers drop below ~1100 - surplus baled silage & 3kgs concentrate. We're happy to run covers down low before supplementing as we see no benefit in trying to carry grass in a drought situation as it's difficult to maintain leaf content.
- AA/HE Stock bulls in with cows & will run with the herd up to end of breeding – 10/7/15, activity remains low, which is good, as all cows have been bred at this stage.

Milk production and feed details

	Autumn Calving Section	Spring Calving Section
<i>This Week (29/06/15)</i>		
Milk Kg	18.9	23.7
Fat %	3.99	3.77
Protein %	3.88	3.62
Milk Solids kg	1.47	1.76
Parlour concentrate (kgs)	0	0
Silage kg dry matter per cow	0	0
Grazed grass kg cow	18	18
<i>Lactation to date</i>		
Days in Milk	257	119
Milk kg	6535	3373
Milk Solids kg	499	252
Concentrate Fed	882kg parlor & 356kg tmr	282kg parlor & 105kg tmr