

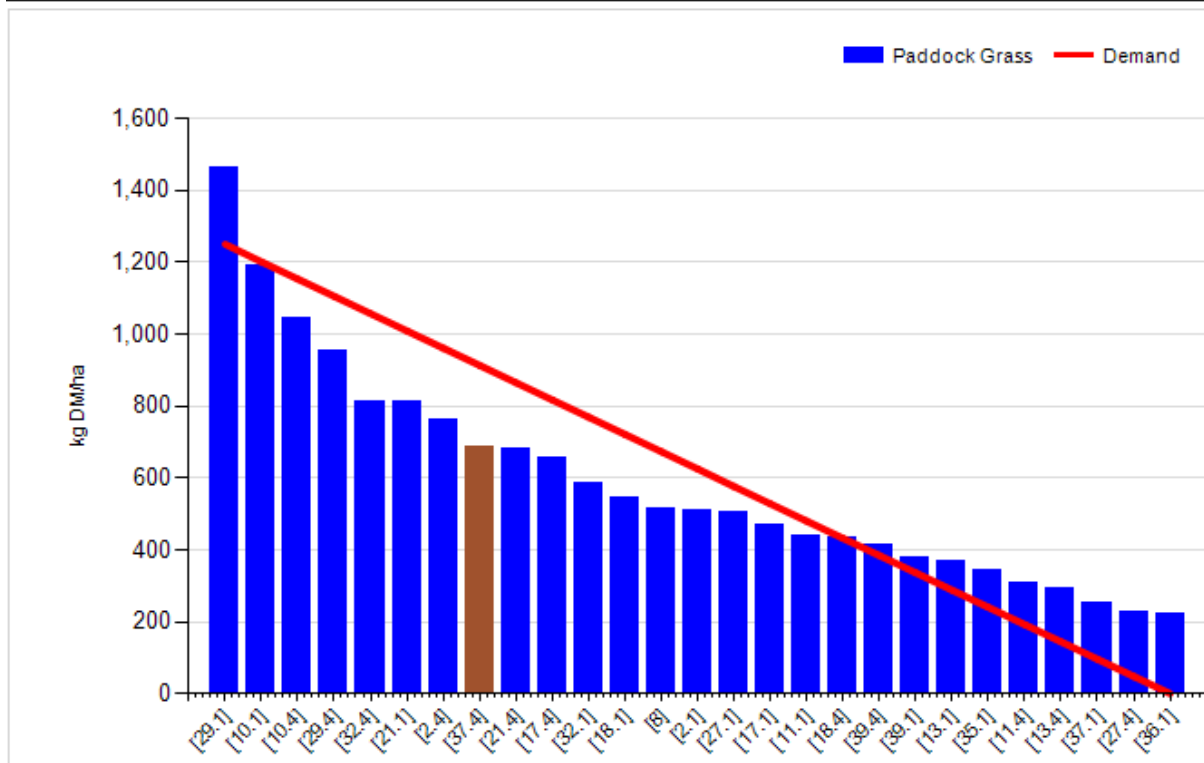
Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes – 21/03/16

- We had a great week of dry weather for the past week, which allowed us to get a good clean off of the heavier paddocks on the soft ground, we grazed fulltime for the past 10 days, but with the relatively poor growth we have very few high covers left & have caught up well on our spring rotation plan, we'll be supplementing with silage & concentrate probably till near the end of the 1st round which we're now targeting at 05/04/16. Total rainfall for the past week was just 0.3mm, soil temperatures were similar to last week at 7.3 °C.
- All second round of fertiliser has gone out, next round targeted for the first week of April. With the good ground conditions of the past week we've been following the cows with 2,000 gal of slurry/ac.
- All replacement stock were turned out last week, we're behind our target area grazed on the replacement unit as a lot of the ground was very wet, we'll stay grazing if conditions allow, but have no problem with re-housing stock if conditions get too wet again. Priority group are the spring bulling heifers, which we'd like to keep at grass.
- The spring cows are still slow calving but most of the remainder are starting to spring up - 88% calved. Bulk tank protein % have lifted considerably with more grass in the diet, although having to supplement with silage again in the coming week won't help.

Rotation Length (days):	30	Silage Fed (kg DM/cow):	
Grass Allocation/Cow (kg DM/cow):	17.0	Residual Height (cm):	4.0
No. of Cows:	60		
Concentrate Fed (kg/cow):	3.0		

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	17.0	Growth Rate:	14
Total Livestock (LU):	60.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	49
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	582	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1250
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	200	Days Ahead:	12
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	2.91	LW/ha (Liveweight/ha):	



Spring Rotation Plan	Target	Actual
% farm grazed by 21 st Mar	80% - Original target	70%
Pre-grazing cover	1250	1100
Post grazing height (cm)	3.5	3.8
% grazed by 28 th Mar	95% - Original target	
% grazed by 28 th Mar	85% - revised target to end 1 st round ~ 5 th April	

Milk production and feed details – Unavailable for this week – similar to last weeks which is in table below, slight dip in yield but kgs of milk solids have held

	<i>This week (14/03/16)</i>	Autumn Calving Section	Spring Calving Section
Production	% of Herd Milking	100	80%
	Milk Kg	24.9	25.4
	Fat %	4.64	4.16
	Protein %	3.58	3.22
	Milk Solids kg	2.00	1.88
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow	14	13
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	3.5	3.5
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow		
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	3.0	0
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	0.8	2.5
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 6 th Oct	Mean calving date – cows calved 10 th Feb
	Days in Milk	160	31
	Milk kg	4277	742
	Milk Solids kg	324	55
	Concentrate Fed	236 parlour & 954 kgTMR	98kgs