

- Financial Management

Soil Fertility

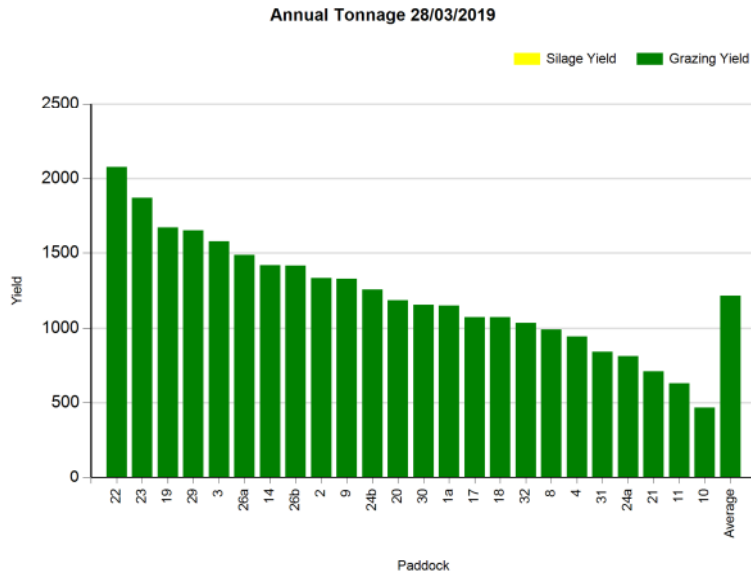
Marks progress in PH and P/ K will be reviewed at the farm walk on May 2nd.

Last Autumn Mark has got 70 tonnes of Lime spread. Mark has pushed on with increased usage of 18 6 12 and can see an increased response in growth and recovery. All paddocks are sampled each year and progress is monitored.

In 2018 the need to recover silage reserves in late third cuts pushed concentrate use to 1 tonne concentrate fed per cow (normally 550kgs.cow).

Grass Measurement

- Mark uses the Pasturebase system and now feels more confident about making decisions based on the measurements.
- Based on Grass measurements to March 28th Mark has grown 1.2 tonnes/hectare so far this year which is double normal spring growth with some paddocks between 1.8 and 2 tonnes DM/Hectare.



Focus on labour efficiency

- Mark has started milking an hour earlier in the evening and finds that he is more focused in getting the main chores each day complete so that milking can start earlier.
- Other labour tips for Spring such as pumping milk to the calf feeding area.

Silage Supply

Mark says ...”The good grazing conditions last October has been worth at least a month’s silage spared per cow..” .The improved grazing conditions this Spring also helped. Overall silage reserves have recovered and there was almost 5.5 months silage per cow now in the yard last November.

Production & Financial Outcomes 2018

Mark is focused on cost effective milk solids production with investment focused on areas that give a return on extra grass grown that supports a higher milking block stocking rate from higher grass output/hectare

2018

Cow Numbers			83
Whole Farm Stocking Rate		Lu/Ha	2.04
Milking Block Stocking Rate		Lu/Ha	2.93
Kgs Milk Solids per Cow			466
Kgs Milk Solids per Milking block Hectare			1365
% Protein			3.57
% Butterfat			4.22
Gross Output/Litre			38.6
Total Costs/Litre (excl own labour & Dp)			22.9
Net Profit/Litre			15.7

Concentrate Fed/Cow-1010kgs/cow

Grass Grown/Hectare -11t/ha