

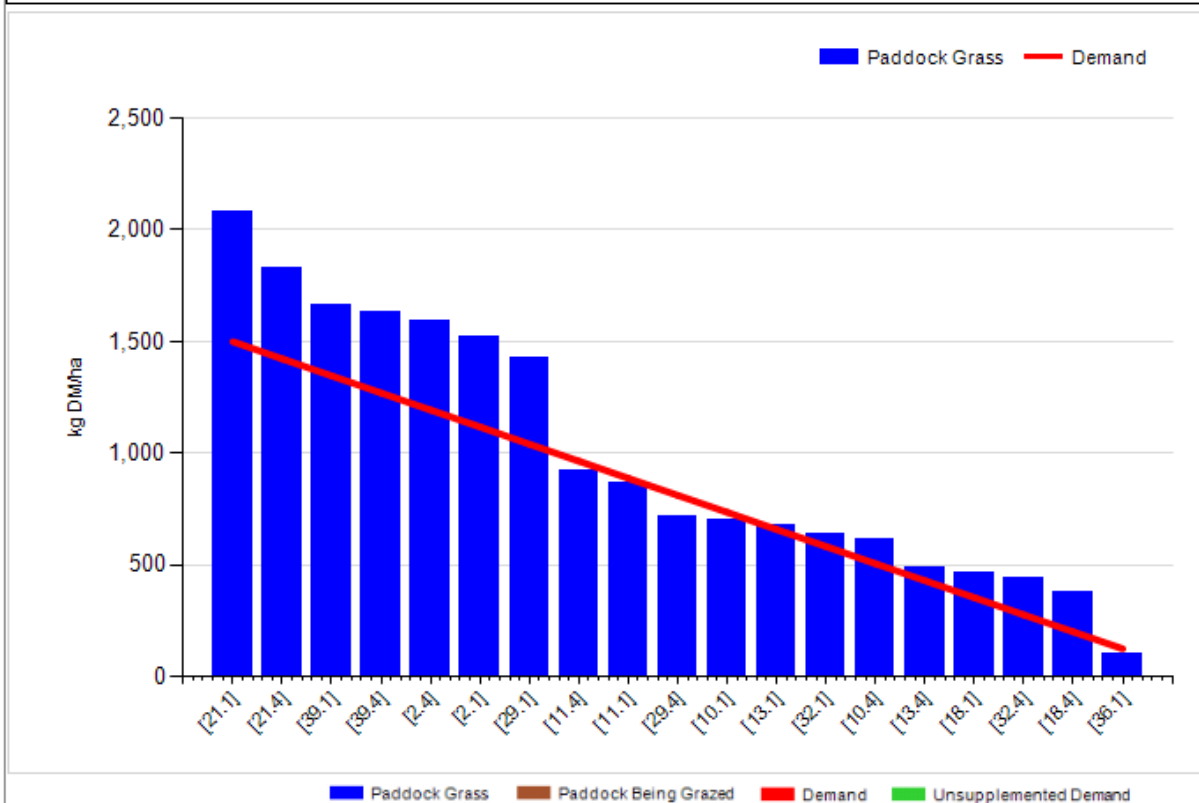
Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

08/08/16

- The weather for the past few weeks has been quite good, if a little unsettled – ideal for grass growth. With a forecast of very little rain for the next week, we might be looking at soil moisture deficits beginning to impact on growth over the next week to 10 days. Rainfall of 14.2mm & a soil temp of 18.2°C for the past Week. Great grazing conditions.
- Growth rates for the past week averaged ~ 78kgs/dm/ha (showing less on graph as paddocks skipped for surplus silage are excluded). As can be seen from the graph we have a surplus of grass available, this is despite skipping ~15% to be baled next week & a further 8% which has been sprayed off & will be reseed hopefully early next week. The four paddocks with the highest covers are all aftergrass from 2nd cut silage & quality is very good, so we will graze these (excellent re-growths on second cut silage area - only cut 26 days ago) With 50% of the autumn herd dry, demand has dropped significantly. We will not be looking to build high covers on the 100% autumn herd. Probably maximum pre-grazing yield of ~1900 in late sept & max cover/cow of 300.
- We plan to dry off the other half of the autumn herd in two weeks' time as most will be up to their due dry date, except for a couple of late calvers & empty cows.
- Cows have performed well over the past couple of months, were back a little on milk yield, but still have 550kgs milk solids/cow recorded. See table for more details.

Cover Parameters

Grass Allocation/LU (kg DM/LU):	15.0	Growth Rate:	61
Total Livestock (LU):	65.0	Farm Demand (kg DM/ha/day):	66
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	984	Target Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha):	1500
Farm Cover (kg DM/LU):	223	Days Ahead:	15
Stocking Rate (LU/ha):	4.42	LW/ha (Liveweight/ha):	1304



	<i>This week (08/08/16)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	48%	100%
	Milk Kg	16.5	19.6
	Fat %	4.37	4.28
	Protein %	3.75	3.59
	Milk Solids kg	1.32	1.54
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow	18	18
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	0	0
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow		0
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow		
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	0.3	0.3
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 6 th Oct	Mean calving date 17 th Feb
	Days in Milk	299	175
	Milk kg	7117	4270
	Milk Solids kg	550	316
	Concentrate Fed	732 parlour & 740 kgTMR	324kgs