

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

30/01/17

- We had a great week of grazing up until Sunday (see photos below). We only went out for 3 hours yesterday, due to significant rainfall of over half an inch. Given the forecast for the next few days, I expect we'll probably be in fulltime for much of the coming week. Total rainfall for last week was 19.4mm, with an average soil temp of 6.2°C. with very little drying, this rainfall was enough to make the ground soft underfoot. Production held very steady, we wouldn't have been surprised to see a couple of kgs drop, when moving out & off full TMR.
- Our spring calving herd are slow to get going, we have only one calved & with our due start of calving date being Wednesday 1st February, we would have expected a few more although there's a good few on the point of it.
- Seven weeks into the breeding season; we've moved to short gestation beef sires/stock bulls from this week, we had a couple of 'six week' repeats this week, but otherwise quite enough.

	<i>This week (30/01/17)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	
	Milk Kg	29.1	
	Fat %	4.16	
	Protein %	3.38	
	Milk Solids kg	2.19	
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	5	0
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	6.5	13
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	3	0
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	2.0	0
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	6.0	0
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 10 th Oct	
	Days in Milk	112	
	Milk kg	3021	
	Milk Solids kg	230	
	Concentrate Fed	592 in parlour (683kg total)	



Indoor diet cleaned by early morning - cows turnout with a good appetite



**Pre-grazing cover of 1650kgs
Closed 6th October**



Very good clean out in good conditions, post grazing height 3.6