

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes

05/02/17

- No grazing for the past week, total rainfall for last week was 48.6mm, average soil temp increased to 7.2°C. Ground is very soft and we're getting significant rainfall again this morning so it will take a few dry days before suitable to turn cows out to graze again. With the forecast I'd hope to be back out for on-off grazing maybe Thursday/Friday of this week. We will have enough of the spring herd calved at this stage (~30%) to justify getting them out also.
- Breeding for the autumn heifer replacements has now finished, with beef stock bulls running with the autumn milking herd for the next few weeks to sweep up.
- The spring replacement heifers which we had turned out during the dry spell were brought back in last Monday.
- I'll be doing another pasture cover this week (when it stops raining!), but it would appear that swards are continuing to grow between 5-8kgs/day – all paddocks still have a healthy green colour, ready to take off.

	<i>This week (05/02/17)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	25%
	Milk Kg	28.6	
	Fat %	3.98	
	Protein %	3.36	
	Milk Solids kg	2.08	
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	0	0
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	9.5	13
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	4.5	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	119	
	Milk kg	3219	
	Milk Solids kg	245	
	Concentrate Fed	635 in parlour (743kg total)	