

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 26/06/17

- Excellent weather and grazing conditions over the past couple of weeks with a total rainfall for the past week of 5.8mm, and an average soil temp of 16.2°C. (Last night's heavy overnight rain not included).
- On the autumn herd we had a number of paddocks that had been taken out for silage or surplus grass, this has affected our wedge, where our pre-grazing covers are below target (1000-1200) when we'd like them up at the 1400kgs/ha level. We fed 3 bales of quality silage to the 60 cow herd over the weekend to carry us through this temporary blip, we have enough grass per LU and with a reasonably low SR and plenty of rainfall again this week, we should be fine. The farm is well set up to supply excellent quality grass for the next month, at which stage we'll be drying off about half of the herd as they reach end of lactation.
- Similar story with the spring calved cows, pre-grazing yields on the low side, but adequate grass and very good quality. After taking a big drop about 15 days ago, during the heavy rainfall week, production for the past couple of weeks has been very steady. The sweeper bulls are entering their final couple of weeks with the cows and activity seems to be low.
- We have more silage to come out as soon as the weather settles down for a couple of days again.

	<i>This week (26/06/17)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	100%
	Milk Kg	19.0	26.1
	Fat %	4.36	3.99
	Protein %	3.94	3.44
	Milk Solids kg	1.56	1.93
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	15	17
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	1	0
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	0	0
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	0	0
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	2	2
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 10 th Oct	Mean calving date 7 th March
	Days in Milk	259	111
	Milk kg	6627	2970
	Milk Solids kg	512	217
	Concentrate Fed	1113kg in parlour (1294kg total)	281

Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 26/06/2017
Farm: Johnstown Dairy	Treatment: Autumn

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	20	Residual Height (cm)	4
Target pre-gaze (kg DM/ha):	1400	Estimation Method:	Visual Assessment - Available

Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	696.00	Total LU:	60.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	205.00	LU / ha:	3.39
Growth / Ha (kg DM/ha/day):	68.00	Measured:	27 (20.61 Ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	58.00	Reseeded:	0 (0.00 Ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	1020.00	Silage:	4 (2.92 Ha)
Days ahead:	12.00		
Kg LWT / Ha:	0.00		

