

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 05/02/18

- Last week's rainfall total was 10.9mm, with a soil temp of 5.2°C. The surprisingly good conditions over the past week allowed us to get 30kgs of N out on a lot of the farm, along with slurry @ 2500gal slurry/ac on a further 15%. We have 20% of the area where ground conditions were still too soft for machinery operations.
- The autumn herd are gone to grass today, starting off with them getting an allowance of ~5kgs/dm/cow/day. With 100% of this herd calved and at full appetite, demand is very high, which generally ensures we have no problem achieving target % areas grazed off – (7% by 11th Feb) it's a case of holding them back. Similar to the spring herd, we have a target of 1/3rd grazed by 1st March and 2/3rd by Patrick Day. In order to ensure cows go out with an appetite, the TMR diet is reduced to 75% of normal, this normally means that forage will be cleared shortly after midnight, leaving the cows with an appetite when turned out after morning milking (only for 3-4 hours depending on ground conditions). The forecast isn't great for the coming week either, so we'll take it day by day!
- Spring calving is progressing nicely, 28% of the herd now calved, with no issues so far. Cows are out by day only, their starting to settle into a grazing routine (demand & intakes still very low with all only calved less than a week).

	<i>This week (05/02/18)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	100%	28%
	Milk Kg	29.0	
	Fat %	4.29	
	Protein %	3.44	
	Milk Solids kg	2.22	
Intake	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	5	5
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	7	4
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	4.5	
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	2.5	
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	5	3
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 11 th October	Mean calving date 25 th Feb 2018?
	Days in Milk	117	
	Milk kg	3152	
	Milk Solids kg	250	
	Concentrate Fed	654 in parlor (889 in total)	



Autumn herd, 3hrs after 1st turnout
Cows content in good conditions
5kgs grass allowance/cow



30kgs/N/ha spread on 65% farm
Slurry on 15%
Remaining 20% too soft.

Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 30/01/2018
Farm: Johnstown Dairy	Treatment: Autumn

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	0	Residual Height (cm)	4
Target Pre-Grazing (kg DM/ha):	0		

Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	770.00	Total LU:	
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):		LU / ha:	0.00
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day):	5.00	Grazing Area:	27 (20.61 ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):		Reseed:	0 (0.00 ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):		Silage - Cut Later:	0 (0.00 ha)
Days ahead:		Silage - Cut Now:	0 (0.00 ha)
Kg LWT / ha:		Other:	0 (0.00 ha)

