

## Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd- Weekly Management Notes - 19/02/18

- Last week's rainfall total was 18.9mm, with a soil temp of 5.7°C. Monthly rainfall so far was 50.2mm, with the soil temperatures averaging just 3.9°C. Not surprisingly growth over the past few weeks has been minimal, with some of the newer reseeds doing ~ 5-7kgs/day and dropping back to no growth on older swards. We're spreading the paddocks which hadn't yet received fertiliser this week, response to the fertiliser spread in late Jan appears to have been low, but these swards definitely have a greener/healthier colour to those that didn't get fertiliser (the healthy green colour might not last long if we get the easterly winds forecast for the next week!)
- We're behind target in terms of area grazed, but not far off (~20% grazed at present, target is to have 33% by 1<sup>st</sup> March), we plan to get 2 grazing bouts in over the next few dry days & this will get us through ground – covers are low, so we move through ground fast enough.
- Spring calving has slowed up, only 60% calved where we'd like to have had 75% within the first 3 weeks, but calving is going well, aside from one case of milk fever.
- Spring breeding heifers have gone to grass this week, we'd like to be getting out the autumn born calves as well, but we'll hold off for a few more days and see what the weather brings. The Spring breeding heifers averaged 320kgs at turnout, so they should have no problems hitting the target of 350kgs by breeding (60 days x 0.5kg)
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	<b><i>This week (19/02/18)</i></b>	<b>Autumn Calving Herd</b>	<b>Spring Calving Herd</b>
<b>Production</b>	% of Herd Milking	100%	60%
	Milk Kg	26.6	
	Fat %	4.24	
	Protein %	3.44	
	Milk Solids kg	2.03	
<b>Intake</b>	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow (estimate)	9	8.5
	Silage kgs/dm/cow	4	3.0
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow	3.5	
	Concentrate in TMR – kgs/dm/cow	2.5	
	Parlour concentrate kgs/dm/cow	5	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b><i>Lactation to date per cow</i></b>	Mean calving date 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Mean calving date 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2018?
	Days in Milk	131	
	Milk kg	3557	
	Milk Solids kg	281	
	Concentrate Fed	738 in parlor (1015 in total)	

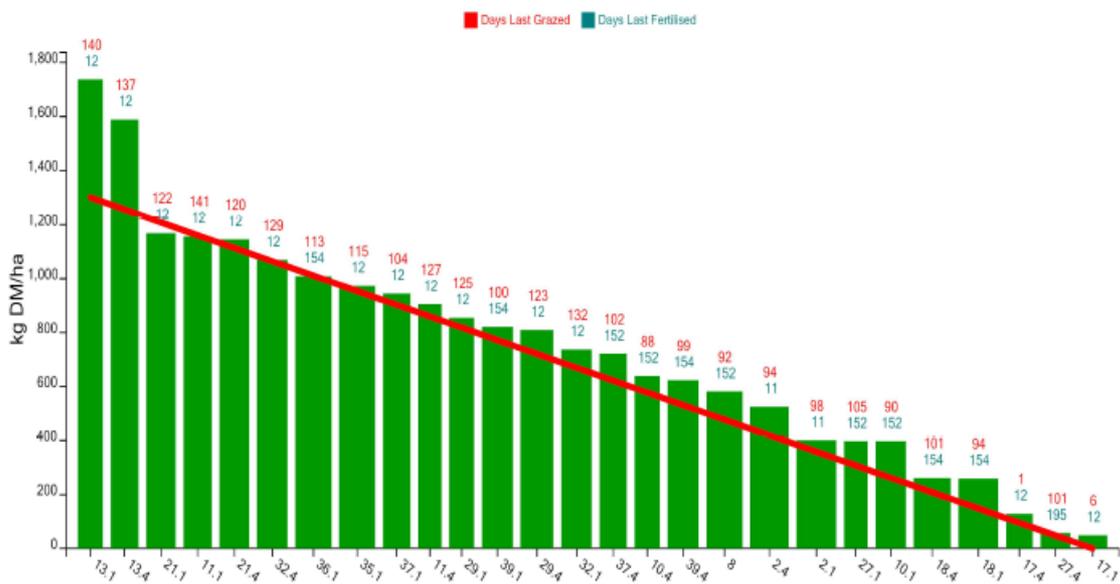
Group: Teagasc Dairy Research Farms	Cover Date: 12/02/2018
Farm: Johnstown Dairy	Treatment: Autumn

**Management Decisions**

Rotation Length (days):	60	Residual Height (cm)	4
Target Pre-Grazing (kg DM/ha):	1300		

**Cover Parameters**

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	720.00	Total LU:	60.00
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	247.00	LU / ha:	2.91
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day):	5.00	Grazing Area:	27 (20.61 ha)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	15.00	Reseed:	0 (0.00 ha)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	300.00	Silage - Cut Later:	0 (0.00 ha)
Days ahead:	48.00	Silage - Cut Now:	0 (0.00 ha)
Kg LWT / ha:	0.00	Other:	0 (0.00 ha)



**Comparison Chart**

