

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd Weekly Management Notes - 19/08/19

- Four weeks since our last update and in that time we've had some heavy periods of rain mixed in with some great drying conditions. The rain was needed as soil moisture deficits in late July had crept back up to in excess of 50. SMD are currently only around 10, but ground is still firm underfoot with excellent grazing conditions along with good heat & moisture ensuring good growth.
- On the autumn herds, demand is approaching its lowest point of the season with the 40% still milking due to be dried off within a week or so. We'll follow a similar approach as the earlier group – restricted diet for 7-10 days pre-dry off, in order to get cow yields close to or below 10kgs at dry off.
- Production for autumn & spring herds has been very good this year, with the autumn herd recording a lactation yield of 620kgs/ms/cow, (off somewhat higher than target concentrate input 1600kg v target 1400kg)
- Our second last round of fertiliser went out over the last few days @ 28kgs/N/ha, we'll follow up with the final round ~ 10th September
- Cows received their booster vaccinations for Salmonella, IBR and leptos over the past month, along with a pour-on for flies applied to all autumn calving stock
- We had skipped approx. 18% of our area for surplus silage, with the broken weather cutting has been delayed, we will need to graze some of this area now ~2000kgs DM – but it will be grand for cows going dry.(plot 9.4)

	<i>This week (20/08/19)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	40% <i>(all of which will be dried within the next week)</i>	100%
	Milk Kg	16.9	23.2
	Fat %	4.65	4.13
	Protein %	3.94	3.65
	Milk Solids kg	1.45	1.80
Intake Estimates	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow	16.0 kgs	17.0 kgs
	Silage kgs/dm/cow		
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow		
	Concentrate in TMR –		
	Parlour concentrate	0.3 kgs	2.0 kgs
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Mean calving date 10 th October	Mean calving date 20 th Feb
	Days in Milk	298	182
	Milk kg	7586	4718
	Milk Solids kg	618	360
	Concentrate Fed	1313kg in parlour (1603 kgs total)	553kg

Cover Date: 20/08/2019	
Farm: Johnstown Castle Dairy	Treatment: Autumn Reds

Management Decisions

Rotation Length (days):	24	Residual Cover (cm)	4
Target Pre-Grazing (kg DM/ha):	1400		

Cover Parameters

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	714.00	Total LU:	40.0
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	181.00	LU / ha:	3.94
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day):	57(50)	Grazing Area:	10.16 ha (13)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	55.00	Reseed:	0.00 ha (0)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	560.00	Silage - Cut Later:	0.89 ha (1)
Days ahead:	13.00	Silage - Cut Now:	0.00 ha (0)
Kg LWT / ha:	0.00	Other:	0.00 ha (0)
		Rotation Length Back (Days):	36

