

Johnstown Castle Winter Milk Herd Weekly Management Notes - 10/10/19

- It's a month since our last update, in that time weather conditions have changed considerably! Since the ploughing championships we would have had ~130mm rain (less than a lot of areas, but still enough to make ground conditions tricky when raining, but ok when it's dry overhead).
- Growth has been good over the past few weeks, we are above target covers on the autumn herds, the spring herd are well below target, due to a number of plots being out for reseeding – (setting up new grazing trial). As conditions deteriorated we've moved to 12 hour allocations in general. Dry cows on the autumn herd follow the milkers, but we did house these for a few days when it was too mucky to let them in to clean off after the milking herd. The last round with the autumn herd started for us on the 2nd October, we're at around 20% closed - target is to close 65-70% by end of October.
- Calving has been going well so far 65% calved at this stage (25 days in), we'll have another 10% calve in the next week or so with the remaining 25% dragging out until end of November. No problems with the calving yet, we had two calf deaths & a couple of milk fever cases, which is a bit unusual for us but otherwise the cows are calving away themselves out in the calving paddock.
- We had a small amount of slurry left over from earlier in the year & that's gone out on the closed paddocks this week. Last of the N applications went out on the 12th September, blanket spread protected urea @ 25kgs/ha

	<i>This week (10/10/19)</i>	Autumn Calving Herd	Spring Calving Herd
Production	% of Herd Milking	65%	100%
	Milk Kg	23	16.9
	Fat %	4.88	4.54
	Protein %	3.94	3.94
	Milk Solids kg	2.02	1.43
Intake Estimates	Grazed Grass kgs/dm/cow	14.0 kgs	17.0 kgs
	Silage kgs/dm/cow		
	Maize silage kgs/dm/cow		
	Concentrate in TMR –		
	Parlour concentrate	4.5	4.0 kgs
Totals	<i>Lactation to date per cow</i>	Expected Mean calving date 10 th October	Mean calving date 20 th Feb
	Days in Milk		236
	Milk kg		5617
	Milk Solids kg		435
	Concentrate Fed		655kg

Farm: Johnstown Castle Dairy	Cover Date: 08/10/2019
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Farm Cover (kg DM/ha):	972	LU / ha:	4.69	Total LU:	44.0
Cover / LU (kg DM/LU):	207	Days ahead:	16	Grazing Area:	9.39 ha (11)
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day):	38(37)	Kg LWT / ha:		Reseed:	1.66 ha (3)
Demand / ha (kg DM/ha/day):	62	Rotation Length:	34	Silage - Cut Later:	0.00 ha (0)
Demand / day (kg DM/day):	584	Rotation Length Back:	46	Silage - Cut Now:	0.00 ha (0)
				Other:	0.00 ha (0)

