

PBI National Average Report vs. HSP: 18/5/2020

18/05/2020	AFC	Stocking Rate	Cover/Cow	Growth	Demand
National average	733kgDM/ha	3.9LU/ha	187kgDM/ha	60kgDM/ha	59kgDM/ha
Heavy Soils Farm	685kgDM/ha	3.5LU/ha	204kgDM/ha	60kgDM/ha	53kgDM/ha

John Leahy, Athea:

This year calving went quite well with 85% of the herd calved in 6 weeks. There are currently 114 cows milking on the farm. Cows are yielding 27 litres 3.62 protein and 4.14 fat. John is currently feeding 4kgs of ration in the parlour and allowing for 14kgs of grass allocation. He has an average farm cover of 515kg/DM /ha with a stocking rate of 3.47 Lu per/Ha on the milking platform with a pre-grazing yield of 1100kg/Dm/Ha and an average daily growth of 52kg/Dm/perHA. John started breeding on the 5th of May. Cows were served with mainly Friesian and Jersey for the first three weeks and the switched over to beef sires. To date 80 cows have been served. This year John has 26 replacement heifers coming on and started AI on the 12th of May, half of the heifers were short cycled with PG and anything that didn't come bulling was left off with the stock bull. John baled his first cut silage this year with an average crop of 8 bales to the acre, between strong paddocks that were skipped in the first rotation and silage ground, John has made over 200 bales so far this year. 25 of these came from two second rotation paddocks and 59 came from first rotation paddocks that were left grow on. John is following up on these paddocks with 3000 gallons to the acre of cattle slurry which is being applied with a dribble bar and a compound fertiliser with just P and K. To date John has spread very little Nitrogen on average with each paddock only getting 40kg/N/Per /Ha.

TJ Ryan, Rossmore:

There are currently 127 cows milking on the farm. The cows are yielding 29 litres with 3.96 butterfat 3.52 Protein and 165 SCC. TJ is currently feeding 4kgs of ration in the parlour. He has fully switched over to his new milking parlour three weeks ago. Currently the milking platform is stocked at 3.17 Lu/Ha with an average farm cover of 481KgDM/Per/Ha with a growth rate of 53kg.DM/per/ha and a demand of 54. TJ is confident that the rain in the last few days will help bring on the growth. To date he has taken 65 surplus bales off the milking platform. These strong paddocks then got milking parlour washings and 20 units of Nitrogen coming from Leifi boost (18.7%N 15%K and Sulphur). He baled he main first cut silage on the 20th of May averaging 10 bales to the acre. He plans to spread allot of the slurry on the silage ground. TJ started breeding on the 3rd of May and used mainly Friesian for the first round of AI. He has 23 maiden heifers coming on, 20 which he served with AI before leaving them run with an Angus bull.

Danny Bermingham, Doonbeg:

This spring Danny calved down 116 cows. There are currently 110 cows milking on the farm. The cows are yielding 29.7 litres with, 3.93 butterfat, 3.54 Protein and 107 SCC. Danny is currently feeding 3kgs of ration in the parlour. In the last week there has been a reduction in growth from 77 kg/DM/Per/Ha to 44 kg/DM/Per/Ha. Currently there is an average farm cover of 553kg/DM with a demand of 46 and a stocking rate of 2.81. Danny has been out grazing full time from the 23rd of March and has never had to stop. This year he managed to skip 25 acres of the first rotation and stop it for silage applying a further 20 units of Nitrogen to drive on growth. This resulted in 119 bales being taken out for silage last week. This is a plan that Danny hopes to continue in future. To date Danny has spread a lot less Nitrogen across the farm, currently averaging 55 units of N Per/ha where he would have normally have been close to 75 units of N Per/ha. Currently Danny is following up on this grazing round with 20 units of protected urea. Danny started breeding on the 8th of May and served them as they came bulling naturally until the 15th of May, anything that hadn't been served by then was given estromate. This year it has been mainly Friesian that have been used, although on his 25 maiden heifers he has chosen to cross the jersey with the Friesian and Friesian with the Jersey. Danny took advantage of the fine weather this spring to resurface the farm roadways and reclaim a further 2 ½ acres of land which he plans on reseeding and getting into the grazing platform for next year

Heavy Soils Grass Summary:

Grass Summary:													
Farm	Cover Date	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha)	Cover/LU (kg DMLU)	Stocking Rate (LU/ha)	Growth/ha (kg DM /ha/day)	Demand/ha (kg DM /ha/day)	Pre Grazing Yield	% Grazed	Rotation Length Now(days)	Rotation Length Back (days)	Grass Intake/Cow (kg DM/cow)	meat Intake (kg/cow)	Sludge Intake (kg DM /cow)
Alan Wood Home Farm	17/05	909	351	2.59	41	36	2200		21	21	14.0	4.0	0.0
Con Lehane	20/05	766	235	3.26	71	52	1500		30	22	16.0	3.0	0.0
Danny Bermingham - Mountrivers	18/05	553	197	2.81	44	46	1300		21	24	17.0	3.0	0.0
David Brady - Tierlahood	19/05	574	145	3.96	44	56	1500		20	20	14.0	4.8	0.0
Donal and Michael Keane	14/05	605	117	5.19	61	73	1500		20	14	14.0	4.0	0.0
James McMahon	12/05	984	214	4.60	80	64	1580		21	30	14.0	3.0	0.0
John Leahy	19/05	591	179	3.30	89	53	1300		20	21	16.0	2.0	0.0
John O'Sullivan Ballygree	15/05	828	254	3.26	61	54	1400		20	22	18.0	2.0	0.0
Sean O'Riordan	21/05	559	196	2.85	55	46	1300		27	22	16.0	2.0	0.0
Tom and Tj Ryan	17/05	481	152	3.17	53	54	1600		21	20	17.0	3.0	0.0
Average		685	204	3.50	60	53	1518		22	22	15.6	3	0

James Mc Mahon, Swanscross:

There are currently 103 cows milking on the farm averaging 29 litres a day 3.84 fat , 3.44 protein and 58000 SCC. The cows are currently getting 3.5kgs of 14% protein. The farm is very highly stocked at 4.6 Lu/ha with a restriction the herd due to TB. There is an average farm cover of 984 with a growth of 80 and a demand of 60. So far this year James has only managed to take off 10 surplus bales from the milking platform due to having nearly 100 extra animals than he normally would have. 7 acres of the milking platform has also been taken out for reseeding, this was burnt off, the seeds were stitched in and 3 bags to the acre of 10-10-20 and lime were applied. James is currently following up any of the grazed paddocks with 30 units of protected urea and on the next round of fertiliser he plans to apply one bag to the acre of DAP across the whole milking platform . A lot of the slurry was spread on the milking platform early in the spring using a dribble bar. In the next week James hopes to make 70 acres of pit silage, he also has half a pit of after-grass silage left over from last year. Breeding on the farm started on the 8th of May with all AI Friesian being used for the first four weeks and then he plans to switch to continental straws. This year there are 16 maiden heifers coming on,

these have been served according to when they are coming cycling naturally. This year James has extended one of the roadways which has increased the availability of land on the milking platform and reduced 500 meters each way of a commute to some of the paddocks.

David Brady, Stradone:

There are currently 99 cows milking on the farm averaging 30 litres a day 3.89 fat, 3.54 protein and SCC of 82. The cows are getting 4.8 kgs of ration in the parlour. There is currently an average farm cover of 574KgDM/ha with a growth rate of 44 and a demand of 56. Currently stocking rate on the milking platform is 3.96LU/ha. To date David has managed to take 44 bales from strong paddocks on the milking platform along with 10 Ha for first cut silage. David is currently following up each grazing with a bag to the acre of DAP. So far this year David has managed to reseed 6 acres which he gravel mole drained and then ploughed before seeding. This year David had 86% of the herd calved in 6 weeks. He is now three weeks into his breeding with 80% of the herd served to high EBI Friesian. This year David synchronised his 25 maiden heifers, 23 came bulling the first day the coils were removed and the remaining two the day after. There is now a Friesian bull running with the heifers and David has also used scratch cards to monitor repeats

Sean O Riordan, Kishkeam:

There are currently 102 cows milking on the farm averaging 26 litres a day 4.26 fat, 3.64 protein and 188 SCC. The cows are currently getting 3.2kgs of ration in the parlour. There is an average farm cover of 554 with a growth rate of 53 and a demand of 46kg/Dm. The stocking rate on the milking platform is currently 2.85LU. Sean has a pre grazing yield of 1200Kg/Dm/ha. To date Sean has spread 100 units of N on the milking platform. For the first round of fertiliser Sean spread urea, after the first grazing he then followed with 18-6-12 and currently he is following up any of the paddocks on the grazing platform with a bag to the acre of 23-10-0. Sean has taken 99 surplus bales off his milking platform to date and has followed up on these paddocks after with 2000 gallons to the acre of slurry and 20 units of Nitrogen. Sean baled his main crop of first cut bales (40 acres) this year on the 12th of May, averaging 7 bales to the acre. This year Sean had 85% of the herd calved in the first 6 weeks and the last cow calved the first week in May. To date, Sean is two weeks into breeding and has 63% of the herd covered, he is using 60% Friesian and the rest are mainly Jersey and Jersey cross bulls. This year Sean contract reared out his maiden heifers (25) and has an Angus bull running with them for the next 10 weeks. Sean has also managed to take out 3 ½ acres for reseeding which he ploughed and seeded with Abergain, Aberchoice, Drumbo seed mix.

Heavy Soils Milk Summary Report:

Milk Summary:

Farm	Milk Date	Litres /Cow	Fat%	Protein %	Kg MS /cow	SCC
Alan Wood Home Farm						
Con Lehane	21/05	29.65	3.85	3.51	2.25	
Danny Bermingham - Mountrivers	19/05	29.65	3.85	3.62	2.28	80
David Brady - Tierlahood	20/05	28.66	3.89	3.41	2.16	
Donal and Michael Keane	19/05	26.47	4.07	3.57	2.08	121
James McMahon	11/05	29.54	3.64	3.52	2.18	71000
John Leahy	19/05	27.89	3.85	3.59	2.14	134
John O'Sullivan Ballygree	18/05	31.13	3.83	3.44	2.33	94
Sean O'Riordan	20/05	12.11	4.26	3.64	0.99	
Tom and TJ Ryan	19/05	29.67	3.98	3.6	2.32	
Average		27.2	3.91	3.54	2.08	14286

Donal Keane Listowel:

There are currently 98 cows milking on the farm, averaging 26 litres a day 4.12 fat, 3.62 protein and 2.11 milk Solids. The cows have been getting 4 kgs of ration in the parlour since they calved in the spring. There is currently an average farm cover of 605KgDM/per /Ha with a growth rate of 61 and a demand of 73. The stocking rate on the milking platform at present is 5.19. Fertiliser application on the farm to date for the first round Donal spread 30 units of urea across the milking platform. Donal is currently finishing his second round of fertiliser giving 1 ½ of 18-6-12. For his next round of fertiliser he plans on spreading 20-30 units of urea depending on the supply of grass. To date Donal has taken 50 bales off the milking platform and earlier this week he cut 50 acres of his first cut silage for bales averaging 13 bales to the acre. Donal also stitched in 7 acres with a grass clover mix. This year Donal had 80% of he's herd calved in 6 weeks and started breeding again on the 5th of May with 90% served on the 20th using mainly AI Friesian with the plan been to continue AI for the rest of the year. He also has 25 maiden heifers coming on this year and he has a Friesian bull running with them since the 5th of May. Donal sold most of his calves this year but held onto 25 heifers for replacements.

John O Sullivan, Castleisland:

There are currently 104 cows milking on the farm averaging 31.4litres a day, 3.9 fat, 3.46 protein and SCC of 80. The cows are getting 2kgs of 12% ration in the parlour. There is currently an average farm cover of 828KgDM/per /Ha with a growth rate of 61 and a demand of 54. Currently stocking rate on the milking platform is 3.26LU/ha. To date, John has managed to take 108 surplus bales off the milking platform and made 300 bales of first cut silage on the 10th of May. This was fertilised with 3 bags to the acre of 0-7-30 and 66 units of urea (no slurry). John plans to do the same fertiliser plan again for the second cut just using protected urea instead of normal urea. The fertiliser application on the milking platform to date is 23 units of urea in January, 46 units in March and is currently following up this grazing with 23 units of N coming from 18-6-12 +S. Some of the Milking platform got slurry after the first rotation at 2500 gallons to the acre spreading using a dribble bar. John has about 150000 gallons of slurry left in the yard. John has managed to reseed 3Ha of the milking

platform using the direct drill method and seeded with an Abergain, Aberchoice, Drumbo and Clover seed mix. He also has another 1.6 Ha burnt off and hope to plough this in the coming days and seed it with a 60:40 Astonenergy/Aberchoice mix. The 6 week calving interval on the farm this year is 80% with the last of the cows calved on the first week in May. John started breeding on the 4th of May and is mainly using AI Friesian and some sexed Jersey that he had left over from last year. About 65% of the herd has been served to date. This year John invested in the cow manager ear tags which he is using for heat detection, so far he is finding this a great success. John uses scratch card on the heifers for heat detection.

Rainfall from the 22nd of April to the 22nd of May:

Farm:	Rainfall(mm)
Crossmollina	39
Balinagree	59
Doonbeg	32
Stradone	36
Lisselton	37
Swan Cross	35
Athea	41
Rossmore	31

Alan Wood, Crossmollina:

There are currently 47 cows milking on the farm averaging 26.5 litres a day 3.60 fat, 3.47 protein and SCC of 72. The cows are getting 4 kgs of ration in the parlour. There is currently an average farm cover of 909 Kg DM/ha with a growth rate of 41 and a demand of 36. Currently stocking rate on the milking platform is 2.59 LU/ha. To date, Alan has managed to cut 50 surplus bales off the milking platform and has another 20-30 bales to cut off the milking platform next week. Alan also plans to cut his main crop of silage on the outside block next week. To date Alan has blanket spread the whole farm with urea at the start of the year and then went with 2 bags to the acre with 18-6-12 and plans on following the current grazing rotation with more 18-6-12. Any of the paddocks that were taken out for surplus bales got 2000 gallons to the acre of watery slurry. Alan started breeding on the 10th of May and to date has 23 cows served to Friesian half of which was sexed semen. Alan plans to use EBY limousine and an easy calving Charolaise on the rest of the cows.

Con Lehane, Ballinagree:

There are currently 117 cows milking on the farm averaging 29.5 litres a day, 3.78 fat, 3.56 protein and SCC of 54. The cows are getting 2 kgs of ration in the parlour. There is currently an average farm cover of 766 Kg DM/ha with a growth rate of 71 and a demand of 52. Currently stocking rate on the milking platform is 3.26 LU/ha. Con has an average pre-grazing yield of 1400 Kg DM/ha. On farm at present Con is following up after each grazing with 1 ¼ of 22/2.5/5 +S and plans to do the same after the next grazing rotation. Con got 46 Acres of his pit silage done on the 18th of May and plans on cutting another 46 in the coming week. Today, Con has reseeded 3 ½ acres which is ploughed and seeded using an Abergain, Aberchoice, Drumbo and Clover seed. Con has also another

8 acres burnt off which he plans to reseed by just disc harrowing and direct seeding. Con had 80% of his herd calved in the first 6 weeks. He started breeding again on the 5th of May and has over 80% of the herd served to date. This year Con has 32 maiden heifers coming on and he had two Hereford bulls running with them. The bulls will be left with the heifers for ten weeks.

Heavy Soils Fertiliser Report:

Fertiliser Summary:

Farm	Last Fert. Date	kg of N/ha	N Area%
Con Lehane	12/05	34	48
Danny Bermingham - Mountrivers	21/05	22	165
David Brady - Tierlahood	19/05	16	3
James McMahon	18/05	37	52
John Leahy	21/05	24	117
Sean O'Riordan	20/05	25	72
Tom and TJ Ryan	17/05	27	109
Average		26	80.86