



## **DAIRY BEEF 500 PROGRAMME E-NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 11**

### **Managing grass with heavy rainfall on a Limerick DairyBeef 500 farm**



Despite the wet conditions, Ciaran Bartley, a participant in the Teagasc DairyBeef 500 Campaign, has devised a plan to keep grass in the diet for as long as possible.

[Click here to read more!](#)

### **Farmer Profile - Martin Connolly**

Recent years a major focus for the farm was to improve animal performance without increasing the level of concentrate input. Given the heavy nature of the land long grazing seasons can be difficult to achieve on the farm



therefore when stock are at grass it is important that performance is maximised. This year grazing conditions proved difficult with turnout of the majority of stock been delays until April until conditions allowed.

[Click here to read more!](#)

## Getting ready for housing on DairyBeef 500 farms



With daylight hours declining and heavy rainfall over recent weeks, the housing of stock is under way or just around the corner on many farms throughout the country. Tommy Cox, DairyBeef 500 Advisor, reports that this is also the case among DairyBeef 500 participants.

[Click here to read more!](#)

## Maintaining Calf Performance at Grass



In general, the summer gone by has been tough on calves at grass. Most calf to beef producers found the growth rates of calves during the wet July and August has being back on previous years. The grass dry matter (DM) was low and worm burdens were higher than usual contributing to reduced growth rates. This has led to some calves being underweight for the time of the year. February and early born March calves should weigh 180 to 190 kgs on the 1st September, however many farmers are saying calves are closer to 160 kgs on that date.

All is not lost and over the next couple of months if the right management practices are implemented, these calves can still be on target for the start of housing. The target weigh on the 1st November is to have calves above 220 kgs.

[Click here to read more!](#)

## National Dairy Beef Welfare Scheme



Over 14,383 farmer applicants joined the Dairy Beef Welfare Scheme in 2023. This is a substantial increase in farmer participants from the first Dairy Beef Programme announced in 2020 where 8,474 herds applied.

The majority of dairy beef calves now on farm would be over 12 weeks

old and can be weighed in participating herds. The weight data recorded should be submitted to the ICBF database within 7 days of the weighing event.

**Find out more about the scheme here!**



# Getting Winter Ready

## Teagasc/ AHI Autumn Beef Health Walks 2023

*Topics to be discussed include:*

Housing Requirements; Winter Nutrition; Animal Health and Farm Safety

**Wednesday, 4 October | 2pm**  
Tom Jackson, Quitrent, Kildorrery,  
Co. Cork P67 PE08

**Tuesday, 10 October | 11am**  
Killian & Margaret O'Leary,  
Askeaton, Co. Limerick V94 48N1

**Wednesday, 11 October | 11am**  
Ciaran & Christina Condren,  
Gorey, Co. Wexford Y25 VH63

**Thursday, 12 October | 2.30pm**  
Richard Brennan, Holycross,  
Thurles, Co. Tipperary E41 FT04

**Friday, 20 October | 11am**  
James Madigan, Ballyhale,  
Co. Kilkenny R95 W407

**Tuesday, 24 October | 11am**  
Michael O'Donnell, Cappoquin,  
Co. Waterford P51 RR02

**Thursday, 26 October | 4pm**  
Oliver O'Hara, Leckaun,  
Co. Leitrim F91 Y8P6

**Friday, 27 October | 2pm**  
John Dunne, Tinnacrannagh House,  
Portarlinton, Co. Offaly R32 V127

**Thursday, 2 November | 2pm**  
Proinnsias Creedon, Clondrohid, Macroom, Co. Cork P12 NX37



For more info visit [www.teagasc.ie/beefwalks](http://www.teagasc.ie/beefwalks)

The Teagasc Beef Specialist and local Advisory team are hosting a series of Autumn Beef Health Walks in association with Animal Health Ireland (AHI).

Topics to be discussed include:

- Housing Requirements
- Winter Nutrition
- Animal Health
- Farm Safety

**Click here to see dates and venues!**



## DairyBeef500 Programme

### Sustainable Dairy Beef Production

The DairyBeef500 Demonstration Farmers are sponsored by:



Ballyvadin Demonstration Farm is sponsored by:



### Teagasc

Oak Park, R93 XE12, Carlow

This email was sent to {{contact.EMAIL}}  
You've received it because you've subscribed to Teagasc Beef news.

[Unsubscribe](#)



[Legal Notice](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)