

Teagasc Johnstown Castle
Teagasc/ABP Dairy Beef Research Programme

Update: 27-07-2017

Animal Performance: Yearlings

- Yearlings are performing well at grass, grazing swards of ~1500kgDM/ha.
- Weighing 21/07/2016 gave an average of 403 kg liveweight.
- Heifers will begin their 60 day finishing period next month.



	Liveweight (kg)	ADG (kg/day)
High	397	.96
Medium	410.5	.97
Low	400	.96

Animal Performance: 2017 calves

- Last of calves arrived on the 7th July.
- All calves vaccinated for pneumonia (Boviplast) and dosed for worms (Panacur) on 18th July.
- Calves were randomised into their stocking density groups on 27th July. Groups are balanced for breed, sire, date of birth and weight on arrival.

18/07/2017	Liveweight (kg)
High	130.6
Medium	132.6
Low	132.5

- Approximately 12 calves are quite weak and will continue grazing separate to the stocking density trial groups until they gain strength.
- One calf has severe bloat and now has a screw in its side (rumen fistula) for gas release.
- There is large variation between calves, with 128.5 kg range between the lowest (75.5kg) and highest (204kg) weights.



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Grassland Management

- Grass growth has remained low, averaging 45 kg DM/ha/day.
- Strong paddocks are put aside for later cut silage or being now cut and baled.

<i>Rotation length:</i>	21 days
<i>Residual height:</i>	4cm
<i>Dry matter %:</i>	20
<i>Livestock:</i>	72 1-2 year old (410kg), 60 0-6 months (110kg).

Date of cover: 21-07-2017	High	Medium	Low
Farm Cover (kg DM/ha)	878	861	869
Cover/LU (kg DM/LU)	209	209	169
Growth/ha (kg DM/ha/day)	33	56	46
Demand/ha (kg DM/ha/day)	45	44	58
Days ahead	20	20	15
Silage	3.88 ha	4.39 ha	9.55 ha

Medium stocking density farmlet

