

Shinagh Dairy Farm Report 17-07-2015

Profitable Science Based Farming

Farm Details

Grazing area available 61.52 ha (stocked at 3.46LU/ha on the grazing area now)

Farm Cover 760kg/DM/Ha (191kg/DM/cow)

Growth for the last week has averaged 88 kg/DM/ha per day.

Demand: 3.46 cows/ha by 17kg/cow = 59kg/DM/ha per day.

19 day rotation, feeding no supplement

227 cows

Grass growth was 88kg/DM/ ha per day for the last week on all the grazing ground. The attached wedge shows the farm, with two paddocks taken out for silage bales. The stocking rate is now 3.46 cows per hectare and a feed demand of 59kg of drymatter per hectare per day with the reseeded paddocks back in the rotation. It has been difficult to get an opportunity to cut paddocks for bales. We have cut paddocks that needed cutting in any dry weather window that was available. There was no wilting of grass done obviously. We know these will end up as “pancake” flat bales but it is important to get the paddocks cut now so they will be needed in the next rotation.

The milk yield is 19.21 litres/cow per day. Current milk test is 4.27% fat and 3.70% protein. SCC is 150,000 and TBC of 8,000. This is 1.58kg of milksolids per day and 4.60 kg of milk solids per total hectare per day. Milk volume sold to the end of June is up 7% and milk solids sold are up 6%. At the same average cow numbers as last year (215 for the year) we have sold 245kg of milk solids per cow to the end of June.

Non return rate to first service is holding at 66%. The milking machine liners will be changed next week, they have their 2,200 milkings done at this stage.

Weekly updates are on the Shinagh website: <http://www.shinaghdairy.ie/>