

# **Shinagh Dairy Farm Report 20-10-2015**

## **Profitable Science Based Farming**

### **Farm Details**

**All farm available for grazing 77.8 ha (2.63cows/ha currently)**

**Farm Cover 1046kg/Dm/Ha (398kg/Dm/cow).**

**Growth for the last week has averaged 31kg/Dm/ha per day.**

**Demand: 2.63 cows/ha by 17kg/cow = 45 kg/Dm/ha per day.**

**40 day rotation, feeding no supplement**

**205 cows milking, 5 dry, 16 not in calf sold, 1 dead.**

Grass growth was 31 kg/Dm/ ha per day for the last week on all the grazing ground. The attached PastureBase wedge shows the farm grass supply. We are feeding silage bales at 4kg of drymatter per cow per day currently. The cows not in calf (NIC) have been sold to reduce our grass demand and ensure we will have more days with the cows milking from grass this autumn. We started closing paddocks on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October and aim to graze 75% of the farm in the next 30 days. To do this we have to graze 2.5 % of the farm each day. We have grazed some lighter covers to achieve this target, and the level of silage feeding will be reduced this week. Once we have achieved the 75% grazed by Nov 5<sup>th</sup> we will make the remaining 25% last out until late Nov before housing the herd full time.

We are starting to dry off cows based on their condition score. So far 5 cows have been dried off. We are checking condition score regularly and any cow below 2.75 condition will be dried off first calvers in particular will be given a longer dry cow period of up to 12 weeks.

The milk yield is 11.27 litres/cow per day. Current milk test is 4.87% fat and 4.40% protein. SCC is 146,000 and TBC of 7,000. This is 1.08kg of milksolids per day and 2.83kg of milk solids per total hectare per day.

The herd has been scanned and 16 cows out of the 227 cows that were bred are not in calf. This is a 7% not in calf after 12 weeks breeding.

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