

“Your education, your future, just better”

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

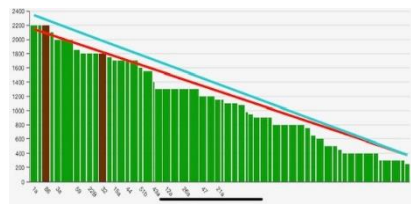
Vol 1 No 1

Welcome to the first of our revised weekly newsletters where we give an overview of college and farm activities. More detailed information on any aspect contained in the newsletter may be obtained by contacting us directly.

Grass

The last grazing rotation starts this week on both the dairy and drystock farms. This means fields grazed from 01st October will not be grazed again until spring 2022.

Grass supply remains slightly ahead of target at 415kgs Dry Matter (DM) per livestock unit, equating to 24 days grass ahead. The highest covers are 2200 Kg DM/Ha with good graze outs being achieved, strip wires being used to give 12 hour allocations. The target is to have 60% of the farm grazed by 01st November.



The aim is to keep all stock at grass day and night for the month of October, with dairy cows housed by night and grazed by day from early November until drying off in mid-December. Finishing cattle are planned to be fully housed in early November with weanlings and ewes housed in late November and mid-December respectively.

Lambs & Ewes

The second last draft of lambs were sold last week, with one remaining draft scheduled for late October. At €6.00 per kg + 10c QA, these weeks lambs averaged €125.29/hd at an average weight of 21.42Kgs. All lambs sold to date

have been finished exclusively from grass. The remaining lambs are now being supplemented with 300gr concentrate per day while still at grass.

Ewes remain out of sight and sound from rams, but rams will be introduced to the field adjacent to ewes and ewe lambs on Monday next for a 36 hour period to take advantage of the ‘ram effect’.

Empty Cows

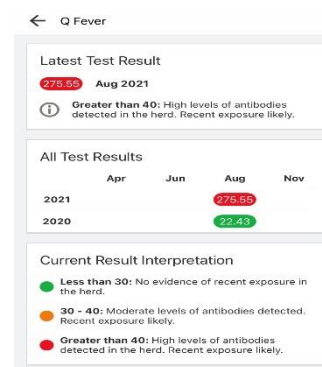
The first 10 empty cows were sold this week in Listowel Mart, accompanied Advanced Drystock Management Students. Average weight was 514 Kgs with an average price of €629. Students received a warm Kerry welcome from mart manager Barney O’Connor.

Herd Health

Salmonella vaccine (Bovivac S) was administered this week to all dairy cows by students on the Advanced Dairy Herd Management course. Meanwhile toxoplasmosis vaccine (Toxovax) was administered to all ewes and ewe lambs by students of the Advanced Drystock Management course.

All dairy cows were Body Condition Scored as part of the autumn management policy, carried out by Advanced Dairy Herd Management students.

Results received this week from Munster Bovines Health Monitoring indicate that Q Fever and Mycoplasma at much higher levels than the same time last year in the dairy herd. As there are no vaccines available for either,



management will be key to managing both potential diseases.

Locomotion scoring continues weekly but there were no cows put forward for foot trimming this week. Twice weekly foot bathing continues, and we are using the product Podcur SV in a Hoofcount Excel footbath.

Student Visits

Next week all Level 5 Certificate in Agriculture Students, Level 6 Advanced Dairy Herd Management & Level 6 Advanced Drystock Management Students will attend the Teagasc Signpost farm walk on the farm of Niall & Gerry Moloney in Crecora.

Meanwhile Level 6 Advanced Mechanisation Students will visit both Abbey Machinery in Toomevarra and O'Donnell Engineering in Emly.

Industry visits form an integral part of all our courses where students get to see theory from the classroom being put into action in the commercial work environment.

Open Day

Friday 29th October we will hold our **Careers and College Open Day** from 10am to 1.00pm.

This will be an opportunity to come and view the college and farm facilities, meet with staff and students, and get all the information about developing a career in the agricultural industry. Prior registration is not required, and all are welcome. Courses on offer include

- Level 5 Certificate in Agriculture
- Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Dairy Herd Management
- Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Drystock Management
- Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Agricultural Mechanisation
- Level 6 Higher Certificate in Agricultural Engineering (CAO Code LC284)

- Level 7 Batchelor in Engineering (Agricultural Engineering)
- Teagasc Distance Education Green Cert (for Non Agricultural Award Holders)
- Teagasc Part Time Green Cert Programme

Group Visits

We are now back accepting visiting groups, be that schools, groups of farmers or individuals. Contact Mary in admin at 061-393100 and we will be happy to tailor a package to suit your needs.

Social Media

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Insatgram and TikTok for daily updates on college and farm activities.

Photo of the Week



Marc Nolan attending the 'Run for Pakie' on Sunday 26th September in the college.

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