



FARM PROFITABILITY PROGRAMME  
Quality, Efficiency, Sustainability



This month's feature farm is:

**Liam, Anne & Orna Casey – Ardnageeha,  
Cullen, Mallow, Co. Cork**



HERD SIZE	<b>116</b>
LITRES PER COW/ PER DAY	<b>25 litres</b>
FAT%	<b>4.00</b>
PROTEIN%	<b>3.40</b>
SCC	<b>126</b>
TBC	<b>24</b>
TCM	<b>0.002</b>
FEED KG	<b>3kg 16% Nut</b>
GRASS SITUATION	<b>Grass growth is good. Plenty grass in front of cows</b>
SILAGE GROUND - FERTILISER 27% N (CAN)	<b>Cut sward with sulphur 2500 gallons Pasture sward 1 bag on grazing ground.</b>
BREEDING	<b>7 weeks of Ai 2 Hereford bull with the cows- bulls swapped every 2<sup>nd</sup> day.</b>
SILAGE MADE ON FARM	<b>Pit &amp; Bales 1<sup>st</sup> cut pit in, and making bales from strong paddocks.</b>

**Tip of the Month;** Work from your shoulders up.

## MILK PRICE

The milk price for May 2022 is 50.25 cent per litre (inc. Vat) with a 2 cent per litre supplementary payment for milk of 3.6% Butterfat and 3.3% Protein

## Milk Cooling



With the warmer weather, milk cooling is essential. Ensuring your plate cooler is running efficiently will save you money, as milk will be cooled below 10 degrees upon entering the bulk tank.

Milk exiting farm should be cooled and stored at 4 degrees, within 2 hours of milking. If your bulk tank is not bringing the temperature down to under 4 degrees, then you need to get your bulk tank serviced. There is a high risk of milk going sour.

## Chlorates & TCM

Chlorine based detergents are not allowed to be used for the cleaning of milking equipment and equipment on processing sites. Chlorine is linked to 2 residues- Trichloromethane (TCM) & Chlorate.

- TCM is associated with Poor plant rinsing and use of high chlorine products accumulating in fat portion of milk and fat rich products.
- Chlorate is associated with Chlorate increases as chlorine degrades-storage. Chlorate present in detergents/disinfectants and water supplies.
- TCM tests are carried out to measure the level of chlorine present in milk, to identify if chlorine free cleaning is being carried out.
- A satisfactory result is <0.002 mg/kg (2 on supplier texting system).
- Anything above this level is too high.

Milk suppliers will be suspended if chlorates are continually high in their milk samples tested by North Cork Creameries.

## Some Timely CellCheck Reminders for June



### 1. REGULAR MACHINE CHECKS:

Using simple daily, weekly and monthly checks will keep your machine problem free, and provide an early warning if anything is amiss. Check out the farm Guidelines on the AHI website for more detail.

### 2. TEAT DISINFECTION:

Do not stop during the summer months! Completely cover every teat, of every cow, after every milking. It's the most effective way of preventing new infections and reducing SCC. Some disinfectants also act as fly repellents, helping reduce the number of flies in the parlour during these warm evenings- don't forget that flies also carry mastitis-causing bacteria.

### 3. MILK RECORD:

By recording your cows regularly (at least 6 times per lactation) you can easily see what's happening within your herd- which are the problem cows or top performers? Use the CellCheck Farm Summary Report to see the areas of excellence, and those that need attention. All this information will be extremely useful when it comes to drying off cows.

## Grow more milk

Trust Ecosyl to make your silage more productive



For more information visit [www.ecosyl.com](http://www.ecosyl.com)

volac

**ECOSYL**

For consistently better silage

## The Importance of Changing your Milk Liners



The milk liner is the only part of the milking machine that comes in direct contact with the cow so their condition is critical for mastitis control and an efficient milking process.

Over time liners lose tension, absorb fat and hold bacteria. Rubber naturally deteriorates over time anyway, and this deterioration is enhanced with exposure to the cleaning products used for machine disinfection. This deterioration is sufficient to reduce the speed and completeness of milking while increasing teat end damage and the spread of mastitis bacteria.

The interior of the liner can also become rough, making it more difficult to clean and disinfect allowing it to harbour bacteria, increasing the potential of mastitis and cross-contamination between cows.

The industry recommendation is to change liners after 2,000 milkings or 6 months, whichever comes first. Herds that have increased in size, with parlour size staying the same, sometimes forget that each cluster is milking more cows now than it might have a few years ago meaning that liners may need to be changed every 3 or 4 months.

To work out exactly when you should change your liners, simply complete the following calculation.

$$\frac{2,000 \times \text{Number of milking units}}{\text{Herd size} \times \text{Number of milkings per day}} = \text{Number of days in between liner changes}$$

Example – 70 cows & 10 Unit parlour

$(2000 \times 10) \div (70 \times 2) = 142.86$  days between liner changes.  
Resulting in 2 liner changes in the year