



Farm Profitability Programme

Feature Farmer - Padraig O Keefe – Fealebridge



HERD SIZE	50
LITRES PER COW/ PER DAY	24l
FAT%	3.93%
PROTEIN%	3.37%
KG MS/COW	1.8kg/ms
SCC	157
TBC	9
TCM	0.002
FEED KG	3.5kg 16% Dairy Nut
BREEDING	Hereford bull with cows, 3 weeks of breeding remaining.
FARM GRAZING	Good levels of leafy grass available on farm, taking paddocks for bales & Topping.
SILAGE GROUND - SLURRY (DRIBBLE BAR)	2000gl/acre
SILAGE GROUND - FERTILISER 18-6-12+SULPHUR	100kg/acre
SECOND CUT SILAGE	1 st week August
SILAGE ON FARM	100% Bales

Tip of the Month; Keep an eye on grass levels on farm, walk regularly. Grass situation can change weekly on farm and quickly effect quality of milk, don't be afraid to take out paddocks if needed to keep grass on track.

MILK PRICE

The milk price for May 2021 is 35 cent per litre (inc. Vat) with a 0.5 cent/litre supplementary payment for milk of 3.6% Butterfat and 3.3% Protein.



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Milk Quality Events

Quest speakers on the day will discuss milk recording Reports, chlorates and milk quality issues.

Events will take place in each branch as follows:

Kanturk: Tuesday 13th July at 11am in Dromalour Store. RSVP attendance to Caroline Hedigan (085)8763059

Cullen: Tuesday 13th July at 2pm in Cullen Parish Hall. RSVP attendance to Caroline Hedigan (085)8763059

Newtownsandes: Thursday 15th July at 11am in Newtownsandes Store. RSVP attendance to Dan in NTS Store (068) 49354

Fealebridge: Thursday 15th July at 2pm in Fealebridge Store. RSVP attendance to Brian in FB Store (068) 31101





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.

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

=

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 minimum of 2 liner changes in the year**

Milk Quality Tips

Temperature is vital with chlorine free washing in a milk plant. Starting water temperature should be above 70 degrees with the wash solution should be dumped above 55 degrees after 10 minutes of circulating the milk plant. If you are finding it difficult to keep the temperature up cut the washing time to 8 minutes and ensure the correct dump temp of above 55 degrees is achieved.

Products to Use

Circodine CF is working very well on many dairy farms. This product is 70 % caustic. (A general rule of thumb is 1 scoop of Circodine CF to 6 milking machine units) Liquid chlorine free detergents are 30% caustic.

Acid Descaling – an acid descale should be done warm – not hot on your milk plant. A very hot acid descale will destroy your rubbers. (you should be able to put your hand into the solution before starting to circulate it)

Things to watch out for

A hot descale will destroy your rubbers and result in further problems down the line.

Two acid descales should be done a week – it is best to do the Acid Descale the morning your milk is collected, as hot water may not be plentiful.

Liquid chlorine free detergents cannot be re – used

Atlantic Water Heaters & Solutions



Atlantic Water heaters stocked in Kanturk and Newtownsandess stores. Alternative options available contact reps listed below.

Sizes Available

- 150L
- 200L
- 300L

Collection only Delivery not available on item.

Any Quires Contact:

Caroline Hedigan (Kanturk & Cullen) 085 876 3059

Luke Lynch (NTS & Fealebridge) 085 856 3593