

Issue: April 2019

Milk Price



Irish Johne's Disease Control Programme now open to all dairy herds!!

Registration is now open to all dairy herdowners visit the animal health Ireland website: animalhealthireland.ie

The Irish dairy industry has developed a long-term approach to the control of Johne's disease. Phase Two of the Irish Johne's Control Programme (IJCP) is a long-term and sustainable approach to the control of Johne's disease with 4 years of funding available.

Phase two of the programme has two pathways:

Test-negative and test-positive herds over a four year period!

PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

Herd owners are required to complete:

- Regular Veterinary Risk Assessments and Management Plans (VRAMPs) undertaken by approved veterinary practitioners (AVPs).
- An annual herd test (**one blood or one milk sample** per eligible animal) for all herds in 2019.
- Ancillary testing of faecal samples (by PCR) following ELISA test-positive results in herds where infection has not already been confirmed (by previous faecal-positive result).
- A veterinary investigation, funded through the Targeted Advisory Service on Animal Health (TASAH) following positive ancillary test results. In 2019, the level of financial support available to all herdowners, whether new entrants for 2019 or already in the programme in Phase One will be €2.75 per eligible animal tested in 2019. This level of support will be maintained for herds in the test-positive pathway. For herds in the test negative pathway, processors will provide €2.06 and €1.38 in the second and third years. Visit: animalhealthireland.ie to register online or drop into your local branch to fill out a form in hard copy.

The Benefits of Milk Recording

1. Identify high SCC cows
2. Track how your best and worst cows are performing
3. Put more money in your pocket

	Average	Top 10%	Difference
Fat & Protein Kgs	363	475	112
Fat %	4.06	4.25	.19
Protein %	3.49	3.62	.13
SCC	220	121	99
Calving Interval	394	367	27
6 week calving rate	66%	86%	20%
EBI	€82	€113	€31

The difference between milking 363 kgs of milk solids (MS) verses 475 = 112kgs/MS @€5 MS = €560. In 50 cows this amounts to €25000 or in 100 cows this comes to €56,000 in a year of milk production!!

The top 10% of herds are not all cross bred herds! Of course some are but not all of them!

They are well bred herds that are using AI for many years and attention to detail is paramount.

Using AI and picking bulls with high fat & protein traits along with milk recording if you are not already doing so, is vital also.

Contact Munster Cattle Breeding Group for more details: Tel: 022 43228

Or Contact Darren Deasy Agri Advisor on 085 8595399

Subsidy of €1 /cow in milk recording plus €20 towards the cost of the herd fee from North Cork Creameries





Any queries or feedback on Sire Advice,
please call 023-8820452 or email
query@icbf.com

When running the Sire Advice application, it is recommended to **select a Bull Team** with reliability above 90%.

Use teams of bulls

< 100 cows = 7 bulls
100-150 cows = 8 bulls
150 - 200 = 10 bulls.

- Bulls are matched to cows to **improve EBI, Milk and Fertility sub-index, Milk kgs and Conformation.**

- All Sire Advice selections can be transferred to AI technician handhelds & Herd Plus Breeding Charts.

The Sire Advice application will be available in both standard (simpler and quick) and advanced forms labelled '**Manually Enter Bulls**' and '**Sire Advice Plus**' with all the new features.

Why Should I reseed?

Reseeding costs c. € 300 an acre. Reseeded swards should last 8-10+ years on your farm if correctly managed. High perennial rye grass swards cover the cost of reseeding within 18 months.

-Low perennial rye grass swards grow less grass, especially in the spring when grass is of most economic value to your enterprise.

-Spring grass growth accounts for c.15% of the PPI value of a variety.

Low perennial ryegrass swards quality (DMD) and support lower levels of production compared to new reseeds. Correct grassland management also plays a massive role in pasture quality. A combination of both will lead to increased grass DMD across the main grazing season.

New reseeds are 25% more responsive to nitrogen.

Nutrition

As cows approach the breeding season they need to be on a rising plane of nutrition.

Signs that your cows' energy demand is not being met?

- Low milk proteins
- A milk butterfat to protein ratio of greater than 1.4:1
- Excessive BCS loss: a body condition score loss of greater than 0.5 in the 8 weeks after calving will lower your conception rates

Be careful not to over estimate how much grass your cows are eating

Grass Tetany: Grass tetany is caused by a lack of magnesium (Mg) absorption. Grass tetany affects muscle function, hence the trembling/twitching/trashing.

Death is caused by the heart (a muscle) giving up. Feed the correct level of cal mag in your milking parlour to prevent these issues.

Are you having TBC Trouble?

Look no further than the dairy geyser

- Endless supply of hot water
- Heats the water you use so huge savings on fuel bills
- Temperature control from ambient to 150 degrees
- TAMS 2 grant available of 40%
- Runs on kerosene/ petrol
- Mobile unit can be hooked up to a power hose

For more info contact:

Darren Deasy Agri Advisor: 085 8595399

Email: Darren@northcorkcreameries.com

