

Chlorine Free on Farm

Water heating accounts for about 23% of energy consumed on dairy farms, with all milk suppliers to be chlorine free by August 2020. Having adequate volumes of hot water available at the correct temperature when required is critical.

Consider upgrading your water heating system?

Consider amount of hot water required?
Ensure the water heating system you use can deliver the quantities required rapidly.

The following rule of thumb can be used to determine your hot water heating requirements:

- 10 litres of hot water per cluster for the milking machine
- 1% of the bulk tank volume for tank washing – generally at 70 degrees (check cleaning product advice)

Example 16 unit parlour requires 160 litres of hot water per wash

8000 litre bulk tank requires 80 litres of hot water per wash

240 litres of hot water required if washing both on same day It is advisable to test your water for hardness & install a water softener if necessary to prevent limescale buildup.

Broadly speaking you can choose from one of the 3 options below:

1. Electrical water heating
2. Oil fired water heating (Dairy geyser)
3. LPG fired water heating (Gas)

Water Heating Running Costs*

| System Type | Cost per 100L** |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Day Rate Electricity | €2.10 |
| Night Rate Electricity | €0.94 |
| Gas Fired system | €0.91 |
| Oil Fired system | €0.72 |

*Indicative cost of heating hot water from 10 to 80 degrees based on 2019 average prices

MILK PRICE

The milk price for February 2020 is 32.00cent per litre (incl. Vat.) for milk of 3.60% Butterfat and 3.30% Protein.

Coronavirus Covid -19

North Cork Creameries has put measures in place as part of the national effort to minimize the spread of Coronavirus (Covid 19) If you or a member of your family or farm staff are experiencing symptoms potentially linked to Covid 19 – please follow the advice on www.hsa.ie and contact your family doctor.

Please be advised you cannot enter the lab with milk samples without first contacting the lab!!
Lab Kanturk : 029 72130

Coronavirus COVID-19



If you have fever and/or cough you should stay at home regardless of your travel or contact history.

If you have returned from an area that is subject to travel restrictions due to COVID-19 you should restrict your movement for 14 days. Check the list of affected areas on www.dfa.ie

All people are advised to:

- > **Reduce** social interactions
 - > **Keep a distance** of 2m between you and other people
 - > **Do not** shake hands or make close contact where possible
- If you have symptoms visit hse.ie OR phone HSE Live 1850 24 1850

How to Prevent



Stop shaking hands or hugging when saying hello or greeting other people



Distance yourself at least 2 metres (6 feet) away from other people, especially those who might be unwell



Wash your hands well and often to avoid contamination



Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing and discard used tissue



Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

Symptoms

- > Fever (High Temperature)
- > A Cough
- > Shortness of Breath
- > Breathing Difficulties

For Daily Updates Visit
www.gov.ie/health-covid-19
www.hse.ie

Herdwatch - Saving time on Farm paperwork

North Cork Creameries supplier, Donal Lehane along with Thomas McAuliffe, milk 100 pedigree Holsteins in Kanturk and use Herdwatch farm management app to reduce farm paperwork and make better decisions.



“We signed up at the kitchen table in a few minutes one day and now use the Herdwatch app to record all of our remedies, treatments and feed purchases in the easy to use app.

We register calves with the department in the app plus it looks after our pedigree registrations and breeding records including serves & scans with the ICBF.

Herdwatch has made getting ready for our Quality Assurance inspections a lot easier, as all the reports are there already in the app ready for the inspector.”

Please visit www.herdwatch.com/blog to read more on how Donal & Thomas are finding the Herdwatch app. The Herdwatch app is available to download for free, visit www.herdwatch.com or call 0505-34400 for more information.

Feeding for Fertility

Good fertility performance is dependent on genetics, breeding management, herd health & nutrition.

Energy nutrition

Energy intake is the most important factor in nutrition. Underfeeding (inadequate energy intake) leads to:

- Low milk protein
- Excessive body condition loss & poor fertility performance

Early warning signs of underfeeding

- Low milk proteins, in early lactation, milk protein below 3.1 are of a concern
- High butterfat to protein ratio

This is an indication of ketosis. Herd butterfat to protein ratio of above 1.4 : 1 are of concern e.g. butterfat % 4.5 protein % 3.15 is a ratio of 1.43 : 1 The high butterfat is coming from the body fat the cow is losing off her back

Feeding rates for an all grass diet

| | Kg Concentrates |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 20 Litres | 0 (feed to cover Cal-Mag & Minerals) |
| 25 Litres | 2 |
| 30 Litres | 3 |
| 35 Litres | 5.5 |
| 40 Litres | 7 |

Correct concentrate feeding for grass silage quality

Buffer feeding if silage quality isn't good enough is vital to ensure you are getting the most from your herd.