



Farm Profitability Programme Liam Hanrahan – Aughrim Moyvane



TIP OF THE MONTH; WATCH YOUR GRASS, IT CAN RUN OUT VERY QUICK THIS TIME OF YEAR.

HERD SIZE	80
LITRES PER COW/ PER DAY	18l
FAT%	4.39%
PROTEIN%	3.67%
KG MS/COW	1.51kg/ms
SCC	68
TBC	2
TCM	0.002
FEED KG	4kg 15% Dairy Nut
BREEDING	Breeding finished – Scanning cows & heifers in 2 weeks time.
GRASS	Currently happy with grass. There is a good lot ahead of cows so happy for the moment.
FERTILISER	½ bag of sweet grass spread on the last fertiliser round 2 weeks ago.
SILAGE	Sent silage samples for testing and full mineral analysis last week waiting on results.

MILK PRICE

The milk price for August 2021 is 35.5 cent per litre (inc. Vat) with a 1 cent per litre supplementary payment for milk of 3.6% Butterfat and 3.3% Protein.

Congratulations to Joe Barry Castlemagner for representing North Cork Creameries in the National NDC & Kerrygold Milk Quality Awards.



Barry Farm
Cork | North Cork

Herd Size: 95
Milk Supply: 617,176
TBC (weighted): 10,000
SCC (weighted): 149
Butterfat % (weighted): 4.34
Protein % (weighted): 3.65

NDC & Kerrygold
Quality Milk Awards

Silage Testing and Mineral Analysis

Silage analysis results allow farmers to predict animal intake in terms of daily dry matter intakes, energy value, and protein content. grass and good quality silage are reasonably well balanced for the major minerals but deficiencies of trace minerals mainly copper, selenium, iodine and cobalt are common in Irish pastures.

How to take a representative sample:

- A silage sampler/core is required.
- Take samples from the highest point of pit and driven down.
- Up to 7 samples are required per silo and 2 samples from a batch of bales.
- Cover the holes made to protect silage.
- Label bag: sample no./what test/name

Silage samples can be sent into FBA Laboratories Waterford for silage and mineral analysis. Drop your samples into your local branch for testing.

Getting ready for the 2021 dry period

On many farms this is the time of year, in advance of drying off, when culling lists are created. There are multiple reasons why cows are added to this list including infertility, lameness and old age. Having a persistently high SCC or being chronically infected with mastitis are also important reasons why cows should be culled. If a cow has had three or more clinical cases of mastitis during the current lactation, she should be added to the culling list as she is likely to be a source of bacteria and infection for other healthy cows. I know sometimes this is not an easy decision to make as one or more might be your favourite cow that has worked hard for you, but by culling these cows you are protecting the healthy young cows which are the future of your herd.

It is worth remembering that dry cow antibiotic treatment does not cure all existing infections and many studies have shown that for older cows with chronic infection, the cure rates are even lower. Some particular bacteria can be very difficult to treat successfully in any age group. Sometimes, culling cows is the only way to eliminate these infections. A small number of high cell count cows can have a significant effect on bulk tank SCC level and milk quality payments.

Milk recording is the most accurate way of identifying these persistently infected cows and any time of the year is a good time to start milk recording. In fact, there is a lot to be said for starting now when you are not under pressure with fresh calvers or training new heifers, as can be the case in the spring. If you need some extra motivation, recent studies have shown that along with many other benefits, herds that milk record have:

- 11.3% higher gross margins,
- 13.5% higher milk yields and
- 26.3% lower average bulk tank SCCs, than herds that didn't milk record.

So what are you waiting for?

For more information, contact your local Milk Recording service provider- Munster Bovine 022 43228 or Co-Op Milk Advisor Darren Deasy 085 859 5399

Dry Cow Minerals



Mineral Bucket & Bag Sale Coming Soon

Mineral Feeding Pre-Calving

The objectives of a Dry Cow Management Program are for the cow to calve:

1. In an optimum calcium status; This is a function of the silage mineral status and the level mineral of Magnesium and Vitamin D3 in the pre-calving mineral level.
2. With reduced metabolic disorders; This is influenced by the mineral Magnesium, Iodine, Selenium and Vitamin E & A levels.
3. In an optimum immune status; This is influenced by the mineral, Vitamins and trace elements (Selenium and Vitamins A & E).

Mineral must haves:

A mineral that is formulated to meet the must haves in the accompanying tables will result in (assuming BCS, energy and protein nutrition and calving management are correct):

- Reduction in sub-clinical milk fever
- Less retained placenta
- Reduced calf mortality
- Enhanced immunity and thrive
- Improved cow fertility

When it comes to animal nutrition, Co-op Source Minerals are your guarantee for great quality and value. This product range has been formulated to meet the upper end of Teagasc's recommended mineral levels and has been specifically formulated to meet the needs of Irish Dairy, Cattle and Sheep.