

Keep the Milk FLOWING!



The October weather has greatly improved grass dry matter and grazing conditions which in turn has largely kept cow yield from dropping at its usual pace. Margins have been tight to non-existent on dairy farms this year and with the present good back-end to the year accompanying a recovering milk price, now may be the time to re-coup some losses or generate some profit.

It's essential to feed cows properly this time of year to avoid severe milk drops, nights are getting colder and days shorter, therefore cows naturally begin to slow down unless they are properly nourished.

The best nut to feed this time of the year is Mega milk 16%. This is an excellent quality nut, formulated with premium ingredients. High levels of maize along with barley, soya bean and beet pulp included. Contains our top mineral spec which comfortably supplies all the cows needs. (Included in the mineral spec is protected selenium (Selplex) and zinc (Biotin) which are very important for hoof health this time of year with roadways become muddy. (Contains 2oz of Cal-Mag in 3kg)



Always the Best

Grass

At this time of year we have to start thinking about early turn-out next spring and its associated benefits. Aim to close the 1st paddocks for grazing next spring by Oct 15th.

Graze them down to 4cm to ensure maximum tillering and aim to close your driest paddocks 1st. Remember 60% of grass available for 1st grazing next spring is grown during the previous autumn.

Finishing Cattle at Grass??

Its one of very few years that heavy cattle can easily be left out and have enough grass as long as it doesn't get too wet. Beware, feed value of grass can drop daily at this time of year.

The best autumn grass is only capable of producing 0.75kg of liveweight gain per day on finishing cattle, where as the minimum target is 1kg. This means that it is essential to either house animals planned for finishing at this stage or supplement where there is a good supply of grass with 2.5kg of concentrates. Cattle close to finish at grass should be receiving 4-6kg of concentrates per day

Weanling Thrive during Winter:

Teagasc have recently high-lighted the common problem of poor weanling thrive during the winter.

**Do you weigh your weanlings at housing??
Whats their average daily gain during the winter??**



Many will be surprised that the national average for weanling thrive is only 0.3kg per day, where it should be at least 0.6kg/day. Farms achieving 0.6kg and over are feeding over 2kg and over of concentrates per day all through the winter period up to 5weeks prior to turn-out where it is reduced and eliminated in order to avail of cheap compensatory growth post turn-out.

The following is the level of concentrates required for 0.6kg of liveweight gain per day along with ad-lib silage.

Silage DMD%	70	65	60
Conc. Feeding level per day	1.2	2.0	2.5

Calculating Feed Stocks & Requirements:

To calculate the volume in pits in metres cubed (m³), multiply the average height by the length by the width and from the following graph you can figure out the volume of fodder you have.

Forage	Fresh weight (kg)	Dry matter (kg)
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Grass silage (1 cubic metre @ 20% DM)	770	155
Grass silage (Round bale @ 30% DM)	650	190
Maize silage (1 cubic metre @ 30% DM)	750	225
Hay (Small sq bale)	20	17
Hay Round bale)	240	205
Straw (Small sq bale)	12.5	11
Straw (Round bale)	150	132

Below: Approximate intake of each animal/month.

Animal type	Pit silage (tonne) per month	4X4 silage bales per month.
Dairy cow	1.6	1.8
Suckler cow	1.4	1.6
In calf heifer	1.3	1.4
Weanling	0.7	0.8
Store cattle	1.3	1.4

To ensure you get your delivery on time, please make sure to place your order before 1pm on the previous day.

We will endeavour to deliver late orders as soon as possible, taking into consideration other deliveries in the area.

Bulk Blown Deliveries

Apart from bulk blown deliveries, **Bulk Feed is also available TIPPED** by tractor and 12ton trailer or artic. Minimum quantities will apply depending on distance from mill.

There is no set day for bulk blown deliveries, but please try & give 3days advance notice when ordering if possible, thank you

For orders outside of hours, please text the following number
086 1852291

Crops:

The level of winter sowing that has taken place over the past 2 weeks has been truly incredible given the struggles with n=both the harvest and price. It really proves that Irish Agriculture is lucky to have most determined and committed grain growers that remain optimistic for the future and willing to grow in hope of a better year next year.

(Winter barley and oat seed all sold out now, plenty of wheat still available)

Winter barley: Sowing should be finished by Oct 15th.

Any remaining fields should be sown at 12 stone per acre.

Winter Wheat: Still plenty of time to sow, right through November where conditions permit. Most ground after beans is sown with wheat. Many of you will harvest maize and beet soon and both these crops provide a perfect rotation to sow wheat after.

Watch out for slug activity during damp mild conditions as Autumn sown crops are not able to outgrow the slug grazing, unlike most of our spring crops.

Beef finishing accommodation

Group size	20 (max)
Pen space	2-3 m squared per animal
Feeding space	30cm per animal (keep feed fresh)
Water trough	1 per 10 animals & needs to be able to supply 40lt per animal per day.
Air Outlet	Should be twice the size of air inlet

Bag Deliveries

With another feed season well under way, we want to remind you of our weekly delivery schedule for deliveries.

Monday: Wholesale deliveries

Tuesday: Kinnitty, Clareen, Coolderry, Birr, Carrig, Lorrha, Rathcabbin, Banagher, Cloghan

Wednesday: Kilbeggan, Ballinagore, R'Fortbridge, Tyrellspass, Castletowngeoghegan, Mullingar.

Thursday: Mountrath, Clonaslee, Rosenallis, Mountmellick, Emo, Portarlinton, Killeigh, Geashill, Daingean, Rhode, Edenderry.

Friday: Belmont, Ferbane, Shannonbridge, Athlone, Moate, Rosemount, Horseleap, Blueball, Rahan, Ballycumber, Tullamore, Clara.

Shop Specials:

Storm 3kg €34.95, buy 2 for €59.95

20 galv pigtail posts only €39.95

Paddock master battery fencer incl battery only €140

8ft Gibney single galv cattle trough only €89.00

jfc micro bowl drinker €45.00

5 gallon galv drinker €69.00

