

### NEWSLETTER JULY 2023

#### **NEWS, AGRI ADVICE & PROMOTIONS**

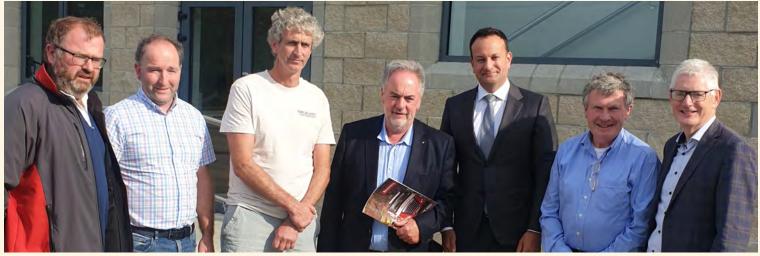


Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, on his visit to our Staunton Food plant, pictured with John O'Regan, Sales Manager, and Derek O'Driscoll, Production Manager at Staunton Foods.

## **ENTERPRISE IRELAND FUNDING FOR STAUNTON FOODS**

Enterprise Ireland recently announced €1.8m funding for Staunton Foods' market diversification project. The company has developed a large customer base in Asian markets over the last six years and has built up a reputation for

supplying quality products. This project is aimed at further developing the company's export capacity.



Members of Barryroe Co-op Board met Taoiseach Leo Varadkar during his recent visit and outlined the ongoing concerns in the dairy industry, particularly relating to the nitrates derogation. Pictured here; Brian McCarthy, Sean Deasy, Patrick Harte, John O'Brien, Peter Fleming and Bill Cahill.

# **HUGE CHALLENGES FACING IRISH AGRICULTURE**

There are huge challenges facing Irish agriculture over the next six months. The loss of the nitrates derogation and concerns around calf exports are just two of several issues. Run off from farms and spreading slurry during the closed period are two of the reasons highlighted by the Department of Agriculture

# NEWS WATCH

#### MILK SUPPLY AND PRICE

June milk supply amounted to 11,765,305 litres which was a 1% decrease on June 2022. Due to weaker market conditions, there is a 1c/L reduction in the

as to why we are at risk of losing our nitrates derogation. It is vital that farmers have sufficient slurry storage for the closed period and catch all run off from farmyards. For any assistance with this, please contact your local Barryroe Co-op advisor.

base price for milk. Carbery is continuing its support for June milk at 3c/L from its stability fund. Barryroe is paying €7.11 per kg of protein and €4.74 per kg of butterfat for variable priced milk. Our average constituents for the month are 3.37% protein 3.98% butterfat and our average price paid for variable priced milk is 42.48c/L, including 0.5c SCC bonus and VAT @5%. The Carbery 3c/L support is also paid on fixed-price milk.

# **AGRI OFFERS**

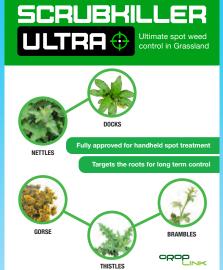


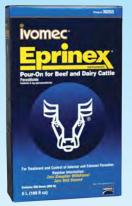
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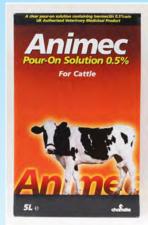


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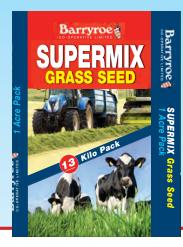




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# GRASS PROFILES WITH CAROLINE O'DONOVAN, BROWNSTOWN

## Mark O' Sullivan Teagasc

Caroline farms in partnership with her mother, Helen, in Brownstown. Cows are currently producing just over 2kgMS/day at 4.24% BF & 3.6% Protein (25 litres). The milking platform stocking rate has reduced to 2.8lu/ha in the last week. Some silage ground and reseeded ground are now back in the grazing platform and some cull cows have been sold.



For most farms in the region, grass growth and quality have been inconsistent and difficult to manage over the last number of weeks. As we have now passed the midpoint in the grazing season, we should now turn our attention to getting grass quality back on track.

**Does your milk yield reduce by more than 2.5% per week in July and August or does your milk yield go up when cows go into after grass?** If the answer to either of these is yes, then you need to look closer at your grass quality. We know that every 4% reduction in grass digestibility reduces milk yield by 5%.

There are only a few weeks left to correct the poorer quality paddocks before we start to build covers in August. Identify the poorer quality paddocks now and aim to take them out as surplus at the end of this month or the start of August.

The temptation to graze some stronger paddocks that are over 1,500kgDM/ha, more often than not is the incorrect decision. However, any decision to take out surplus paddocks should be

looked at in conjunction with your average farm cover. Caroline's aim is to have the average farm cover at 600kgDM/ha at the end of July. Where stocking rates are higher (4LU/ha) taking out surpluses paddocks may not be an option. If paddocks are stemmy and quality is poor, but no surplus grass, use a disc mower to top these paddocks now.

Caroline's priority for the next couple of weeks is grazing the after-grass paddocks at 1,300kg DM/ha and to graze the reseeded ground at covers of <1,000kg DM/ha. Grazing these frequently encourages tillering and this will add to the longevity of that grass. Caroline noted that "these paddocks have the best quality grass on the farm, and they should be kept that way".

The objective for the next 2 months should be to maximise the amount of milk at grass now. It costs  $\in$  3/day to feed a cow now, while it will be more than double that in November.

#### Tips for the next few weeks

- 1. Correct poorer quality swards by either taking surpluses or topping.
- 2. Recycle slurry on fields that have been cut for silage or surplus bales.
- 3. Spread Soiled water and reduce chemical Nitrogen on fields with high clover content (>20%).
- 4. Winter feed, assess availability and act now if a deficit.
- 5. Weigh replacement heifers now and separate out the lightest for preferential treatment.





Prices correct at the time of going to print. Offers available from 27th July to 16th August 2023 inclusive, unless otherwise stated. Customer quotas may apply. All savings shown are versus recommended retail price.

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