

“Your education, your future, just better”

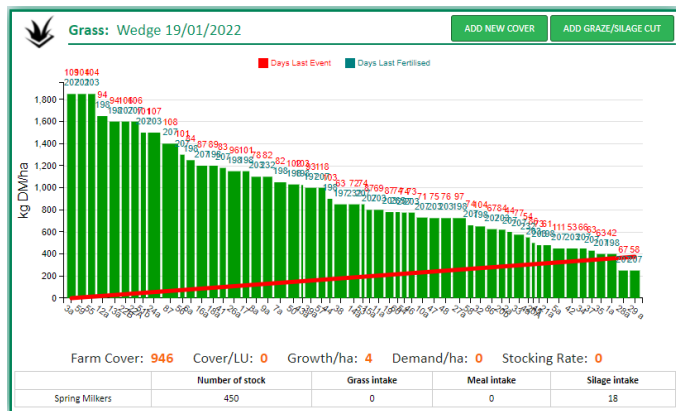
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Welcome to our weekly newsletter where we give an overview of college and farm activities. More detailed information on any aspect of the newsletter may be obtained by contacting us directly by phone or email.

Grass

The first grass cover of the year was carried out on Wednesday. The farm has an average farm cover of 946Kgs DM / Ha and a daily grass growth rate of 4Kgs / DM /Ha.

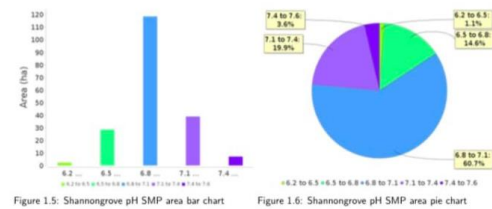
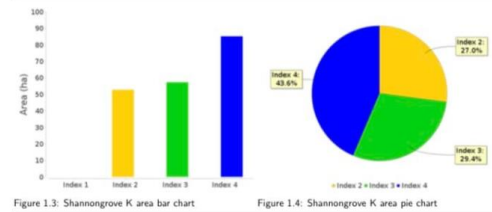
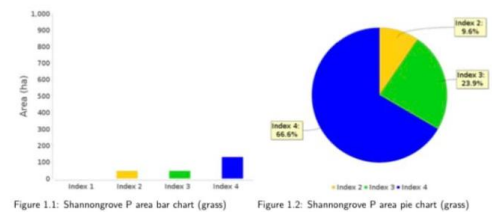


The current good weather means that ground conditions are suitable for the first round of chemical fertiliser and slurry applications. Paddocks with a cover over 800Kgs DM/Ha received 48Kgs/Ha of Alzon Neo Protected Urea on Thursday and Friday while paddocks with a cover less than 800 will receive 4,500 Gallons/Ha of slurry in the coming week using low emissions slurry spreading.



Paddocks are soil sampled on a yearly basis and results from December's sampling show a continued improvement in soil fertility. There are no longer any paddocks with an Index of 1 for either P and K while only two paddocks have a lime requirement.

1.2 Shannongrove soil test result charts



Dairy Herd

Calving 2022 commenced on Friday night with the arrival of a Fr. heifer calf born to a maiden heifer through sexed semen AI (Fr4738). Depending on size, all calves will receive between 3 and 4 litres of colostrum within 1 hour of being born. Calves are then moved on to the automatic feeders. Cows continue to be foot bathed twice per week and are being supplemented daily with minerals on their silage. The first 40 cows moved to the group calving pen during the week. The “revolving doors” in this pen will mean that freshly calved cows will move to the cubicle house nearest the parlour while cows close to calving will move to this maternity ward.

Drystock Enterprise

The finishing beef cattle are continuing on their diet of 5Kgs concentrates / head per day plus silage. They will be weighed again in early February. The yearling cattle were weighed on Monday. Male cattle have an ADG of 0.79Kgs while the yearling heifers are performing very well with an ADG of 1.36Kgs. The ewe lambs carrying twin lambs and the mature ewes carrying triplets are receiving 0.2Kgs of concentrates per head per day. The concentrate feeding programme is outlined in the table below.

Litter Size	2022				
	Weeks pre-lambing				
	10 to 9	8 to 7	6 to 5	4 to 3	2 to 1
	13 Jan to 20 Jan	21 Jan to 29 Jan	30 Jan to 12 Feb	13 Feb to 26 Feb	27 Feb to Lambing
Singles (Mature ewes) 10	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.2 (2 Kgs)	0.2 & 0.2 Soya
Twins (Mature ewes) 43	Nil	Nil	0.2 (8.6kgs)	0.4 (17.2 Kgs)	0.4 & 0.2 Soya
Triplets (Mature ewes) 18	Nil	0.2 (3.6 Kgs)	0.4 (6.8Kgs)	0.6 (10.8 Kgs)	0.6 & 0.3 Soya
Single (Ewe Lambs) 14	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.2 Soya
Twin (Ewe Lambs) 17	0.2 (3.4 Kgs)	0.2 (3.4 Kgs)	0.2 (3.4Kgs)	0.4 (6.8 Kgs)	0.4 & 0.2 Soya

College Activities

Level 6 Advanced Dairy Herd Management and Drystock Management students had their final exams during the week. All exams are supervised and are taking place online thus eliminating the use of paper. It is part of our commitment to run a sustainable farm and college. Teagasc’s Emma Louise Coffey visited the college on Friday to speak to our students about the Professional Diploma in Dairy Herd Management.

Photo of the Week



Protected urea being spread in spring like conditions.

Dates for Your Diary

Our college Open Day takes place on Saturday March 26th.

Our new Distance Education and Part-Time “Green Cert” courses will commence on April 2nd 2022. Visit our website www.salesianag.ie for further details.

Applications are now open for our full time Level 5 Certificate in Agriculture course, which commences in September 2022. Visit our website for more details.

Group Visits

We are now open to accepting visiting groups, be that schools, groups of farmers or individuals. Contact Mary in admin at 061-393100 and we will be happy to tailor a package to suit your needs.

Social Media

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and TikTok for daily updates on college and farm activities.

Contact Details

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