

“Your education, your future, just better”

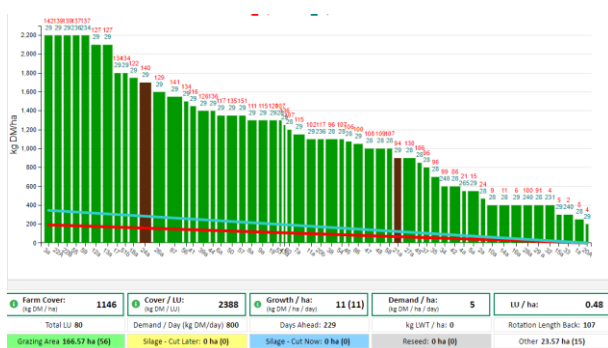
www.salesianag.ie

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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

We have managed to get cows out to grass almost every day since grazing began on January 26th. The third grass cover of the year was taken on February 21st.



The average farm cover was 1146 Kgs DM/Ha with a daily growth rate of 11 Kgs DM/Ha. Our spring rotation plan is very much on target with 26% of the area grazed as of February 28th.

Dairy Herd

We are now four weeks in to the calving season. 70% of the herd has now calved, with 345 cows going through the parlour. While Friesian calves are still being born we are now seeing an increasing number of beef sired calves arriving. Using the Dairy Beef Index we have selected a number of AI bulls from breeds including Limousin, Aubrac, Shorthorn, Parthenaise and Blonde d'Aquitaine. A selection of these calves will join the colleges calf to beef enterprise. On Friday last 100 heifer calves were vaccinated with Rispoval Intranasal to protect against RSV and Pi3 pneumonia. These calves will go to our contract rearer next weekend. All calves will be vaccinated with this vaccine once they are older than 9 days. The first milk recording of the year took place on

February 15th. It is important to start milk recording as soon as possible to resolve any mastitis issues from the dry period.



Drystock Enterprise

Lambing will start in about 2 weeks' time. Ewes carrying triplets are being fed 0.6 Kgs of concentrates/head/day. Twin bearing ewes are on 0.4Kgs/head/day. While ewes carrying singles are getting 0.2Kgs/head/day. Soya bean meal will be introduced to the diet of all ewes this week to increase milk production at lambing time. Ewes are foot bathed on a weekly basis and lime is spread in the pens. As a result, lameness has been kept to a minimum.



On Monday last 9 beef heifers and 7 bullocks were sent to the factory in ABP Rathkeale. Both the heifers and the bullocks had an average carcase weight of 278Kgs and an average price of €4.57/Kg including bonuses was received. Further bullocks will be drafted for sale in two weeks time. Level 5 students will fat and conformation score the finishing cattle during the week as part of their

practical's. Yearling cattle were turned out to grass on Sunday February 27th.

College & Student Activities

Our Higher Certificate in Agriculture – Mechanisation Year 1 students have made great progress on their projects over the last 2 weeks. A range of excellent projects and ideas are being developed in both the fabrication and engines overhaul workshops. The students will present their finished projects to parents, guardians, family and friends on the afternoon of Thursday March 10th. Interested members of the public are also welcome to attend.



Photo of the Week



Year 2 students have arrived back on to the college campus! These yearling beef heifers were let out to grass on February 27th for their 2nd season as grass.

Dates for Your Diary



Salesian Agricultural College
Open Day
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 and our Level 6 Dairy Herd Management, Drystock Management and Mechanisation courses that commence 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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