

REPLACEMENT HEIFER MANAGEMENT

- In order to reach 60% of their mature weight at breeding next spring means that, replacement heifers need to achieve a steady gain of approximately 0.75 kg/day from birth. Interruptions to performance during the lifetime of the heifer may offset target weights being achieved
- Good grassland management is crucial for weanlings to reach target weights
- Rotational grazing in a leader/follower system is the preferred grazing option, with calves grazed ahead of yearlings
- They should be offered fresh grass but should not be left in the same paddock for long periods of time
- Heifers should be weighed regularly to ensure that they are achieving target weights. Target weight at 7 months of age is 33% of mature body weight

Mature Cow weight (kg)	500	550	600	650
7-month target weight	165	182	198	215

- It is a good idea to keep heifers which are below the target weight in a separate group as there is less competition between animals in such groups and they can be preferentially fed meals and higher quality grass to improve growth rates
- The advantage of doing this now is that the heifers will enter the shed closer in size and weight. It is easier to have a few separate groups in the pasture now than in the shed later
- As grass quality reduces in the Autumn, supplementing weanlings at grass with a quality concentrate is crucial
- Often heifers lose weight in the months September to November outside, this is not easily seen to the eye as they grow thick coats of hair
- Our Calf Concentrate range is specifically formulated to maximise performance at grass and should be fed right up to housing. For more information and advice contact your Bandon Co-op Rep

Calf Concentrate Range

Our Calf Rearer Cube and Coarse Calf to Grass are a high energy, highly digestible feed which will maximise ADG at grass and should be fed from weaning right through to housing

- Formulated to 17% Crude Protein with good quality protein source in the form of Soya Bean
- Contains high levels of cereals
- High levels of digestible fibre to complement grass
- Contains Buffers and Yeasts to aid in a stable rumen environment
- Specific calf mineral with high levels of calcium and phosphorus to promote skeletal development

