

**Centenary Thurles**  
Co-operative Society Ltd

APR —

MAY

NEWSLETTER 2017



# Co-Op Source will be getting calves off to TopStart

*With a network of over eighteen members including Centenary Thurles and having in excess of seventy five branches across the country, Co-Op Source members will be supporting farmers in their calf rearing systems on the back of having launched their new TopStart Calf Milk Replacer.*

The launch coincided with a well-attended Calf Rearing Seminar held at the Thurles Offices. Successful rearing of calves requires proper management from day one and feeding good quality colostrum is the very starting point. Following Animal Health Ireland's 1-2-3 recommendation is a very useful guide and unrestricted access to:

- Clean water
- Fresh, palatable starter concentrate
- Fresh, good quality straw  
is preferable over hay as it may reduce starter concentrate intake due to its palatability. Straw creates a 'scratch factor' keeping the rumen healthy and by preventing ruminal plaque from building up.

Feeding colostrum is recommended up until day 3 and from then a good quality Calf Milk Replacer is the most positive step that can be taken to assist calves to reach their genetic potential.

## Whole Milk versus Milk Replacer

Milk replacer offers a number of other advantages over whole milk:

**Performance.** Studies show that replacement heifer calves with higher growth rates in the first 8-10 weeks of life have significantly improved first lactation yields and fertility performance. Milk Replacer supports such growth targets.

**Reduced Risk of Scour.** Milk Replacer is consistent and acidified to improve digestion and decrease the risk of scour.

**Earlier weaning.** Whole milk contains very high levels of fat/energy. This delays solid feed intake, rumen development and ultimately weaning.

**Health.** Feeding antibiotic milk greatly increases the risk of development of resistant organisms and at a minimum it should not be fed to heifers. Feeding whole milk greatly increases the risk of spreading disease e.g. Johne's disease.

## Economics of Milk Replacer

Even at cash neutral the above reasons more than justify the feeding of milk replacer over whole milk. However at present there is an additional 'cash in hand' benefit to using milk replacer:

- It takes circa 250 litres of milk to rear a calf
- TopStart Milk Replacer @ 27 c/l (12.5% concentration)
- Whole Milk @ 31 c/l (current price including VAT)
- 4 Cents saving @ 250 Litres = €10 Per Calf

## What to look for in a Calf Milk Replacer Quality

- **Quality of Protein** - Quality milk protein sources are superior to vegetable sources.
- **Protein Level** - Higher levels promote lean growth.
- **Oil Level** - Higher levels promote growth.
- **Balanced vitamins & trace element**
- **Low fibre & ash level** - Fibre levels above 0.15% indicate moderate to high use of vegetable protein. Ash levels above 8.0 % increase the risk of scour (particularly at high mixing and feeding rates).
- Easy to mix

## Features of TopStart

- Fixed formulations based on meeting quality standards, to produce consistent results on farm.
- Easy - mixing powder.
- Contain Neotec 4, a blend of functional fatty acids which improves feed efficiency, growth and immunity.
- Comprehensive supplementation with vitamins & trace elements to promote and support fast healthy growth
- Flexible - suitable for ad-lib, computerised and once-a-day feeding systems

Available instore from all Centenary Thurles Branches.



## TopStart Specification

Protein %	24
% of protein from dairy sources	90
Oil %	18
Fibre %	0
Ash %	7.5



## Bord Bia Sustainable Dairy Assurance Scheme

*Centenary Thurles have now made it compulsory for all suppliers to be certified under the Bord Bia Sustainable Dairy Assurance Scheme.*

It is recognised by the Committee of Management that this can put an additional burden on milk suppliers, but the overall benefits of the Scheme for Irish produce on world markets will more than offset the administrative burden.

## Golden Jubilee Trust

The Golden Jubilee Trust is a charitable organisation established in the 1940's by ICOS. It provides small scale grants to projects that are primarily of a co-operative character and which are judged to add economic, social or environmental value to agriculture or to rural society in general.

If you are aware of any potential project that may meet the criteria, please visit [www.goldenjubileetrust.ie](http://www.goldenjubileetrust.ie). Applications must be submitted online.

## Glanbia Proposals

Glanbia has announced a plan for Glanbia Co-Op to purchase 60% of the Glanbia plc owned Irish businesses, Glanbia Consumer Products and Glanbia Agribusiness.

If approved, a new joint venture company, Glanbia Ireland which will be owned 60% by Glanbia Co-Op and 40% by Glanbia plc, will operate all Glanbia's Irish based businesses.

As part of the proposal, Glanbia Co-op will also spin-out shares to its shareholders (Centenary Thurles will benefit to the tune of €2.7m approx.) and sell other shares on the market to create a member support fund.

## Milk Payment System

All milk suppliers should now have received a copy of our Milk Payment Policy effective from 1st April 2017. There are few changes with the principle change adopted in 2016 by the Committee of Management to reduce TBC penalties when milk prices are lower.

## Relaunch of Cashel Branch

A very successful relaunch of our Cashel Branch took place on Saturday 1st April last. In addition to Special Offers on the day, John McGrath and Ronan Maher represented the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Champions. The Liam McCarthy and Irish Press Cups were in attendance for the afternoon, to the delight of many of our younger patrons and even some a little older. Colourtrend had their own colour consultant in place to advise assist customers with their home improvements. Rounding off the day, we had an ice-cream van in situ serving much needed 99's to all our customers. We look forward to welcoming you to Cashel to experience the benefits of our revamp.



## Milk Quality Awards 2016

The shortlist for our 2016 Milk Quality Awards has just been announced. The top five milk suppliers for quality are:

(In alphabetical order)

**Pat Cormack**  
The Islands, Loughmore

**John Maher**  
Killough Avenue, Thurles

**Conor Molony**  
Clobanna, Thurles

**Tom, Mary & Michael Ryan**  
Lisheen Lower, Moyne

**Nicholas & Philip Thornton**  
Beechwood, Dualla

Making up the top ten are:

Tom Butler  
Barna, Templetuohy

Paddy & Richard Daly  
Cooleeney, Moyne

Thomas & Marie Ryan  
Kylemakill, Moyne

William & Una Ryan  
Shanakill, Roscrea

John Wardick  
Garrenmore, Cashel



## Butterfat Composition

In response to the relatively poor butterfat composition of our milk, compared with national figures, our Management Sub-Committee requested that research be carried out to establish the reasons for same. Protein levels on the other hand have always been close to the best in the country. Extensive work was carried out with the aid of outside agencies principally ICBF. The growth in solids nationally has more or less been mirrored in the Centenary Thurles area, although the gap had widened when compared to some milk purchasers.

Cow EBI for 2015 for Centenary Thurles is as good as most at 69.2 and approximately 10 ahead of the national EBI. The proliferation of pure Friesians in the Centenary Thurles Herd at 30% is high compared to national figures, but excellent fertility has compensated for lower milk solids.

If you wish to discuss the research done, please contact **John Martin** on **(087) 2462218**.

The table opposite comprises various options from Dovea Genetics for the current breeding season.



### Dovea Genetics ICBF Dairy Update - March 2017

		EBI	PRODU	
Code	Name	EBI	EBI Rel%	Sub Index
<b>High EBI Genomic Sires</b>				
SEW	<b>Searoad AWS Pamela 1</b>	€262	70	€89
FR2249	<b>Coolnasoon Art</b>	€247	57	€105
FR2275	<b>Stonecarthy Gleanna</b>	€240	54	€71
GZY	<b>Gaddagh Cuddy Reeks</b>	€227	71	€78
FJM	<b>Doonmanagh HMY Mossy</b>	€221	66	€75
<b>Daughter Proven EBI Sires</b>				
AZG	<b>Deansgrove Argent</b>	€223	74	€73
TAC	<b>Cara Tom</b>	€192	77	€84
ZPB	<b>Ballyogaha Philip</b>	€188	94	€76
DBW	<b>Doonmanagh DSU Bowser</b>	€186	84	€61
<b>Pure Friesians</b>				
JRB	<b>Dovea Jubilaris</b>	€143	80	€52
FOE	<b>Firoda Meinse 2</b>	€162	56	-€4
KKG	<b>Manorpark Google</b>	€126	67	-€35
FR2276	<b>Firoda Randy 7</b>	€129	60	€9

## Guaranteed Milk Price Schemes Phases V and VI

### Phase V

Phase V covers the 3 years from 1st January 2017 to 31st December 2019. Suppliers have received 52% of their application volume, which in some cases amounts to up to one third of 2016 total supply volume, thereby giving some certainty to milk price up to the end of 2019. The Guaranteed Milk Price for this Scheme and which is subject to certain variables, is currently 29.08c per litre (30.65c including VAT at current rates) and includes the Quality Bonus.

### Phase VI

Phase VI covers the calendar year 2017 only. Suppliers have been allocated 28% of their application volume with the price fixed at 30.03c per litre (31.65c including VAT at current rates) including the Quality Bonus.

**Allocations have now been made under the above Schemes. As previously flagged these Schemes are suitable for some suppliers but do carry an element of risk. They have a significant role in managing volatile milk prices and some suppliers have participated in all 6 Schemes to date.**

## Staff Appointments

We are delighted to welcome 3 new staff to our branch network. Jennifer Jones has joined our Templemore Branch, with Marie Slattery appointed to Littleton Branch and Noel Crowe has taken up a position in Cashel Branch.

## Agricultural Scholarships

Agricultural Scholarships for 2016/2017 were recently presented to:

**Matt Murphy**  
Killinan, Thurles

**Niall Molony**  
Clobanna, Thurles

**Michael Bergin**  
Grallagh, Horse and Jockey

**Brendan Fitzpatrick**  
Springvalley, Clonmore

**Shane Ryan**  
Killoskehane, Borrisoleigh

**Tom Meade**  
Longorchard, Templetuohy

**Eoghan Hayes**  
Leigh, Two Mile Borris

Our congratulations to all.

ACTION					FERTILITY		CALVING		MAIN.	MAN.	HEALTH
Milk Kgs	Fat Kgs	Fat %	Prot. Kgs	Prot. %	Sub Index	Rel%	Calving Diff%	Calving Diff Rel%	Sub Index	Sub Index	Sub Index
174	18	0.19	13	0.12	€121	61	1.40	99	€18	€0	€7
126	16	0.18	15	0.18	€105	53	3.10	97	€8	€3	-€3
36	14	0.21	9	0.13	€143	49	3.30	98	-€13	€0	€3
6	12	0.21	10	0.16	€137	62	3.20	99	€7	€0	€4
110	20	0.27	10	0.10	€85	58	2.50	99	€0	€4	€4
-83	15	0.33	8	0.19	€92	69	1.70	95	€18	€10	-€3
22	9	0.14	12	0.19	€89	68	3.20	92	€25	€4	-€7
-1	13	0.22	10	0.17	€60	90	1.90	99	-€13	€11	€5
-123	13	0.32	6	0.18	€86	79	4.70	99	€10	€1	€2
-33	2	0.06	7	0.15	€63	69	2.70	98	€8	€0	-€9
-196	1	0.15	-3	0.06	€139	50	3.70	92	€15	€3	-€3
-288	-4	0.13	-8	0.02	€115	60	3.00	96	€10	-€4	€5
-176	2	0.16	-1	0.08	€82	56	2.70	92	€5	-€5	€3

## Staff Retirements

Saturday 25th February last saw presentations made by both the Committee of Management and the Centenary Thurles Social Club, to two retired staff members, Brendan Ryan Production Manager of Thurles Fresh Milk and Billy Treacy Shop Manager Ballyduff.

Tributes were paid to Brendan and Billy by Jim Russell Chairman, Joe Kerrigan Chief Executive and Donal Leamy Chairman Social Club. Both had long service with Brendan's 40 years' service surpassed by the 44 years of Billy. Both responded to the tributes by outlining the changes in particular in their roles over the duration of their combined 84 years. We wish Brendan, Billy and their families long and healthy retirements.



Brendan Ryan and his wife Marie pictured, with Jim Russell and Donal Leamy



Billy Treacy and his daughters Michelle, Avril and Audrey, pictured with Jim Russell and Donal Leamy

## Recent Appointments to Glanbia

Paddy Whyte of Ballystanley, Roscrea was recently elected to the Board of Glanbia to represent the Corporate Members i.e. Centenary Thurles, Callan and Mullinahone. Paddy takes up his new role in June and will be replacing Pat Hogan who has served as Board Member on Glanbia for the past 2 years and has represented us on the Glanbia Council for 11 years. James Finn of Ballinahow,

Thurles replaces Pat on the Glanbia Council. At a recent meeting of the Committee of Management, Pat Hogan was complimented on his endeavours on behalf of the Corporates and also on his contribution to Glanbia. Both Paddy Whyte and James Finn are wished well in their new appointments.

## Investment in Technology

The Committee of Management continues to invest in the future of this Society. Recent years have seen significant capital applied to our branch network, our Mill at Ballyduff, offices at Thurles, our piggery, our Lab at Ballyduff and milk collection system. In all cases, the investment has been worthwhile for both the Society and customer.

This Summer we are making a further investment in technology, to assist our suppliers and customers in particular. We are in the process of installing a Self-Service Module to facilitate on-line access to both milk and trading accounts. In conjunction with this module, we will also launch a Milk Mobile App for suppliers. More information including training will be available to all in the immediate future.

## AGM 2017

A provisional date for our AGM has been set. It will be held on Thursday 8th June in Thurles. Official notice will follow in due course.

  
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Home & Garden



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