

## THE PURE PIG CO. Free Range, Rare Breed Pigs

### Our Philosophy

The chasm between organic and conventional pig farming is enormous. Our Pigs are free to roam and can express their natural habits. They are free from antibiotics and are fed on local oats and organic soya.

### PRODUCTS

**Whole or half pig** - butchered to your requirements

**Bacon** - Back or Collar, dry cured by a traditional method available. In vac-pacs up to 2.5 kg.

**Ham** - Dry cured by a traditional method available in vac-pacs Up to 2.5 kg.

Sausages - 90% pork with herbs and spices.

*ONCE BITTEN FOREVER SMITTEN*

Contact John or Gillian Hamilton on 074 91 48940  
From N.I. 00353 74 9148940

## Grass Workshop at Ballyhaise Tuesday 22nd June 2010 Starting at 10.30am

This is the second of four workshops which will take place in 2010. The key elements of the workshop are:

- Opportunity for dairy farmers to walk Ballyhaise farm in small groups.
- A Teagasc staff member (Researcher, teacher or advisor) will accompany each group.
- You will learn how to measure grass covers for each paddock and complete a grass wedge.
- After completion of the walk you will be involved in the grassland decisions for the next week at Ballyhaise.
- As a follow-up, other workshops will be held on Tuesday 27th July and Tuesday 28th Sept.

Contact your local Teagasc dairy advisor for further details.

All dairy farmers are welcome.

Donegal 

June 2010

# CREAMERY NEWSLETTER

BALLYRAINE, LETTERKENNY, CO. DONEGAL. TEL. (074) 9121766, FAX (074) 9124823

## DONEGAL CREAMERIES PLC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the  
Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held  
in The Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny on Thursday 1st. July, 2010 at 11.30 a.m.

## ORGANIC DAIRY FARMING OPEN DAY

An organic dairy farm walk will take place on Thursday the 1st of July at 2pm on the organic dairy unit of producer Ian Witherow of Inch level Speenoge, Burt. This walk is one of a series of national organic farming open days in conjunction with Teagasc, the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Food and Organic Organisations. All dairy farmers are invited to see organic dairying in practice.

It is planned to discuss the following topics at the event;

- ✓ Grassland budgeting and management
- ✓ Clover establishment
- ✓ Winter feed evaluation
- ✓ Animal breeding
- ✓ Animal health
- ✓ Animal nutrition
- ✓ The conversion process to organic production
- ✓ The marketing process

## DAIRY HERD CERTIFICATES

Dairy Herd Certificates are again required for this year. If you are having a herd test shortly contact the Letterkenny office if you require certificate to be sent out.

## FOR SALE

Selection of Pedigree and PBNR Bulls  
Yields up to 10,000 kgs. Proteins up to 3.8%.

For further details contact  
Trevor Lockhart 087 2219599 or 074 9151054

## MAY MILK PRODUCTION RISES BY 8.8%

The excellent weather in May contributed to the major rise in milk production. Grass growth was very good and utilisation was excellent due to the very good ground conditions.

We advise suppliers to check their production trends and make sure they are covered for quota in 2010/11.

The Temporary Leasing application forms which went out with May's newsletter should be returned to the Letterkenny office by Friday 18th June.

## U.K. PRODUCTION SHOWS AN INCREASE - UP 34.7 MILLION LITRES.

According to the latest figures issued by the R.P.A., milk production has increased by 34.7 million litres in May over May '09. This is the 1st increase since November '09. The cumulative figure for levy year to date (April-May) is + 24.2 million litres.

The Butterfat % has dropped dramatically from 3.93% to 3.80% in May giving a cumulative figure of 3.87% - 11 trigger points down when compared with the same period last year.



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www.donegalestates.ie

## REGULAR CHECKS ON TANKS & COOLERS SAVE MONEY

We are now at the peak milk production time in most herds which means that more milk has to be cooled in warm summer conditions. This inevitably puts more stress on cooling equipment and so to avoid a breakdown and possible loss of a tank of milk, the following checks should be made.

- ▶ Make sure there is an unobstructed flow of air around the condensing unit - remove anything that is covering or blocking the flow of air.
- ▶ Clean the radiator fins with a soft brush to remove dust etc. Use airline to blow out excessive dust. Do not use high pressure washer as this would damage fins on condensers.
- ▶ Keep a check on the condenser unit running time. If it runs too long to build up ice, unit could be low in gas.
- ▶ Check if there is enough water in base of icebank tank as water can leak out. There is an overflow pipe at bottom of tank which gives correct level.
- ▶ Make sure all pipes at the bottom of the tank are covered sufficiently and evenly with ice.
- ▶ Check if time clock on tank is properly set so that condensing unit is running long enough to build up sufficient ice for each milking.

These simple checks done on a regular basis will save on

- ▶ Costly repairs
- ▶ Excessive running costs or perhaps avoid the loss of a tank of milk.

In conclusion a final daily check on milk temperature after each milking is vital so that milk is 3.5°C within 1 hour after completion of milking.

If you have any further queries on cooling quality etc please contact Milk Advisory.

## BULK MILK TANKS & COOLER CONTRACT DETAILS

Service Contracts on Immersion Coolers & Refrigerated Bulk Tanks BETWEEN Fox Refrigeration and Donegal Milk Suppliers is as follows.

This Contract will be in operation for the year 2010 and will operate from 1st January to 31st December. This Contract includes parts, labour and transport. The Contract operates on the following times:- Monday -to- Saturday 9 a.m. -to- 12 noon - Sunday 9 a.m. - 10 a.m. All calls must be phoned into (074) 91 26390. Calls outside these times will be carried out within 24 hours. All repairs carried out under this Contract will be performed by Fox Refrigeration.

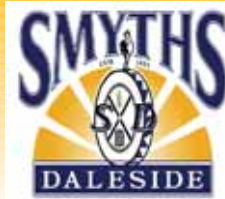
Makes of Tanks not covered by this Contract are as follows:- Zero, Woods, Milk Master, Gascoigne, R12 Units and I.K.

### Conditions of Service:

- (1) Any interference with equipment by the user or by third parties not authorised by Fox Refrigeration will automatically terminate Fox Refrigeration's obligation under this Contract.
- (2) At all times the user of the equipment must provide free access, reasonable lighting, power and unskilled labour where necessary to enable Fox Refrigeration, Maintenance Engineers to carry out their duties under this Contract.
- (3) This Contract will be automatically renewed annually unless previously cancelled in writing.
- (4) Fox Refrigeration will not be liable for consequential loss claims due to breakdowns outside the above times.
- (5) With second tanks or remote ice builder, half contract price is chargeable on second item.
- (6) Washers on round model tanks with washer supplied by manufacturer are covered. Open model tanks supplied with manufacturers auto washer are also covered. Semi automatic washers of any type are not covered.
- (7) From January 2010 the supply of R22 gas is no longer available for R22 units. Fox Refrigeration is making available a replacement gas at no additional cost.

### Exclusions:

- (a) Negligence or misuse of equipment.
- (b) Call where nothing is found to be wrong.
- (c) Calls due to electricity supply
  - Break(s) in main supply
  - Fuse blown in switchboard or fuse blown in socket
  - Switchboard turned off or switch on cooling unit turned off
  - Wiring to and in dairy not conforming to wiring specifications
  - Acts of God: Weather Conditions/Lightning/Storms & Flooding
- (d) Damage to tank structure other than cooling unit and agitator motor
- (e) Damage caused to cooling unit through tank structure such as corrosion, leaking evaporator, coil, plate, cooling body or heat recovery unit.
- (f) Service to coolers that are beyond economic repair.



## Discussion Group Meeting on Farm of Gareth Porter Castletinn 18th May 2010

Discussion Group Leader Mark McConnell Consultant,  
Jeremy McGonigle, Brendan McFeely, Smyths Daleside Feeds.  
Morgan Sheehy Devenish Nutrition

### ITEMS DISCUSSED

- Silage Quality
- Silage Dry Matter intakes
- Benefits of Straw feeding to Dry and lactating Cows
- Displaced abomasums
- Calf Management
- Heifer Rearing and Management
- Calf Ailments
- Calf Housing & Ventilation
- Management of Heifers on Grass and concentrate feeding
- Management of Cows at grass & benefits of concentrate feeding
- Grass Density
- Intakes of grass in dry and wet weather conditions
- Milk yields off grass

Many thanks to Gareth Porter for hosting the event



May 2010

Robert Campbell garden centre coordinator meets Diarmuid Gavin TV personality at Donegal Creameries stand at the recent garden show in Castletinn

## ALLOCATION OF 1% INCREASE IN NATIONAL MILK QUOTA WITH EFFECT FROM 1 APRIL 2010

1. The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries & Food recently announced his intention to allocate three quarters (0.75%) of the 1% "Health Check" increase, in respect of the 2010/2011 milk quota year, on a permanent, saleable basis to active milk producers.
2. In order to qualify for the 0.75% increase in quota, each producer must:
  - (a) have, on 1 April 2010, a permanent milk quota entitlement with at least one registered Milk Purchaser (Co-operative/Dairy); and
  - (b) be producing and delivering milk to a registered Milk Purchaser during the 2010/2011 milk quota year, or
  - (c) have produced and delivered milk to a registered Milk Purchaser during the 2008/2009 and/or 2009/2010 milk quota years.
3. Milk quota held by producers in the following circumstances on 1 April, 2010 will be regarded as permanent quota:
  - (a) quota assigned in connection with a land lease agreement(s) to that producer, or
  - (b) quota permanently transferred in connection with a family transfer and milk quota transferred by way of a land lease agreement, the lessor also being a family member.
4. A full version of this notice is available from Milk Purchasers and from the Milk Quota Section, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food, at (01) 6072857, and on the Department's website at [www.agriculture.gov.ie](http://www.agriculture.gov.ie)

email: [info@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:info@agriculture.gov.ie)  
[www.agriculture.gov.ie](http://www.agriculture.gov.ie)



Donegal AGRI Retail Stores

**FARMING SPECIALS**  
FOR ONE MONTH ONLY FROM 16th JUNE 2010  
AMAZING VALUE - MORE FOR LESS

2 Doxstar 3L ONLY €110

Kilo-Mec Injection 200ml ONLY €20

Eprinex Pour on 2.5L (Zero milk withdrawal) ONLY €260

FREE 250ml worth €30

Ivermectin Pour on 2 x 2.5L ONLY €100

NOW QUOTING FOR BALE WRAP & NET

Hi mag buckets - Buy 5 for ONLY €55

3 MCPA 10L Rush Spray ONLY €110

Ecotospec Pour On 6wk Fly Control ONLY €25

Top Quality Grass Seeds from ONLY €35

Click Pour 5L ONLY €170

Tama Net 3,600m ONLY €200

Stores at Letterkenny, Killygordon, Bridgetown, St. Johnston, Lifford, Newtown Cunningham, Creeslough, Kerrykeel, Ardara

Ballyraine • Tel: 074 9121766 • Mon-Fri 9-5.30pm, Sat 9-5pm

Offers subject to availability. Pictures for illustration purposes only. Not all products available in every store.

CHANGE OF HOURS: LETTERKENNY STORE - FROM 01-07-10 . Mon-Fri: 9.00am - 5.00pm . Sat: 9.00am - 2.00pm