

Why Body Condition Score?

- Useful tool to minimise problems post calving

Cows not calving down at optimum condition

(CS 2.75-3.0) are likely to have increased -

- **Metabolic disorders (~1 ppl)**
- **Fertility disorders (~£3/cow/day)**
- **Lameness problems (~£300/case)**
- **Culling**

Adjusting BCS at CAFRE

- Cows body condition scored (BCS) 10-12 weeks prior to drying off (BCS also assessed on a monthly basis)
- Cows below desired BCS target in summer are fed an additional 1-2kg high energy nut
- During winter cows below BCS target fed 2nd cut silage + 2kg maize meal
- Cows 2.25 or less will be dried off early (minimum of 12 weeks)