



Lyons Dairy Systems Research Herd Notes 2025

Project Objectives

- To develop a profitable high-output grass-based spring milk production system
- To incorporate the most recent advances in grassland management for dairy farms into a high- output system
- Use a type of dairy cow that has good genetic indices for both milk production and fertility
- Employ the best practices from nutrition research and dairy cow husbandry
- Incorporate nutritional studies into a high-output system
- To incorporate management technologies and system attributes that enhance the sustainability of dairy production



For more details on the High Output Systems Research Herd visit <https://www.ucd.ie/agfood/about/lyonsresearchfarm/lyonsdairyherd/>

Lyons Systems Research Herd Notes Week 08/09/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	17.35	Ha
Current SR (MP)	3.11	LU/ha
Farm Cover	860	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	277	kg DM/day
Growth Rate	38	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	31	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	5	kg/day
Average DIM	202	days
Grass DM	17	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	22.22
Fat %	4.37
Protein %	3.74
MS (kg/cow)	1.88
SCC cells/ml	61

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 860 kg on the 8th of September, with growth rates of 38 kg of DM/ha. To manage the grass supply and quality effectively, grass walks are being conducted twice weekly. The average pre-grazing cover between the 3rd and 9th of September was 1383 kg DM/ha.

Last weeks' diet consisted of a grass allocation of 7 kg DM, silage allocation of 10 kg DM and 5 kg of concentrates. As from the 3rd of September the diet consists of a grass allocation of 10 kg DM, silage allocation of 7 kg DM and 5 kg of concentrates.

Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Between the 3rd and 9th of September 18.75 mm of rain fell on the platform.

Soil Moisture Deficit for the surrounding area of Lyons farm is 27 mm according to Met Éireann on the 7th of September.



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Comment:

There was no milk recording carried out on 4th of September and therefore we have used figures taken on the 28th of August.