



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 14/07/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	15.42	Ha
Current SR (MP)	3.57	LU/ha
Farm Cover	714	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	200	kg DM/day
Growth Rate	47	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	61	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	4.75	kg/day
Average DIM	147	days
Grass DM	18	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	27.69
Fat %	3.54
Protein %	3.62
MS (kg/cow)	1.98
SCC cells/ml	34

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 714 kg on the 16th of July, with growth rates of 47 kg of DM/ha. To manage the grass supply and quality effectively, grass walks are being conducted twice weekly. Two paddocks have been taken out for silage (1.93ha) this week. The average pre-grazing cover between the 8th and 15th of July was 1282 kg DM/ha.

The diet consists of a grass allocation of 17 kg DM, 4 kg of concentrates from parlour and on average 0.75 kg/hd/day of concentrates from greenfeed machines.

Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Between the 9th and 15th of July 19mm of rain fell on the platform.

Comment:

55 cows were BCS on the 14th of July. 13% scored ≤ 2.5 , 31% scored 2.75, 31% scored 3.0, 23% scored 3.25 and 2% scored 3.5.