



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 01/12/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	17.35	Ha
Current SR (MP)	0	LU/ha
Farm Cover	727	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	0	kg DM/day
Growth Rate	8	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	0	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	4	kg/day
Average DIM	286	days
Grass DM	12	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	13.13
Fat %	5.21
Protein %	4.07
MS (kg/cow)	1.22
SCC cells/ml	75

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 727 kg on the 1st of December, with growth rates of 8 kg DM/ha.

The cows are now housed full-time. Hence, the current diet consists of silage allocation of 16 kg DM and 4 kg of concentrates.

Comment:

51 cows were BCS on the 2nd of December. 8% scored 2.5, 17% scored 2.75, 41% scored 3.0, 24% scored 3.25, 8% scored 3.5 and 2% scored 3.75. We will continue to monitor BCS as lactation progresses and decide if any actions are needed for those cows falling outside of the desired range.