



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 02/06/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	13.38	Ha
Current SR (MP)	4.11	LU/ha
Farm Cover	810	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	197	Kg DM/day
Growth Rate	65	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	72	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	6	kg/day
Average DIM	104	days
Grass DM	15	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	31.3
Fat %	3.95
Protein %	3.57
MS (kg/cow)	2.36
SCC cells/ml	38

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 810kg on the 3rd of June, with growth rates of 76kg of DM/ha. To manage the grass supply and quality effectively, grass walks are being conducted twice weekly.

The diet consists of a grass allocation of 17.5kg DM and 6kg of concentrates.

Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Between the 27th of May and 3rd of June 55.25mm of rain fell on the platform.

Comment:

17 cows were scanned on the 3rd of June who were at least 28 days since insemination. 14 cows have been scanned in calf. The conception rate for this group is 66.6% (this is preliminary data based on early stage scanning).