



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 22/09/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	17.35	Ha
Current SR (MP)	3.11	LU/ha
Farm Cover	1061	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	341	kg DM/day
Growth Rate	53	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	47	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	4	kg/day
Average DIM	216	days
Grass DM	16	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	22.04
Fat %	5.32
Protein %	4.06
MS (kg/cow)	2.07
SCC cells/ml	95

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 1061 kg on the 22nd of September, with growth rates of 53 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 17th and 23rd of September was 1594 kg DM/ha.

Last weeks' diet consisted of a grass allocation of 14 kg DM, silage allocation of 4 kg DM and 5 kg of concentrates. As from the 23rd of September the diet consists of a grass allocation of 15 kg DM and 4 kg of concentrates.

Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Between the 17th and 23rd of September 24 mm of rain fell on the platform.

Soil Moisture Deficit for the surrounding area of Lyons farm is 2 mm according to Met Éireann on the 20th of September.