

# 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 03/11/2025

#### Farm Details:

Area Available	17.35	На
Current SR (MP)	3.11	LU/ha
Farm Cover	763	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	245	kg DM/day
Growth Rate	19	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	19	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	4	kg/day
Average DIM	258	days
Grass DM	15	%

#### **Cow Details:**

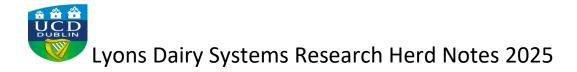
Parameter		
Yield (kg/cow/day)	17.5	
Fat %	5.27	
Protein %	4.28	
MS (kg/cow)	1.67	
SCC cells/ml	86	

## **Grazing plan:**

The AFC was recorded at 763 kg on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, with growth rates of 19 kg of DM/ha. The average pre-grazing cover between the 27<sup>th</sup> of October and 3<sup>rd</sup> of November was 1316 kg DM/ha. As of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, 73% of the grazing platform has been closed for the season.

The current diet consists of grass allocation of 6 kg DM, silage allocation of 10 kg DM and 4 kg of concentrates.

Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Between the 27<sup>th</sup> of October and 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 15 mm of rain fell on the platform.



# **Comments:**

54 cows were BCS on the 5th of November. 5% scored 2.5, 22% scored 2.75, 46% scored 3.0, 20% scored 3.25, 4% 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.