



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 09/06/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	12.49	Ha
Current SR (MP)	4.4	LU/ha
Farm Cover	789	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	179	Kg DM/day
Growth Rate	61	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	75	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	6	kg/day
Average DIM	112	days
Grass DM	18	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	30.5
Fat %	3.90
Protein %	3.69
MS (kg/cow)	2.42
SCC cells/ml	69

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 789kg on the 9th of June, with growth rates of 61kg of DM/ha. To manage the grass supply and quality effectively, grass walks are being conducted twice weekly. 3 paddocks have been taken out for silage.

The diet consists of a grass allocation of 17kg DM and 6kg of concentrates.

Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Between the 4th and 10th of June 11.5mm of rain fell on the platform.

Comment:

We are now in our 7th week of breeding and will predominantly be using beef sires for the rest of this breeding season.



Lyons Dairy Systems Research Herd Notes 2025