



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 29/09/2025

Farm Details:

| | | |
|-----------------|-------|--------------|
| Area Available | 17.35 | Ha |
| Current SR (MP) | 3.11 | LU/ha |
| Farm Cover | 1038 | kg DM/ha |
| Cover/LU | 334 | kg DM/day |
| Growth Rate | 35 | kg DM/ha/day |
| Demand | 44 | kg DM/ha/day |
| Average Conc. | 4 | kg/day |
| Average DIM | 224 | days |
| Grass DM | 15 | % |

Cow Details:

| Parameter | |
|--------------------|------|
| Yield (kg/cow/day) | 22.6 |
| Fat % | 4.77 |
| Protein % | 4.09 |
| MS (kg/cow) | 1.91 |
| SCC cells/ml | 68 |

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 1038 kg on the 29th of September, with growth rates of 35 kg of DM/ha. The average pre-grazing cover between the 23rd and 28th of September was 1683 kg DM/ha.

The current diet consists of a grass allocation of 14 kg DM, silage allocation of 4 kg DM and 4 kg of concentrates.

Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Between the 23rd and 28th of September 9 mm of rain fell on the platform.

Comments:

54 cows were BCS on the 24th of September. 9% scored ≤ 2.5 , 28% scored 2.75, 41% scored 3.0, 19% scored 3.25 and 4% scored 3.5.



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