



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 12/05/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	15.23	Ha
Current SR (MP)	3.61	LU/ha
Farm Cover	835	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	231	Kg DM/day
Growth Rate	94	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	58	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	8	kg/day
Average DIM	80	days
Grass DM	15	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	35.03
Fat %	3.73
Protein %	3.57
MS (kg/cow)	2.50
SCC cells/ml	65

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 835kg on the 12th of May, with growth rates of 94kg 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 16kg DM and 8kg of concentrates.

Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Soil temperature measurements were taken on the 13th of May, with the average recorded at 13.92°C. Between the 8th of May and 13th of May 3mm of rain fell on the platform.



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Comment:

Breeding commenced on the 28th of April. So far 44/55 (80%) cows have been submitted for breeding as of 15th of May.

The SMD in the surrounding area is approx. 41mm in similarly drained soils.