



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 19/05/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	13.65	Ha
Current SR (MP)	4.03	LU/ha
Farm Cover	822	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	204	Kg DM/day
Growth Rate	52	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	64	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	8	kg/day
Average DIM	91	days
Grass DM	17	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	33.48
Fat %	3.85
Protein %	3.50
MS (kg/cow)	2.42
SCC cells/ml	36

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 822kg on the 19th of May, with growth rates of 52kg 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. Between the 13th of May and 20th of May 15mm of rain fell on the platform.

Comment:

Breeding commenced on the 28th of April. The 3-week submission rate is 91% as 50/55 were submitted for breeding before the 19th of May.