



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 05/05/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	13.31	Ha
Current SR (MP)	3.61	LU/ha
Farm Cover	661	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	183	Kg DM/day
Growth Rate	46	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	56	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	8	kg/day
Average DIM	76	days
Grass DM	20	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	34.49
Fat %	4.15
Protein %	3.45
MS (kg/cow)	2.80
SCC cells/ml	42

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 661kg on the 6th of May, with growth rates of 46kg of DM/ha. To manage the grass supply and quality effectively, grass walks are being conducted twice weekly. 1.92ha was cut for silage on the 6th of May and yielded approx. 20tonnes of silage.

The diet consists of a grass allocation of 15.5kg DM and 8kg of concentrates.

Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Soil temperature measurements were taken on the 7th of May, with the average recorded at 11.07°C. Between the 2nd of May and 7th of May 0mm of rain fell on the platform.