



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 21/04/2025

Farm Details:

Area Available	14.14	Ha
Current SR (MP)	3.96	LU/ha
Farm Cover	845	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	213	Kg DM/day
Growth Rate	42	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	61	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	8	kg/day
Average DIM	64	days
Grass DM	21.5	%

Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	33.93
Fat %	4.44
Protein %	3.52
MS (kg/cow)	2.74
SCC cells/ml	43
Cows Calved	56/56

Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 845kg on the 21st of April, with growth rates of 41kg of DM/ha. To manage the grass supply and quality effectively, grass walks are being conducted weekly.

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 14th of April, with the average recorded at 10.24°C. Between the 18th of April and 24th of April 48.5mm of rain fell on the platform.



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Comment:

Breeding will commence on the 29th of April.