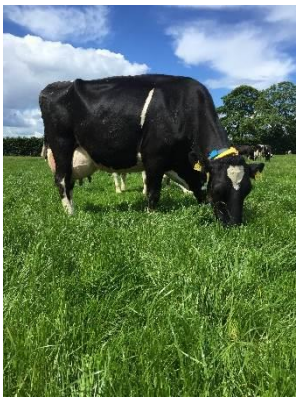
Project Objectives

- 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 25/11/2024

Farm Details:

Area Available	17.43	Ha
Current SR (MP)	**3.27**	**LU/ha**
Farm Cover	**730**	**kg DM/ha**
Cover/LU	**0**	**Kg DM/day**
Growth Rate	**9**	**kg DM/ha/day**
Demand	**0**	**kg DM/ha/day**
Average Conc.	**4**	**kg/day**
Average DIM	**273**	**days**
Grass DM	**15**	**%**

Cow Details:

YIELD	**10.9**	**kg/cow/day**
Fat	**5.42**	**%**
Protein	**4.01**	**%**
MS	**1.04**	**kg**
SCC	**88.83**	**Cells/ml milk**
Cows Dried off	**2/44 (4.5)**	**(%)**

Grazing plan:

This week, the AFC is 730 kg DM/ha. As expected for this time of year, growth rates have slowed considerably, averaging just 9 kg DM/ha/day. This aligns with the cooler conditions, as soil temperatures across the milking platform have dropped to 5.7℃. The herd has been fully housed since Sunday, 10th November, and are on a diet of 15 kg DM silage (at 44% DM) and 4 kg concentrates.

Comments:

For the dry cows, the current diet up until three weeks before calving consists of 11.97 kg DM of silage (equivalent to 31.5 kg as fed at 38% DM) along with 150 g of dry cow mineral per head per day. This ensures they are meeting their nutritional requirements during the dry period.

BCS:

The herd's BCS was assessed on the 26th of November. 90% of them scored between 2.75-3.25 and 10% scored between 2.25-2.5.