



# 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 03/03/2025

### Farm Details:

Area Available	17.43	Ha
Current SR (MP)	2.35	LU/ha
Farm Cover	1005	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	421	Kg DM/day
Growth Rate	22	kg DM/ha
Demand	36	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	8	kg/day
Average DIM	25	days
Grass DM	18	%

### Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	24.87
Fat %	4.66
Protein %	3.26
MS (kg/cow)	2.11
SCC cells/ml	33
Cows Calved	45/56

### Grazing plan:

The AFC is now 1005kg with growth rates of 22kg. To manage the grass supply and quality effectively, grass walks are being conducted weekly. Cows have now started grazing full time. The current diet consists of a grass allocation of 15kg DM and 8kg of concentrates. Weather and ground conditions are being closely monitored. Between the 24<sup>th</sup> of February and the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March, 1.5mm of rain fell and the average soil temperature on the platform was 9°C.

### Calving:

Calving started on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January and there is currently 45/56 of the cows calved as of the 5<sup>th</sup> of March.