



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 09/12/2024

Farm Details:

Area Available	17.43	Ha
Current SR (MP)	3.27	LU/ha
Average Conc.	8	kg/day
Average DIM	126	days

Cow Details:

YIELD	28.57	kg/cow/day
Fat	4.4	%
Protein	3.4	%
MS	2.2	kg
SCC	49	Cells/ml milk
Cows bred	55/56	

Production:

The herds average yield to date (5th December) is 6906kg/cow (range: 4993kg – 8941kg) and 561kg MS/cow (range: 424kg – 708kg). The average predicted 305d yields are 7096 kg/cow and 579kg MS/cow.

Comments:

Milking cows are currently being offered 4kg/day of concentrate and 15kg DM of silage. For the dry cows, the diet up until three weeks before calving will consist 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.

And finally... This week’s notes will be the last of 2024. Weekly notes will resume in February/March, and the 2024 annual report will be published on the Systems Herd Weekly Notes website. In the meantime, follow us on Twitter at @UCD_SystemsHerd for more updates. We wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and all the best for 2025!