



# 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 24/11/2025

### Farm Details:

Area Available	17.35	Ha
Current SR (MP)	0	LU/ha
Farm Cover	669	kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	0	kg DM/day
Growth Rate	8	kg DM/ha/day
Demand	0	kg DM/ha/day
Average Conc.	4	kg/day
Average DIM	279	days
Grass DM	13	%

### Cow Details:

Parameter	
Yield (kg/cow/day)	14.1
Fat %	5.21
Protein %	4.18
MS (kg/cow)	1.32
SCC cells/ml	88

### Grazing plan:

The AFC was recorded at 669 kg on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November, with growth rates of 7 kg of DM/ha. The average pre-grazing cover between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of November was 1731 kg DM/ha. The herd has been fully house since Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> of November. The current diet consists of silage allocation of 16 kg DM and 4 kg of concentrates.

Between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of November 13 mm of rain fell on the platform.

### Comments:

Drying will begin on November 28<sup>th</sup> and will conclude on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, continuing Lyons' practice of Selective Dry Cow Therapy. For the cows due to calve next year, 70% will receive teat sealer only, while 30% will receive antibiotic treatment and sealer.