Expanding the farm for grazing

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1 Description of the innovation

- Expanding the farm for grazing
- Focusing on higher production and lower costs
- Setting up grazing infrastructure and soil fertility to carry more stock
- Carry more cows
- Increase output: milk sales
- Increase the profitability of the system
- Economic results
- Discussion groups
- More stock to justify labour on farm
- Pasturebase Ireland

Increasing output while minimising cost of production

Produce more milk sustainably from grass

- Focusing on higher production and lower costs
- Benefit from economies of scale
- More stock to justify labour on farm

2 Farm description

ENVIRONMENT

Soil type: Clay/loam

Climate type: Temperate Oceanic Climate

Agricultural area (ha UAA): 114.88

Permanent grassland area (ha): 114.88

Average stocking rate (agriculture area) (LU/ha UAA): 2.69

Altitude: Variation across the farm (350m)

Slope: Variation across the farm (35%)

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT

Grazing : Yes

Grazing management type:

Rotational Grazing

STRUCTURE

Main animal type: Dairy

Number of animals (heads): 420

Total Livestock unit (LU): 380

Breed type 1: Fr*Je

Annual work units (AWU): 3

ANIMAL PERFORMANCE

Milk production per head (l/year/dairy animal): 5000l

Grassland management type: Rotational

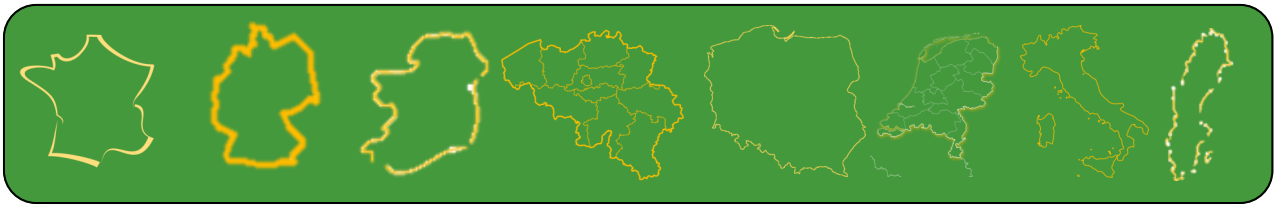
Length of grazing period: 290 days

Fertilization rate (kg N/ha): 230

WHY IT IS WORKING

- Setting up grazing infrastructure and soil fertility to carry more stock
- Carry more cows, produce more milk, increase profit
- Benefit from economies of scale
- Economic results
- Land available around the milking parlour
- Discussion groups
- More stock to justify labour on farm
- Pasturebase Ireland

Ireland



Domains of innovation

Pasturebase

Monocultures and mixtures

Soild fertility, grazing infrastructure

Rotational grazing

N/a

Milking parlour

Fr*Je and Fr

Milk

Quality image

Low cost grass based milk production

Sandy-loam soil

Dairy Cow

MILK