

CONTEXT PROFILE

 IRELAND



FARMER
Mark Bateman



INNOVATION
Use of clover scoring on Pasturebase Ireland application



[Video](#)



MAIN DOMAIN OF THE INNOVATION
Improvement of nutrient cycle



SOIL TYPE
Loam



FINANCE/INVESTMENT
Low



AGROCLIMATIC AREA
Atlantic north



MANAGEMENT
Pasture dairy



MARKET
Local-rural



CLIMATE
Very high rainfall



TECHNICAL
Computer-based



SOCIAL
Full-time farmer

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Case Study: IE_07	Agroclimatic Zone								
Item (Key Innovation Elements)	Alpine	Atlantic Central	Atlantic North	Atlantic South	Boreal	Continental North	Continental South	Mediterranean North	Mediterranean South
Availability and access to locally adapted, user-friendly decision support tools	++	+	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	++	+++
Capability to operate decision support tools (e.g. <i>PastureBase Ireland</i>) for farm management	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++

+++ Strong transferability ++ Slightly limited transferability + Very limited transferability ✕ Generic information/not relevant

Implementation Gaps

- Lack of availability of locally adapted reliable grassland management decision support tools
- Time effort to perform measurements (e.g. compressed sward height) to be fed into the decision support tool (if required by the tool)

Research Gaps

- Reliable models of various variables (e.g. remote sensing data, biomass quality and quantity, animal movement data, weather data etc.) need to be synthesized and put into a practical app for farmers to use on a daily basis

Suggestions to Adapt

- Make use of the herbage measurements with the help of an advisor

COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

INVESTMENT COSTS

Total initial investment costs at start up:	low
• Initial authorisation costs (e.g. sanitary, veterinary, etc.)	not applicable/not known
• Initial advisory costs	low
• Initial buildings and machineries	mid
• Initial certification costs	not applicable/not known
• Initial working capital (personal qualification, marketing and promotion, etc.)	low

ON-GOING COSTS

On-going advisory costs	not applicable/not known
On-going certification costs	low
On-going buildings and machinery costs	high
On-going working capital	not applicable/not known

BENEFITS RELATIVE TO ORIGINAL SYSTEM

◦ Economic

Reduction in energy consumption (electricity; fuel consumption)	mid
Reduction in input use (fertilizers; pesticides; feed) etc.	high
Payback period	mid
Product value added	not applicable/not known
Additional farm income through agroecological/agri-environmental payment schemes	not applicable/not known

◦ Environmental

Animal feed self-sufficiency increase	not applicable/not known
Biodiversity increase	mid
Improved nitrogen cycling	high
Soil regeneration	not applicable/not known
Animal health and welfare improvement	not applicable/not known

◦ Social

Workload reduction	not applicable/not known
Engagement of young generation	not applicable/not known

Literature

English

- <https://doi.org/10.1079/9781780644981.0139> PastureBase Ireland: A grassland decision support system and national database - ScienceDirect
- <https://doi.org/10.1111/gfs.12577> (Study on the general potential of decision support tools in grazing)
- <https://doi.org/10.1117/1.JRS.18.017502> (Study on the general potential of decision support tools in grazing)
- <https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/publications/2019/Pasture-Base-Ireland.pdf>
- https://www.researchgate.net/publication/339264599_PASTORI_A_Smartphone_Application_to_Facilitate_Grazing_Management