

Appendix 5

Increased feed costs if overall farm stocking rate is increased without increasing grass growth

Additional feed cost per cow (5,500 litres) at different stocking rates for three grass growth levels where no additional feed is made on the farm.

Stocking Rate	Annual Grass Production tDM		
	<i>High growth potential (14.5 t/ha)</i>	<i>medium growth potential (11.0/ha)</i>	<i>low growth potential (8.5t/ha)</i>
2.00	Base	Base	Base
2.25	+13	+32	+69
2.50	+25	+97	+136
2.75	+43	+155	+204
3.00	+88	+195	+240
3.25	+133	+255	+298

For example, if a farm has average grass growth potential (11t/ha) and plans to increase stocking rate from 2.0 to 2.5 LU/ha, then the extra feed cost per cow is €129 (€97 + €32). For a 40 ha farm this is equivalent to €5,000.

*For every additional 500 litres above 5,500, add a further €90 cost per cow.