Grazed Grass Your Lifeline in Spring 2016



9th December 2015



Charles & Tom Crosse

16000

14000

12000

10000

8000

6000

4000

kg DM/ha

Kilfeacle, Co. Tipperary

Spring Calving System

Cow Type - Holstein Friesian & Jersey Cross

Herd EBI – €162

MS Produced – 1,218kg MS/ha

 $Concentrate \; fed-240 kg/cow$

Milking Platform - 88 ha

Stocking Rate – 2.8 LU/ha

Days at Grass - 310

2015

Silage DM

PBI Average '15

DM Production

2014

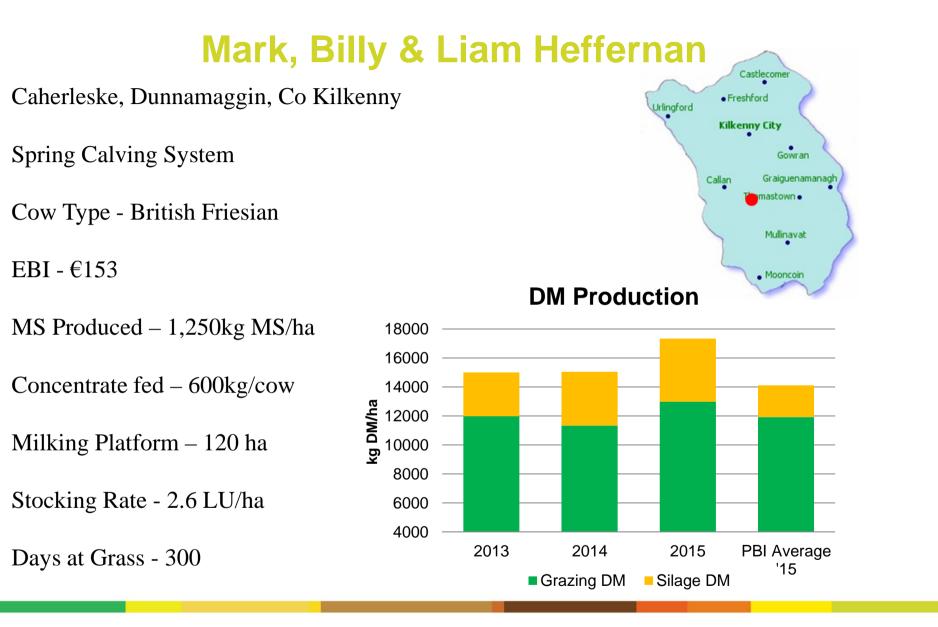
Grazing DM





The Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority

2013





Spring Grassland Management



February

Farget closing cover (kg DM/ha) (1st Dec)	
Growth over the winter (kg DM/ha)	
Opening cover (kg DM/ha) (1st Feb)	
Date to turn out cows on	By Night:
Target % of farm to be grazed in February 2016	(ha)
Level of conc. fed/cow/day in February	
Level of chemical N to be applied in February	
% of farm to receive chemical N	(ha)
Type of Fertiliser	
% of farm to receive slurry	(ha)
Replacements	



Spring Grassland Management

March/April

My Farm

Target % of farm to be grazed by St. Patrick's Day	(ha)
Level of chemical N to be applied in March	
% of farm to receive chemical N	(ha)
Type of fertiliser	
% of farm to receive slurry	(ha)
Finish 1 st rotation on (date)	
Level of chemical N to be applied in April	(ha)
Length of 2 nd Rotation (days)	
Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha)	
Concentrate level	



Spring Grassland Management

	Charles Crosse	Mark Heffernan
Target closing cover (kg DM/ha) (1st Dec)	800	700
Growth over the winter (kg DM/ha)	240kg - 4kg/day	274kg - 4.5kg/day
Opening cover (kg DM/ha) (1st Feb)	1000	1050
Turn out cows on	1st February	End January if conditions dry
On/off grazing – Yes/No	Yes	Yes
Target % of farm grazed in February 2015	+35%	<u>33%</u>
Actual % of farm grazed in February 2015	30%	<u>23%</u>
Target % of farm grazed by St. Patrick's Day	70%	<u>66%</u>
Actual % of farm grazed by St. Patrick's Day	65%	<u>45%</u>
Date you finished the first round	4th April	5 th April
Target cover/cow after the 1 st round (kg DM/ha)	180	220
Target pre-grazing yield in 2 nd round (kg DM/ha)	1350 - 1400	1400
Length of 2 nd rotation	23 days (depends on growth)	21 – 28 days

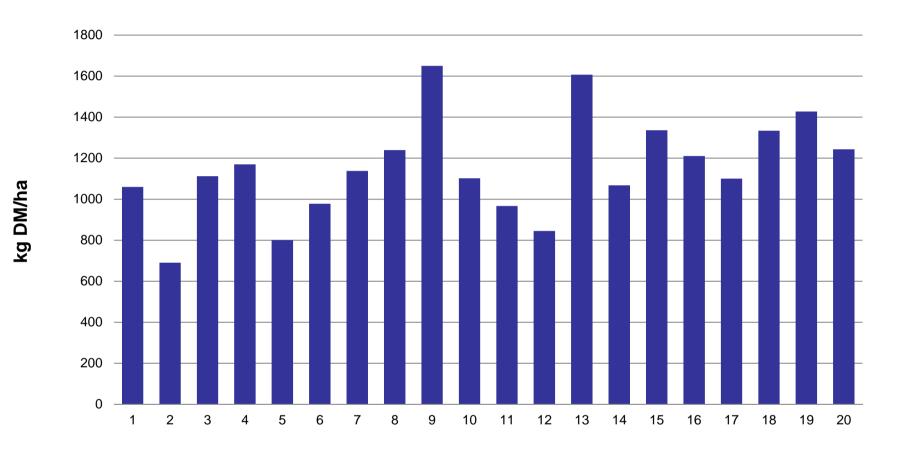


Fertiliser/Slurry Application & Supplementary Feed

	Charles Crosse	Mark Heffernan
Level of chemical N spread in February	23 units in late January, 23 units end of February	40 units
% of farm received chemical N	66%	75%
Urea or CAN	Urea	Urea or 18/6/12
% of farm received slurry	20% in mid January and spread after cows (30%) in February	33%
Level of chemical N applied in March	30 units	40 Units
% of farm received chemical N	100%	100%
Urea or CAN	Urea	Urea or 18/6/12
% of farm received slurry	20%	25%
Level of chemical N applied up to the 1st April	75 units	80 Units
Level of conc. fed/cow/day in February	3kg	3-4kg
Level of silage fed/cow/day in February	nil	0kg when grazing full time or 4-5kg if on/off grazing
Level of concentrate/cow/day in March	2kg	3kg
Level of concentrate/cow/day in April	1.5kg	2.5kg



Spring DM Production



Spring DM Production

