

Innovations

Grassland



Farming milestones



The herd

- 210 dairy cows
- Breeds : Crossbred Jersey
- Calving period : 7th Feb- 15th April
- Age at first calving : 22-24 months
- All AI

Agricultural Area

- 70 ha of milking platform across two milking platforms
- All permanent grassland
- Mixed Soils Grassland Farmer Year in 2021
- Stocking rate 2.5 LU/ha forage area
- Cows graze from February to middle November
- Calves & heifers graze from end February to end October/November

Workforces

- Farmer
- 1 full time
- 2 milkers

Areas of interest

- Animal Breeding
- Grassland management
- Labour efficiency

Main buildings and equipment

- 2 Milking parlours - 16 and 12 unit
- Cubicle housing for 200 cows
- Calf shed
- Calving accommodation
- Tractor & loader, fertiliser spreader
- Uses contractor

Production / Technical results

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- 1.1 million litres of milk produced
 - 4.87 % fat & 3.84 % protein content
 - Feed - 780kg /head
 - Milk solids 506kg / cow
 - Grass based dairying
 - Milk sold to Aurivo



 <h3>Strengths</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herd genetic quality • Growing 14T grass/ha • Innovative: • Breeding crossbred Jerseys • Pasture – clover reseedings 	 <h3>Weaknesses</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High rainfall area • Dependent on leased land 	 <h3>Opportunities</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Genetics- more tailored use of sexed & beef semen • Next generation are interested in dairy farming 	 <h3>Threats</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental legislation • Cost of leased land
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Farmer’s strategy for a “resilient” system

Focusing on breeding healthy, productive, high solid cow

Reseeding- clover

Low cost system


Aspirations / Needs for the future

Using all sexed & beef semen from this year on

Being environmental compliant

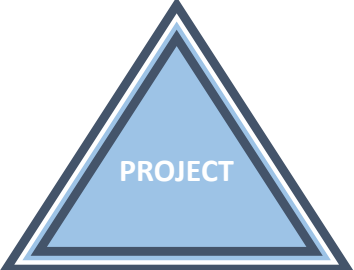
Improvement project - objectives

- Maintain labour efficient work load
- Work life balance




ECONOMY & LABOUR

- Reduce fertiliser N use- clover, plantain
- Breed healthy productive cows
- Breed quality heifer & beef calves




- Maintaining a healthy herd



RESSOURCE Efficiency

ENVIRONMENT ANIMAL Wellbeing



Partners



“Resilience 4 Dairy” is a European project involving 15 European countries and 18 partners. R4D is a thematic network on innovations and aims to support EU dairy farming in these regions where dairy farming is a main economic activity.



R4D pilot farmers are involved in a National Dairy Akis group where needs, solutions and knowledge are exchanged with other farmers, advisors and scientists on their way to build a resilient system. More information <https://resilience4dairy.eu/>