

# Dairy-4-Future

PROPAGATING INNOVATIONS  
FOR MORE RESILIENT DAIRY FARMING  
IN THE ATLANTIC AREA

Experimental  
Farm



## CAFRE, Greenmount Campus

Northern Ireland, UK

### CAFRE Dairy Herd

**Objective:** The CAFRE Dairying Technology Team have developed a wide range of knowledge and technology transfer projects to demonstrate best management practice across key technical issues facing Northern Ireland dairy farmers. One of the project is to increase the proportion of heifers calving at 24 months of age and to assess the technical, economical and environmental of the practice.



### Dairy Herd (2019)



- Livestock units (LU): 278
- Dairy cows: 202 Holstein
- Heifers: 76 LU
- Age at first calving: 24 months
- Calving period(s): September to April
- Cubicles, herringbone milking parlour

### Production (2019)



- Milk produced: 1,772,523 litres
- Milk sold : 1,768,323 litres
- % fat and protein content: 4.16 % / 3.35 %
- Milk produced / cow / year: 8,775 litres
- Milk produced / ha forage area: 11,123 litres
- Stocking rate: 1,7 LSU / ha forage area

### Agriculture area (2019) – 159 ha



- Grasslands: 140 ha
- Maize silage: 3 ha
- Whole crop wheat silage: 6 ha

### Diet of dairy cows (kg/cow/y) (2019)



- Grazed grass: 2,543 kg DM
- Grass silage: 1,297 kg DM
- Maize silage: 550 kg DM
- Whole crop wheat: 119 kg DM
- Concentrates (CP 18%): 2 683 kg
- Concentrates (CP 22%): 160 kg

## BENCHMARK FIGURES 2019

QUANTITY OF  
CONCENTRATES  
PER LITERS OF MILK PRODUCED

324  
g/l

MINERAL FERTILIZATION  
kgN / HA

168  
kg

FEED SELF-SUFFICIENCY  
FOR PROTEIN

63  
%

TIME IN PASTURE FOR  
COWS PER YEAR

170  
days

GHG EMISSION  
kg eq CO<sub>2</sub> l<sup>-1</sup> FCPM

1,01

GHG EMISSION  
kg eq CO<sub>2</sub> ha<sup>-1</sup> AA

14,695

N SUPPLUS  
kgN ha<sup>-1</sup> AA

211