Shinagh Dairy Farm

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Shinagh Dairy Farm

- 242 cows milked on average in 2023
- 463 kg of milk solids produced per cow
- 102 ha farmed (including leased land)
- 224 kg/ha organic nitrogen (2.5 cows / hectare)
- Band 2 in Nitrates (92kg organic nitrogen / cow)













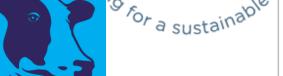
Calving & Breeding

- €257 herd EBI
- 90% six week calving
- 21 Feb median calving date
- 362 day calving interval
- 98% three week submission rate

• 9.2 % not in calf







RM ZEA







Grass & Fertiliser

- 12.15 tonnes of grass drymatter grown per hectare
- 114 kg / ha of artificial Nitrogen used
- 20 kg / ha of bag Phosphorus used
- 62 kg / ha of bag Potassium used











Soil Fertility

- 97% of the farm is at optimum pH (>6.3)
- 70% of the farm is Index 3 or greater for P
- 80% of the farm is Index 3 or greater for K
- 60% of the farm has optimum pH, P, K













Reducing Chemical Nitrogen

- Reduction from 247kg/ha to 114kg/ha in 2023
- Grass 13.4 t/dm/ha down to 12.2 t/dm/ha
- Reduced growth on transition to increased clover
- High Clover paddocks getting no chemical N matching low / no clover paddocks getting 200kg/N









White Clover

- Gradually built confidence in what clover can do
- Used both top-seeding and reseeding
- Top seeding V Reseeding
- 60% of the farm now has at least 20% clover
- Risk Factors









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Clover & Multispecies

Clover Content	Chemical N (kg/ha)	Grass Grown (kg DM/ha)
High Clover 0 nitrogen	0	12.44
High Clover- 1 Spring N application	21 kg in Spring only	11.00
High Clover – 2 Spring N applications	62 kg in Spring only	11.76
Low to Medium Clover	182 kg of Nitrogen	12.55

Conclusion: High clover swards can match High bag nitrogen swards in grass grown

ZEA





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Red Clover

- Hybrid grass / Red clover mix set in Sept 2021
- Outside silage ground
- It has been grazed in autumn
- Gets no chemical nitrogen
- P & K requirements met with slurry and chemical













Reducing Emissions

- 97% of chemical nitrogen is PU
- All slurry is spread using LESS
- Contractor use of GPS for fertiliser
- Slurry: 9N:5P:35K











Spring Fertiliser Plan

- Watch soil temperature before Feb spread
- Watch forecast for low rainfall window
- Feb: 40% of farm will get 5,000 gals slurry / ha
- As paddocks are grazed they get 5,000gals slurry
- High grass covers get 25kg PU / ha
- March: 50kg/ha on ground that has got no bag N











Financial Performance

	2023
Average Cows	242
Litres / cow	5264
MS kg /cow	463
Meal / cow (kg)	872
Milk Price / litre (cents)	50.00
Meal (cents / litre)	6.80
Fertilizer (cents/litre)	3.20
Total costs (cents / litre)	48.01
Net Cash Flow	6.92









