



Internship on Irish Dairy Farm

We are milking 560 cows in the midlands of Ireland along with rearing all our youngstock animals which is 200 calves and 200 heifers(1year +) which we have used in the past to expand the herd or sell. We have a

mainly grass based system with very little supplement being fed to cows, about 500kgs/cow of grain and about 1 ton of silage when the cows are dry.

We measure grass regularly with the farm mainly split into paddocks of 20 acres for 36hr grazings. We have a mixed farm with some very dry areas and some very wet areas also. We have some areas with a lot of white clover but we are implementing a seeding plan to sow more so that we can reduce our nitrogen requirement. We calve the cows as the grass begins to grow with cows going straight to grass as they calve and keeping them out at grass for as long as possible. The farm is growing about 14 tons of grass and last year we utilised 92% of this.

We have jersey cross, kiwi cross and friesland cross cows with our herd being in the top 1% of herds in the country genetically with a herd average of 5.14 butterfat and 3.97 protein and a six week calving rate of 93%. We run a low cost system with minimal amount of machinery with all machinery work contracted out so we can focus on cows and grass.

We farm 770 acres with the milking platform or main farm being 405 acres with all other land used for youngstock or silage. We have a 40 unit herringbone milking parlour with cluster removers. We also have roofless cubicles and a calving shed for calving period. All facilities have been updated in the last 5 years to coincide with quotas finishing. We have 5 full time people working with us also.

Jonathan Dwyer, Moneymore House, Borris-in-Ossory, Co. Laois.

Mail: jonnydwyer@gmail.com

Mobil: +353 87 677 8939

Don't hesitate to contact us.

Info: Der Betrieb liegt ziemlich genau zwischen Dublin und Limerick, ca. 1 1/2 Autostunden zum Flughafen Dublin.