

Experimental objective

To investigate the impacts of 3 swards & 2 animal breeds on the performance of spring calving grazing systems



Perennial
ryegrass (PRG)
250 kg N/ha



PRG+white
clover (WC)
125 kg N/ha



Multispecies
(MSS)
125 kg N/ha



HF



HF × Jersey

Growing evidence of sward diversity benefits

- Increased DM yield & stability over monocultures
- Improved animal nutrition and performance
- Reduced N losses, increased C sequestration & biodiversity

First results of the study (2021-2022)

Sward	PRG		PRG+WC		Multispecies	
Breed group	HF	JFX	HF	JFX	HF	JFX
Milk yield (kg/cow)	5,140	5,010	5,150	5,150	5,410	5,250
Fat content (%)	5.04	5.48	5.21	5.51	5.06	5.36
Protein content (%)	3.67	3.87	3.73	3.79	3.75	3.89
Milk solids (kg/cow)	451	468	459	472	468	482
Pasture yield (t DM/ha)	11.3		10.7		11.0	
Fertilizer (kg N/ha)	250		125		125	

Take home messages

PRG+WC and MSS can improve dairy farm performance through higher milk production while reducing the use of chemical N fertiliser