

Automatic milking for Irish dairy farms





Is automatic milking for you???

Need to consider:

- Herd size
- Farm layout
- Good grassland management
- Financial situation of the farm

	0.63 RA5 0.60 RA7 0.51 0.59 0.51 RA3 0.51 RA3 0.51	RB1 RB9	RB11 1.57 RB13 RB10 RB14 1.97
Total dairy	0.51 RA2 RA10 0.51 0.51	Farm Yard	RE15 RC1 0.60 RC2 0.51 RC3 0.50 RC49 RC6
labour reduced by			RC7
36% with			

ABC cow traffic system

3 daily paddocks		
	kg DM/cow	
A	6	
В	6	
C	4	

Take home messages

- Design and layout of the yard is crucial for good cow-flow
- Grassland management is key
- Automatic milking gives the option to reduce labour required for milking, but incurs greater costs than a conventional system

Results for Teagasc Farm (May 2022):

- milkings/day = 125
- milkings/cow/day = 1.8
- milk yield = 22.2 kg/cow/d
- SCC = 57,000 cells/ml

Grass:

automatic

milking

Target cover 1300-1400 kg DM/ha