

Solohead research farm





Milk production and fertiliser N use 2022

142 cows on 56 ha (138 acres) Stocking rate:

19 kg/ha (15 units per acre) Fertiliser N use:

Milk deliveries 2022: 5,400 L/cow, 461 kg MS/cow

4.59% fat & 3.72% protein

Replacement heifers are contract reared

Key components of the system

Maximise biological N fixation (no N₂O emissions)

Low or no fertiliser N input & excellent soil fertility

Tight grazing (4 cm) & low covers over the winter

Regular reseeding with white and red clover

More fibre into the diet is key to avoiding bloat





Take home messages

Focus on high clover proportion delivering lower greenhouse gas emissions & higher profit

Part-funded DAFM project 2019R521 (LoCAM-dairy)