

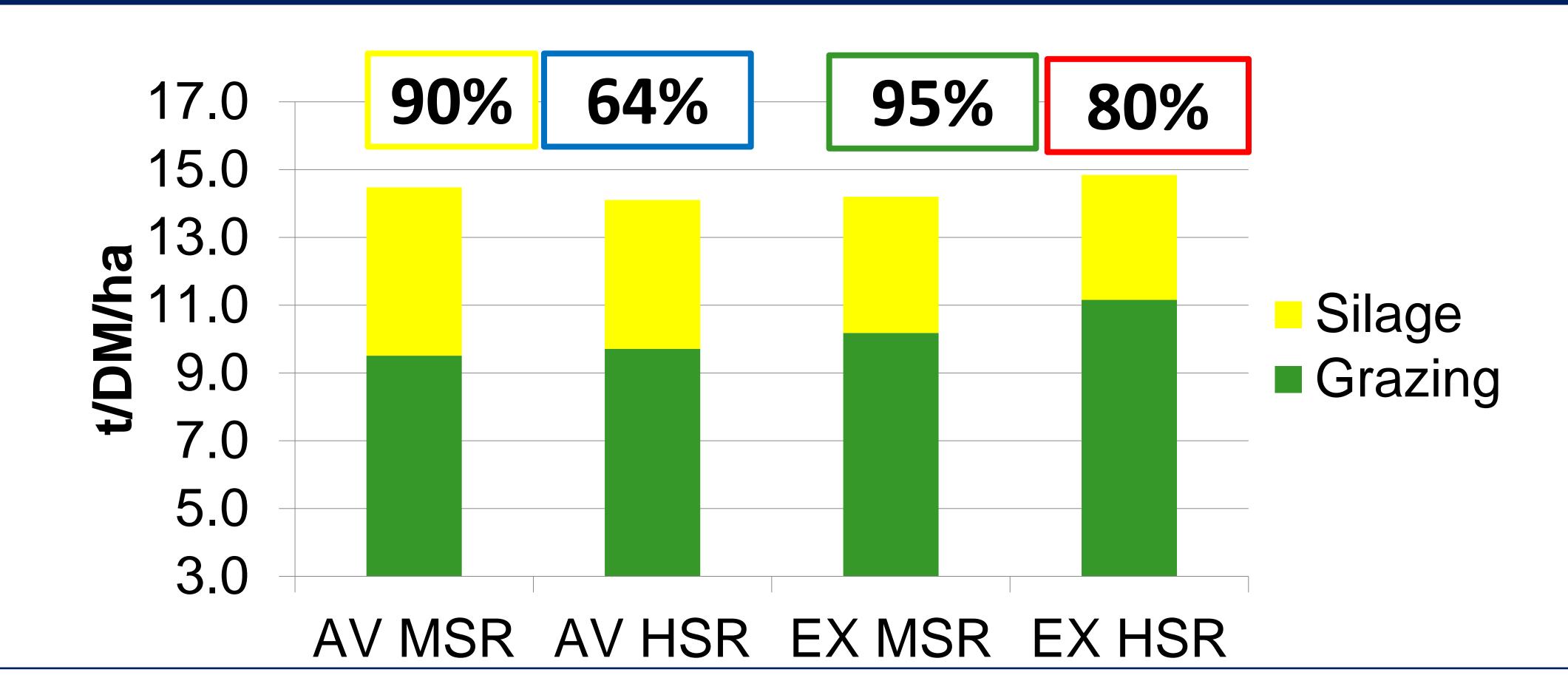
# Milk production in the BMW region



#### Introduction

- Four year extended grazing study at Ballyhaise
- Extended grazing season (EX) v's the average (AV) grazing season for the region at two stocking rates (medium – MSR and high – HSR)
- Measuring effects on the soil, sward, animal and economics

# Pasture production and silage self sufficiency



### Extended grazing study results 2017 & 2018

| Grazing season length      | Average |        | Extended |        |
|----------------------------|---------|--------|----------|--------|
| Stocking rate (LU/ha)      | 2.5     | 2.9    | 2.5      | 2.9    |
| Grazing season (days)      | 210     | 210    | 251      | 251    |
| Grazing days (No./ha)      | 525     | 609    | 628      | 728    |
| Milk yield (kg/ha)         | 12,619  | 15,131 | 13,993   | 15,166 |
| Milk solids (kg/ha)        | 1,059   | 1,299  | 1,134    | 1,327  |
| Grazed grass use (t DM/ha) | 9.4     | 10.0   | 10.3     | 11.6   |
| Silage fed (t DM/ha)       | 4.15    | 5.15   | 3.17     | 3.46   |
| Concentrate (t DM/ha)      | 1.71    | 2.03   | 1.62     | 1.87   |

## Take home messages

- Extending grazing reduced feed inputs & increased milk production per cow
- Increasing stocking rate increased production per hectare but also increased feed inputs