

Organic conversion – spring calving

Scenario 2 - Spring calving farmer

Impact on outputs		
	Conventional	Organic
Cow numbers	92	75
Other LUs	42	20
Area farmed (ha)	64	64
Stocking rate (LU/ha)	2.09	1.48
Yield/cow (litres)	5790	4790
Milk price (cpl)	42	44
Total milk sales (€)	€223,726	€158,070

Impact on inputs

	Conventional	Organic
Meal fed per cow (kg)	1,066	566
Cost of meal/ton (€)	410	700
Total meal cost (€)	40,209	29,715
Fertiliser usage (ton)	42	2
Cost per ton (€)	600	1,100
Total fertiliser costs (€)	25,200	2,200
Other variable costs (€)	40,740	28,882
Total variable costs (€)	106,149	60,797

Overall impact	
Reduced milk sales	- €65,656
Reduced costs	+ €45,352
OFS payment	+ €20,600

Take home messages	
•	Organic may suit farmers with existing low stocking rates
•	Premium for organic milk is currently low
•	Reduction in costs and OFS payment deliver main benefit