

## Objective

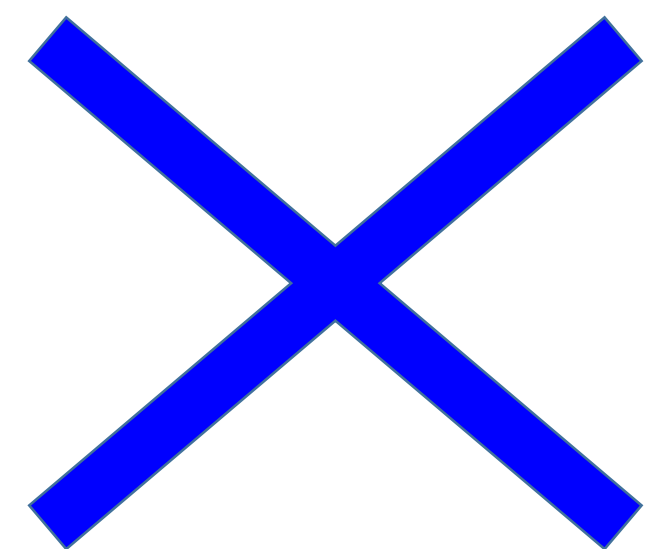
To establish the benefits of the Commercial Beef Value (CBV), and pasture supplementation on the performance of dairy-beef steers



“Conventional”  
Grass-only



“Supplemented”  
4 kg concentrate  
July onwards



High CBV  
4 - 5 ★  
CBV = €95

Low CBV  
1 - 3 ★  
CBV = €61

Holstein Friesian (HF)  
High EBI sires  
CBV = € - 1

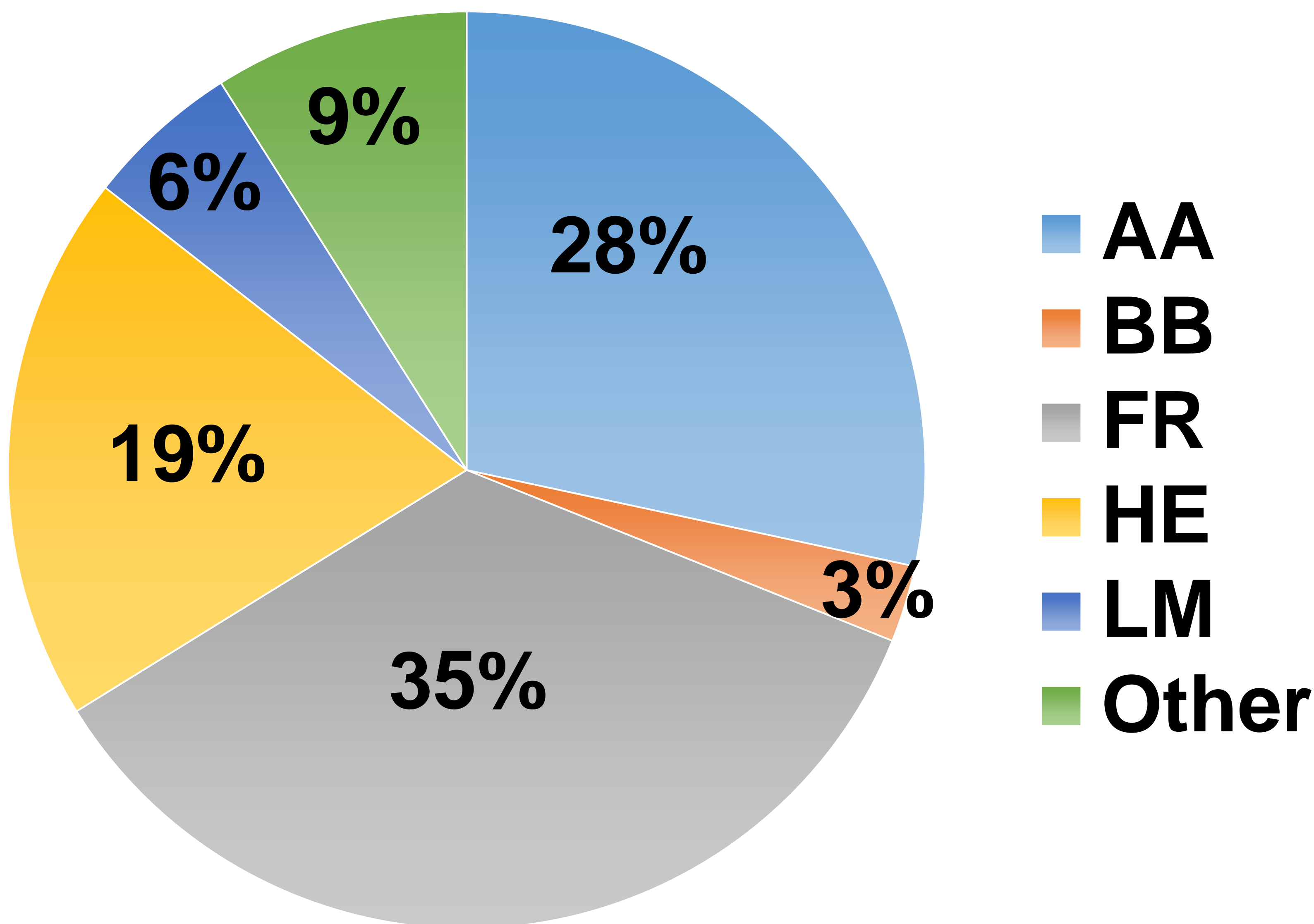
	Conventional			Supplemented		
	High CBV	Low CBV	HF	High CBV	Low CBV	HF
Finishing age (mths.)	21.1	21.4	23.6	19.8	19.8	23.4
Carcass wt. (kg)	314	306	311	310	284	328
Carcass conf.	O=/O+	O=	P+/O-	O+	O=	O-
Carcass fat	3+/4-	3+	3+	4-	3+	3+/4-
Lifetime ADG (kg/day)	0.91	0.88	0.82	0.92	0.86	0.85
Profit (€/head)	459	382	269	389	280	187

## Take home messages

- Substituting **High CBV** for HF beef steers = + **€196** profit per head.
- 73%** of High CBV steers were “**in-spec**”, vs **53%** and **22%** of Low CBV and HF steers, respectively.
- High CBV steers performed best across all systems.



- High profit potential from dairy-beef production
- 58% of carcasses processed are of dairy origin
  - More animals failing to meet carcass specifications
  - High dropout rate in farmers who purchase calves
  - Need for improved calf quality (Genetics/Health)



## Choosing your farm system



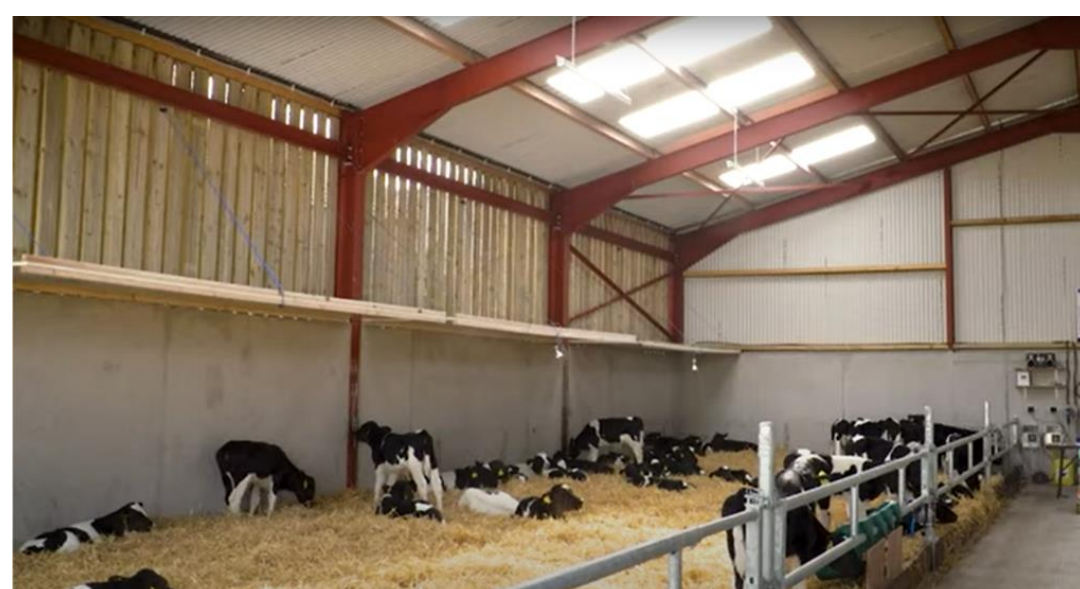
Land



Labour



Facilities



## Key growth targets

	ADG (kg)	Live weight (kg)
Calf rearing	0.7	85-90
1 <sup>st</sup> grazing season	0.8	230
1 <sup>st</sup> winter	0.7	315
2 <sup>nd</sup> grazing season	0.9	490

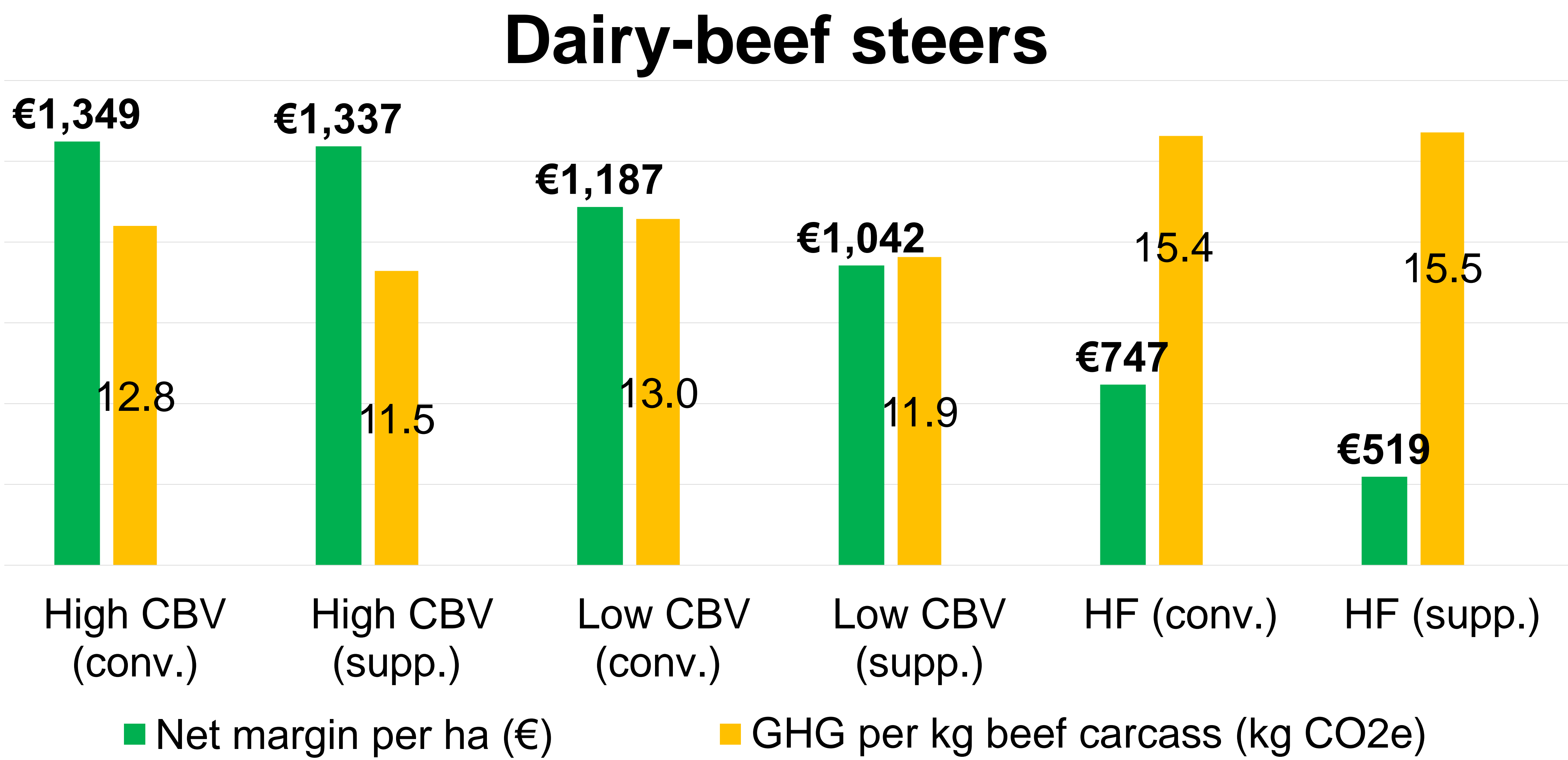


# for profitable production



## Commercial Beef Value (CBV)

- Selection tool for non-breeding beef cattle
- Carcass and feed efficiency traits
- High CBV Angus steers **+ €228/ha** profit vs low CBV (€1 CBV = €1.85 additional profit)



## Early-maturing heifers

	PRG	CLOVER	MSS
% drafted from pasture	68	86	75
Age (months)	19.4	19.2	19.2
Net margin (€/ha)	950	<b>1097</b>	1050
Net margin (€/head)	273	<b>347</b>	320
GHG emissions (kg CO <sub>2e</sub> /kg carcass)	12.37	12.88	12.91

- ✓ **Clover + €150/ha net margin**
- ✓ Improved animal performance
- ✓ Lower N usage

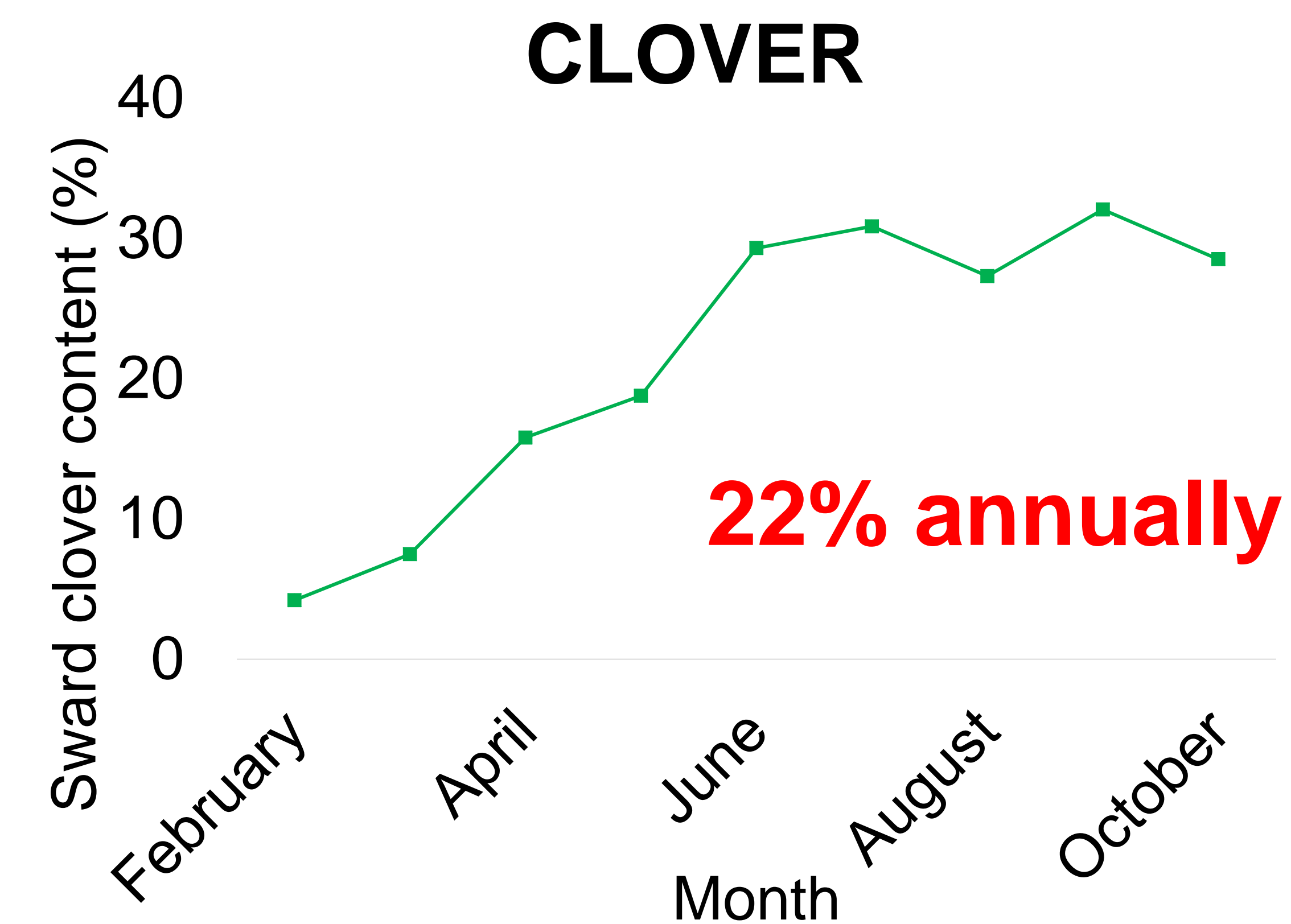
Take home message

Early-maturing steer and heifer systems can generate a farm (40 ha) net profit of €54,000 and €43,880, respectively, using high CBV genetics and incorporating clover into swards

# Dairy-beef heifer systems research

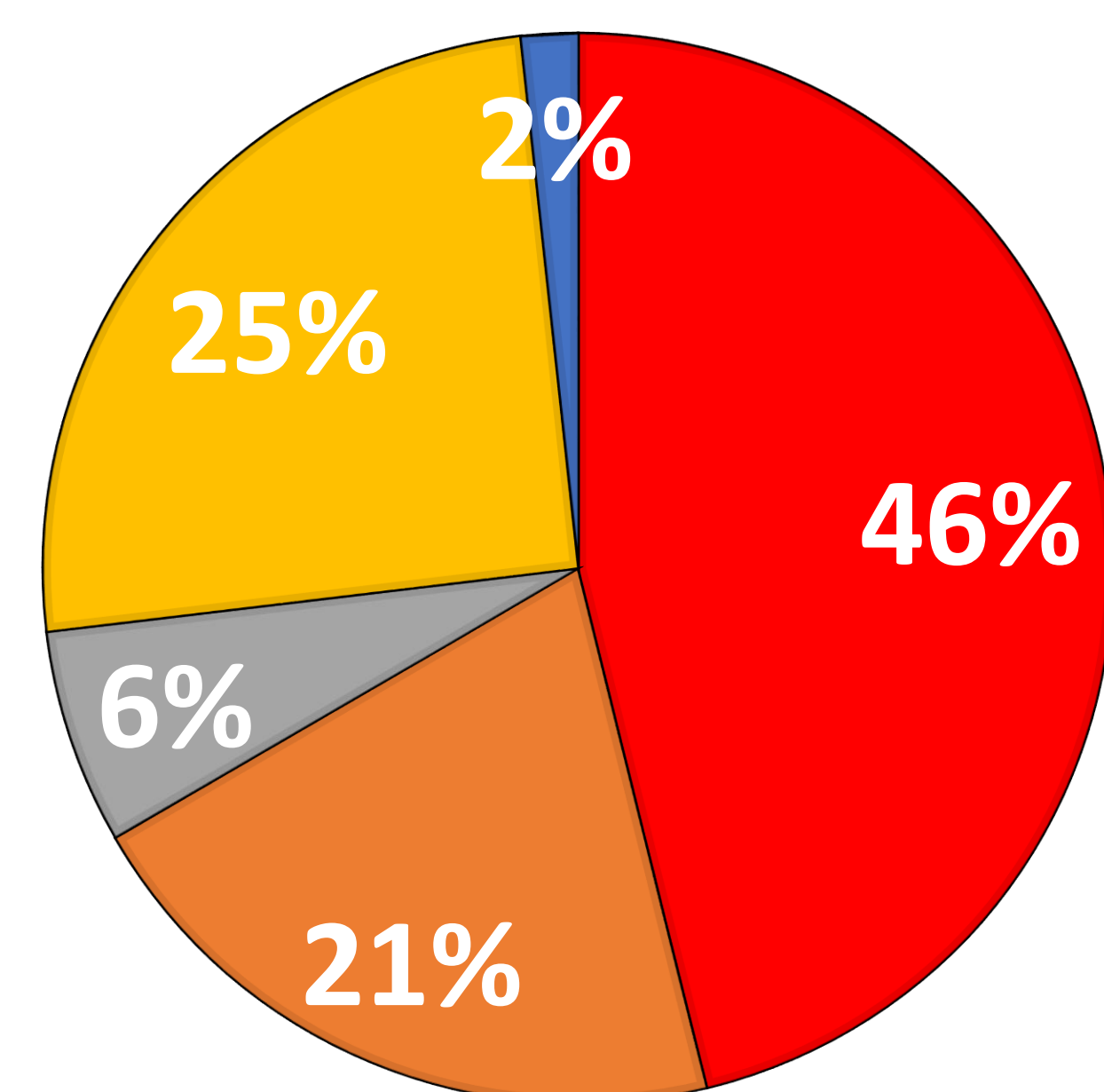
## Heifer performance

	PRG (150 kg N/ha)	CLOVER (75 kg N/ha)	MSS (75 kg N/ha)
Age (months)	19.6	19.2	19.2
Carcass wt. (kg)	243	250	249
Carcass conf.	O=	O=	O=
Carcass fat	3=	3=/+	3=/+
Lifetime ADG (kg)	0.74	0.78	0.79
Net margin (€/head)	273	<b>347</b>	320

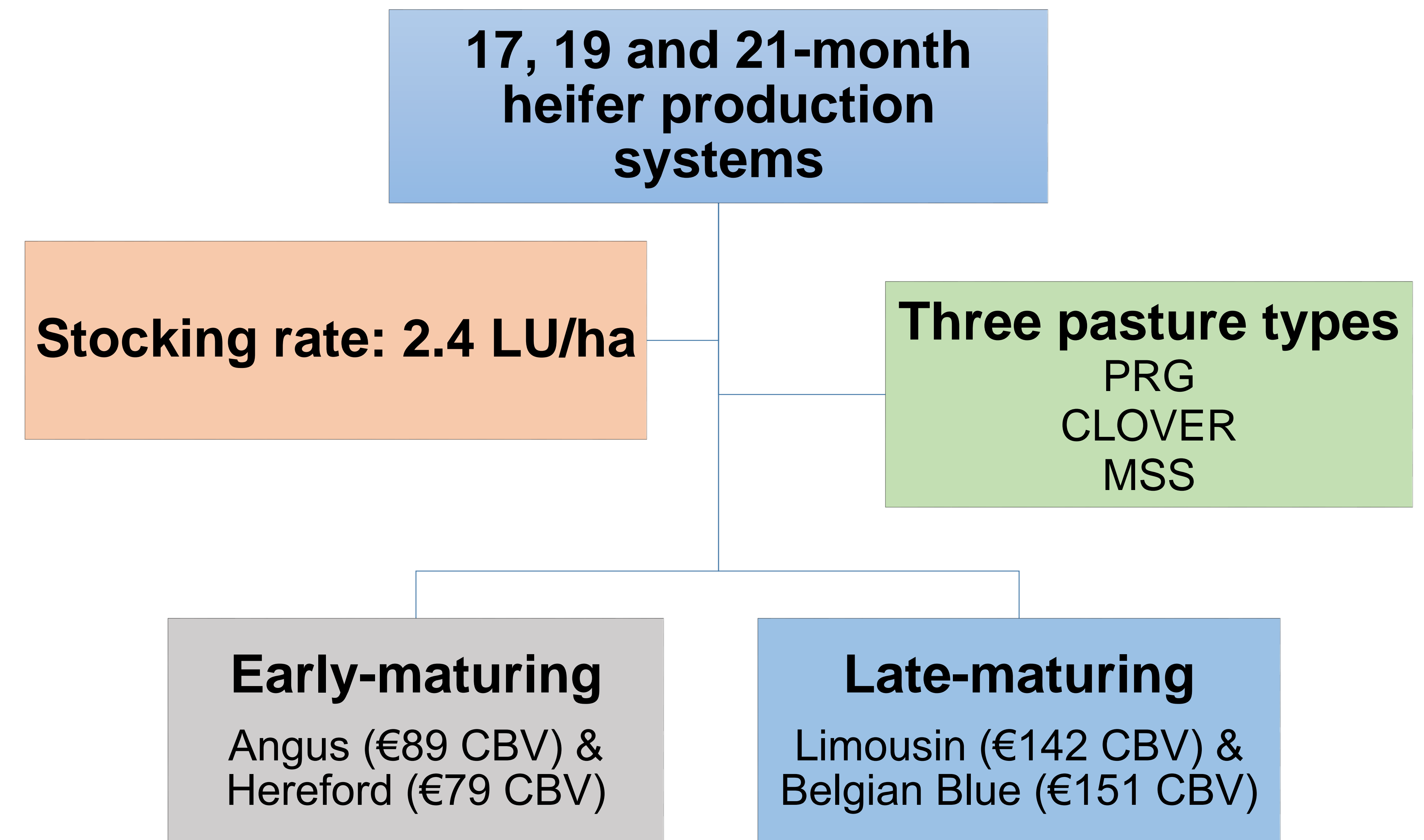


## MSS sward composition

PRG Clover Chicory  
Plantain Weeds



## New heifer systems research



## Take home message

- Despite low carcass weights heifer finishing is profitable
- Clover can increase profit by **€74/head**
- Greater animal performance & lower inputs (fertiliser, feed)