

Grassland

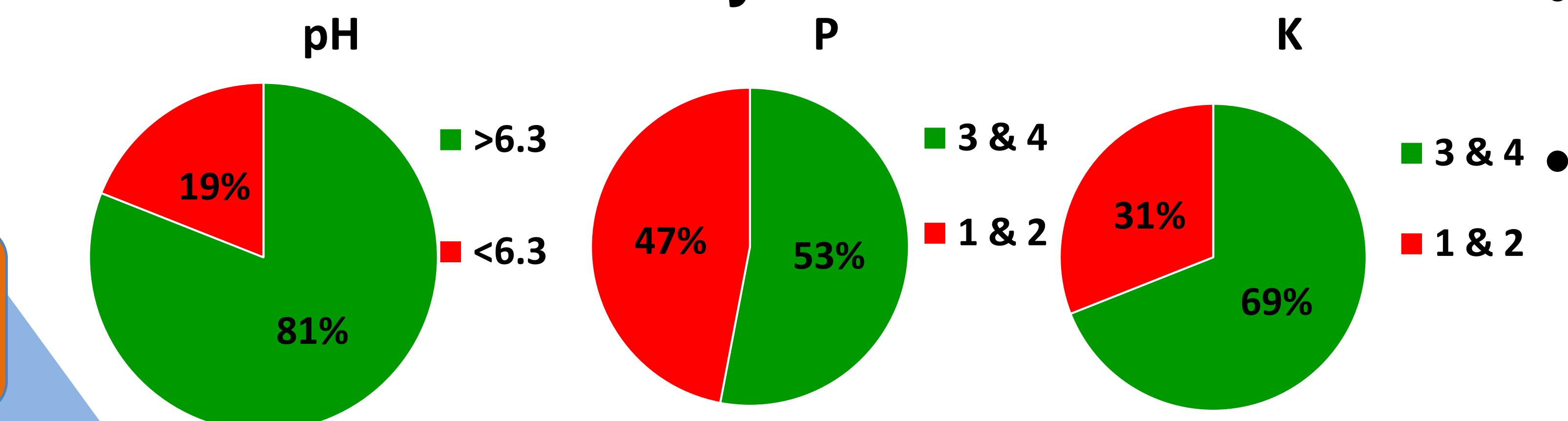
Background

- Previous - tillage and beef
- 100 ha available for grassland
 - 80 ha reseeded
- 11 ha spring barley

Four steps to increasing grass utilisation

4. Sward composition

- Regular Soil test
- Target soil pH of >6.3
 - <6.0 – 25% reduction in fertiliser utilisation
- Index 1 vs. Index 3
 - + 1.5 t DM/ha/yr



2024 live weight performance

Yearlings	Current weight	ADG	Days at grass	Target ADG
Steers	394 kg	0.80 kg	88 days	0.90 kg
Heifers	377 kg	0.91 kg	91 days	0.90 kg
Calves	Current weight	ADG	Days on farm	Target ADG
Bulls	126 kg	0.71 kg	108 days	0.80 kg
Heifers	116 kg	0.67 kg	104 days	0.80 kg

Grazing infrastructure

- Rotational system: 6 - 8 paddocks per grazing group

- Roadway network

- Water network

Increase no. grazings

2. Grazing infrastructure

1. Soil fertility



Grassland

Mid-season Grazing Management

Consistent high quality grass + grazing residuals

> 12 cm
+25 days

8 – 10 cm
18 – 21 days

+ 0.9 kg
ADG

< 7 cm
11 – 14 days

> 2200 kg
DM/ha

1400 kg
DM/ha

< 1000 kg
DM/ha

Low utilisation

High Utilisation

Reduced Growth

Do's in a grazing system

- ✓ 18-21 day rotation length
- ✓ 36-48 hour residency time in paddocks
- ✓ Target post-grazing height 4 cm
- ✓ Monitor animal performance regularly

Reseeding and Clover

- Role of white (grazing) and red clover (silage)
 - ↓ N fertiliser & ↑ animal performance
- Over-sowing (2.5 kg) & reseeding (1.5 kg)
- Adjust N with increasing clover %
- Continual management
- Silage swards – Red Clover (4 kg)



Take home

1. Continued improvement of grazing infrastructure
2. Soil fertility – test, plan, take action
3. Grazing management – thinking ahead
4. Role of clover in swards