Milking Once A Day

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Why Milk OAD?

- Labour
- Walking Distance, Fragmented/Hilly Farms
- Lifestyle
- Outside Farm/2nd Unit
- Off Farm Job
- Drystock Farmers

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Advantages – Disadvantages OAD

Big Question:

How much of a Hit on Income?

Other Issues:

- Mastitis Control
- Cow Breed
- Bull Selection

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Established OAD Farms (8) 2017

	Average	Range
Cow Nos.	**147**	66 - 246
Stocking rate		
MP (cows/ha)	**2.77**	1.8 – 4.6
Overall SR (LU/ha)	**2.42**	2.0 – 2.8
Milk Solids		
Kg/cow	**377**	337 - 432
Kg/MP Ha	**1028**	
Fat (%) / Pr (%)	**4.98 / 4.00**	
SCC (cells/ml)	**181**	114 - 230
6-week Calving rate (%)	**89%**	85% - 93%
Replacement rate (%)	**20%**	18% - 29%

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Established OAD Farms (8) 2017

	Average	Range
Milk Price (c/litre)	**43.8**	39.7 – 47.8
Total Costs		
€/cow	**€920**	€804 – 1,129
€/ha	**€2,226**	€1,753 – 3,150
Net Profit		
€/cow	**€890**	€713 – 1,097
€ha	**€2,154**	€1,574 – 2,753

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OAD (8) vs TAD Farms (267) 2017

	OAD	TAD
Milk Price (c/litre)	**43.8**	**38.4**
Total Costs		
€/cow	**€920**	**€1,148**
€/ha	**€2,226**	**€2,715**
Net Profit		
€/cow	**€890**	**€992**
€/ha	**€2,154**	**€2,366**

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Transitioning to OAD

- **Milk Record** 2 – 3 years before OAD
  - high SCC/low yielders
  - poor udders / teat placement / slow milkers
- **Higher Replacement Rate** in early years
  - TAD 25 repl/100 cows
  - Rear up to 35 – 40 repl/100 cows
  - Breed suitable heifers

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Transitioning to OAD

- **Extra Cows**
  - Can you carry 10% more cows?
- **Profitability??**
  - If borrowed – can debt be managed?
- **Upskilling**
  - Talk to / Visit OAD farmers
  - Join OAD discussion group
  - Grassland management / Mastitis control

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