Once a Day Milking
Donal O'Loughlin, Farmer Rossmore, Ballymacarbry, Co. Tipperary

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Introduction

- Number of hectares – 84ha milking platform. (34ha leased, 15ha Clashganny)
- Background and history of farm
- Holstein Fr./winter milk/maize silage
- Quota 88,000gallons (parents)
- Parents retired
- Partnership with brother 1994 – 1999
- Lack of quota & more land available

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2000 - 2010

- **2002** - 96 cows
- **2002** - Milking parlour – 16 units built
- **2008** - Bought quota & 10 acres – grazing block
- **2003** - Crossbreeding

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2010 – 2018

- **2011 -** September – once a day (quota)
- Calves and heifers contract reared
- **2012** - 128 cows OAD (quota)
- **2015** – 154 cows, 60 outdoor cubicles built
- Purchased 17acres
- **2016** - Calved down 184
- **2016** – 380kgs/MS. 2017 – 400kgs/MS
- **2018** – 224 cows to milk

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What has OAD meant to me

- Less labour
- Less meal
- Less cows walking, cows last longer
- More time for family & hobbies
- 300 less milkings every year
- Grassland

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Breeding

- 2002 crossed with Swedish Red & Norwegian Red
- 2005 crossed with Jersey & Kiwi Cross
- Ideal cow 50/50 Jersey/Friesian Cross
- Weight 500kgs
- Bulls used PSQ,OKT,FR2213

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Group	No. of cows	Average days in milk	Completed Lactations Only M Kg	M Gall	F%	P%	F Kg	P Kg	F+P Kg	SCC	Milk Value* EBI
Overall	157	304	4820	1030	4.93	3.95	237	190	428	153	€2027
		305 CI: 366	4826	1031	4.93	3.95	238	191	429		€154
1st Lactation	34	300	3406	728	5.50	4.09	187	139	327	98	€1539
		305	3431	733	5.51	4.1	189	141	330		€161
2nd Lactation	39	305	4717	1008	5.03	4.01	237	189	426	57	€2023
		307 CI: 368	4725	1009	5.03	4.01	238	189	427		€154
3rd Lactation	31	305	5110	1092	4.88	4.04	249	207	456	160	€2175
		308 CI: 362	5119	1094	4.88	4.05	250	207	457		€141
4+ Lactation	53	303	5620	1201	4.66	3.81	262	214	476	231	€2256
		305 CI: 367	5635	1204	4.67	3.81	263	215	478		€157

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Observations

- Cows adapt quickly
- Rid of cows that don’t suit system
- SCC takes management
- Michael Wall & Gillian O’Sullivan
- POADII Discussion Group
- Teagasc support

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