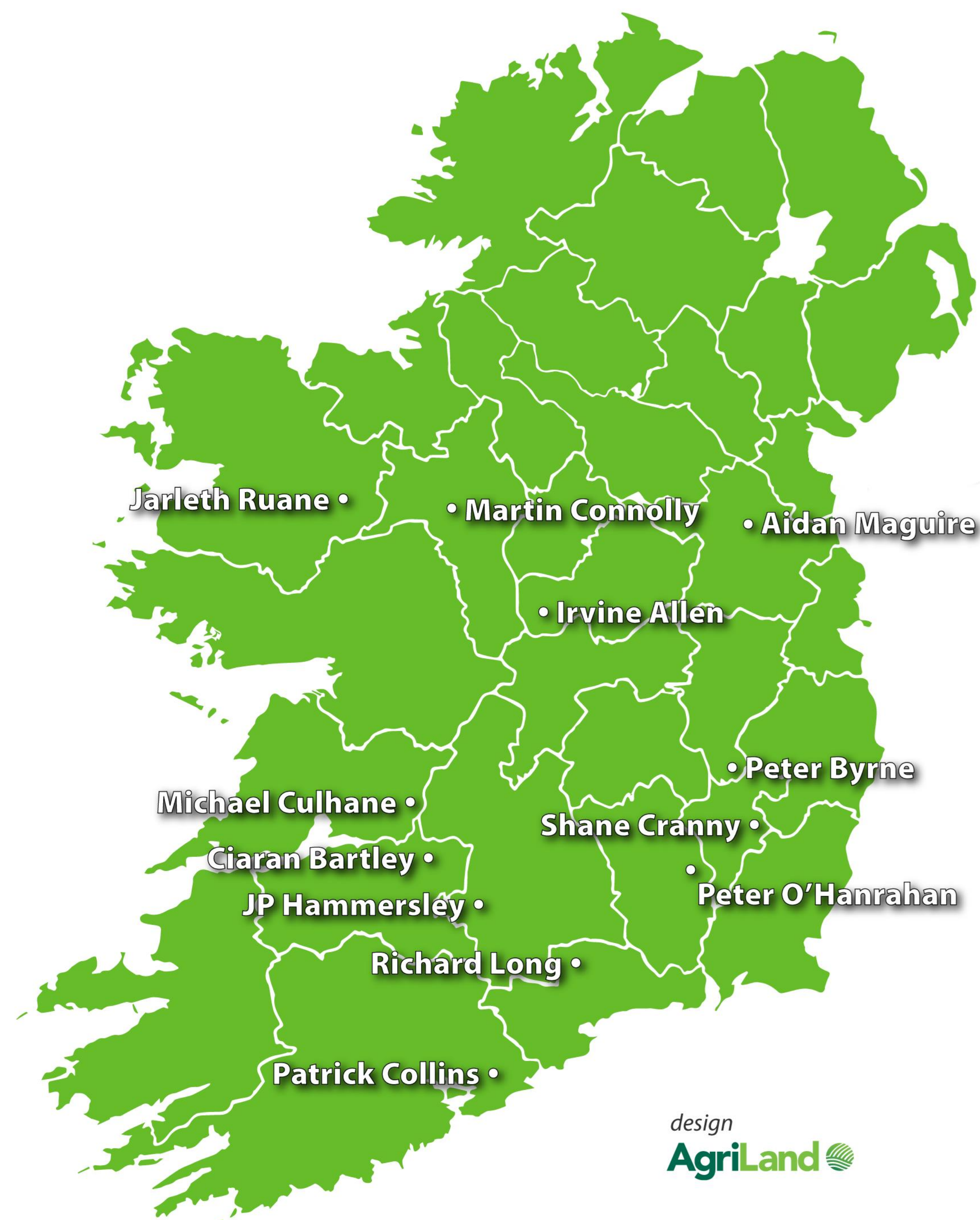


Improving Technical Efficiencies:

- Calf Rearing
- Animal Health
- Soil Fertility
- Farm Planning
- Financial Management
- Grassland Management

➤ Target a Net Margin of €500/ha excluding all farm subsidies by the end of the 3 years.



JP Hammersley's farm overview:

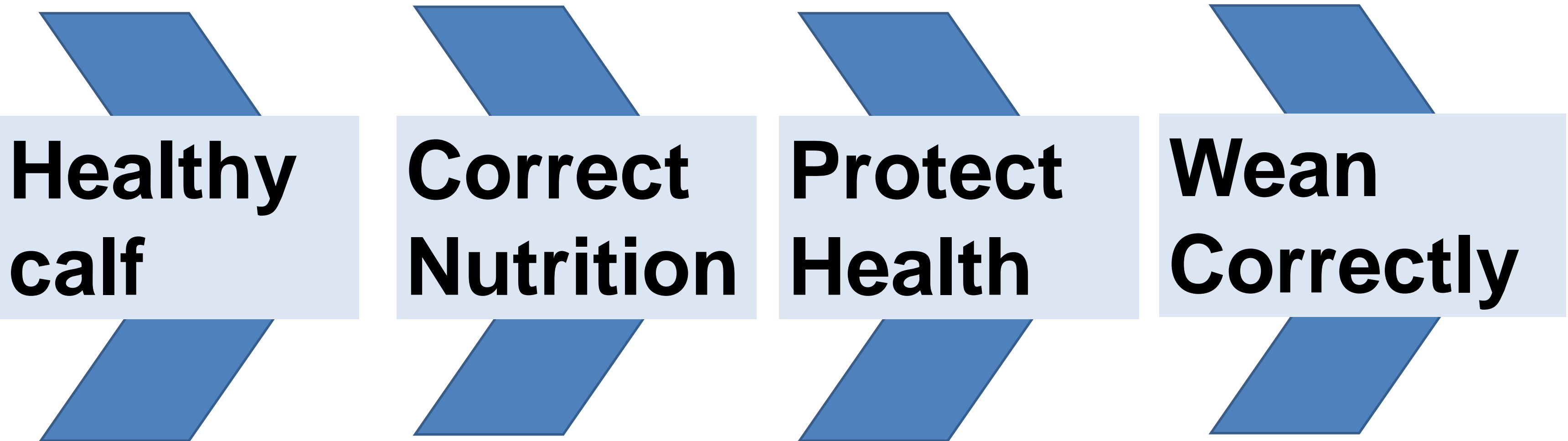


- 34.7ha of grassland
- Part-time operation – labour efficiency key
- Steer system – slaughtering at 22 & 28 months
- 72 calves purchased from 1 herd this spring
- Focused on grassland management, soil fertility and sustainability

Milk replacer feeding schedule for bucket feeding				
Days	MR/calf/day	Litres per feed	Feeds/day	Meal
7-12	500g	2	2	Ad lib
13-35	750g	3	2	Ad lib
35-49	375g	3	1	Ad lib
50+	Feed until 85-90kg	-	-	Ad lib up to 2kg/day

Selecting a milk replacer:

- Protein content of >20%
- Oil content of 18-20%
- Ash content <8%
- Fibre content <0.15%
- Contains milk-derived proteins
- Easily dissolved without leaving residuals



Key messages:

- Target gain of 0.7kg/day up until turnout
- Feed a high-quality milk replacer
- Hygiene and correct feeding practices essential
- Herd health planning is key
- Avoid stress

First Grazing Season



90kg



230kg

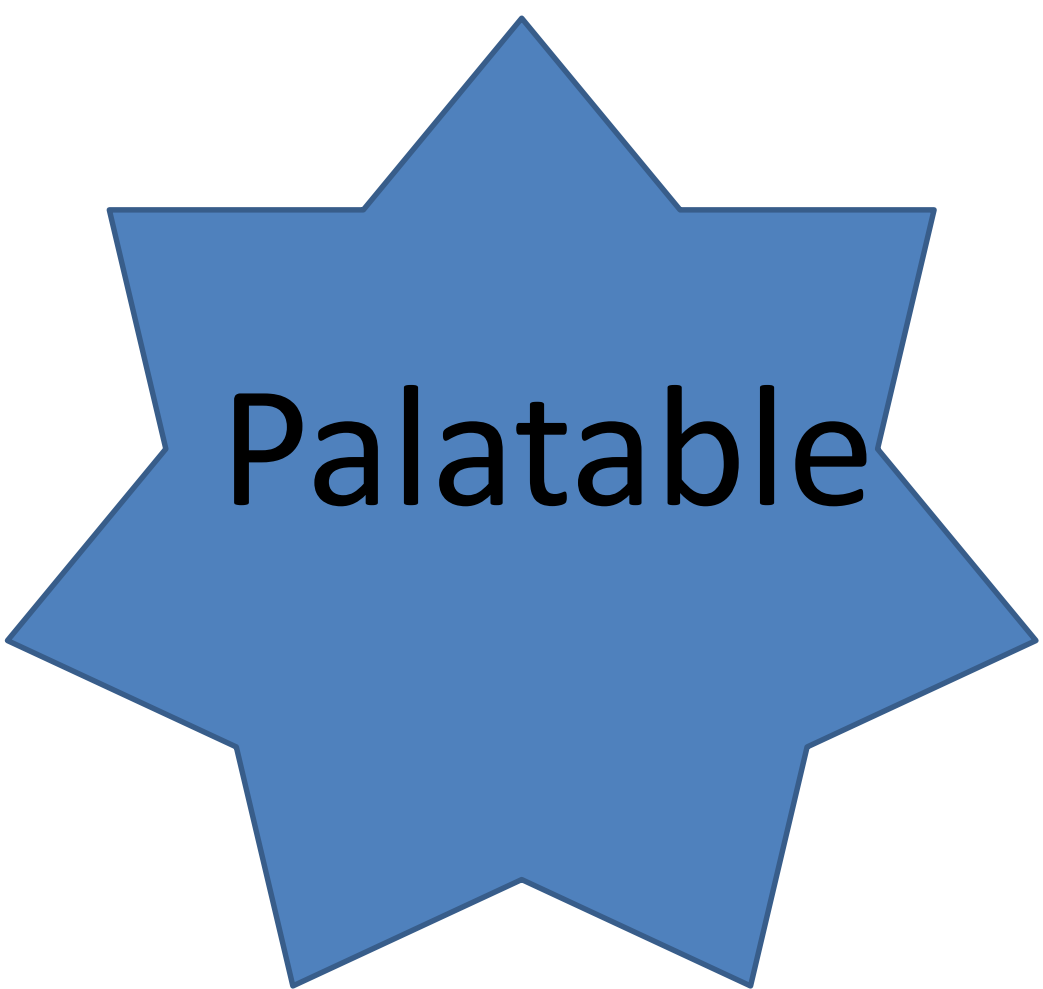
Key messages:

- Limit stress when transitioning outdoors
- Daily weight gains of 0.7-0.8kg/day required
- Monitor health and grass quality

Impact of silage quality on weanling performance				
DMD %	75	70	65	60
Harvest date	20 May	2 June	15 June	28 June
Silage t DM/ha	4.6	6.0	7.0	7.7
Bales/ac	7.7	10	12	13
ADG on silage alone (kg/day)	+0.5	+0.35	+0.2	0
Meal needed (kg/day) for 0.6kg ADG	0.5	1.25	2	2.5
Meal feeding cost over 100 days (€/head at €310/t ration)	€16	€39	€62	€78



Selecting a ration:



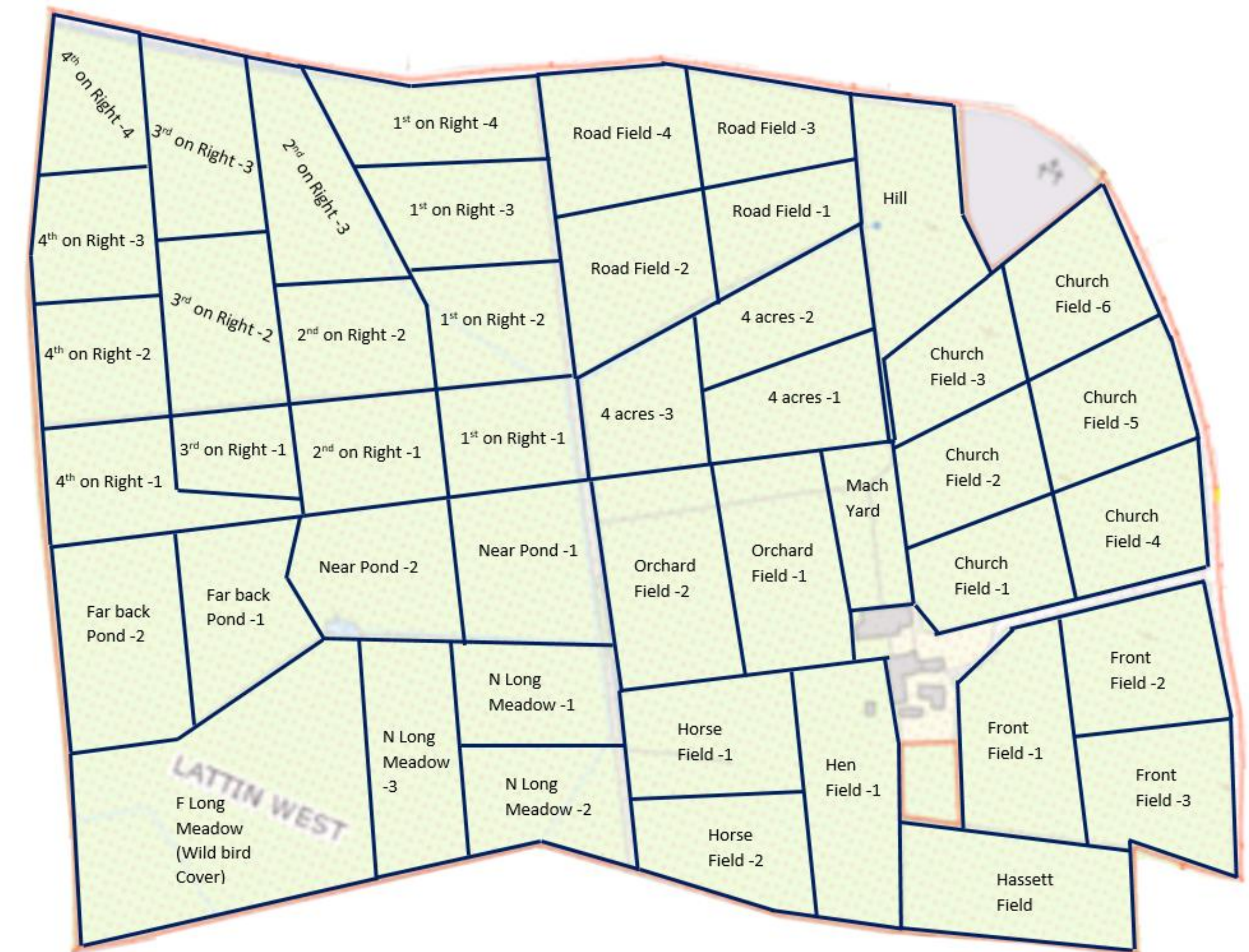
Key messages:

- Winter weight gain of 0.6kg/day required
- 230kg at start of winter – 320kg at turnout
- Test your silage
- Feed concentrates on the basis of silage quality

Second Grazing Season & Infrastructure

Second season targets:

- Opportunity to gain at least 200kg of liveweight off grass
- 320kg at turnout - >500kg at housing
- Daily gain of 0.9-1.0kg/day required
- 'Grow in 21, graze in 3'



Why install a paddock grazing system?

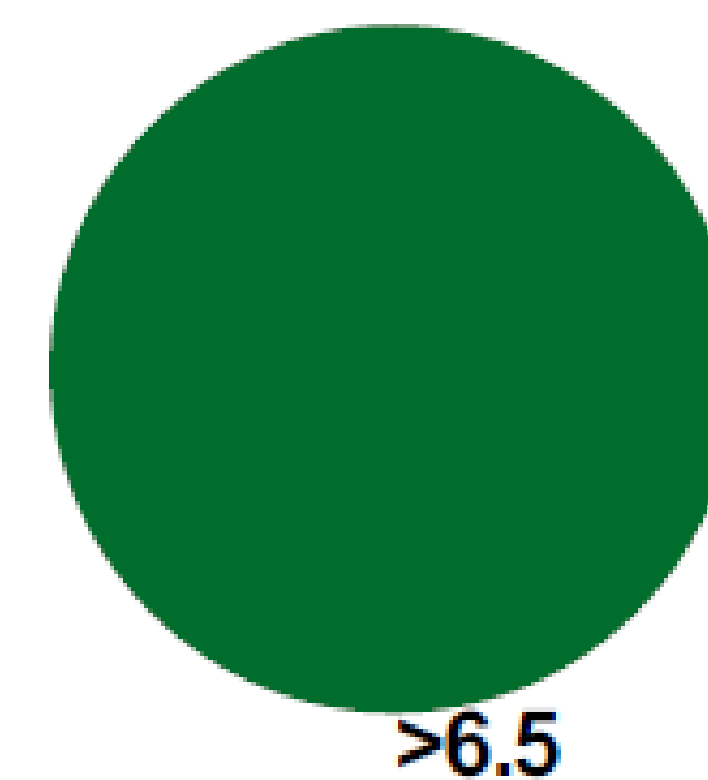
- Better grass utilisation
- Increased animal performance
- Increased grass production
- Opportunity to harvest 'quality bales'
- Ease of management in difficult conditions



Soil fertility

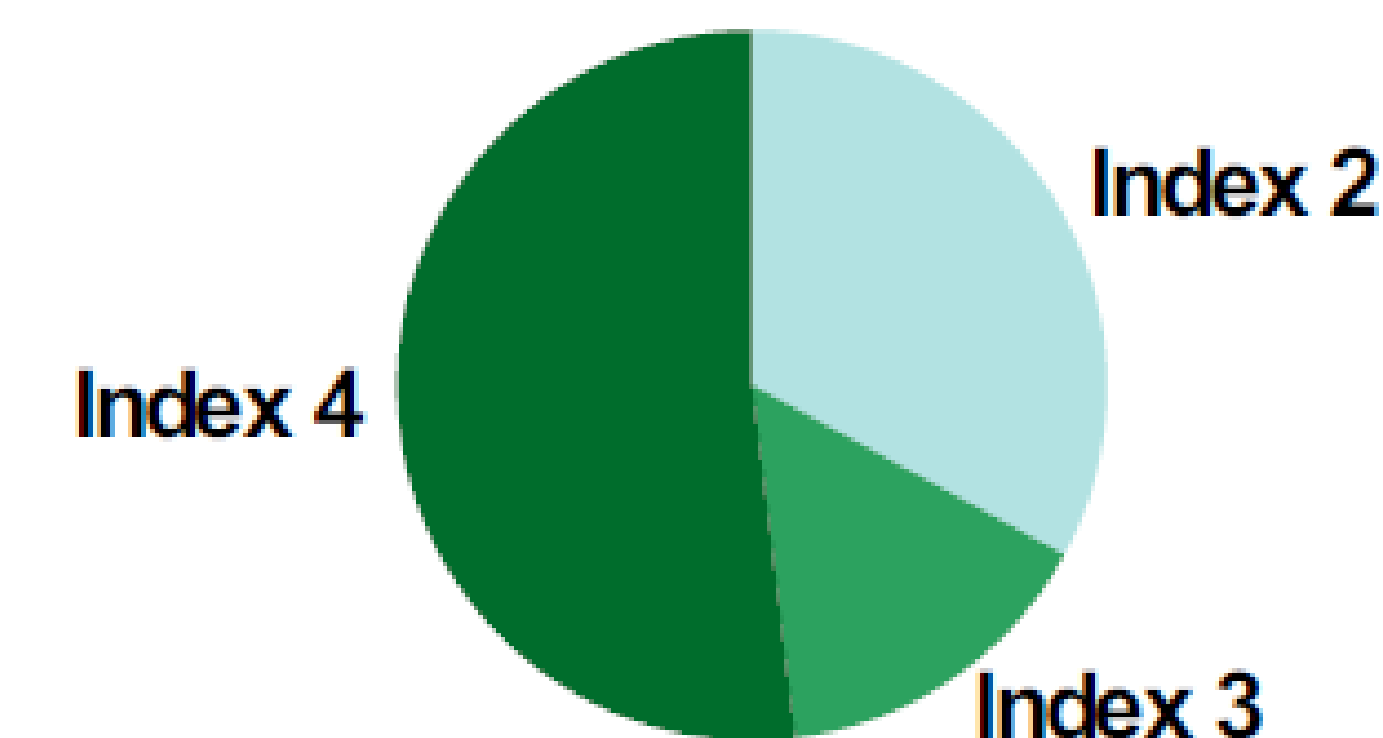
Lime

Soil pH > 6.2



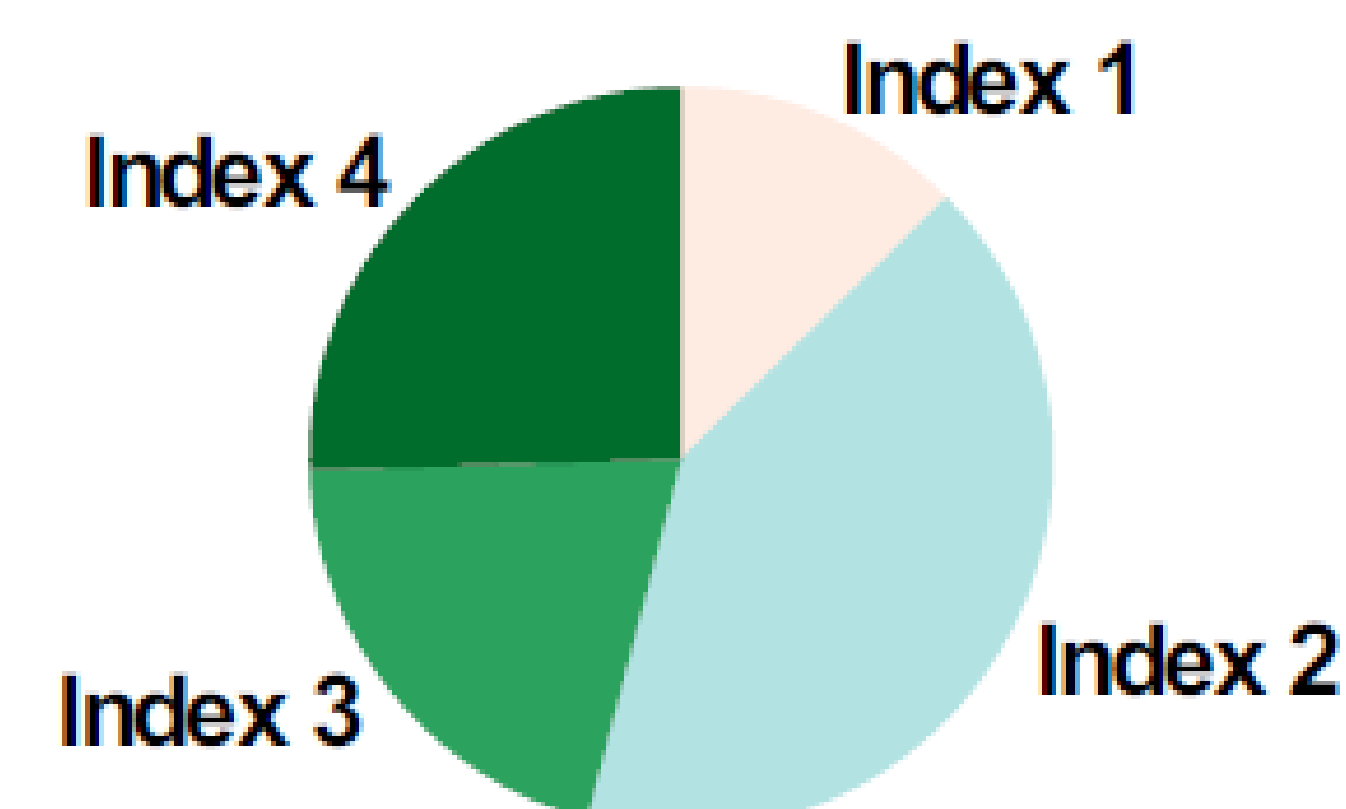
Phosphorus

P Index



Potassium

K Index



Soil Fertility build-up

P Build-up	K Build-up
10-20 kg/ha Extra P	30-60 kg/ha Extra K
1½ -2 bag/ac 18-6-12	2 -4 bag/ac 18-6-12
or	or
½ -1 bag/ac 16% P	½ – 1 bag/ac of 50% K

Objectives:

- Keep grass in the diet for as long as possible
- Set up farm for early spring grazing
- Carry no heavy covers over winter

Autumn Rotation Plan:

1. Start closing: Oct 1
2. 60% grazed by Nov 7
3. Housing: Nov 30
4. Closing cover: >600kgDM/ha

	Heavy Farm	Dry Farm
October 1		
October 8		
October 15		
October 22		
October 29		
November 5		
November 12		
November 19		
November 26		
December 3		



Guidelines:

- Graze paddocks to 3.5-4cm
- Do not re-graze
- Skip heavier covers to meet the 60% target
- Grazing infrastructure and a flexible mindset are key
- Reduce poaching:
 - On-off grazing
 - Splitting paddocks
 - House heavy cattle first
 - Close heavier land earlier

Finishing Options

	21-month steers		24-month steers		28-month steers	
	ADG (kg/day)	Weight (kg)	ADG (kg/day)	Weight (kg)	ADG (kg/day)	Weight (kg)
2 nd season at grass	1.00	580	0.90	530	0.90	530
2 nd winter	-	-	1.00	620	0.50	580
3 rd season at grass	-	-	-	-	1.20	680
Target carcass (kg)	280-300		320		350	
Variable Costs						
Calf rearing	€124		€124		€124	
1 st season at grass	€99		€99		€99	
1 st winter	€106		€106		€106	
2 nd season at grass	€254		€149		€149	
2 nd winter	-		€265		€171	
3 rd season at grass	-		-		€134	
Total variable costs	€583		€743		€783	

Target silage quality:

- Dry matter: 28-32%
- DMD: >72
- Crude protein (% DM): >13.5
- pH: 3.8-4.5
- Ammonia (% N): <10%
- UFV/UFL (unit/kg DM): >0.89



Meal supplementation & silage quality (1kg/head/day)

Silage quality	66 DMD	68 DMD	70 DMD	72 DMD	74 DMD
Meal supplementation	7kg	6kg	5.5kg	5kg	4kg
€/head (€310/t & 100 days)	€217	€186	€171	€155	€124

Selecting a finishing ration

>0.92
UFV

11-14%
CP

Key messages:

- Hitting target weights gives options, makes finishing easier and more economical
- Finishing stock need excellent quality silage
- Feed a quality ration

€93/head saving

700kg

400kg

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Calf numbers	50	58	71	72
Stocking rate	2.14	2.12	2.28	2.32
LW output	767kg/ha	912kg/ha	1,095kg/ha	1,250kg/ha
Gross output	€1,515/ha	€1,588/ha	€2,017/ha	€2,613/ha
Variable costs	€1,103/ha	€939/ha	€1,067/ha	€1,460/ha
Gross margin	€412/ha	€649/ha	€949/ha	€1,153/ha
Fixed costs	€625/ha	€639/ha	€684/ha	€701/ha
Net margin	-€213/ha	€10/ha	€265/ha	€453/ha

- Concentrate
- Vet
- Other variable costs
- Net margin
- Fertiliser
- Contractor
- Fixed costs

