

Establishing grass-clover swards

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- ✓ Soil fertility - pH 6.5, Index 3+ (P & K)
- ✓ Timing – a challenge this year
- ✓ April over-sowing
- ✓ Soil to seed contact

2024 Opportunities

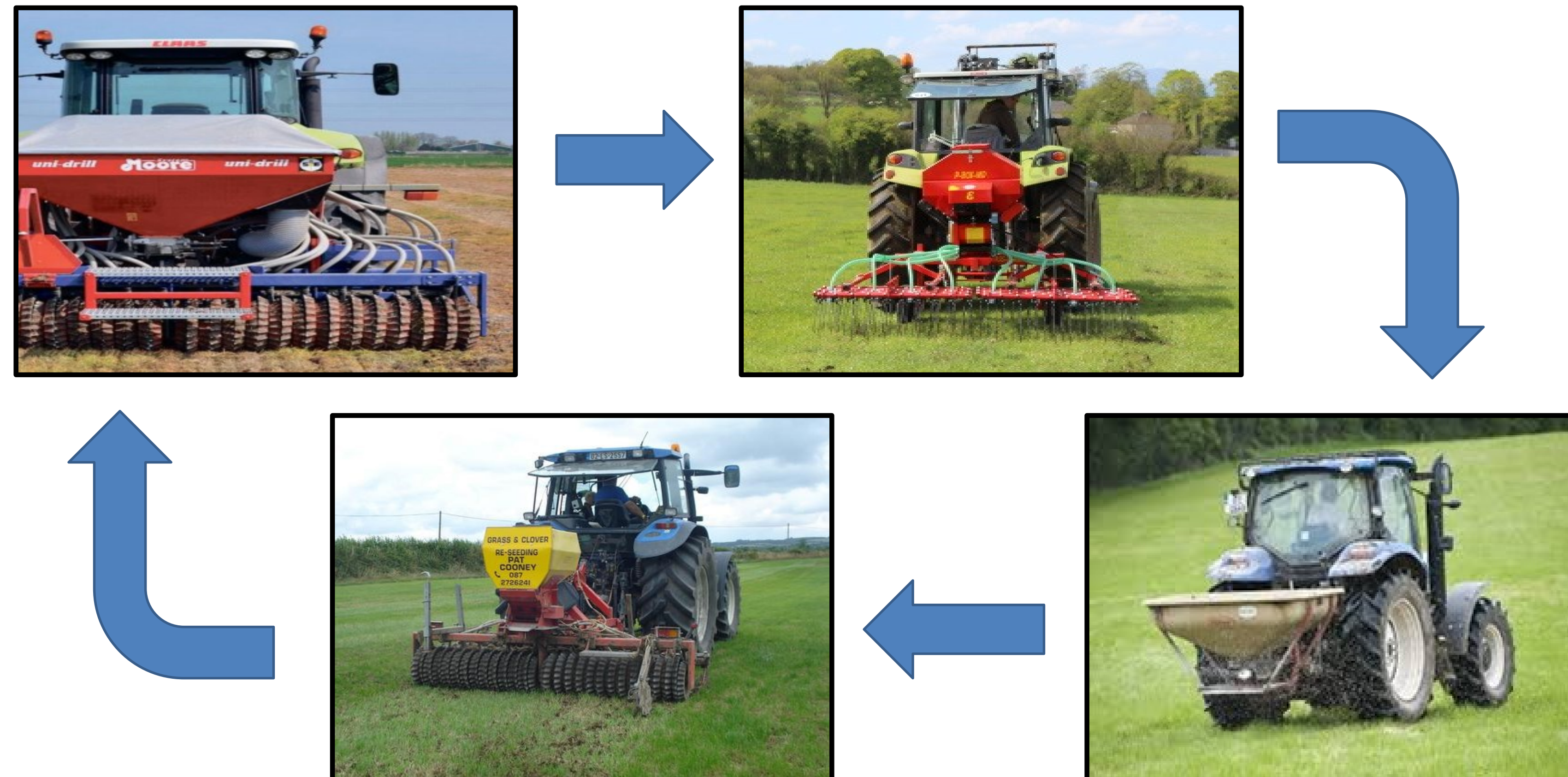
- Increase clover area on farm
 - Over-sow approx. 10 - 20% per year
 - Opportunity with poached paddocks (ryegrass & clover)
- Whatever is possible to reseed in 2024
 - 5 - 8% of area

Post sowing management

- Graze frequently
- 1st grazing - 800 kg DM/ha
- Post emergence spray – week 6
- Reduce N - over-sowing
 - 15 kg N/ha (2 months)
- 8 - 12 months before large N reductions

Seeding rates
Reseed: 1.5 – 2 kg/acre

Oversow: 2.5 kg/acre

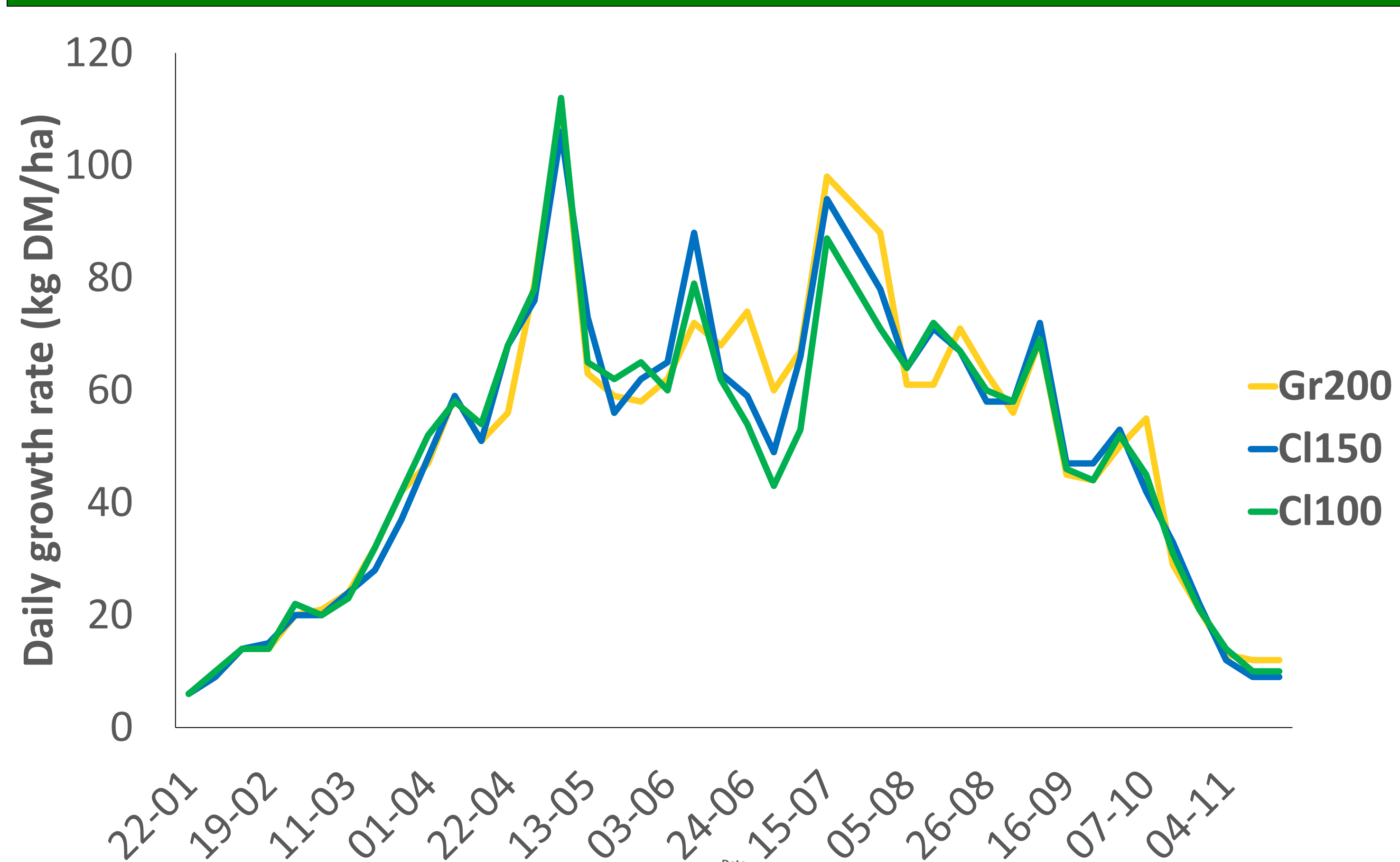


Established Moorepark Farm

Experimental details

	Grass 200	Grass Clover 150	Grass Clover 100
Whole farm stocking rate LU/ha	2.4	2.4	2.4
Milking platform stocking rate LU/ha	3.1	3.1	3.1
Concentrate fed (kg/cow)	Common	Common	Common
Target pre-graze HM (kg DM/ha)	1300-1500	1300-1500	1300-1500

Daily growth rate - 2023



Grass and milk production - 2023

	Grass 200	Grass Clover 150	Grass Clover 100
Grass grown grazing platform (tonnes)	14.2	14.2	14.0
Whole farm grass grown (tonnes)	14.8	14.9	14.9
Clover content (%)	-	19.0	19.1
Days in milk	287	289	287
Cumulative milk solids yield (kg/cow)	492	528	538
Concentrate fed (kg/cow)	575	582	572
Silage fed (kg DM/cow)	416	416	416
Nitrogen use efficiency (%) – farm gate	39	53	72
Nitrogen surplus (kg)	146	92	39

What does clover offer?

- **Reduced chemical N inputs**
 - Up to 100 kg N/ha
 - Maintain - 14 T DM/ha
- **Increase animal production**
 - + 350 kg milk production/cow
 - + 40 kg MS/cow
- **80 kg N/ha reduction in farm gate N surplus**
- **+€480/ha net profit**