Oversowing clover into existing pastures

William Morris

1. Description of the innovation

- Increasing legume content of swards
- Excellent grass output
- Higher legume content on the farm
- Requires measurement and routine farm walks to establish that the innovation is working
- Research topic
- More seasonal growth across the farm
- Spring rotation planner/ Pasturebase Ireland

Increasing the legume content on the farm

Produce more milk from grass:

- Increasing legume content of swards
- Excellent grass output
- Higher legume content on the farm
Farm description

ENVIRONMENT
Soil type: Heavy-Peat (mixture)
Climate type: Maritim climate
Agricultural area (ha UAA): 39.7
Average stocking rate (agriculture area) (LU/ha UAA): 2.5
Altitude: Variation across the farm (600m)
Slope: Variation across farm (50%)

GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT
Grazing: Yes
Grazing management type: Rotational Grazing

STRUCTURE
Annual work units (AWU): 2.25
Total Livestock unit (LU): 100
Breed type 1: Fr*Je

ANIMAL PERFORMANCE
Milk production per head (l/year/dairy animal): 4000
Grassland management type: Rotational
Length of grazing period (month/year): 10.5 months
Fertilization rate (kg N/ha): 200

WHY IT IS WORKING
- Oversowing clover into existing pastures
- Increasing legume content of swards and moving to once a day milking
- Resonable clover establishment across the farm
- Excellent grass output
- Higher legume content on the farm
- Requires measurement and routine farm walks to establish that the innovation is working
- Spring rotation planner/ Pasturebase Ireland
- Low production costs
Ireland

Domains of innovation

- Pasturebase
- Grass varieties and clover
- Silage pit for winter dry cows
- Rotational grazing
- Oversowing clover into the sward
- Milking parlour, feed barrier

Dairy Cow

Milk from grass
Quality milk from grass
Low cost grass based milk production
Peat

Milk