

# Athea Farm, Limerick.

The West Limerick farm is located near Athea on the Limerick /Kerry border.

The farm comprises a milking block of 52ha with 12 ha split by a public roadway.

The soil is a heavy mineral soil with an exceptionally wet block of 8-10 ha composed of peat overlying impermeable clay.

Teagasc Advisor: Shane Randles ([Shane.Randle@Teagasc.ie](mailto:Shane.Randle@Teagasc.ie))

## Athea Farm






**Table 1. Farm Performance**

Year	Herd Size	Stocking Rate	Area MP	EBI	EBI	6 week
		MP	Ha	Total	Fertility (€)	Calving %
2011	83	2.44	34	103	64	80
2012	89	2.62	34	122	78	66
2013	84	2.47	34	143	83	82
2014	87	2.56	34	157	90	80
2015	96	2.46	39	165	90	85
2016	98	2.51	39	96	44	88
2017	103	2.64	39	106	51	88
2018	103	2.64	39	132	58	87
2019	130	2.4	43	148	69	94

Table 1 shows that from 2011 to 2019 herd size has grown from 83 to 130, more land has been incorporated into the milking platform and there has been a strong emphasis improving EBI and 6 week calving interval

**Table 2. Dairy Outputs**

Year	Milk Solids/ha	Gross Output	Gross Output	Total Costs	Total Costs	Net Margin	Net Margin
	Kg	€/Ha	c/litre	€/Ha	c/litre	€/Ha	c/litre
2011	896	2525	36.1	1584	22.6	941	13.5
2012	926	2441	34.4	1851	26.1	589	8.3
2013	1071	3112	38.8	2109	26.3	1002	12.5
2014	1021	2993	38.5	1610	20.7	1383	17.8
2015	1088	2851	32.3	1729	19.6	1122	12.7
2016	1034	2389	27.8	1591	18.9	798	8.8
2017	1162	5470	38.2	3214	22.4	2256	15.8
2018	1344	5875	35.7	3734	22.7	2140	13.0
2019	1194	5275	37.0	3262	22.9	2013	14.1

Table 2 shows a steady growth on milk solids per hectare and an emphasis on keeping production costs under control.

**Table 3:** Grass production Tonnes Dry Matter/Ha

<b>Year</b>	<b>Start Grazing</b>	<b>End Grazing</b>	<b>Total Grown (T)</b>
<b>2011</b>			5.4
<b>2012</b>			7
<b>2013</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	10.7
<b>2014</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	10.4
<b>2015</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	11 <sup>th</sup> Nov	10.2
<b>2016</b>	8th Mar	5th Nov	11.4
<b>2017</b>	16th Feb	9th Nov	14.0
<b>2018</b>	28th Feb	22nd Nov	12.1
<b>2019</b>	18th Feb	5th Nov	12.3