Grazed grass is the cheapest source of feed  
+1 t DM utilised = + €105 net profit/ha  
Grassland only at 58% efficiency!  
• 7.5 t DM/ha  
• 5.6 t DM/ha utilised  
• 1.1 LU/ha

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>t DM/ha grown</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>t DM/ha utilised</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stocking rate LU/ha</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Focus on extending the grazing season  
- Lower costs (concentrate, housing, slurry)  
- Increased animal performance  
- Increased DM production  
- Higher sward quality  
- lower CO₂/ kg of beef

Management will grow more grass

Farms need to be set up to grow & utilise more grass

Soil fertility  
Infrastructure  
Grass budgeting  
Sward composition
**Spring**
- Follow spring rotation planner
  Finish 1st rotation by 1 April
- Turnout priority stock
- AFC: 600-700 kg DM/ha
- 1000-1300 kg DM/ha (8-9 cm)
- Tight grazing: 3.5 cm
- Rotation length: 45 days

**Mid-season**
- 1300-1600 kg DM/ha (9-10 cm)
- 18-21 day rotation
- Post-grazing height 4-4.5 cm

**Autumn**
- Start building cover
  Reduce demand, increase rotation length (+1.5 days/week)
- Start closing paddocks
  ‘Autumn 60:40 planner’
- 1500-2000 kg DM/ha (10-12 cm)
- Tight grazing: 3.5 cm
- AFC 1 December: 550 kg DM/ha