



# 2027 Sectoral Road Map: Beef, Sheep, Dairy and Pigs

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# 2027 Sectoral Road Map: Suckler Beef

|                                   | Current & Industry Target for 2027 |      | Current Research performance |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------|------------------------------|
|                                   | Current                            | 2027 |                              |
| Suckler calf to beef              |                                    |      | High stocking rate           |
| Calving interval (days)           | 394                                | 390  | 365                          |
| Calving at 23-26 months (%)       | 22%                                | 29%  | 100%                         |
| Calves/cow/year                   | 0.85                               | 0.87 | 0.95                         |
| Herbage utilised (t DM /ha)       | 6.2                                | 7.2  | 10.6                         |
| Steer age at slaughter (months)   | 28                                 | 27   | 22                           |
| Percentage N as protected urea    | 1%                                 | 35%  | 100%                         |
| Percentage slurry applied by LESS | 5%                                 | 75%  | 100%                         |
| Net margin (€/ha)                 | 38                                 | 159  | 440                          |

# 2027 Sectoral Road Map: Dairy Calf-to-Beef

|  | 22-month steer            |
|--|---------------------------|
| <b>Dairy calf-to-beef</b>                          | <b>High stocking rate</b> |
| <b>Stocking rate (LU/ha)</b>                       | <b>2.8</b>                |
| <b>Herbage utilised (t DM/ha)</b>                  | <b>10.4</b>               |
| <b>Carcass weight output (kg/ha)</b>               | <b>971</b>                |
| <b>Production costs (incl. calf; €/kg carcass)</b> | <b>3.26</b>               |
| <b>Net margin (€/ha)</b>                           | <b>501</b>                |

# 2027 Sectoral Road Map: Sheep Lowland

|                                | Current | Industry Target 2027 | Current research performance |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Litter size                    | 1.48    | 1.75                 | >2.1                         |
| Lambs waned per ewe joined     | 1.37    | 1.55                 | >1.85                        |
| Stocking rate (ewes/ha)        | 7.8     | 9.0                  | 12                           |
| Carcass weight (kg/ha)         | 225     | 280                  | >445                         |
| Percentage N as protected urea | 1%      | 35%                  | 35%                          |
| Net margin (/ha)               | 149     | 325                  | 850                          |

# 2027 Sectoral Road Map: Dairy

|  | Current | Industry Target 2027 | Current Research Performance |
|--|---------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Stocking rate (LU/ha)                        | 2.10    | 2.20                 | 2.70                         |
| Herbage utilised (tonnes DM/ha)              | 7.8     | 8.9                  | 12.9                         |
| GHG emissions (kg CO <sub>2</sub> e/kg FPCM) | 1.13    | 0.96                 | 0.86                         |
| Fertiliser N usage (kg/ha)                   | 184     | 170                  | 150                          |
| Slurry applied by LESS (%)                   | <10%    | 80%                  | 100%                         |
| Fertiliser N applied as protected urea (%)   | <2%     | 50%                  | 100%                         |
| Net margin at 29 c/l base price (€ha)        | 519     | 1,125                | 2,452                        |

# 2027 Sectoral Road Map:Pigs

| Sectoral average                 | Current | Industry Target 2027 | Top 10% of producers 2027 |
|----------------------------------|---------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Number of pigs produced/sow/year | 26.8    | 28.0                 | 30.0                      |
| Feed conversion weaning to sale  | 2.44    | 2.35                 | 2.30                      |
| Herd FCE                         | 3.58    | 3.50                 | 3.40                      |

# Conclusions

## 1. Further increases in productivity will be greatly influenced:

- Continued increase in the genetic potential
- Increase grass utilisation through improved grassland management

## 2. Increase in sustainability will be greatly influenced:

- Adoption of technologies in relation to LESS and greater use of Protected Urea
- Increase Nitrogen use efficiency and using White Clover to replace chemical fertiliser