



William Hanrahan
Dunbeg
Co Clare
Republic of Ireland
2017

The herd

- **149 cow cross bred herd**
- **Rotational grazing from 1st Feb – 1st December**
- **Milking 2 times / day**
- **Fat % = 4.39 %**
- **Protein % = 3.64 %**
- **744 kg of concentrate purchased per cow**
- **Average age at first calving is 23 months**
- **All forage is made on farm for all livestock**
- **Rears all young stock on the farm**

Innovations

- **Autumn planning** to improve efficiency
- **Breeding for fertility, milk quality (fat & protein) and longevity**
- **Herd health plan** – monitoring, vaccinating and soil sampling
- **Technology; built a new milk parlour 20:20** to save labour
- **Cross breeding** – to achieve quality milk with high fat and protein percentage
- **Very active member in his local discussion group**

The farm

- **Specialist dairy farm located on the west coast of Ireland in Co. Clare**
- **Farming on different soil types**
- **Workforce: 2 family members**
- **Total land area is 90 ha of which 13.2 ha is rented**
- **14 t / ha of grass grown**

Areas of interest/Aspirations Resource efficiency / Biodiversity

Socio-economics resilience

- *Animal health and welfare*
- *Continuous planning*
- *Continue to improve profitability & resilience by planning & regularly reviewing budgets*
- *Improve Nitrogen efficiency*
- *Technology*