



Northwest Livestock Programme

Clive Hall Farm
Cheshire Dairy Monitor Farm

Presented by
Lesley Innes
Monitor Farm Facilitator



Background



- ▶ Clive Hall is a tenanted farm which is now farmed under a contract farming agreement which started in 2007 between Fletcher and Co. LLP and Phil Asbury
- ▶ Farm manager: Phil Asbury
- ▶ Farm Size: 181 acres (71ha) all grassland
- ▶ Farm Type: Extensive grazing dairy
- ▶ Herd Size: 210 all spring calving
- ▶ Herd Average: 5,144 litres
- ▶ Breed: Kiwi Friesian Jersey Crosses

Aims and objectives

- ▶ To reduce running unit costs by 15% p.a. from the second year
- ▶ Maintain high levels of technical performance on fertility and grass growth over time
- ▶ Manage contracting tasks to ensure that they add value to the business by making sure that costs are measured as a unit of the output required from each operation
- ▶ Manage labour use to ensure that it is focused on activities that add value to the business

Priority Actions

- ▶ As identified at start of project
- ▶ Fertility-reduce empty rate
- ▶ Lameness-investment in cow track improvements and maintenance/footbathing regime
- ▶ Mastitis control
- ▶ Calf rearing
- ▶ Health planning and bio-security
- ▶ Milk production
- ▶ Grass production
- ▶ Resource efficiency-electric and water
- ▶ Nutrient management planning
- ▶ Better use of slurry

Key Achievements

2011-2012

▶ Young stock

- heifers born and weaned: 38% 40% reared (only 41% were heifer live births)

▶ Milk yield

- 5144 litres per cow per year - target achieved



Key Achievements

2011-2012

- ▶ Forage produced
 - 11.5 tonnes DM/ha utilised - target achieved
- ▶ Empty rate
 - 13% - target not achieved by 3%

Key Achievements

2011-2012

► Replacements

- 19% culls and sales – 4% above KPI
- 4% deaths - 1% below KPI
- 23% total - 3% above KPI - not achieved

Key Achievements

2011-2012

▶ Lameness/mobility scores

- Score 0-1 90%,
- Score 2 10 %
- Score 3 0%
- Persistent average of 7% at 3 - not achieved

Key Achievements

2011-2012

- ▶ Labour costs
 - 4.8ppl – 17% above target of 4.1ppl - target not achieved
- ▶ Maintain high quality statutory and management records - target achieved

Key Achievements

KPI	Actual 2010-11	Target 2011-12	Actual 2011 - 12	Target 2012-13
Milk yield per cow litres	4600	5000	5144	5500
Grass grown; Kg DM / ha	12	13	13	14
Grass grazed; Kg DM / ha utilised		12	11.5	12
% Cows Empty at 12 weeks		10%	13%	10%
Calving period (weeks)				11
% heifer calves reared to weaning as % total births		45%	40%	45%
Calves treated Scours	16%		4%	
Calves born alive weaned	90%		95%	
Mobility score 0 - 1		90%	92%	>90%
Mobility score 2		10%	3%	<10%
Mobility score 3		0%	5%	0%
Replacements % total		<20%	23%	<20%
Culls and sales		<15%	19%	<15%
Deaths		5%	4%	5%
Labour Charge ppl		4.1	4.8	3.7