

## **Required Innovative Technologies – Feed Efficiency**

We recommend you print this page to aid answering the follow up questions.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate the use of the following technologies:

### **1. Soil Nutrient Management Programme.**

Demonstrates a proactive soil sampling and corrective action programme, combined with appropriate fertiliser types and application rates.

### **2. Efficient grazing infrastructure.**

Demonstrates efficient grazing platform design features, such as good access to fields, laneway layout and design, cow drinking water provision, flexible fencing.

### **3. Grass cover measurement and budgeting.**

Demonstrates regular assessment of grazing platform grass covers using a rising plate meter or equivalent, with subsequent data being inputted into a grazing management programme to aid proactive grassland management decisions.

### **4. Adjusts concentrate feed levels (Maintenance+) according to grazing conditions and grass supply.**

Demonstrates proactive adjustment of supplementary feeding (Maintenance+) throughout the grazing season, i.e based on grass quality sampling, grass supply, weather conditions and cow body condition scores.

**You must be able to demonstrate either 5(a) or 5(b).**

#### **5(a) Targeted complete diet feeding.**

Demonstrates grouping complete diet fed cows and/or setting complete diet maintenance+ for lowest yielding cow, as a means to improve concentrate feed use efficiency.

OR

#### **5(b) Targeted in parlour and/or out of parlour concentrate feeding (either manual or computerised).**

Demonstrates adjusting concentrate feed Maintenance+ throughout the year, based on factors such as forage quality, dry matter intakes and cow body condition scores.

## **Desirable Innovative Technologies – Feed Efficiency**

Applicants may be shortlisted based on being able to demonstrate the use of the following technologies:

### **1. Grazing area allocation application**

Demonstrates use of a decision support tool, e.g. CAFRE grazing application, as a management aid for daily grazing area allocation, based on herd demand and grass covers.

### **2. Proactive reseeding policy**

Demonstrates a proactive reseeding programme based on rational decision making process, e.g. percentage of perennial ryegrass in sward, poorer grass production of sward relative to other grazing paddocks/fields.

### **3. Using Maintenance+ application (can apply to both easy feed & TMR systems).**

Demonstrates the use of a Maintenance+ application, e.g. CAFRE online application, as a means to identifying the potential milk output from a forage/complete diet.

### **4. Forage stocks calculator.**

Demonstrates the use of a fodder stocks application, e.g. CAFRE online application, as a means to monitoring fodder stocks supply throughout the winter period.

### **5. Margin over concentrates (MOC) application.**

Demonstrates the use of a MOC application, e.g. CAFRE online application, as a means of monitoring MOC.