

# GUIDELINES

- Concentrate feeding will help farmers manage forage deficits and balance the diet.
- Amount of concentrate fed depends on cow yield, cow condition, forage quality and availability.
- Aim for a smooth transition from dry cow to milking cow.
- Keeping 365 day calving interval is the goal, every day over this will cost the farmer more than €3/day.
- Cows losing more than 0.5kg of bodyweight/day will have less than 50% conception to 1<sup>st</sup> service.
- Milk solids will rise after peak milk.
- Variable dry matter of grass and poor ground conditions will have a major effect on dry matter intakes.
- Cow DM and energy intake are crucial to ensure optimum milk protein.
- 1kg body loss = 0.01 loss milk protein %.
- Milk fat generally associated with rumen health.
- Digestible fibre, which can be low in spring grass is essential to keep rumen pH correct and avoid excessive drops in milk fat.
- Lactose is energy related but mostly stage of lactation and yield.

 **Southern Milling**  
Compounders of quality animal feeds

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Cost effective  
feeding is about  
more than just  
least cost feeding!



**PREMIUM  
DAIRY FEEDS**

 **Southern Milling**  
Compounders of quality animal feeds

BRAND LEADERS FOR HIGH QUALITY DAIRY FEEDS



## MILKOSOL 18

- Top quality 18% protein nut formulated for high yielding autumn and spring calving dairy cows.
- High energy content to meet the requirements of the early lactation cow on both grass and silage.
- Tailored to maximise milk output whilst keeping cow body condition score intact allowing cows to go back in calf.
- **MEGALAC** incorporated to increase the energy content of the concentrate. Megalac has been shown to improve body condition in high producing dairy cows in early lactation which improves fertility and helps to increase milk protein %.
- Optimum levels of Hi Pro soya included, maximising milk output.
- **Yeast** included to minimise the incidence of metabolic disorders that may otherwise occur in high performing dairy cows.
- Formulated with high levels of protected minerals, vitamins and trace elements to improve cow health.
- **NOVATAN** included which has been shown in independent trials to increase milk protein % and milk yield. Novatan has also been shown to reduce blood urea levels which improves fertility.

Southern Milling Ltd are brand leaders for high quality dairy feeds. Our broad range of consistently top performing diets have gained an unchallenged reputation for success amongst generations of Irish dairy farmers

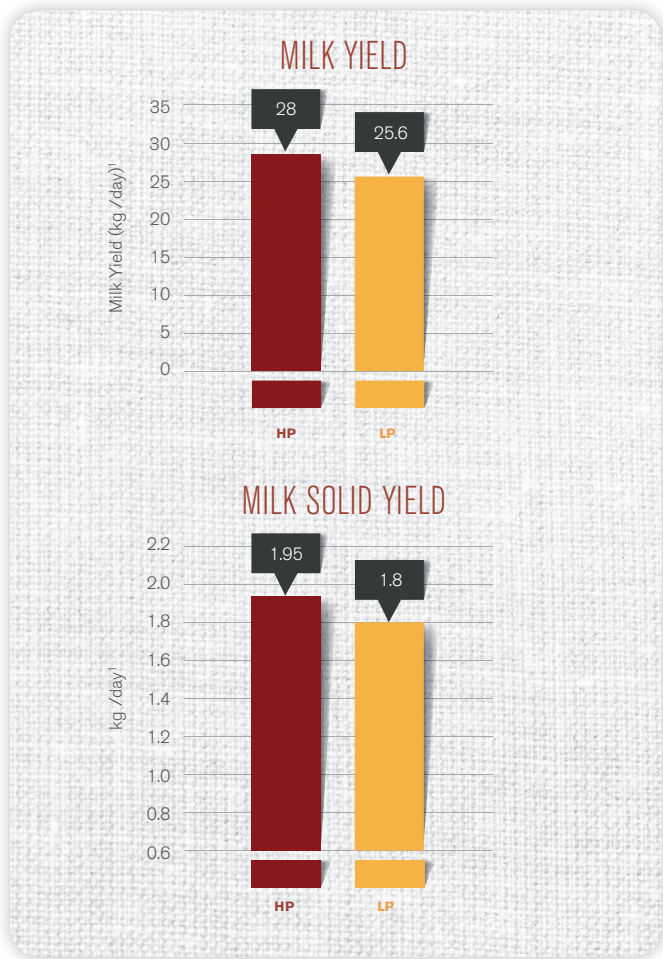
## LACTO 16

- High quality, high energy 16% protein nut based on **maize** and top quality native cereals.
- Ideal for spring calving cows for transition from indoor diets to grazing.
- High levels of digestible fibre to promote good forage intakes for dairy cows being fed silage.
- **Fully balanced** with the correct amount of minerals, vitamins and trace elements.
- **Minimises excessive** body condition loss after calving by meeting cows energy requirements.
- Carefully formulated to offer flexible feeding rate depending on grass availability and weather conditions.
- Magnesium included as an aid in the prevention of grass tetany.

## CONCENTRATE PROTEIN %?

Whelan et al 2012, carried out a trial in Lyons Farm UCD to investigate the effect on supplementary concentrate type on milk yield and milk composition in early lactation dairy cows offered perennial rye grass based pasture.

*See graphs below for results*



18% protein (RED) v 14% protein (YELLOW) ration showed an increase in milk yield and milk solid output with no ill effects on body condition score.