

Newsletter

September 2025

NEWS, AGRI ADVICE AND PROMOTIONS



Congratulations to Colm O'Donovan, Ballyidon, Kinsale, finalist for the National Dairy Council & Kerrygold Quality Milk Awards

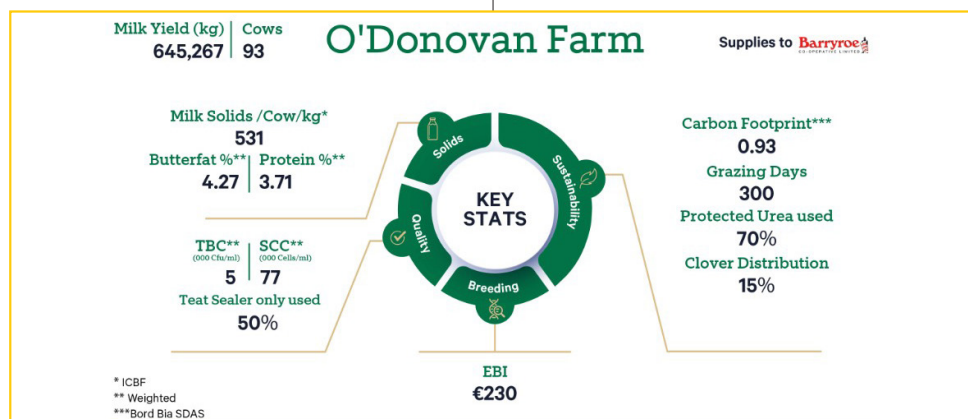
NDC & Kerrygold quality milk awards finalist

Colm O'Donovan farms a high-output operation, averaging 2.5 milkings per day, with a herd of 97 in 2024. His average milk solids per cow in 2024 was 531kg.

Colm is an enthusiastic supporter of Robotic Milking and uses two Lely Astronaut Robots, pointing to their ability to reduce labour, reduce stress and offer valuable data to the farmer. The insights are useful in terms

of animal health, fertility and breeding. In particular, he points to the ability to signal health issues before they become visible.

This farm prioritises increasingly sustainable practices, with year-round nutrient management, based on annual soil tests, the use of LESS equipment, fencing off waterways, maintenance of buffer zones and planting of hedgerows.



NEWS WATCH

MILK SUPPLY AND PRICE

August milk supply amounted to 9,963,521 litres which was a 3% increase on August 2024, supply is up 2.4% year to date. Due to weaker dairy market conditions, the Co-op has reduced its base price by 1.5c/L to 47.03 c/L.

Barryroe is paying €8.2197 per kg of protein and €5.4798 per kg of butterfat. Our average constituents for the month are 3.64% protein 4.29% butterfat and our average price paid is 53.96 c/L, including 0.5 c/L SCC bonus and VAT @5.1%.

CENTENARY OPEN DAY THANK YOU

Our thanks to our shareholders, staff, customers, and friends who made our open day such a big success, we hope you all enjoyed it.

The launch of our book, *The history of Barryroe Co-op*, will take place on the 23rd of October in Courtmacsherry hotel.

FARM PLASTIC COLLECTION

The dates for farm plastic collection at Timoleague Grainstore are, Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th October. €60 per half tonne with proof of purchase.

Barryroe Co-op milk quality top 30 suppliers in 2024

Carol & John Galvin, Ballymacaw
Charles Dullea, Augha
Colm O'Donovan, Ballyidon
Daniel & Seamus Buckley, Ballymackean
Daniel O'Mahony, Cloundereen
Darragh Deasy, Ballymacowen
Denis Keohane, Ballintemple
Dermot Walsh, Currihy
Eoin Hayes, Lispatrick
Finbarr & Tadg Hurley, Barleyfield

Gerard & Mary Harte, Richfordstown
Helen & Caroline O'Donovan, Brownstown
James F. Sexton, Lisleavane
Jeremiah & Gerard Moloney, Clonbogue
Jeremiah Gerard Keohane, Ballintemple
John & Patricia Sheehy, Lackenduff
John A Murray, Skeaf
John G Kirby, Mounteen
John Joseph O'Reilly, Kilgobbin
Kieran Whelton, Baureragh

Martin Galvin, Old Court
Michael & Helen White, Ardgehane
Michael Coleman, Carrigeen
Michael P Roche, Kilcoleman
Noel O'Donovan, Ballymacwilliam
Peter Fleming, Barryshall
Sean Deasy, Ahafore
Tim Crowley, Ballyhander
T McCarthy & D O'Leary, Ballymacredmond
Vincent & Pat Burke, Ballycatten

AGRI OFFERS



Animec Super 500ML
ONLY €99



Ivomec Super 500ML
ONLY €199



Galvanised 76mm Fixed Cattle Barrier
ONLY €199



Spotinor Pour - On 2.5Ltr
ONLY €129



Farmstokk Black Milking Gloves
BUY 2 FOR €25



Heiferlac Milk Replacer Offer
(Expiry Date 13/01/2026)
BUY 10 & GET 1 FREE



**SAVE
€50**

Digest-It Slurry Additive
BUY 2 SAVE €50



**10%
OFF**

Maize Additive EcoKool/ EcoCorn



Himalayan Rock Salt
1 Tonne Bag
ONLY €499



Albex 5Ltr
ONLY €85



PRE SEASON SUBLIME OFFER
BUY 2 & SAVE €20 (€10 off each Bag)
BUY 5 & SAVE €100 (€20 off each Bag)



HARVESTING MAIZE THIS AUTUMN

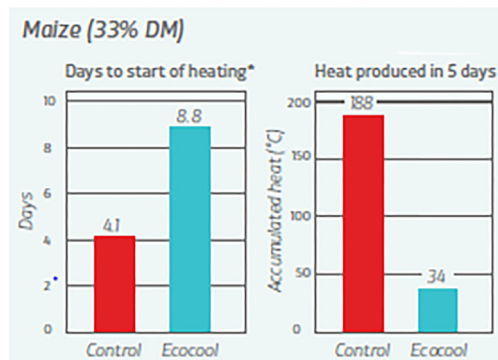
Forage maize is a high energy, low protein feed, which can bring some synergistic performance benefits to diets when fed with grass silage. The aim is to harvest your maize crop at 30% Dry matter and 30% starch content to attain best results in terms of yield and subsequent animal performance.

Once harvested, spoilage can be a high financial cost with maize silage. As a high energy feed, if not managed while in the pit, consequences including moulds and spoilage can develop on the shoulders and feed-face. However, this can be easily avoided with good management or where conditions around harvest are not ideal; with the use of an additive.

By using Volac maize additives to treat your crop, it will ensure your maize silage is correctly preserved and ensiled this season. In both maize trials the treated silages were significantly more stable than the untreated controls. Trough life is also extended.



	Days Stable	
	Untreated	DA ECOCORN
Wheat	2.4	8.0
Barley	2.1	5.3
Maize	1.3	8.4



IMPROVING GRASSLAND PRODUCTIVITY, FARM PROFITABILITY, SUSTAINABILITY AND COW HEALTH THROUGH SOIL IMPROVEMENT

The average Irish dairy farm utilises 7.5 tonne DM/ha grass, whereas top milk producers are achieving 16.5 tonne DM/ha grass. According to Teagasc, only 10% of analysed Irish grassland soils are at optimal fertility for pH, Phosphorus and Potassium. Devenish have developed a simple 3 step Soil Improvement Programme:

1. PHYSICAL – Aeration
2. CHEMICAL – Rebalancing the Soil's Nutrient Status
3. BIOLOGICAL – Aerobically Composting Slurry using Digest It®

- Stimulates aerobic microbial activity.
- Converts solids into plant-available liquid nutrients.
- Reduces fertiliser costs.

- Reduces surface crusting.
- Reduces odour.
- Reduces energy required to stir and pump slurry.
- Increases the liquid to solid ratio.
- Improves fertiliser nutrient value.
- Digested slurry improves soil fertility.
- Improved fertiliser nutrient levels and grows more grass
- Easier agitation and protecting the soil life e.g. Earthworms.
- Reduces the damage slurry does on soils.
- Improves soil quality.
- 1 drum does 100,000 gallons.

For more information on this programme, contact your local Barryroe advisor.



Lyons Systems Research Herd (UCD) Notes week 01/09/2025

Farm Details: The AFC was recorded at 779 kg on the 1st of September, with growth rates of 37 kg of DM/ha. To manage the grass supply and quality effectively, grass walks are being conducted twice weekly. The average pre-grazing cover between the 27th August and 3rd of September was 1519 kg DM/ha. Last weeks' diet consists of a grass allocation of 7 kg DM, silage allocation of 10 kg DM and 5 kg of concentrates. This week's diet will see a drop in silage allocation and an increase in grass allocation as farm cover has improved with recent increased rainfall.



Area Available 17.35 Ha

- Current SR (MP) 3.11 LU/ha
- Farm Cover 779 kg DM/ha
- Cover/LU 250 kg DM/day
- Growth Rate 37kg DM/ha/day
- Demand 31 kg DM/ha/da
- Average Conc. 5 kg/day
- Average DIM 195 days
- Grass DM 16 %

Parameter

- Yield (kg/cow/day) 22.10
- Fat % 4.37
- Protein % 3.74
- MS (kg/cow) 1.87
- SCC cells/ml 61

ANY 2 FOR €9



L'Oréal Elvive Shampoo/Conditioner Range
400ml/300ml See in store for details



**FROM
€3
EACH**

Flahavan's Irish Oaty Flapjacks Original €3 |
Choc Chip/Dark Chocolate & Orange €3.25
6 Pack 6x40g €12.50/€13.54 per kg



**ONLY
€2**

See in store for details

Barilla Sauce Basilico/Bolognese 400g €5
per kg Pesto Genovese 190g/Rosso 200g
€10.53/€10 per kg



**ONLY
HALF
PRICE
€1.50**

See in store for details

Fresh Choice Premium Selection
Extra Large Gala Apples Tray 4 Pack
See in store for details



**ONLY
€1**

SPAR Spaghetti 500g €2 per kg



**ONLY
€6.25**

Kenco Millicano Tin
100g €62.50 per kg



**ONLY
€2.75**

Lynx Shower Gel Range
225ml €12.22 per lt



**ONLY
€4.75**

Felix Original Cat Food Pouch Range 12 Pack 12x85g €4.66 per kg



**ONLY
€3.50**

Regina Blitz Household Towel
1 Roll €3.50 per Roll



**ONLY
€4.50**

Aveeno Baby Daily Care Hair and Body Wash
250ml €18 per lt



**ONLY
€13
EACH**

Finish Ultimate All in One Lemon/Regular
55 Wash See in store for details



**ONLY
€1.75
EACH**

McVitie's Jaffa Cakes Range
110g €15.91 per kg



**ONLY
€1.50**

Green Isle Frozen Veg Range
450g €3.33 per kg



**ONLY
€2.50
EACH**

McVitie's Chocolate Digestives Range
266g €9.40 per kg



**ONLY
€10**

Surf Tropical Lily Washing Powder
45 Wash See in store for details



**ONLY
€4
EACH**

Walkers Cheese & Onion/Variety Crisps
12 Pack 12x25g €13.33 per kg



**ANY 2 FOR
€11**

Fresh Choice Kitchen Carvery Dinners Range
600g €9.17 per kg

ONLY €3.99 EACH



Kellogg's Corn Flakes 670g €5.96 per kg | Rice Krispies 660g
€6.05 per kg | Crunchy Nut 720g €5.54 per kg | Special K/
Frosties 750g €5.32 per kg | Coco Pops 650g €6.14 per kg



**ONLY
€2.50**

Ben's Original Ready to Heat Rice Range
220g €11.36 per kg



**ONLY
€2.95
EACH**

Batchelors Baked Beans in Tomato Sauce
Original/No Added Sugar/Processed Peas
3 pack 3x225g €4.37 per kg



**ONLY
€3
EACH**

Koka Oriental Instant Noodles Chicken/Curry
4 Pack 4x85g €8.82 per kg



**ONLY
€4.49
EACH**

Tropicana Smooth/Juicy Bits Orange Juice
1.5lt €2.99 per lt



**ONLY
€3.50
EACH**

Hellmann's Real/Light Mayonnaise Squeeze
430ml €8.14 per lt



**ONLY
€2.50**

Dolmio Pasta Sauce Stir-In Range
150g €16.67 per kg



2 FOR

€5

Brady Family Sliced Meats Range
80g/90g See in store for details



ONLY
€12.99
EACH

SPAR Complete Dog Food With Chicken/Beef
10kg €1.30 per kg



ONLY
€3.50

Müller Corner Range
6 Pack See in store for details



ONLY
LESS THAN
HALF
PRICE
€3.45

Nature Valley Crunchy Oats & Honey Bars
Family Pack 10 Pack 420g €8.21 per kg



ONLY
€5.59

Winalot Dog Food Pouches Range 12 Pack 12x100g €4.66 per kg



ONLY
€4

Tampax Compak Range
18 Pack See in store for details



ONLY
€1.50
EACH

Fairy Washing Up Liquid Lemon/Original
320ml €4.69 per lt



ONLY
€1.50

SPAR Still Water
5lt
30c per lt



ONLY
€9.99
EACH

Tussock Jumper Nero D'Avola Organic/ Sauvignon Blanc/Malbec | La Celia Reserve Range 750ml €9.99 per 75cl



ONLY
€14.95
EACH
+€1.20 Deposit

Rockshore/Carlsberg Lager
8 Pack 8x500ml €3.74 per lt



ONLY
€1
EACH

SPAR Conchiglie/Fusilli/Penne 500g €2 per kg



ONLY
€5

Peter Keogh & Sons Cream of the Crop Rooster Potatoes 5kg €1 per kg



ONLY
€21.95
+€1.80 Deposit

Guinness Draught Cans 12 Pack 12x500ml €3.66 per lt



ONLY
€2.50
EACH

Nescafé Coffee Sachets Range
7 Sachets Various See in store for details



ONLY
€2.75

Pro-Active Light Spread
250g €11 per kg



ONLY
€2

Kerrymaid Spread
454g €4.41 per kg



ONLY
€21.99

Captain Morgan Original Spiced Rum 700ml €21.99 per 70cl



ONLY
€22.99

Smirnoff Vodka
700ml €22.99 per 70cl



ONLY
€8.99
EACH

Most Wanted Wines Range
750ml €8.99 per 75cl



ONLY
€33.99

Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey
700ml €33.99 per 70cl



ONLY
€39.99

Gunpowder Gin
700ml €39.99 per 70cl



ONLY
€4.99
EACH

Lenor Fabric Conditioner Spring Awakening/ Summer Breeze
80 Wash 2.64lt €1.89 per lt

PET CARE



ONLY
€2.50
EACH

Pedigree Jumbone Beef & Poultry/Chicken & Lamb 180g €13.89 per kg



ONLY
€2.79

Pedigree Rodeo Beef
7 Pack 123g €13.89 per kg



ONLY
€1.49
EACH

Go-Cat Dry Cat Food Range
320g €4.66 per kg



ONLY
€11
EACH

Bakers Complete Dry Dog Food
Range 2.7kg - 3kg
See in store for details

Prices correct at the time of going to print. Offers available from 11th September to 1st October 2025, unless otherwise stated.
Customer quotas may apply. All savings shown are versus recommended retail price.

CENTENARY FEATURE: Barryroe Co-op begins to manufacture cheddar cheese in 1931

In the current century, almost all of Barryroe Co-op's milk is ending up in cheese, but that was not always the case. Milk and dairy output has been consumed in Ireland for centuries, and butter was always the predominant dairy produce. Barryroe followed suit in its first 75 years with butter as its main product.

For cheese-making, there was no longstanding tradition in Ireland, unlike England which had a well-established industry. Cheddar cheese originates from the village of Cheddar in Somerset.

Innovative development: In the early part of the last century, imported cheddar began making its way on to the Irish market. Barryroe Co-op must have seen an opportunity for import substitution, as in 1931, it began to produce cheddar cheese.



Jeremiah Madden storing cheddar

It continued to manufacture cheddar for over three decades, though it was never in large quantities, and was mostly for local consumption. For example, in 1956, of the total milk taken in, 91% was used

for butter manufacture, with the balance being used for cheese and cream for shipping.

Cheddar was the only variety of cheese for which there was demand in the Free State. Initially, only a few Irish Co-ops were manufacturing it, Barryroe was one of the first. The records show that in 1932, only four creameries were involved, Barryroe, Newmarket and Mitchelstown, in County Cork, and Herbertstown in County Limerick.

In 1932 however, as part of its protectionist policy, the government imposed an embargo on the importation of cheese into the Free State. At this point, other creameries began manufacturing to meet the home demand.

Major changes in 1967: Carbery's milk processing plant was built at Ballineen in 1967. It was to be the largest cheese manufacturer in the country. Barryroe Co-op at that point decided to cease its own cheddar production, after 36 years in operation.

The arrival of Carbery coincided with a major drive by Bord Baine, the national marketing body, to improve quality. They demanded higher standards from our farmers. Cheese had become a very important outlet for milk and Carbery was at the heart of this development.

The Department of Agriculture introduced its cheese grading system in 1966, which was a major development for the industry. Within six months of its introduction, Bord Baine was able to increase the price of Irish cheese in the British market substantially.

No more butter after November 2000: Up to that point, the Co-op had kept a foot in both camps. It continued to make butter but also sent a substantial share of its milk supply to Carbery for



Sheila Keohane cutting curd in the process of cheesemaking

cheesemaking. The transition to cheese, however, became complete when Barryroe decided to close the dairy in the year 2000. It had now fully committed its milk supply to cheese.

More recent developments in cheese: In 1998, Carbery launched of its 'Dubliner' cheese brand. In 2020, Carbery's cheese diversification project involved a €78 million investment in a new plant. This gave Carbery the flexibility to produce mozzarella as well as cheddar, allowing diversification into new markets.

For the century ahead, it looks like the fortunes of our Co-op's milk suppliers are very much tied up with cheese, a reversal of their predecessors position a century ago, when they were tied to butter.

COMPARISON FOR 1930s			
	1931	1935	1940
Gallons of milk received	1,025,143	1,309,014	1,132,595
Lbs of butter produced	444,664	538,223	457,902
Lbs of cheese produced	1,915	57,290	39,866
Eggs purchased (dozens)	83,458	66,544	91,819

IRISH CHEDDAR

If you want a selling Cheese with a reputation for Texture and Flavour, we can supply White or Coloured, 30 and 60lb. sizes (approx.)

BARRYROE CO-OPERATIVE CREAMERY, LTD., LISLEVANE, CO. CORK.

Prices on Application.

Advertisement for Barryroe Cheddar in the Southern Star of 16 July 1934.

Milk supply growth over the Co-op's first century

By today's standards, milk supply in the Co-op's early years was not substantial. By 1928, with Central, Darrara and Ballinspittle branches up and running, the combined supply amounted to 4 million litres. By 1948, with branches at Inchybridge, Timoleague and Kilbrittain added, this brought supply up to 7 million.

The move from hand milking to milking machines, following rural electrification in the 1950s allowed cow numbers and volumes triple, reaching 21 million litres by 1968. The next major expansion followed Ireland joining the EEC (predecessor to the EU) in 1973, with supply more than doubling again in the decade that followed, reaching 44 million.

Milk quotas were introduced by the EEC in 1984 to limit production, and this slowed the pace of growth in supply, though some farmers in the Barryroe Co-op area were successful in purchasing or leasing quotas from farmers in other counties, thus allowing a certain amount of growth in our area.

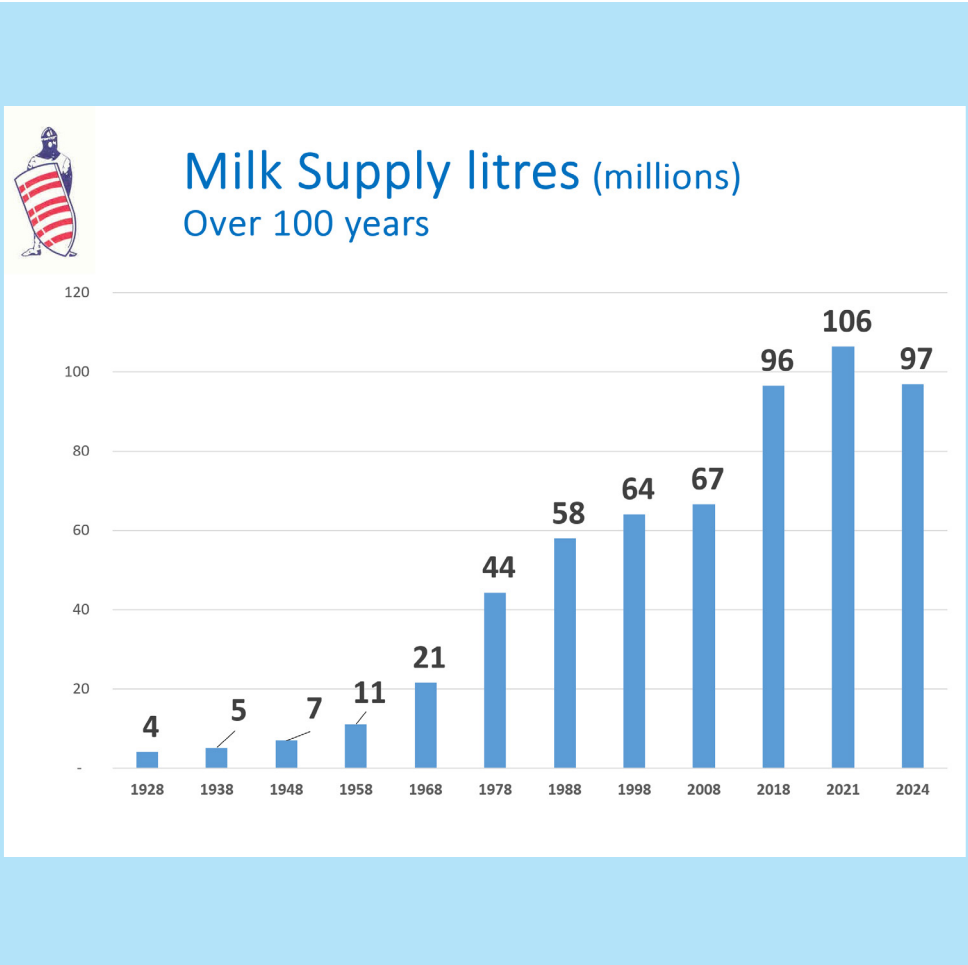
EU milk quotas were removed in 2015, and supply increased by 40% in the



The move from hand milking to milking machines in the 1950s allowed cow numbers and milk volumes to triple within 20 years (photo Examiner)

following five years, peaking in 2021. Since then, environmental legislation and the implementation of the EU Nitrates

Directive is exerting downward pressure on dairy production.



Barryroe Co-Operative Creamery Society . . .

HAVE NOW REGISTERED FURTHER PROGRESS BY THE ADDITION OF

New Grain Mill

ELECTRICALLY WORKED

MAKERS OF FAMOUS BRAND OF BUTTER

Maid of Ibane

STOCK OUR WELL-KNOWN BRAND OF

Cheese

IMPORTERS OF COAL, ETC. REGISTERED EGG EXPORTERS

BRANCHES AT BALLINSPIITALL AND DARRARA

(844)

BARRYROE

CO-OP. CREAMERY, LTD.

CHOICEST CREAMERY BUTTER

("MAID OF IBANE" FAMOUS BRAND)

1lb. ROLLS A SPECIALITY.

Also Finest Fully-Matured Cheddar Cheese, fresh from the factory

NEW-LAID EGGS

Sweet CREAM in Pint and Half-Pint Cartons.

For full particulars apply to—

THE MANAGER.

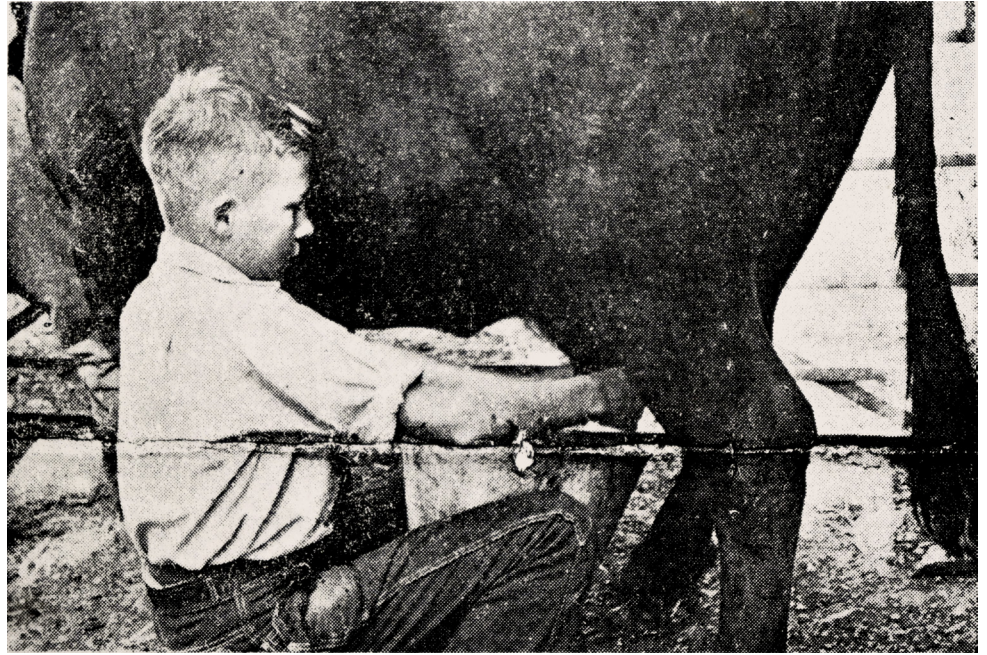
Following rural electrification in 1951, the Co-op secured the agency for *Westfalia* milking machines

On a few occasions in the Co-op's first century, key developments in technology allowed for major progress to be made at dairy farm level. More recently in the late 1970s and early 1980s, refrigerated bulk tanks replaced churns. The Co-op played a role in encouraging and assisting farmers to make the change, with 100% transitioned by 1984. This ultimately enabled co-op trucks to collect milk from farms and deliver it directly to the cheese making plant in Carbery, which was a major development.

But thirty years earlier, an even more fundamental change occurred. With the arrival of rural electrification to the area, the opportunity to transition from hand milking to milking machines became available to farmers.

Up to then, most dairy farms had less than ten cows. The time involved in hand-milking limited farmers from having any more than that. With the arrival of electrically powered milking machines, this constraint on cow numbers was removed, growth in herd size became the norm.

Barryroe assisted and encouraged this transition. In 1952, the Co-op secured the agency for the *Westfalia* milking machines. This was a German maker that pioneered the development



Milking time on Dan Connolly's farm, Cregane, Timoleague, in the 1950s

of vacuum-operated bucket milking systems. These systems could be installed and serviced by Barryroe Co-op staff. These systems paved the way for more modern milking parlours. *Westfalia* later became part of the GEA group which has been a pioneer in robotic milking systems.

Barryroe Co-op had brought electricity to Lislevane in 1935 for its new mill, but it took another sixteen years for electricity to become widely available to farmers in the area. Rural electrification

in Ireland was delayed primarily by World War II (1939-1945), which caused shortages of fuel and materials, bringing the planned rollout to a virtual halt.

Rural electrification schemes in Barryroe and Timoleague were completed in 1951. Kilbrittain was electrified in 1955 and Ballinspittle in 1956. Farms and households were now able to enjoy many labour-saving devices which helped to ease the grind of both work and home life. It removed one of the greatest sources of drudgery, the twice-daily seven-days-a-week hand-milking task.



Skim milk being discharged to a supplier at Lislevane in 1961



The co-op secured the agency for the German *Westfalia* model of milking machines in 1952.