

How much do we need to do?

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Farm statistics

64 Hectares

Grass grown: 14 tonne DM/ha

2.6 cows per hectare

Herd EBI €140 (65 % crossbred)

493 kg MS/cow delivered (1,281 kg MS/ farm hectare)

550 kg meal fed/cow / 90% six-week calving rate



Nuffield Scholarship

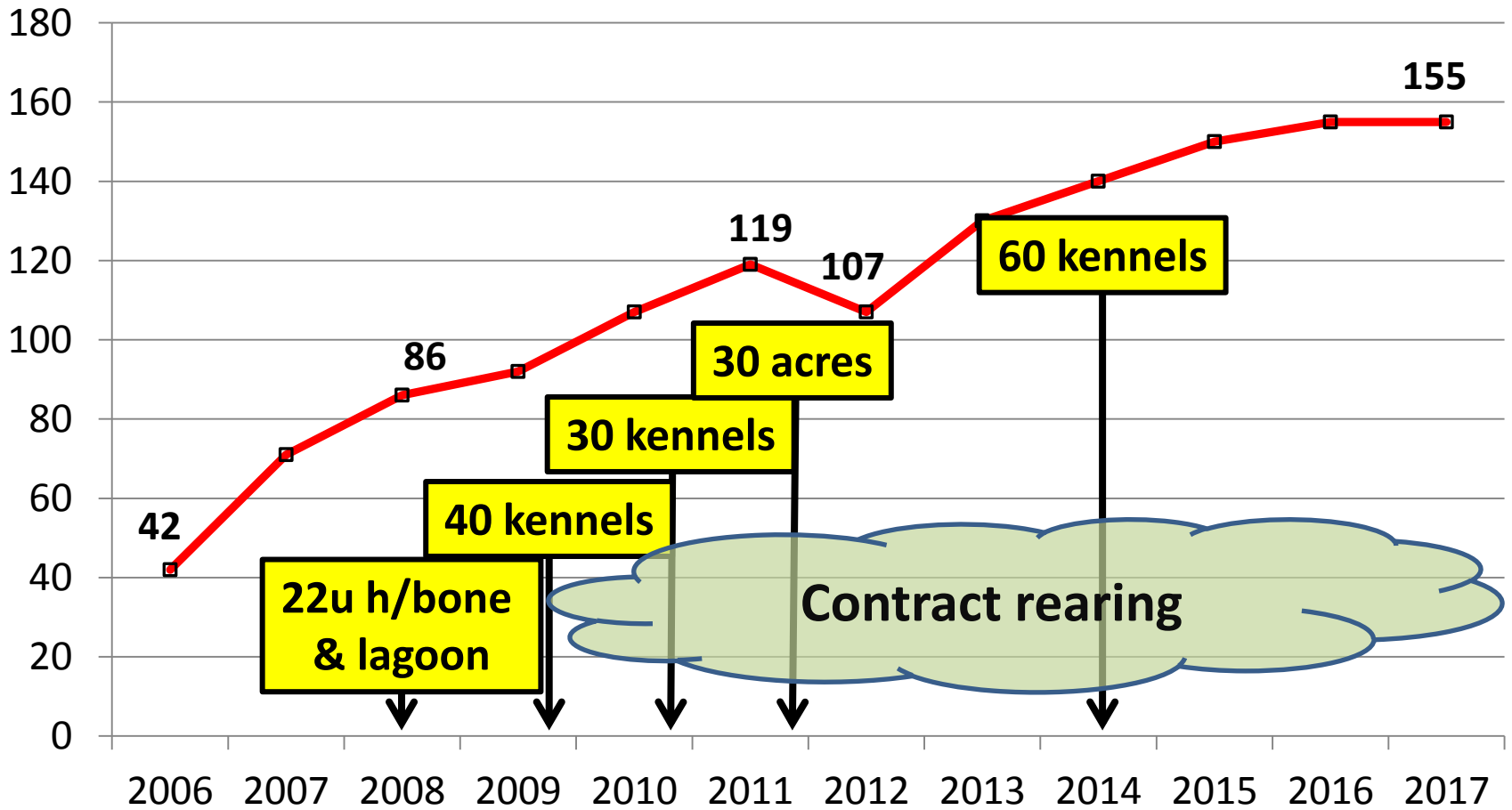
- *Transition to scale, using pastoral dairy farming systems*

160 cows with help at calving /relief milking was viable

- Simple grass based systems reduce labour
- Supplements complicate things
- Fertile cows
- Cow flow
- Larger herds
- Paid labour vs. owner operators
- One third of time is spent milking



Development timeline



Grassland management

- Target covers
- Regular walks
- Residuals
- Wet vs. dry land
- Correct stocking rates



Cow breeding & calf rearing

- Compact calving
- Parlour training
- No pre breeding
- Heat detection
- Contract rearing



Milking routine

- Cow flow / design
- Routine
- Drafting
- Relief milking



Contractors

- Notice
- Fertiliser
- Silage
- Slurry
- Winter feeding
- Payment



Summary

