

## Case Study – Health of the Suckler Herd

Tom and Bernadette O' Callaghan operate a 45 cow spring calving suckler to beef herd in Co. Leitrim. Their farm consists of 44 hectares with a stocking rate of 2.15 LU/ha in 2020.

Tom and Bernadette have recently identified some health issues among their herd; in particular scour & respiratory issues in young calves.

Tom and Bernadette are concerned about the large amount of antibiotics being used to treat their calves and the large amount of labour needed to administer this treatment. The health issues are putting additional stress on both the farmers and animals.

What advice would you offer to Tom and Bernadette to improve the health of their herd?

