Teagasc Fodder Survey Results

National Fodder & Food Security Committee
Wednesday 13th July

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Teagasc Fodder Survey

- Teagasc dairy & drystock advisors completed feed budgets with a selection of clients
- Clients were categorized based on scale and client type to give a balanced sample
- Results were uploaded on PastureBase Ireland
- Feed budgets were completed in late June – early July (deadline 8th July)
- Figures included projected second cut yields as per July 8th
- 525 valid surveys submitted and analysed

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Fodder Survey Summary by Region

Enterprise	Region	Average % in Stock 8th July	% Farms with deficit more than 10% of planned feed demand
Dairy	South West	116	6
Dairy	South East	113	17
Dairy	North West	109	9
Dairy	Midlands/N East	99	19
Drystock	South West	129	7
Drystock	South East	121	16
Drystock	North West	126	12
Drystock	Midlands/N East	110	22

- Midlands/North East: Cavan, Dublin, Kildare, Laois, Longford, Louth, Meath, Monaghan, Offaly, Westmeath
- South East: Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford, Wicklow
- South West: Clare, Cork, Kerry, Limerick
- North West: Donegal, Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo

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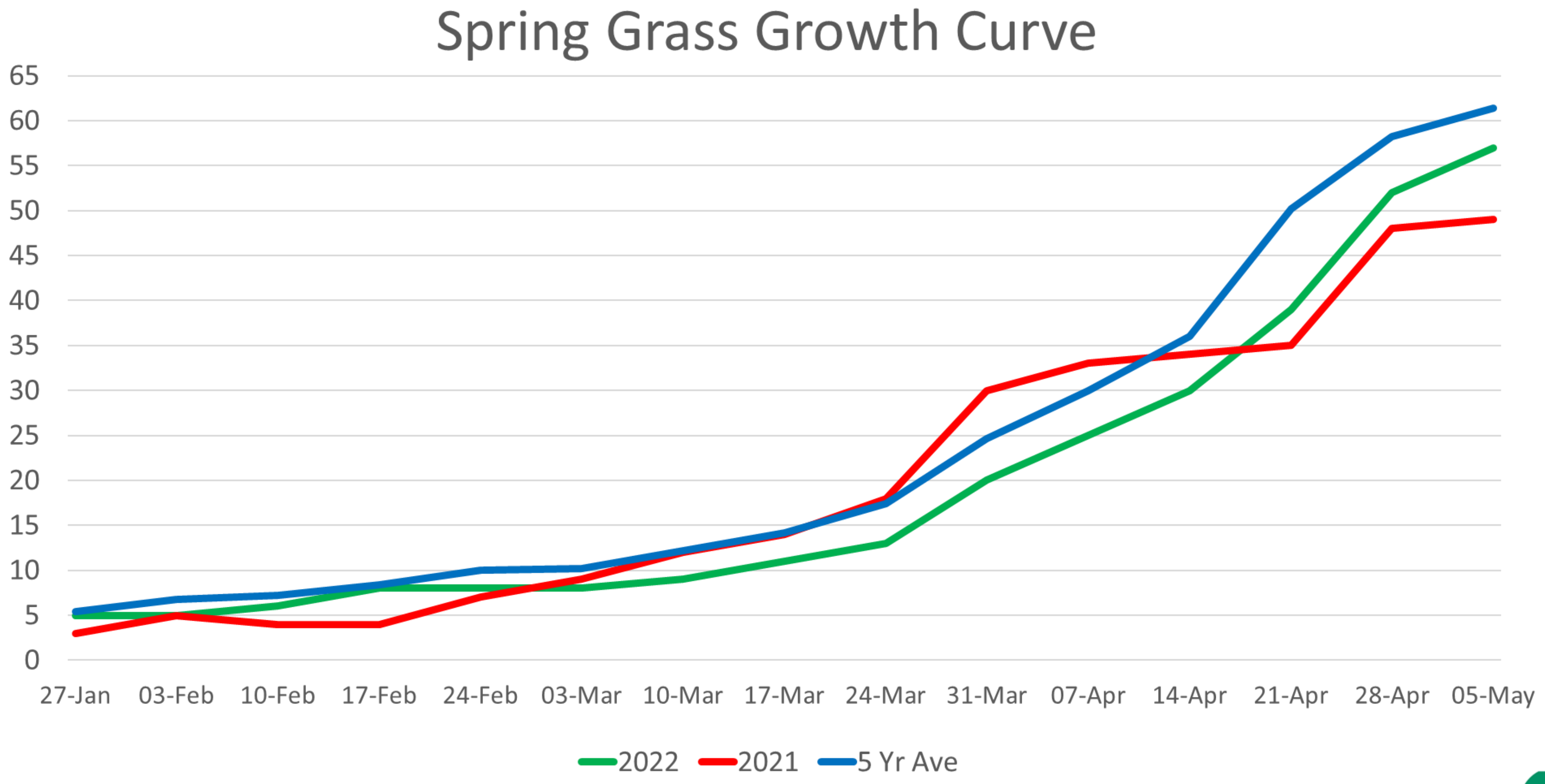
Summary- Commentary

- Feed stocks on drystock and dairy farms are positive overall (119% of demand on average)
  - Dairy farms in Midlands/North East region have no reserve on average
- Approx. 20% dairy farms in Midlands NE and South East are short >10% of planned demand
  - 12% more than 20% short
- 20% of drystock farms in Midland NE in similar situation
  - 11% drystock farms over 20% short
- Drystock farms North West in good position overall
- Dairy and beef farms >10% short are similar scale to sector average

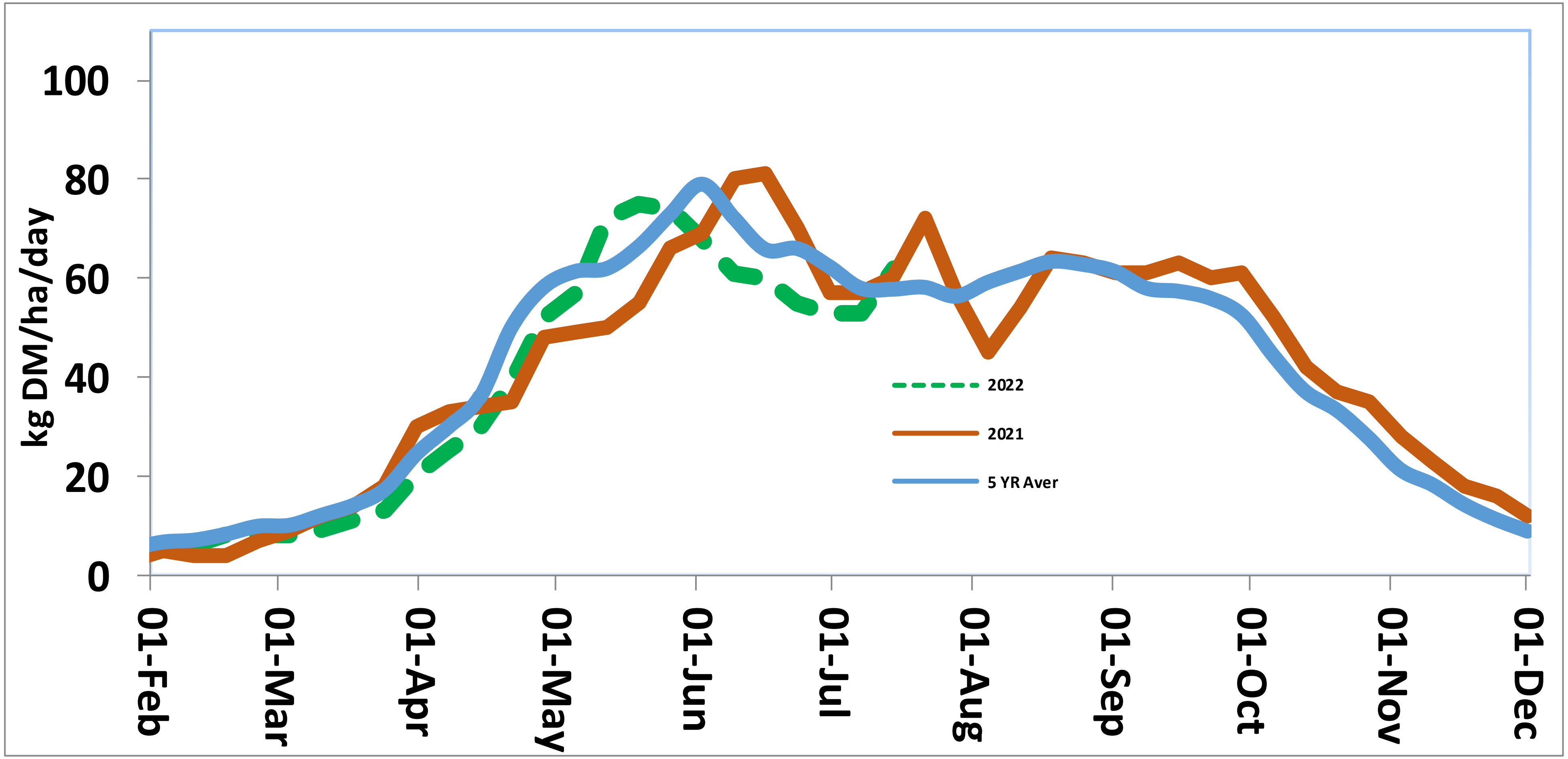
Winter fodder focus over coming weeks

- Scope for additional fodder supplies to be secured in addition to planned second cut
- Strong message required on securing second cut to build 20% fodder reserve
- Focus needs to be on farms (1/8) that are short of planned winter feed demand
- Impact of localised July SMD/grass growth reductions needs to be accounted for

Spring Growth



National Grass Growth Curve



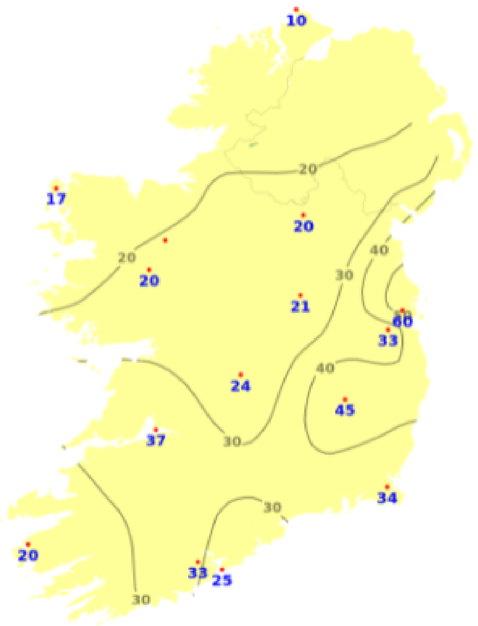
- Nitrogen use in 2022 is back by approx. 20 Kg N/ha compared to 2021
- 200Kg less grown to date in 2022 compared to 2021 (5,800 vs. 6,000 kg/ha)

Dry Conditions in the East

SOIL MOISTURE DEFICITS

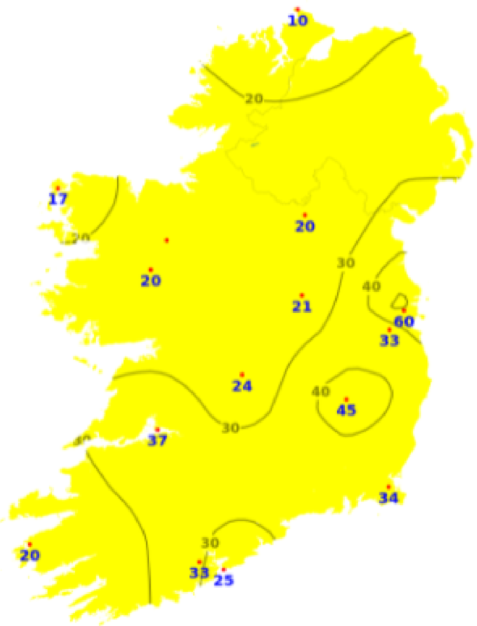
Well Drained Soil Moisture Deficit

Sun 10th Jul



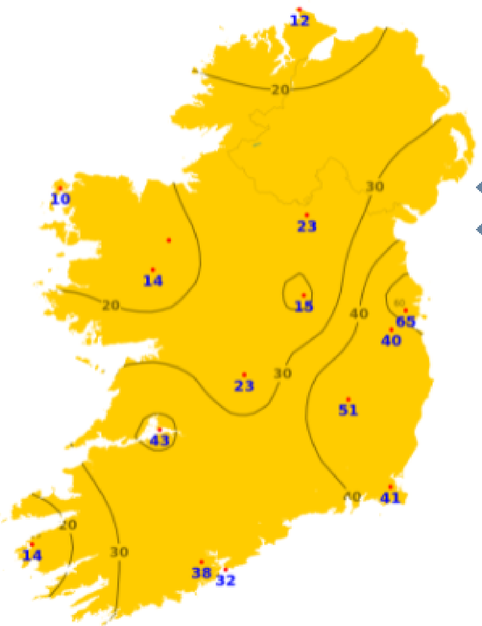
Moderately Drained Soil Moisture Deficit

Sun 10th Jul



Poorly Drained Soil Moisture Deficit

Sun 10th Jul



Soil Moisture Deficits (SMDs) in (mm) are calculated for three classes of soil: well drained, moderately drained and poorly drained. For further information on how Soil Moisture Deficits are calculated, click here.

Regional Messages for Dry Farms

- Watch grass growth, demand and days ahead closely – very little rain forecast for the east of the country over coming weeks
- Reduce demand where possible – e.g. earlier weaning, supplement finishing stock sooner, sell fit cattle earlier.
- Keep topping to a minimum
- Introduce fodder until grass growth exceeds demand and grass covers recover.
- If feeding fodder over summer months complete a winter feed budget and act accordingly

Thank You