



TEAGASC/KERRY MONITOR FARM UPDATE WEEK ENDING 12th July 2024

Farmer	Location	Litres /Cow	Fat %	Prot %	kg MS /Cow	Meal kg	SCC	Breeding Start Date	Breeding End Date	Weeks Breeding	Average Farm Cover	Pre grazing Yield	Cover/ Cow	Demand	Growth Rate/Ha
Micheal & Alex McCarthy	Feenagh	26.5	3.7	3.64	2.00	3.5	85	27th April	11th July	11	596	1400	208	49	65
Andrew & Bernadette Killeen	Doonbeg	25	4.26	3.74	2.06	3.2	124	6th May	15th July	10	565	1550	169	55	55
Dermot & Michael Kavanagh	Lispole	26.8	3.86	3.55	2.05	4.8	231	24th April	1st August	14	667	1350	153	69	75
Patrick and Paula O'Hanlon	Tarbert	22.0	4.18	3.72	1.79	3.5	91	10th May	22nd July	10	572	1500	158	51	65
Joe Carroll	Ballyheigue	21.3	4.55	3.81	1.83	3.0	146	9th May	20th July	10	533	1450	162	53	35
John & Micheal Casey	Causeway	22.1	4.75	3.81	1.95	3.0	101	1st May	11th July	10	649	1200	198	56	38
John Galvin	Ardfert	23.9	4.14	3.55	1.89	6.0	135	27th April	11th July	11	505	1000	154	39	41
Niall & Gerry Moloney	Crecora	23.5	3.87	3.61	1.81	4.0	88	1st May	1st August	13	499	1250	148	54	50
Kieran, Eileen & Declan Murphy	Effin	26.0	3.87	3.71	2.03	3.3	65	27th April	12th July	11	601	1550	184	56	60
Diarmuid and Sean Fitzgerald	Cratloe	18.5	4.81	3.94	1.67	3.0	134	3rd May	17th May	11	606	1200	172	50	54
Stephen McAuliffe	Loghill	19.5	4.06	3.64	1.55	3.0	159	6th May	17th July	10	659	1400	214	49	48
William & Mary Dennehy	Currow	18.1	4.44	3.63	1.50	3.6	50	13th May	11th July	9	669	1500	200	55	51

Average		22.8	4.21	3.70	1.84	3.7	117			11	593	1363	177	53	53
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Farmer Update: Patrick and Paula O'Hanlon

I completed my winter fodder budget earlier in the week and it confirmed what I already knew, I have a fodder shortage ahead of the winter. I have talked to my advisor and I'm working on a plan to close the gap both from a supply and demand point of view.

On reviewing cow performance year to date i'm reasonable happy, fat % is up and protein % is stable and I have the same amount of Kg's of Milk solids per cow sold but grass grown on the farm is back year to date, meaning extra meal has had to go in which has added to cost of production.

Clover content is back overall across the farm but on a positive note has started to increase in the past two weeks. I grazed my second reseed earlier this week and the reseed grazed last week is flying. I will spray off another poor performing paddock this week and I hope to have that back grazing in late August to help build autumn cover.

I took out 6 acres for bales this week which helps with the fodder scenario.

Breeding will finish on the 22nd of July which is 10 weeks, it seems to have gone well so far.

Advisor Update: Denis Brassil

Grass growth continues to be frustrating on many farms with growth continuing to lag behind normal whether due to soil moisture deficits, damage from wet spring and autumn and the unseasonably cold summer. The knock on effect of this has been smaller first cut silage crops and less surplus bales produced on farm. It's essential then to complete a winter fodder budget as early as possible to identify whether a surplus or deficit exists. Once you know where you stand then you can discuss with your advisor how to deal with a shortfall if it exists. Both the demand and supply side of the situation can be examined to help reduce/eliminate the shortfall.

There are 60 days left to the closing date for application of chemical fertiliser in 2024 (14th of September), talk to your advisor re your chemical N and P allowances and make a plan to maximise the pasture grown between now and year end.

By baling off poorer quality excess paddocks it gives dry cow fodder for the winter ahead and helps to correct pasture quality and improve cow performance in the following rotations.

Cows breed on the 12th of July will calf on the 23rd of April using a 285day gestation period. Many spring calving herds have a mean calving date in late February this means these cows will have 60 days less in milk than the average cow in the herd making it difficult for these cows to produce a profit margin.

Fodder Plan-Winter Requirement

Name: _____

Date: _____ Advisor: _____

Section 1. What Fodder is required on the Farm?

	A	B	C	
Animal Type	No. of Stock to be kept over Winter	Number of Months (Include a 4 week reserve)	Silage Needed, Tonnes / Animal / Month	Total Tonnes (T) of Silage Required (AxBxC)
Dairy cows			0.4	
0-1 year old			0.18	
1-2 year old			0.33	
2+ year old			0.33	
Total tonnes DM required *				(D)