



### TEAGASC/KERRY MONITOR FARM UPDATE WEEK ENDING 16th May 2024

Farmer	Location	Litres /Cow	Fat %	Prot %	kg MS /Cow	Meal kg	SCC	Breeding Start Date	% Cows submitted	Average Farm Cover	Pre grazing Yield	Cover/ Cow	Demand	Growth Rate/Ha
Micheal & Alex McCarthy	Feenagh	28.4	3.75	3.5	2.12	3.0	99	27th April	87	572	1400	177	55	78
Andrew & Bernadette Killeen	Kilkee	27.8	4.2	3.34	2.16	6.0	87	6th May	47	625	1350	193	45	62
Dermot & Michael Kavanagh	Lispole	33.5	3.66	3.46	2.46	6.0	177	24th April	93	839	1400	169	77	90
Patrick and Paula O'Hanlon	Tarbert	28.0	3.94	3.42	2.12	5.0	110	10th May	36	646	1600	186	49	53
Joe Carroll	Ballyheigue	24.2	4.32	3.76	2.01	3.0	113	9th May	32	726	1600	193	56	64
John & Micheal Casey	Causeway	28.5	4.07	3.57	2.24	4.0	86	1st May	53	878	1550	186	85	78
John Galvin	Ardfert	24.5	3.98	3.23	1.82	2.0	76	27th April	81	660	1400	186	60	97
Niall & Gerry Moloney	Crecora	27.0	3.99	3.47	2.07	3.0	90	1st May	71	726	1650	199	62	68
Kieran, Eileen & Declan Murphy	Effin	29.5	3.98	3.4	2.24	5.5	69	27th April	93	793	2000	224	51	40
Diarmuid and Sean Fitzgerald	Cratloe	22.4	4.42	3.72	1.88	2.0	174	3rd May	53	779	1800	213	62	88
Stephen McAuliffe	Loghill	24.0	3.97	3.44	1.83	4.0	149	6th May	44	701	1350	208	54	65
William & Mary Dennehy	Currow	24.3	4.48	3.42	1.98	4.2	69	13th May	32	754	1500	213	57	84
<b>Average</b>		<b>26.8</b>	<b>4.06</b>	<b>3.48</b>	<b>2.08</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>108</b>			<b>725</b>	<b>1550</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>72</b>

#### Farmer Update: Alex & Michael McCarthy

Growth has picked up over the past few weeks and is really coming along now. Growth in the past 5 days was 78Kg's Dm/ha/Day here, we have dropped meal back to 3kg's and cows are still milking well. Our aim is to keep leafy 1400kg's of DM in front of the cows. We have two paddocks of multi species getting zero chemical N and these are performing really well with just slurry and soiled water applications they are staying in the 21 day rotation and cows are grazing them out well. There are a number of paddocks approaching 1200-1300 Kg's of DM/Ha and we will probably skip two to these and cut them out quickly to keep the right pre grazing yield in front of the cows. We got our first reseed in before the rain last week and i hope to spray off the next section in the week ahead if weather and growth allow, we grazed this paddock in wet conditions the last two times as we knew we would be reseeding it. A number of paddocks had a bit more marking in them that we would have liked but thankfully these have started to level off in this round of grazing. Our Breeding is on target with our submissions to get over 90% of the cows submitted in the first 3 weeks of breeding. As part of the Local EIP water quality project we installed a settlement pond on the farm in the area that has been drained in the last few years and over the heavy rainfalls of the past few months it was clear to see how the sediment was being trapped by this pond, which will hopefully have a positive impact on water quality in the catchment. Silage crops have bulked up alot in the past two weeks also.

#### Advisor Update: Denis Brassil

With the increased growth rate on many farms over the past two weeks its giving an opportunity in many areas to cut out paddocks for bales, this is a great opportunity to help correct grass quality as the grass plant is starting to head out in many paddocks. It also presents an opportunity to correct the butt of grass at the base of the sward which has risen up with the fast growth of the past few weeks, by correcting this now we will hopefully get the benefits of leafier swards in the next two rotations which should allow cows to maintain peak for as long as possible and to minimise the "drop-off" from peak over the coming weeks. Paddocks with clover content above 20% currentily can now start to pull back Chemical N applications as the clover plant comes into its own over the next while, Use of watery slurry or Dairy washings on these paddocks is a good way to feed both the clover and grass plants in these paddocks. Many farms are hitting the three weeks of breeding now and its a good time to review and investigate if cows have not yet been submitted for breeding the aim is to have 90% of the cows submitted for breeding in the first three weeks. For cows that have yet to be breed its worth having a chat with your vet. as the saying goes "Sometimes a stitch in time saves nine".

