



TEAGASC/KERRY MONITOR FARM UPDATE WEEK ENDING 28th June 2024

Farmer	Location	Litres /Cow	Fat %	Prot %	kg MS /Cow	Meal kg	SCC	Breeding Start Date	Demand Reduction Measures	Average Farm Cover	Pre grazing Yield	Cover/ Cow	Demand	Growth Rate/Ha
Micheal & Alex McCarthy	Feenagh	27	3.69	3.58	2.02	4.5	75	27th April	Fill Gap with meal SR reduced with Aftergrass	536	1500	174	46	59
Andrew & Bernadette Killeen	Doonbeg	26	4.1	3.6	2.06	4.5	69	6th May	Cover per Cow has Built this week	573	1400	188	47	73
Dermot & Michael Kavanagh	Lispole	28.3	3.76	3.6	2.15	5.0	166	24th April	Cut 1 surplus paddock	652	1350	157	66	84
Patrick and Paula O'Hanlon	Tarbert	24.0	4.19	3.64	1.94	3.0	70	10th May	Cover per Cow has Built this week	581	1500	174	47	65
Joe Carroll	Ballyheigue	22.5	4.46	3.91	1.94	5.0	81	9th May	Heat has helped still lacking some rain	630	1550	179	46	66
John & Micheal Casey	Causeway	24.4	4.35	3.8	2.05	4.5	91	1st May	Rain has regrowths growing well plan to reduce meal	693	1600	194	64	56
John Galvin	Ardfert	25.3	3.98	3.47	1.94	6.0	86	27th April	1 Bale of silage per day	575	1400	155	41	59
Niall & Gerry Moloney	Orecora	25.0	3.81	3.59	1.91	6.0	67	1st May	1 Load of Zero grazed Grass per day need rain	578	1100	163	32	71
Kieran, Eileen & Declan Murphy	Effin	26.4	3.83	3.55	2.01	5.0	71	27th April	Meal went to 5 and zero grazed 1 load for 2 days	552	1600	150	59	58
Diarmuid and Sean Fitzgerald	Cratloe	20.0	4.69	3.74	1.74	4.0	193	3rd May	2kgs of Silage in until Cover/Cow up to 180	421	1200	120	50	50
Stephen McAuliffe	Loghill	23.0	4.08	3.59	1.82	4.0	132	6th May	AFC has recovered	677	1400	235	46	51
William & Mary Dennehy	Currow	20.3	4.09	3.6	1.61	4.8	54	13th May	AFC has recovered, plan to reduce meal	744	1300	221	56	85
Average		24.4	4.09	3.64	1.93	4.7	96			601	1408	176	50	65

Farmer Update: Michael and Dermot Kavanagh

As part of a project I'm involved in we have installed a weather station on the farm. This records various data on the farm including daily rainfall, while comparing growth rates with other farms this week we could see we have gotten 20mm of rain each week over the month of June this has kept our farm growth rate in the high 70's for KG's of DM/ha/day for the month of June. I'm quite happy with grass quality at present except for one paddock which I intend to cut for bales next rotation and spray off for reseed. Today we are grazing a reseed which was sown on the 10th of May (48days) see picture, we set 15 Kg's per acre of seed which included 1 kg of Rozetta red clover, 2kgs of Crusader white clover and 12 kg's of Nashota grass seed We use grass varieties off the PBI list that have good pasture utilization figures, good growth rates for the spring and high values for quality. I hope to spread just dairy washings on this paddock for the remainder of the grazing season.

We have to date spread 118 units of Chemical N/acre on the farm and my allowance is 192 units of Chemical N/acre leaving 74units for the 79days to 14th of September or close to 1unit/day. I'm currently spreading 12-15 units on the paddocks with 25% clover content and 18-20 units where clover is lower. I will use some chemical K on paddocks that are in lower indexes over July and August too.

Breeding has gone well however I was disappointed over the past week to see a few cows come back in heat at week 9 that hadn'tt been seen since week 1 of breeding. Cows are milking well and I have reduced meal to 5kg's this week as the reseed has come back into the rotation, I plan to take this down to 4 if weather plays ball.

Advisor Update: Denis Brassil

AS Deirbhile outlined last week higher temperatures and rain in some areas has helped to increase grass growth, some farms particularly on drier ground still need more rain which seems a strange thing to say given the last twelve months. However the strong breeze over the past number of weeks has dried out the surface of the ground leading one farmer to tell me this week that he felt grass on his farm was in danger of going dormant due to lack of moisture.

Continue to supplement until Cover/ Cow returns to 170-180KG's of DM/LU. Clover content has increased in some paddocks over the past two weeks as temperatures picked up, in some cases this has been driven by grazing lower covers allowing more light to the base of the sward.

For farms that do not have a fertiliser plan talk to your advisor re your fertiliser allowance and ensure to complete a winter fodder budget. Making decisions early can have a large influence on reducing a potential deficit.

Most schools have gotten holidays now so it's a good opportunity to take a look around the farm and ensure safety for all. Take advantage of the longer evenings to get some time off farm.

