



**TEAGASC/KERRY MONITOR FARM UPDATE WEEK ENDING 3rd May 2024**

Farmer	Location	Litres /Cow	Fat %	Prot %	kg MS /Cow	Meal kg	SCC	Breeding Start Date	Average Farm Cover	Pre grazing Yield	Cover/ Cow	Demand	Growth Rate/Ha
Micheal & Alex McCarthy	Feenagh	28	3.96	3.5	2.15	5.0	78	27th April	575	1400	177	45	53
Andrew & Bernadette Killeen	Kilkee	27	4.62	3.39	2.23	6.0	112	6th May	800	2250	245	46	30
Dermot & Michael Kavanagh	Lispole	34.1	3.81	3.52	2.57	6.6	220	24th April	849	1750	207	59	60
Patrick and Paula O'Hanlon	Tarbert	29.0	3.69	3.4	2.12	6.0	65	10th May	724	1400	209	49	42
Joe Carroll	Ballyheigue	24.0	4.35	3.67	1.98	5.0	103	9th May	701	1650	216	49	33
John & Micheal Casey	Causeway	28.0	4.21	3.64	2.26	5.0	62	1st May	830	1700	213	70	45
John Galvin	Ardfert	25.0	4.3	3.31	1.96	2.5	67	27th April	716	1700	213	62	39
Niall & Gerry Moloney	Creora	27.0	3.9	3.51	2.06	4.0	93	1st May	745	1400	217	55	44
Kieran, Eileen & Declan Murphy	Effin	28.0	4.2	3.48	2.21	5.5	66	27th April					
Diarmuid and Sean Fitzgerald	Cratloe	21.4	4.31	3.64	1.75	4.0	239	3rd May	644	1250	192	47	61
Stephen McAuliffe	Loghill	25.7	4.05	3.47	1.99	4.0	143	6th May	581	1300	173	50	36
William & Mary Dennehy	Currow	23.0	4.38	3.48	1.86	6.0	85	13th May	787	1500	226	52	69
<b>Average</b>		<b>26.7</b>	<b>4.15</b>	<b>3.50</b>	<b>2.10</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>111</b>		<b>723</b>	<b>1573</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>47</b>

**Farmer Update: Andrew Killeen**

Our farm is a mix of peat and heavy clay soils, we have all the peat soils grazed in first rotation and have about 8 -10 days and nights of the clay soils left to graze. I baled 5 paddocks last Saturday on the clay side of the farm no bother but I haven't been able to spread slurry on these yet due to the heavy rainfalls this week. Cows are back to on/off grazing for 2-3 hrs last night and today which is disheartening. I opened one of last Saturday's bales for the cows last night and they cleaned it. I picked 20 of the best of my heifers for sexed semen and these were put on a sync protocol today. Cows will start on Monday 6th I have picked 40 cows to breed replacements from also the rest of the cows will be bred to high DBI sires, I have a high DBI Hereford stock bull for clean up as well. Cows have been showing good heats and milking well but the late spring has impacted protein %, graze outs over the next few days will be poor due to the nature of the ground in front of the cows and the covers to be grazed. 1st grazed paddock is at 750Kg's of DM/ha so I need to graze what's left in the 1st rotation and residual and quality of these will need to be corrected in the next rotation by baling these as my aftergrass paddocks come back into the rotation.

**Advisor Update: Denis Brassil**

Growth rates have certainly dipped in the second half of this week due to heavy rainfall and temperatures in the last few days. A contributing factor also has been some of the ground grazed had very heavy covers on it in 1st rotation or in 2nd rotation where some damage was done in 1st rotation also. Where farms have a P allowance allowance it will be important to use some 18-6-12+S type fertiliser on these paddocks once ground conditions allow. Across the region there is a wide spread in breeding start date many are reporting strong activity where cow condition is good. Temperature predictions for the week ahead appear to be quite good so hopefully growth will pick back up this week. It's that time of year to increase the number of grass walks to help identify surplus's/ poor quality early and ensure these are removed quickly to help refocus on grass quality in front of the cow. This will help maximise both litres and protein % produced, by acting early we can minimise the drop off from peak and help to maintain peak for as long as possible. It is also important to act early to prevent the milking platform stocking rate from rising too high as this can impact the performance of all cows.

