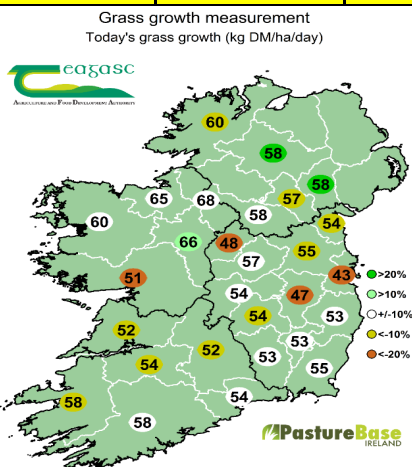


29th June 2021

PastureBase data from dairy farms:

| AFC | Cover/LU | Stocking Rate | Growth | Demand | Diet (Grass + Meal) | Pre Grazing Yield |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 641 kg DM/ha | 180 kg DM/LU | 3.57 LU/ha | 57 kg DM/ha | 53 kg DM/ha | 14.5 kg DM + 3 kg | 1,531 kg DM/ha |

PastureBase
IRELAND

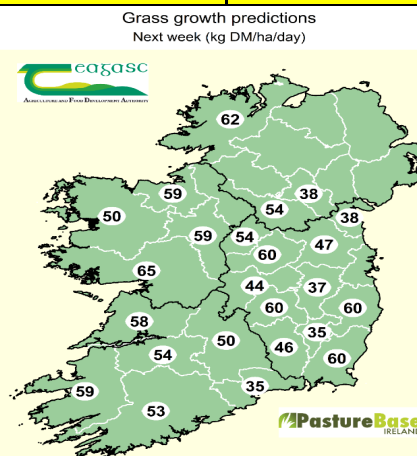


On the left: counties map showing **current** grass growth rates over the last week.

On the right: counties map showing **predicted** grass growth over the next 7 days from farms involved in Elodie Ruelle's MoSt grass growth model (55 farms).

Predicted Growth Rate:

Ballyhaise 66 kg DM/ha
South Wexford 60 kg DM/ha
Athenry 68 kg DM/ha
Clonakilty 70 kg DM/ha



2021—a difficult year for managing grass!

'We are currently grazing silage ground that was initially closed up for second cut but it is great to have this option and cows are milking well' according to **Michael Carey - farm manager on the Ballydaigue Farm** in Ballyhooly, Co. Cork.

Michael alongside 2IC Micheál Casey host the Ballyhooly Grass10 group each month. The pair are very eager when it comes to grass management and strive to utilise every blade of grass on the farm. A big emphasis is put on pre-grazing yield and graze-outs.

'We are not afraid to put cows back into a paddock for a few hours to get them to graze down to 4cm. In three weeks' time we will see the benefit with excellent quality grass'.

'After entering the grass cover on Monday, growth on the farm had dropped again, so we then decided to reduce our stocking rate by **introducing silage ground back into the grazing rotation**. This will buy us some time as this farm is dry. As a result the pre-grazing is at 1,650 kg DM/ha but drops back to 1,300kg DM/ha then'

'Walks are planned for every Monday, Friday and the following Wednesday. We have **27 farm walks** completed this year and last year we **recorded 48**, it is all down to planning ahead'.

'Over the last few weeks we have cut a lot of paddocks and now grass quality is back on track. Meal feeding increased to 3kg/cow/day and the cows are **producing 1.86 kg MS/cow**'.

'We have just started following to cows with **20 units of 27-2.5-4-5**, and up to today the farm has grown **6.3 t/ha** on par with last year'.



Grass Dry Matter %

Moorepark, Co. Cork

22% (1,300 kg DM/ha)

Grange, Co. Meath

20.5% (1,550 kg DM/ha)

Athenry, Co. Galway

22% (1,500 kg DM/ha)

Michael Carey's Grass Data

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| AFC | 654 kg DM/ha |
| Cover/LU | 206 kg DM/ha |
| Stocking Rate | 3.17 LU/ha |
| Growth | 55 kg DM/ha/day |
| Demand | 49 kg DM/ha/day |
| PGY (silage field) | 1650 kg DM/ha |
| Milk Yield | 1.86 kg MS/cow |
| Diet (Grass+Meal) | 15.5 kg + 3kg |

Grass10 Grazing Tips

- Growth rates have declined on farms - vital to walk the **farm every 5-7 days**
- Hold **cover/LU** at 180kg DM/ha and hold **rotation length** at 22 –24 days
- **Back calculate** covers in paddocks to calibrate measurement

Where grass is in short supply;

1. Consider **grazing second cut** if available and alternate with grazing ground
2. **Stop pre-mowing and topping** as this practice will reduce growth rates further
3. **Match demand with growth rate**-use strip wire to allocate grass

PastureBase data from sheep & beef farms:

29th June 2021

| AFC | Days Ahead | Stocking Rate | Growth | Demand | Pre Grazing Yield |
|--------------|------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 681 kg DM/ha | 17.5 days | 2.88 LU/ha | 47 kg DM/ha | 39 kg DM/ha | 1,649 kg DM/ha |

Teagasc Grange Dairy Calf to Beef Update

Nicky Byrne, Donall Fahy and Anthony Mulligan

Grass growth has been moderate at 49 kg DM/ha this week, due to limited rainfall and slow regrowths after surplus silage. Demand is at 59 kg DM/ha. Currently there are 12 days of grass ahead on the farm. Grass quality has improved, due to the availability of aftergrass from 1st cut and surplus silage.

Calf performance has been good, with mid-February born Angus (AA) and Holstein Friesian (HF) calves **currently weighing 137 kg and 136 kg, respectively, both having an ADG of 0.84 kg** and a combine mortality rate of 2.5%. Calves are now targeted towards aftergrass, grazing covers of 1000-1300 kg DM/ha to a residual of 4 cm. All calves from 3 weeks of age were offered 4 L (0.5 kg powder) of milk per day, and had a target weaning weight of 90 kg. Post-turnout calves continued to be offered straw as their fibre source for one week, to help the transition onto a grass diet, depending on the experimental treatment calves are weaned from concentrate after the first 3 weeks at grass or will continue to receive 1 kg throughout the grazing season.

Yearling steers have maintained high level of ADG throughout their 2nd grazing season with AA and HF steers currently weighing 442 kg and 444 kg, **both achieving an ADG of 1.2 kg since turnout in early March**. Steers have been grazing covers of 1600kg DM/ha to a residual of 4 cm. One treatment will receive 3 kg/hd/day of concentrate from 1 July, the remaining two groups of steers will remain on grass only until housing for finishing. To date there has been 132kg/N/ha spread on the grazing platform. Each paddock receives a half bag of urea to the acre following grazing.

Silage harvest was delayed due to poor growth and was approximately two weeks later than last year. Silage swards yielded 5,590 kg DM/ha and were of high quality despite the delayed cutting date. 12.5 acres of a red clover and perennial ryegrass (100 % tetraploid) were sown for silage production last September to explore the option of reducing N inputs, while improving silage quality and animal performance over the first winter.



GFOY Update - Noel Hurley, 2020 Grassland Farmer of the Year- Grassland Merit Award Winner



'The farm is drying up and could do with some rain. Grass growth has reduced a lot this week (54kg DM/ha). It is only matching demand and I don't want my cover/LU to drop under 160-170 kg DM/ha. There has been a lot of paddocks cut in the last two weeks as quality was very poor 2-3 weeks ago. I have aftergrass and reseeded ground to come back in and rain forecast for the weekend will all help'

A welcome return to outdoor farm walks!

The Grass10 team are delighted to inform you of our next upcoming event which thanks to the lifting of COVID restrictions can be held on farm.

Peter & Tom McGuinness are sheep farmers from Co. Meath and last year won the Sheep Category of the Grassland Farmer of the Year. They are hosting a farm walk on their farm (Bellewstown, Trim, Co. Meath, Eircode: **C15YE30**) on Wed 7th July at 7pm (see advert attached).

Please see short link for McGuinness promotional video;

<https://bit.ly/McGuinnessPromo>

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Rotation No. | 5 th Rotation |
| AFC | 674 kg DM/ha |
| Cover/LU | 185 kg DM/LU |
| Growth | 54 kg DM/ha/day |
| Demand | 54 kg DM/ha/day |
| Stocking Rate | 3.65 LU/ha |
| PGY | 1,500 kg DM/ha |
| Fertiliser | Following the cows with 20 units of Protected Urea with 5% sulphur |
| Annual Ton-nage | 5,918 kg DM/ha |



"Taking things to the next level with grass"

Sheep Farm Walk

Wednesday, 7 July | 7pm

Peter & Tom McGuinness, Co. Meath
Sheep Grassland Farmer of the Year 2020

For more information see
www.teagasc.ie/McGuinnessFarmWalk

