

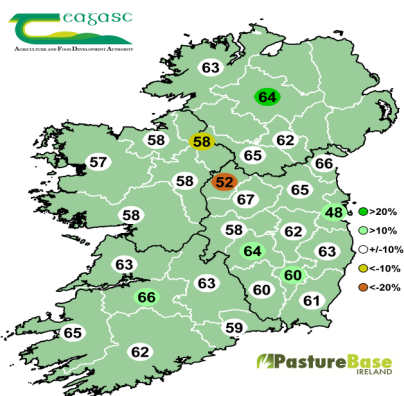
24th August 2021

PastureBase data from dairy farms:

PastureBase
IRELAND

AFC	Cover/LU	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Diet (Grass + Supplement)	Pre Grazing Yield
812 Kg DM/Ha	258 Kg DM/LU	3.24 LU/ha	63 Kg DM/ha	49 Kg DM/ha	15 Kg DM + 3 Kg	1711 Kg DM/Ha

Grass growth measurement
Today's grass growth (kg DM/ha/day)



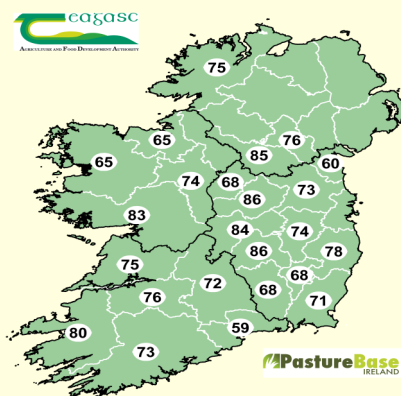
On the left: counties map showing **current** grass growth rates over the last week.

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 88 kg DM/ha
Wexford 68 kg DM/ha
Athenry 78 kg DM/ha
Clonakilty 76 kg DM/ha

Grass growth predictions
Next week (kg DM/ha/day)



Taking Immediate Action in Co. Laois

Padraig Callanan is farming in partnership with his parents, Noreen and Pat, in Ballyroan, Co. Laois. They milk a 130-cow Friesian herd with a high EBI at €197.

"We try to keep cows out grazing until mid-November, but the main aim is closing at 850 kg DM/ha on 1st Dec to have good grass supply in the spring."

Lower than anticipated grass growth in the past week means the farm has fallen behind the autumn grazing target and wants to increase AFC by 300 kg DM/ha in the next week to reach AFC 990 kg DM/ha by the 1st Sept.

Padraig predicts growth for this week to be 80 Kg DM/ha/day this will make up two-thirds of the deficit, as the demand is 53 kg DM/ha/day. The remaining deficit will be bridged by feeding 3 kg silage per cow per day, this will reduce demand for grass. The grass budget on PastureBase was updated and predicts AFC to be at 944 kg DM/ha on 29th Aug.

"We only stopped feeding silage last Sunday week due to drought at the end of July, and didn't think we'd have to start feeding again so soon. But I followed the PastureBase grass budget last year and it worked for me, so I'm going to do the same this year."



Grass Dry Matter %

Moorepark, Co. Cork

18% (1250 Kg DM/ha)

Grange, Co. Meath

14.2% (1550 Kg DM/ha)

Callanan's PBI Data

AFC	680 kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	205 kg DM/cow
Growth	62 kg DM/ha/day
Demand	53 kg DM/ha/day
PGY	1,400 kg DM/ha
Meal	4kg (+3kg silage)
Milk Yield	2.1 kg MS/cow (24.5 L/cow)

Grazing Tips for the week:

- PastureBase data average growth rates are back up to 63 Kg DM/ha on dairy farms and predicted growth is also high due to favourable forecast and high temperatures.
- Farms behind or on target should not remove surplus bales. Use high growth rates to catch up to target →
- Farms with a lot of surplus grass should reduce meal and/or remove as bales now if high growth rates anticipated. Bring AFC back to around 100 Kg DM/ha ahead of target.
- Keep walking your farm weekly to monitor AFC against the targets. Measure twice with high growth rates this week
- By the end of the week, rotation length should be 25 days for farms stocked < 2.9 LU/ha, and 30 days for farms >2.9 LU/ha. This is not rotation length between grazing events, it is rotation length based on area per day. E.g. 30ha grazing block should be grazing 1 ha per day (About 3% of the farm per day).

Stocking Rate	AFC 1st Sept Target	Rotation Length
2.5 LU/ha	600 kg DM/	25 days
3.0 LU/ha	990 kg DM/	30 days
3.5 LU/ha	980 kg DM/	30 days

PastureBase data from sheep & beef farms:

24th August 2021

AFC	Days Ahead	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Pre Grazing Yield
827 Kg DM/Ha	22 days	2.6 LU/ha	52 Kg DM/ha	37 Kg DM/Ha	1785 Kg DM/ha

GFOY Update - John Galvin 2020 Grassland Farmer of the Year– Sustainability Category Winner

"I am very happy with where the farm is at the minute, both in the context of grass supply and grass quality. My focus has firmly moved to building grass for the autumn. I completed a grass budget on PastureBase Ireland & my AFC is on target. I am expecting a week of good growth on my farm with the good weather and high temperatures, however I will only consider removing surplus bales if I go more than 150 Kg DM/Ha over my target Average Farm Cover. We are looking forward to welcoming you to our farm in Dunmanway this Thursday at 11am for our Farm Walk"

John Galvin farms near Dunmanway, Co. Cork with his wife Yvonne and 4 children. John is milking 105 cows on a 35 ha milking platform on a relatively dry farm. The farm grew 15 T DM/ha in 2020. **Join us this Thursday 26th August at 11am** on John's farm as we discuss: 1) An Overview of John Galvin's farm performance 2) How he grows and utilises 15 T DM/ha 3) Importance of good soil fertility 4) Autumn Grazing Targets to maximise days at grass

Pre-registration for the event is essential, click here for info and to register:-

www.teagasc.ie/JohnGalvinFarmWalk

Eircode for the event is:- P47C624

Rotation No.	7
AFC	838 Kg DM/Ha
Cover/LU	282 Kg DM/LU
Growth	61 Kg DM/Ha
Demand	45 Kg DM/Ha
Stocking Rate	2.97 LU/ha
PGY	1600 Kg DM/Ha
Fertiliser	25 units per acre of Protected Urea
Annual Ton-nage	9.2T DM/Ha



"Building cheap grass in August is key for extended Autumn Grazing"

Pre-registration is essential.

Dairy Farm Walk

Thursday, 26 August | 11am

John Galvin, Dunmanway,
Co. Cork, Eircode: P47 C624

Sustainable Grassland Farmer of the Year 2020

Pre-registration is essential. Visit
www.teagasc.ie/JohnGalvinFarmWalk



Sheep Research Demonstration Farm Update

Philip Creighton, Animal and Grassland Research and Innovation Centre, Teagasc Athenry, Co Galway.

Lamb growth rates for the past month have been in the region of **164g/day** (grass only) to **187g/day** (grass + white clover), with 25% of lambs drafted from grass only groups and 30% of lambs drafted from grass + white clover groups up to mid-August. On a stocking rate basis 33% of lambs have been drafted from the 11 ewe/ha groups and 21% from the 13 ewe/ha groups.

Current grass growth rate for the farm is 52kg DM/ha/day, demand is 49kg DM/ha/day and days ahead is 16. Our demand is on the high side as we took out 10% of each farmlet for reseeding in July but this should be back in for grazing by mid-September. To date the grass only treatments have grown on average 8.0 T DM/ha, and the grass + white clover treatments have grown 8.3 T DM/ha. All treatments have met their silage requirement for the winter.

To date 85% of the total N allowance for the high (145kgN/ha) and 90% of the allowance for the low (90kgN/ha) N treatments has been spread. The final round of Nitrogen will be applied in early September to ensure adequate grass growth for the Autumn.

Autumn Fertiliser:- Higher stocked farms (>10 ewes/ha) should be applying up to 30 kg N/ha (approx. 25 units/ac) in the form of protected urea while lower stocked farms (<10 ewes/ha) can reduce this slightly applying up to 20 kg N/ha (approx. 15 units/ac). Apply this in late August/early Sept for best response.



Grazing Targets for the Autumn on Sheep farms

	Pre Grazing Yield (Kg DM/Ha)	Target Days Ahead	Rotation Length
August	1250– 1500 (7 –9 cm)	15-20 Days	25 days
September	1500-2000 (8- 10 cm)	25-30 Days	25 –30 Days
Oct/Nov/Dec	<2000 (<10cm)	30-40 Days	Closing paddocks from mid October