

18th June 2019

Current PastureBase Ireland Performance (Last 7 Days):



AFC	Cover/LU	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand
697 kg DM/ha	188 kg DM/LU	3.71 LU/ha	64 kg DM/ha	57 kg DM/ha

Daily Allocations per Cow:

- 15.5 kgDM grass & 2 kg concentrates

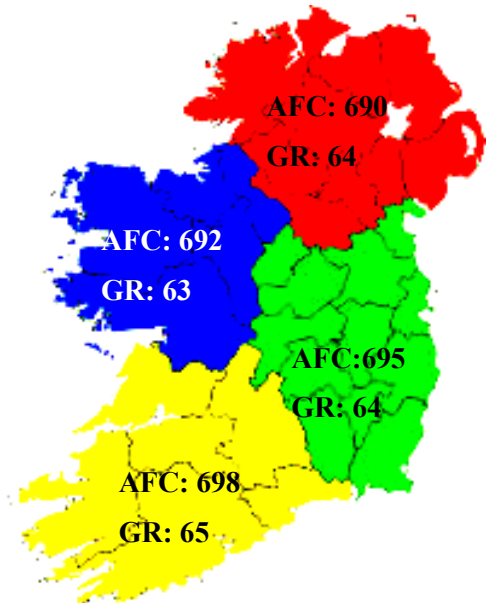
Growth Predictions (Elodie Ruelle Moorepark):

- Ballyhaise 88 kgDM/ha/day
- Moorepark 67 kgDM/ha/day
- Johnstown 77 kgDM/ha/day

DM% Moorepark:

16%

09:30am



Using Our PastureBase Figures:

AFC: 697 kgDM/ha (188/cow).

Growth: 64 kgDM/ha, Demand: 57 kgDM/ha

(Surplus: 7 kgDM/ha/day)

7 kgDM/ha (surplus) X 7 days = 49 kgDM/ha surplus/week.

AFC: 746 kgDM/ha in days time (201 /cow) (**surplus**)

Grazing Tips for this Week:

1. It is important to meet residuals of 4cm to maximise grass quality for the next rotation. Where residuals are not being achieved: performance will reduce as quality deteriorates, graze outs will be poorer in the next rotation, and regrowth will be slower
2. Enter pre-grazing covers of 1400 kgDM/ha
3. Minimise supplementation where growth is matching demand. A reduction of 1 kg in concentrates will save €28 per day or €200 per week for a 100 cow herd (@€280/tonne)
4. Avoid pre-mowing heavy covers. Skip and cut for bales
5. Keep fertiliser programmes up to date. Soils deficient in N may lead to grass becoming stressed and losing quality as a result. Now is an ideal time to spread lime (see page 2). Slurry should be spread where surplus bales are taken off to replace the high K off-take



Above: The Grass10 grazings/paddock board being updated daily on the farm of John Fox, Kilgarriff, Ballyanders, Co. Limerick

Residuals the Priority in Co. Cavan

Co. Cavan dairy farmers Declan and Donal O’Gorman are grazing covers of 1,400 kgDM/ha down to 4 cm

to maximise milk solids production and maintain quality for the next rotation. Any paddocks that lose quality are baled and there is no topping being carried out at all on the farm. Any grass on the farm is either converted to milk solids or cut as surplus bales for next spring. Current cover per cow is 159 kgDM/LU and growth is matching demand (60 kgDM/ha)



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Are You on Target to Achieve 5 Rotations By July 1st?

The Grass10 target is to achieve 10 grazings per paddock per year. Farmers should have finished the 1st rotation in early April and be running a 20 day rotation on average for the mid-season. The more rotations achieved on a paddock, the more grass grown and utilised on farm. The target is to have 5 rotations completed and 6.6 Tonnes grown by 1st July. See the table below:

Rotation No.	Date	Tonnes DM/ha
1	Feb- Early April	1 Tonne
2	Early April- May 1st	1.4 Tonne
3	May 1st- May 20th	1.4 Tonne
4	May 20th- June 10th	1.4 Tonne
5	June 10th- July 1st	1.4 Tonne
5 Rotations	1st July	6.6 Tonne DM/ha



Lime- The Time is Now:

It is now time for farmers to start targeting low pH soils with lime. Lime can be spread for €20-25/tonne and it is the starting point for anybody building soil fertility. Lime will increase grass production for the remainder of the year and increase responses from bought in chemical fertiliser. See the following key messages:

- Target soil pH: 6.3-6.5.
- Spread 2.5 Tonnes/acre- Ground limestone
- Ground limestone is substantially cheaper than granulated lime
- Lime will unlock soil phosphorus (P) and potassium (K) in the soil which will increase grass growth
- Lime will increase the response to freshly applied N, P & K.



Tomas O'Leary: Sheep Grassland Farmer of the Year 2018

Open Day

Topics Include:

- Soil Fertility
- Grazing Infrastructure
- Grassland Management and PastureBase
- Current Lamb Performance
- Reseeding
- Question Time!



Teagasc
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Grass10
GRASSLAND EXCELLENCE FOR IRISH LIVESTOCK

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Grassland Farmer of the Year 2018

Sheep Winner Farm Walk

Wed, 19th June | 7pm

Tomás O'Leary, Rosnacarton, Beaufort, Co. Kerry. V93 P9C7

This is a Department approved Knowledge Transfer Beef & Sheep Event

"Grassland Management is like a jigsaw, it's only when you put all the pieces together that it makes sense!"

The GRASS10 campaign is supported by:

AIB FBD INSURANCE Grassland AGRO IRISH FARMERS JOURNAL

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