

# Grass10 Newsletter

*321st Edition - 10th December 2024*

As this is our last Grass10 newsletter of 2024, the Grass10 team would like to wish all our readers a Happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

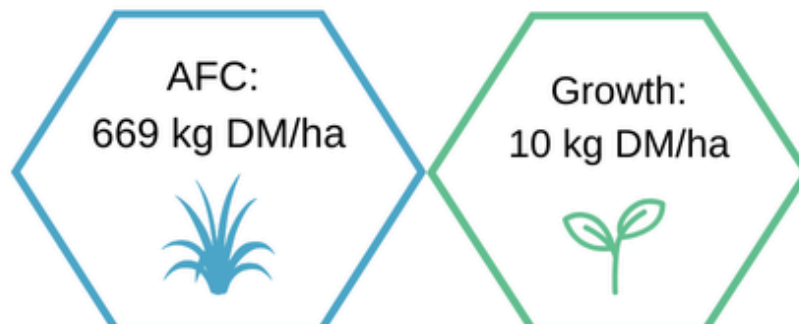
We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed to the Grass10 newsletter throughout our 48 editions in 2024. A special thank you to the farmers who contributed over the grazing season as their input is key to the success of this publication. The Grass10 team would also like to extend its gratitude to the Teagasc staff who help make the Grass10 newsletter a success, a special thanks to Elodie Ruelle and her team in the MoSt GC model, PastureBase team and the staff in Teagasc research centres who provide the regular grass dry matter %.

Thanks to everyone who attended our Sustainable Grassland Farmer of the Year & other on farm events throughout 2024. We look forward to seeing you all again in 2025. It has never been more important to be good at grassland management and our aim is to provide you with key tips throughout the year to achieve improvement.

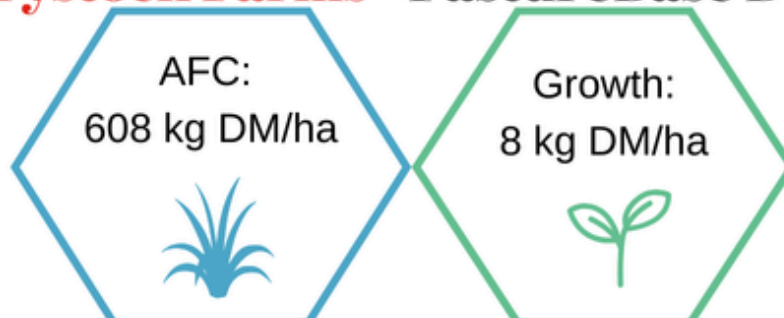
Lastly, if you have any feedback or new ideas for the Grass10 newsletter, please take the opportunity to complete our survey below.

Grass10 Team

## **Dairy Farms - PastureBase Data**



## **Drystock Farms - PastureBase Data**



# Grass10 Weekly Checklist

Complete your closing AFC on PBI this week



Reminder: Our annual live Grass10 & PBI Webinar is tonight!



Take soil samples during Winter 2024/2025



Please take time to complete our newsletter survey



## Complete your closing AFC on PBI this week

- The last AFC of the year should be completed on PBI by now, early December is the industry standard
- Recording a closing AFC on Pasturebase will allow you to quantify the amount of pasture grown in 2024 on your farm & allow you to accurately measure over winter growth when you walk your farm next spring
- The target closing AFC on farms with a high spring demand is 750+ kg DM/ha
- Drystock farms and lower stocked dairy farms (<2.0 LU/ha) with a lower spring demand should target an AFC of 600 kg DM/ha today

## Reminder: Our annual live Grass10 & PBI Webinar is tonight!

- The Grass10 team and PastureBase Ireland will host our annual live webinar **tonight at 7pm on zoom**
- 2024 has been a difficult year for grazing management and utilisation. It is important to review your grazing year through your PBI reports
- Dairy farmer, Enda Armstrong from Co. Galway will review his 2024 grazing performance and identify grazing management practices to improve in 2025
- Click on the link below to register

## Take soil samples during Winter 2024/2025

- Take advantage of good soil sampling conditions currently to get your annual soil samples completed
- Take a sample every 2-4 Ha, walk in a 'W' pattern to get a representative sample and keep away from drinking troughs, ditches and field entry/exits

- Ensure full cores are taken of 4" (10cm) to get an accurate analysis of pH, P & K

## Please take time to complete our newsletter survey

- The Grass10 team are always looking for ways to improve our weekly Grass10 newsletter
- We would appreciate if you could take the time to complete our survey by clicking on the link below, it will not take more than 3-4 minutes

## Grass10 & PBI Annual End of Year Webinar Tonight!



# Driving grazing performance in 2025 with PastureBase Ireland

## Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> December | 7pm

Join the Grass10 & PastureBase team on the night where they will:

- Review the national pasture growth figures in a challenging 2024 for Irish farmers
- Discuss using the many PastureBase Ireland reports to improve pasture performance
- Provide tips to set your farm up for success with pasture production & utilisation in 2025



Dairy farmer Enda Armstrong from Co. Galway will join us on the night to review 2024 & identify grazing management practices to improve in 2025.



Joseph Dunphy



Niamh Doyle



Ciaran Hearn



For more info visit  
[www.teagasc.ie/grass10](http://www.teagasc.ie/grass10)

Link to register for Webinar



## WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK



The Grass10 team would appreciate if you could take the time to complete our newsletter survey



Scan the QR code to complete the Grass10 Newsletter Survey

For more info visit  
[www.teagasc.ie/grass10](http://www.teagasc.ie/grass10)

[Link to Grass10 newsletter survey](#)

### Grass10 - Featured Farmer

**SGFOY Overall & Dairy Category Winner 2023**

**Patrick O'Neill, Firmount, Mostrim, Co. Longford**



**AFC**  
670 kg DM/ha  
**Growth**  
8 kg DM/ha/day  
**T DM/ha YTD**  
13.5 T DM/ha

### Autumn Management

September & October saved what had been a very difficult year up to that. We grazed on until the 20th November by day and graze outs & regrowth have been excellent

### Closing Cover

We have a closing AFC of 670 Kg DM/Ha & if the winter is favourable I aim to have 950Kg DM/Ha on farm in mid February 2025

### Soil Fertility

I have limed about 30 acres with 2 t/ac in autumn 2024 & 15 acres of silage ground has received 50 units/ac of 0-0-50 (straight K)

### SGFOY Overall Winner

It was a great honour to be crowned SGFOY for 2023 last April. Its nice to be rewarded for all the work you put in & I would encourage farmers to put themselves forward for it





## The Teagasc Grass10 Campaign is supported by:



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



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