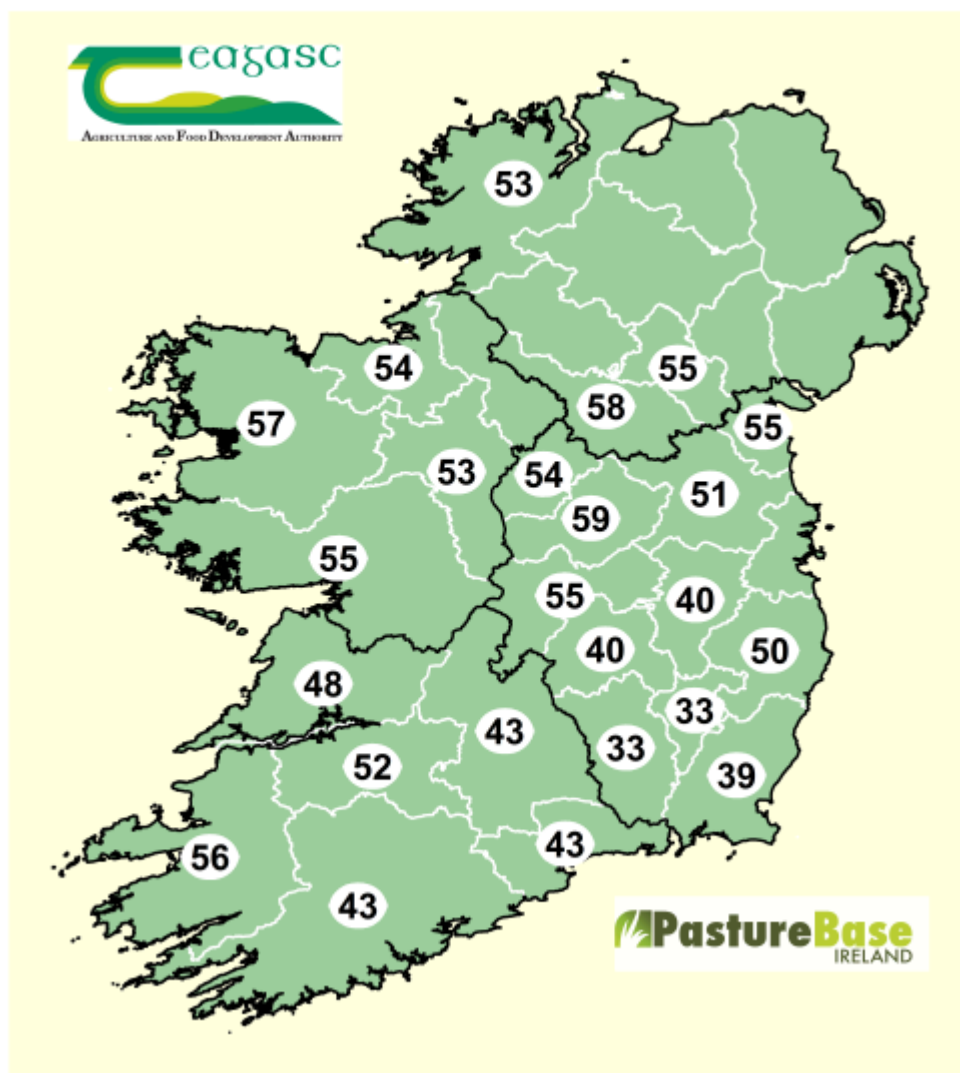


Grass10 Newsletter

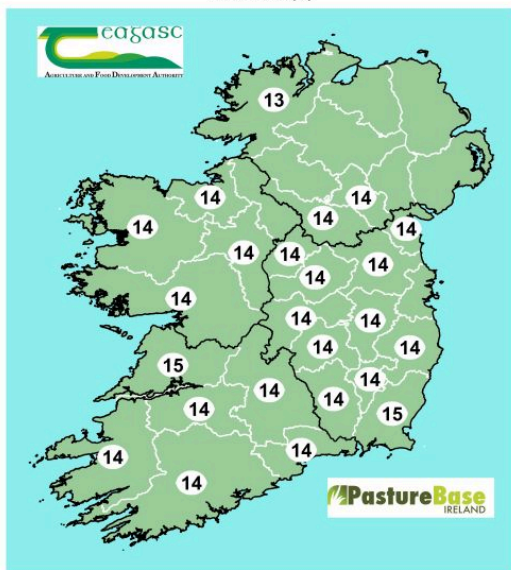
309th Edition - 17th September 2024

Grass growth, soil temperature & rainfall predictions for the next 7 days

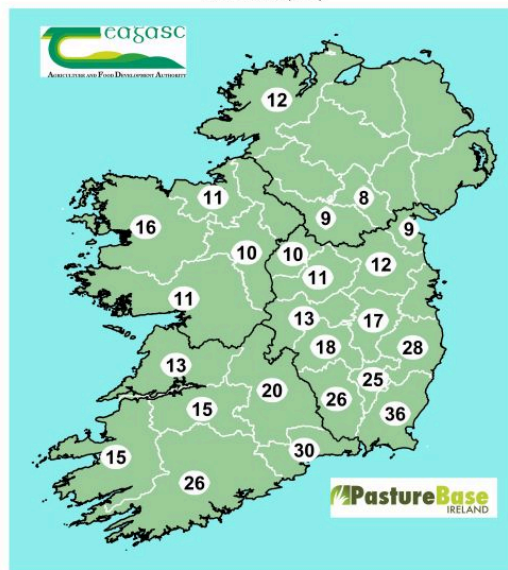
Grass growth predictions
Next week (kg DM/ha/day)



Average soil temperature
Next week (C)



Predicted rainfall
Next week (mm)



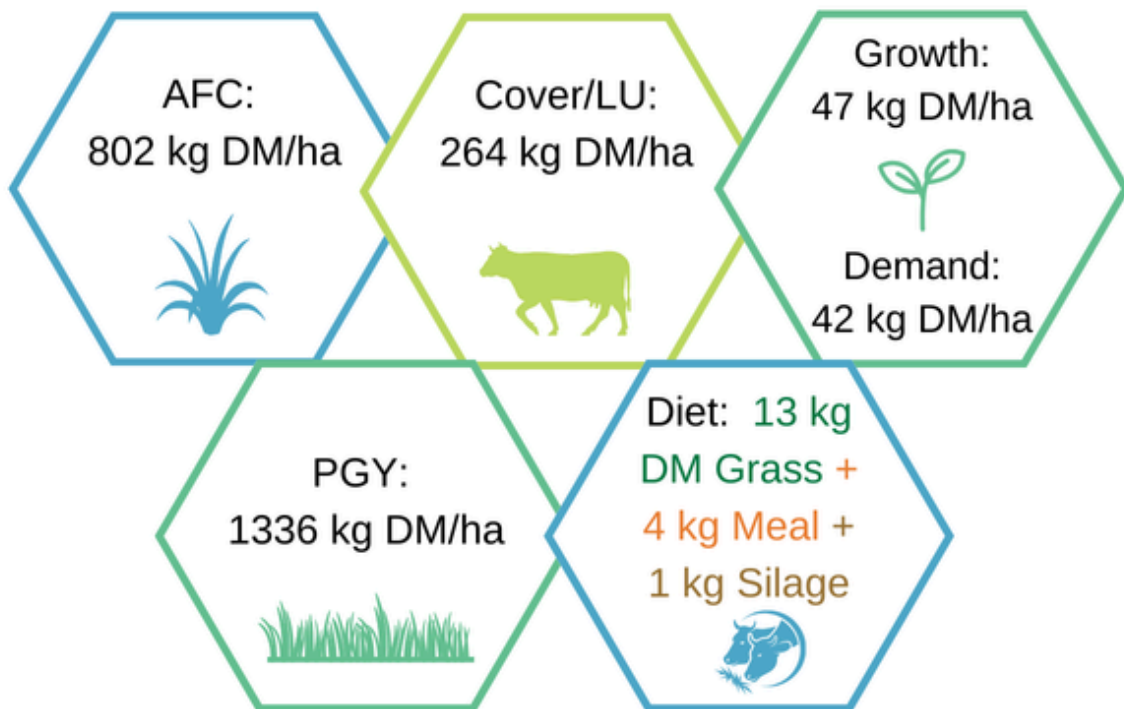
Dry Matter %

Moorepark 16%

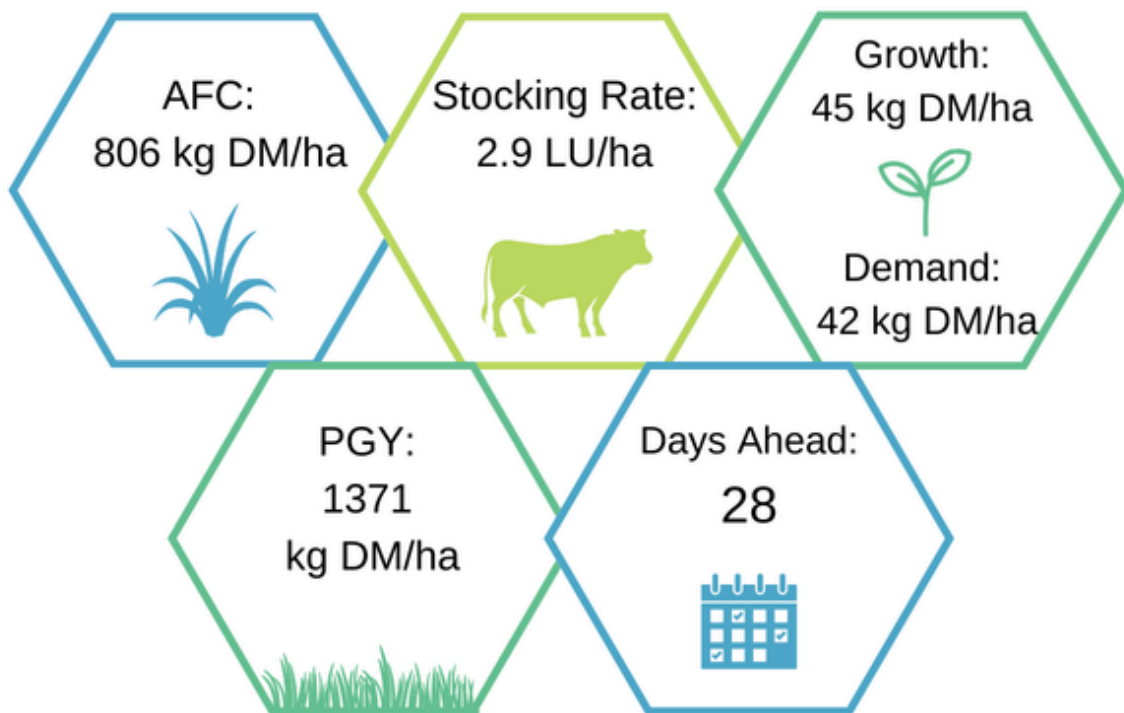
Athenry 17%

Grange 20%

Dairy Farms - PastureBase Data



Drystock Farms - PastureBase Data



Grass10 Weekly Checklist

Grazing advice
during mid
September



Final SGFOY farm
walk on Evan Hunt's
farm in Sligo



Get your entries
in for 2024
SGFOY!



Advice on
remaining nutrient
application



Grazing advice during mid September

- AFC & Cover/LU has increased slightly this week with growth rates of 47 kg DM/ha and 45 kg DM/ha on dairy and drystock farms respectively. There is a considerable amount of supplement in the diet especially on dairy farms to build grass cover currently
- Some farms particularly in the east and south east are struggling with growth rates less than 40 kg DM/ha/day due to soil moisture deficits
- This weeks forecast is positive for farms who have received adequate rainfall with high temperatures and sunshine which should boost growth rates
- There is the potential that some of these farms will grow in the region of 55-60 kg DM/ha/day this week. So continue to focus on keeping 15-20 kg DM/ha/day difference between growth and demand to build AFC
- The farm must be set up for a minimum of a 30 day rotation in the month of September. It is important to fill the feed gap with meal and/or silage to hold this rotation at 30 days
- 30 ha farm - 1 ha per day grazing
- It is important to assess where you are in terms of the autumn grazing targets. For farmers stocked at 3.0 LU/ha, the target is 300-330 kg DM/LU with a 30 day rotation
- Continue to walk the farm weekly to allow for decisions

Final SGFOY farm walk on Evan Hunt's farm in Sligo

- Our final SGFOY farm walk will take place next Wednesday 25th September at 11am on the farm of Evan Hunt, Tubbercurry, Co.Sligo
- Evan was the young farmer category winner of the 2023 SGFOY competition
- See below for further information

Get your entries in for 2024 SGFOY! Closing Monday 23rd September

- As we come closer to the closing date of this year's Sustainable Grassland Farmer of the Year competition, don't forget to get your entries in
- The competition recognises and acknowledges those dairy, beef and sheep farmers who are achieving high levels of grass utilisation in a sustainable manner
- This year's competition has 6 categories:
 - Dairy
 - Drystock
 - Nutrient Management and Use Efficiency
 - Clover
 - Organic Farming
 - Young Farmer (under 30 years)
- Each category winner will receive €5,000. The overall winner will be selected from the category winners and will receive an additional €5,000
- If you are disappointed with 2024 so far on your farm and this is putting you off entering the competition, not to worry the SGFOY panel will look at your farm performance over a 4-5 year period
- Click on the link below for further information and to enter. Good luck!

Advice on remaining nutrient application

- Chemical N & P fertiliser application date has passed
- There is still an opportunity to apply K & lime with the current excellent ground conditions on farm
- There is still some slurry remaining in tanks on some farms, dilute down and spread now with LESS at a rate of 1500-2000 gal/ac
- Soiled water/collecting yard tank should be spread between now and the 1st October on grazed ground

**2024 SFGOY competition is closing Monday
23rd September!**

2023 Joint Nutrient Management Category Winners:

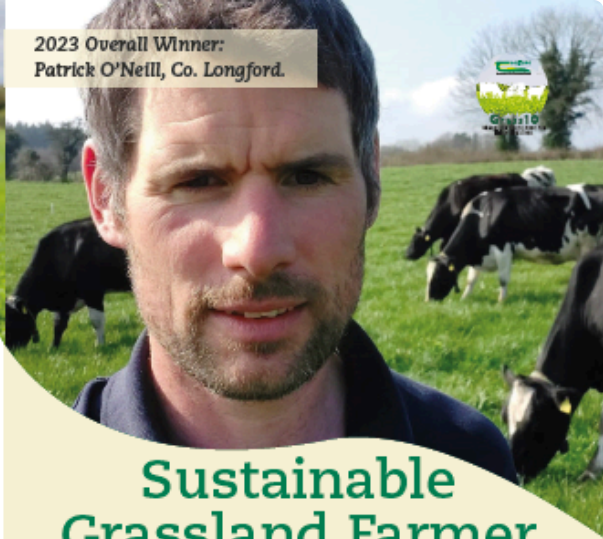


Michael Carroll, Co. Limerick



Killian Brennan, Co. Cavan

2023 Overall Winner:
Patrick O'Neill, Co. Longford.



Terms and Conditions of the Sustainable Grassland Farmer of the Year Competition 2024

- The competition is open to all livestock farmers in the Republic of Ireland.
- Preliminary judging will be based on the information submitted on the application form and information from Teagasc, Bord Bia & Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine systems.
- Final judging will involve a panel of judges visiting farms.
- In the event of winning, the winning farmers are obliged to allow reasonable media coverage, to participate in the awards ceremony, host an Open Day on their farm to demonstrate the high levels of grass production and utilisation achieved in a sustainable manner, and participate in relevant promotional activity.
- The winners of the competition from previous years may not enter the competition in 2024.

Sustainable Grassland Farmer of the Year ENTRY FORM 2024



Categories include:
Dairy & Drystock
Nutrient Management
Clover
Organic Farmer
Young Farmer

2023 Drystock Winner: Billy Gilmore, Co. Galway.



SUSTAINABLE GRASSLAND FARMER OF THE YEAR 2023
Pay: William Gilmore
Five Thousand Euro
DATE: 11th April 2024

Form by Print & Design 015-31 355



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



[Link to SGFOY Competition 2024](#)

Autumn Grazing Targets

Date	Cover/Cow (Kg DM)	Average Farm Cover (Kg DM/Ha)	Rotation Length
STOCKING RATE OF 2.5 LU/HA			
1 st September	300	750	30 Days
Mid-September	400-450	1000-1100	35 Days
1 st October	400	1000	40 Days
1 st November	60% of your grazing platform should be closed		
1 st December	600 kg DM/ha AFC depending on spring demand		
STOCKING RATE OF 3.0 LU/HA			
1 st September	330	1000	30 Days
Mid-September	350	1050	35 Days
1 st October	370	1100	40 Days
1 st November	65%+ of your grazing platform should be closed		
1 st December	650-800 kg DM/ha AFC depending on spring demand		
STOCKING RATE OF 3.5 LU/HA			
1 st September	300	1050	30 Days
Mid-September	340	1200	35 Days
1 st October	335	1175	40 Days
1 st November	75% of your grazing platform should be closed		
1 st December	700-750 kg DM/ha AFC depending on spring demand		



Sustainable Grassland Farmer of the Year Farm Walk

Wednesday, 25th September | 11am

with Young Farmer Category Winner

Evan Hunt

Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo
Eircode: F91 WF21



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Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



Evan Hunt promotional video

Evan Hunt promotional video in advance of his SGFOY farm walk on Wednesday 25th September at 11am in Co. Sligo

[Link to video](#)

Grass10 - Featured Farmer

Philip Donohoe, Ballyellen, Goresbridge, Co. Carlow



AFC

629 kg DM/ha

Cover/LU

230 kg DM/ha

Growth

25 kg DM/ha/day

Demand

19 Kg DM/ha

PGY

1000 Kg DM/ha

Milk Yield

19.7L (Fat % 5.12
Protein % 4.27)

Grazing Mgmt

I am struggling to build grass supply as we are in a soil moisture deficit and need rain. This is having a huge impact on growth rates here

Reseed

I reseeded an outblock two weeks ago with a silage mix. The grass seed mix was Galgorm, Astonconqueror and Abergain

Autumn grass build up

With the poor growth, the cows are getting 6 kg meal and 6 kg silage (4 bales per day) to reduce demand. Our rotation length is now at 40 days with the cows on 12 hour grass allocations



Climate Adaptation Conference

Teagasc, Animal & Grassland Research and Innovation
Centre, Moorepark, Fermoy, Co. Cork, P61 P302



15th October, 2024
Sponsored by Department
of Food, Agriculture
and the Marine



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
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Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

What are the adaptations to be made to address the climate challenges in grassland?

Impacts of changing weather patterns

(Chair Michael Doran, ICBF Chairman)

- 8.30am Registration (Tea/Coffee)
- 8.45am Conference opening
- 9.00am Setting the scene – Dr. Joe Patton
- 9.15am How weather patterns are changing, what are we adapting to – Dr. Pádraig Flattery, Met Eireann
- 9.45am Feed costs - future scenario analysis – Dr. Peter Doyle and Dr. Tomas Tubritt, Teagasc
- 10.05am A decade of PastureBase Ireland - what do we know about grass growth on farms – Prof. Michael O'Donovan and Dr. Ciaran Hearn, Teagasc

Climate adaptation challenges

(Chair Brian Murphy, DAFM)

- 10.35am The Grazing Cow – A Carbon Paradox – Dr. Luc Delaby (INRAe)
- 11.00am Grass growth to 2040: the challenges ahead – Dr. Elodie Ruelle, Teagasc
- 11.25am Coffee/Break

Registration

Registration fee - €100
To register,
Scan the QR code.



clt.ie/136319

Closing date to register is
Friday 11th October - 5.00pm

New species and the challenges

(Chair Fiona O'Donnell,
Dairy Women Ireland/Dairy Farmer)

- 11.50am Breeding for climate adaptation – Dr. Alan Stewart PGG Wrightson Seeds, New Zealand
- 12.20pm Plantain and multi species swards - their role in adaptation – Dr. Ellen Fitzpatrick, Dr. Philip Creighton, Dr. Brendan Horan and Mr. Kevin Dolan, Teagasc
- 12.50pm Grass/clover swards - adapting to the climate challenge – Dr. Michael Egan, Dr. Caitlin Looney, Teagasc and Mr. Mark Bateman (Dairy farmer)
- 1.10pm Discussion
- 1.30pm Summary/key messages/new research areas – Dr. Deirdre Hennessy, UCC
- 1.45pm Lunch
- 2.30pm Visit Moorepark grassland studies
 - a) Grassland nutrition - plantain and clover impacts – Dr. Michael Dineen and Mr. Eoin Wims, Teagasc
 - b) Plantain/clover plot and grazing investigations – Dr. Tomas Tubritt and Ms. Ciara Carroll, Teagasc
 - c) Long term grass clover results – Dr. Aine Murray, Teagasc
 - d) Red clover evaluation trials – Ms. Sinead Kearney and Dr. Peter Doyle, Teagasc
 - e) Initiatives on climate adaptation on Moorepark Farm – Dr. Jonathan Herron, Teagasc



The Teagasc Grass10 Campaign is supported by:



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
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Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



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Oak Park,
Carlow
Tel: 059-9170200
Email: grass10@teagasc.ie



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