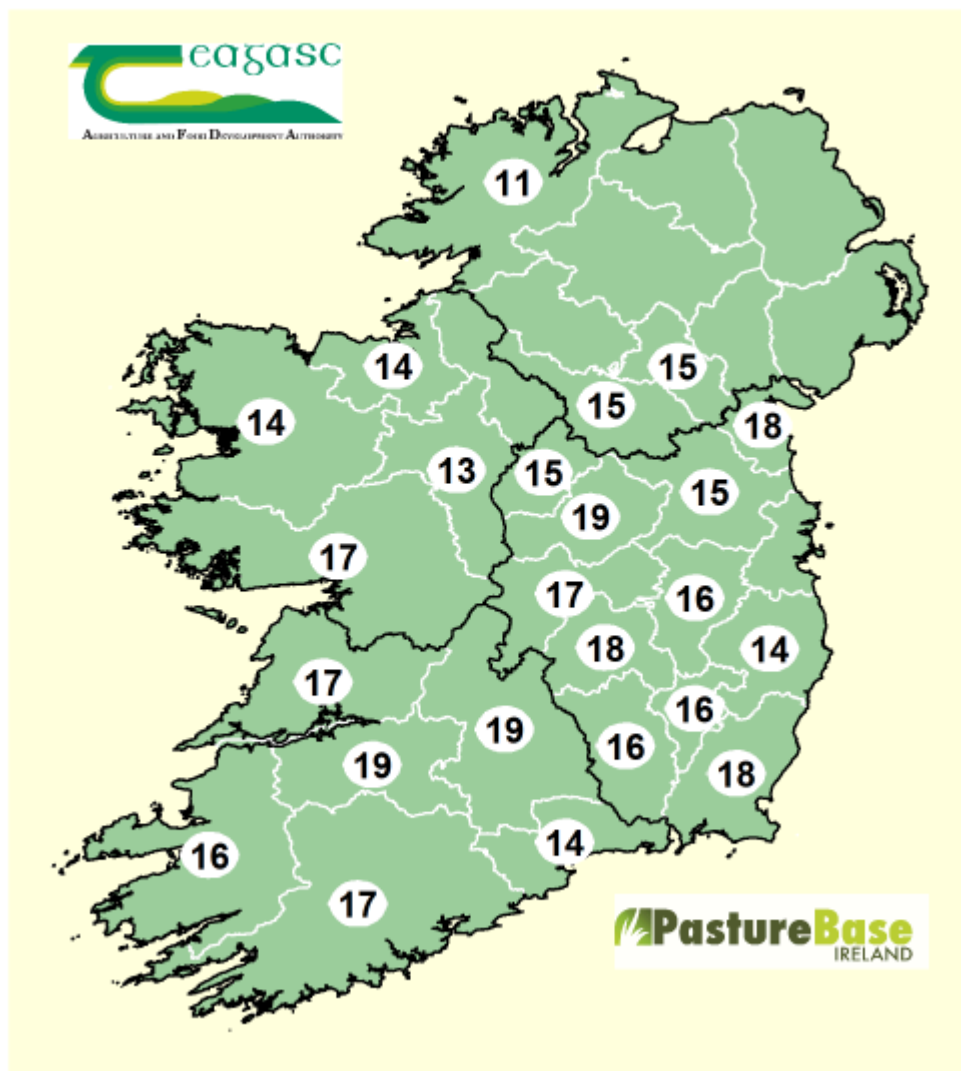


Grass10 Newsletter

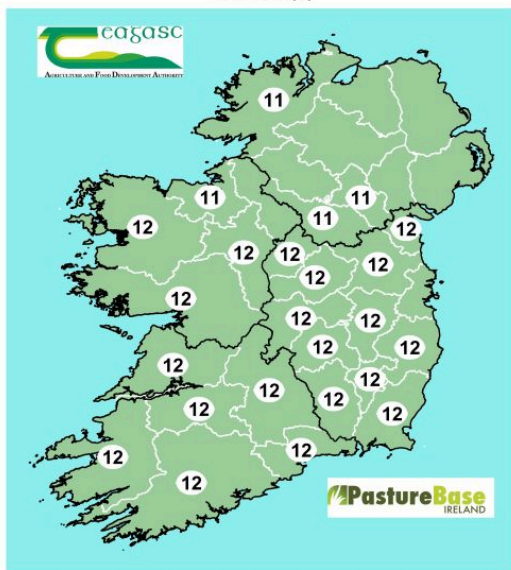
316th Edition - 5th November 2024

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)



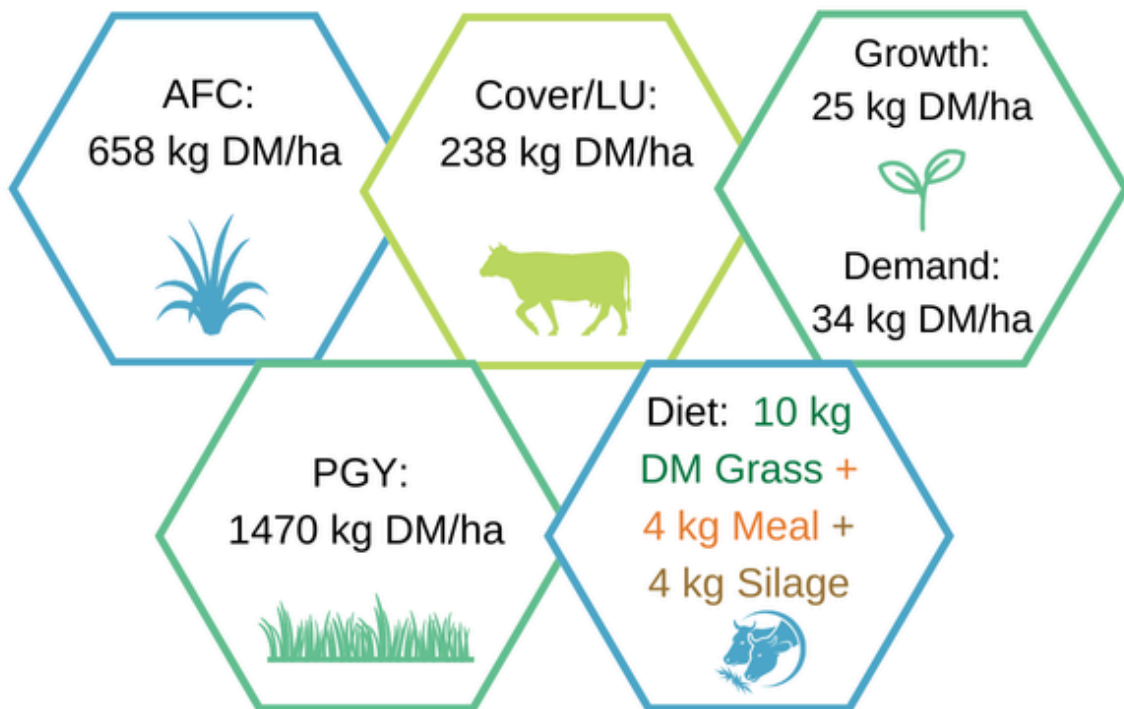
Predicted rainfall
Next week (mm)



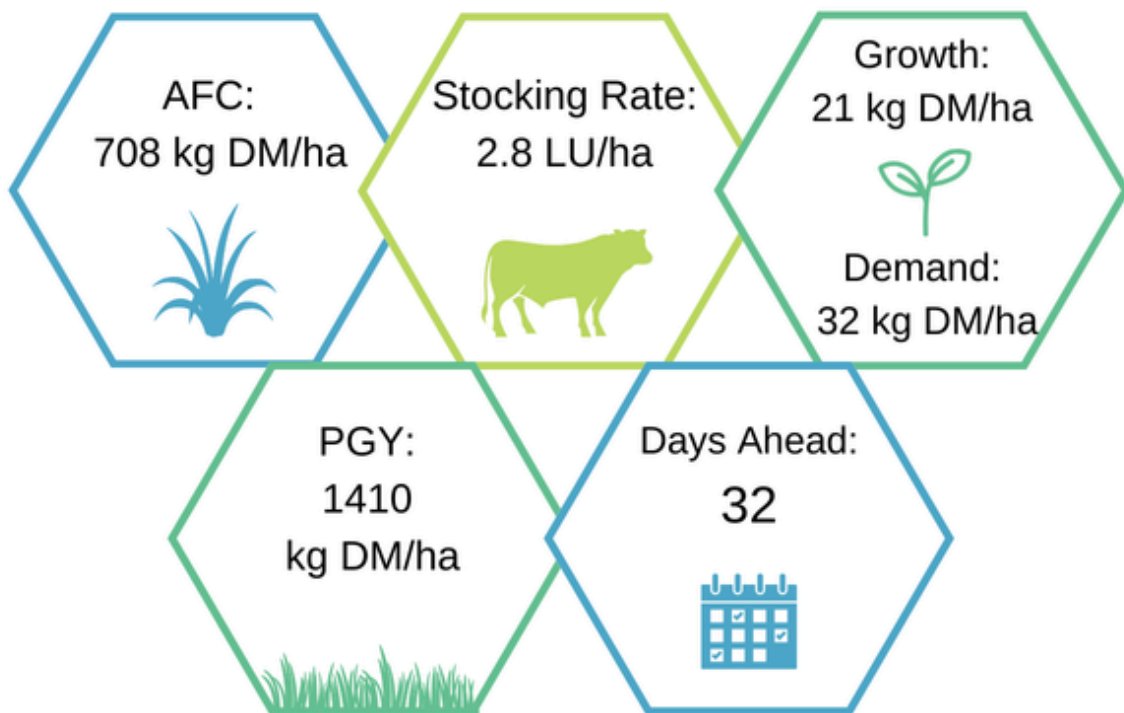
Dry Matter %

Athenry	13%
Oak Park	12%
Moorepark	13%
Grange	13%

Dairy Farms - PastureBase Data



Drystock Farms - PastureBase Data



Grass10 Weekly Checklist

Current management tips as we enter November



November growth rates above normal on farm



Ground conditions excellent for lime application



National Dairy & Beef Conferences during November



Current management tips as we enter November

- Excellent grazing conditions continue to prevail on Irish farms which has simplified grazing for dairy and drystock farmers
- This continued dry period allows animals to remain grazing and there is reduced pressure on winter feed supplies, especially in areas that due to poor growth rates/droughts have had to sustain considerable supplementation since late summer
- On dairy farms where spring grass supply should be a priority, farmers should aim for a farm cover of >700 kg DM/ha on the 1st December
- Aim to keep grass in the diet, by day at least if possible, this will lower costs and keep milk protein % up for dairy farms
- Remaining paddocks to target for grazing should be the clover paddocks and some paddocks that need early slurry application

November growth rates above normal on farm

- November growth rates are above normal for this time of year with 25 kg DM/ha and 21 kg DM/ha growth rates on dairy and drystock farms respectively
- However, on average this will not last and growth rates will return to normal soon
- With such excellent grazing conditions, there is a huge risk that farmers will reduce AFC too much by staying grazing during November
- Extending the grazing season on drystock farms and lower stocked dairy farms (<2.0 LU/ha) is acceptable as long as AFC does not go below 500 kg DM/ha
- Budget off growth rates of between 12-15 kg DM/ha/day during the remainder of November. However, the average growth rate for the last two weeks of November is 11 kg DM/ha/day

- Target an AFC of 500-550 kg DM/ha in early November to achieve a closing cover of 750+ kg DM/ha on 1st December
- It is important to keep measuring weekly at this time of the year as a weeks grazing with low growth rates can have a huge impact on reducing AFC

Ground conditions excellent for lime application

- Ground conditions have never been better for this time of the year across the country particularly on heavy soils farm
- With that in mind, there is an ideal opportunity to apply ground limestone on your farm
- Consult your most recent set of soil samples and order lime for spreading before the weather deteriorates
- Remember your only need to get 10-12 acres for a lorry load of lime (20-24 ton)

National Dairy & Beef Conferences during November

- This year's National Dairy Conference takes place on Wednesday, 27 November in Limerick Racecourse. The theme of the conference is 'Robust dairy farming for future challenges'
- This year's National Beef Conference takes place on Tuesday, 19 November in Landmark Hotel, Co. Leitrim. The theme of the conference is 'Sustainable Beef Farming: Pathways to a greener future'
- For more information or to register for the conferences, please see the flyers and links below

Grass10 - Featured Farmer

Michael Walsh, Craddockstown, Woodsgift, Co. Kilkenny



AFC

797 kg DM/ha

Cover/LU

395 kg DM/ha

Growth

24 kg DM/ha/day

Demand

29 kg DM/ha/day

PGY

1350 kg DM/ha

Milk Yield

16L (Fat % 5.67 Protein %
4.40)

Grazing Mgmt

Ground conditions are excellent here with cows grazing full time. SR has reduced to 2.05 LU/ha, I plan on grazing full time until 14th Nov and by day after that weather dependent

Closing Paddocks

I have 60% of the farm grazed by now. All reseeded ground was grazed last week in the dry weather. I am aiming for a closing cover of 700 kg DM/ha on 1st Dec

Grazing Infrastructure

I am using back fencing and spur roadways for access at the moment to get good graze outs. Over the winter, I plan on putting in additional water troughs into paddocks

Michael's cows achieving good graze outs!



Upcoming Conferences in November!



NATIONAL
DAIRY
CONFERENCE
2024

Wednesday,
27 NOVEMBER

Limerick
Racecourse

*Register
Now*

[Click here for info & sign up for the Dairy conference](#)



NATIONAL BEEF CONFERENCE 2024

19
November
5pm

Landmark Hotel
Carrick-on-Shannon
Co. Leitrim

www.teagasc.ie/beefcon24



[Click here to find out more about the Beef conference](#)

The Teagasc Grass10 Campaign is supported by:



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