

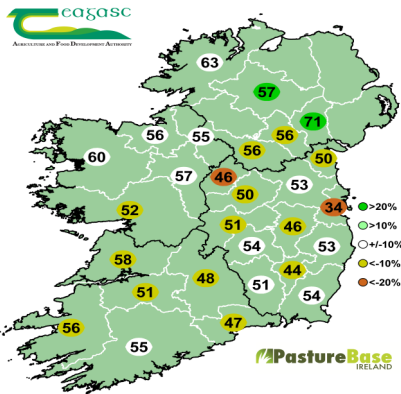
6th July 2021

## PastureBase data from dairy farms:

**PastureBase**  
IRELAND

AFC	Cover/LU	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Diet (Grass + Meal + Silage)	Pre Grazing Yield
639 Kg DM/Ha	186 Kg DM/LU	3.48 LU/ha	54 Kg DM/ha	50 Kg DM/ha	14.5 Kg DM + 3 Kg + 0.5 Kg	1461 Kg DM/Ha

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



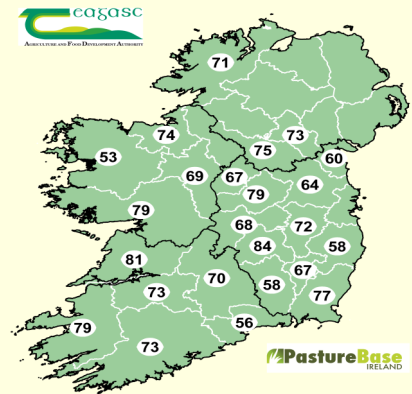
On the left: counties map showing **current** grass growth rates over the last week.

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 78 kg DM/ha  
South Wexford 51 kg DM/ha  
Athenry 77 kg DM/ha  
Clonakilty 71 kg DM/ha

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



## Rainfall welcomed in North Tipperary!

"Growth rates had dropped back to the mid 30's so the rainfall that has fallen here is welcomed" commented Shane Seymour, who milks 174 cows on a 57 Ha milking platform in Carney, just outside Nenagh in Co. Tipperary. Shane is the host farmer for the Grass10 Grazing Group in the Nenagh area.

"Paddocks are beginning to rebound strongly after the rain and I am noticing a huge difference in the last 48 hours on paddocks above 500/600 Kg/DM/ha"

"I had to graze a paddock which was earmarked for 2nd cut silage during the dry spell at 1600 Kg/DM/ha and concentrate input was increased to 5 Kg, and this is now back to 3 Kg. I managed to avoid putting in silage"

"I will walk the farm again on Friday this week, as always after rainfall, our farm changes very quickly and its all about timing when to take the handbrake off!"

"I plan to keep the stocking rate at 3.6 LU/ha, drop the meal further which will keep demand around 60 Kg DM/ha, and I have a number of paddocks earmarked for bales in order to maintain quality as we move towards the 1st August"

"I am following the cows with 1.3 bags of 18-6-12 to the acre so as to provide 23 units of N for a typical 21 day rotation"

Cows are milking 1.7 Kg Milk Solids per day currently.



### Grass Dry Matter %

Moorepark, Co. Cork  
(Damp Conditions)

14% (1300 Kg DM/ha)

Grange, Co. Meath

21% (1550 Kg DM/ha)

Athenry, Co. Galway

20% (1300 Kg DM/ha)

### Shane Seymour Grass Data

AFC	664 kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	184 kg DM/ha
Stocking Rate	3.6 LU/ha
Growth	58 kg DM/ha/day
Demand	54 kg DM/ha/day
PGY	1500 kg DM/ha
Milk Yield	1.7 kg MS/cow
Diet (Grass+Meal)	14 Kg + 3 Kg

## Our first "on farm" walk this week in Co. Meath!

Our first "on farm walk" is on **this Wednesday 7th July** at 7pm on 2021 GFOY— Sheep category winners, Peter and Tom McGuinness farm in Co. Meath  
**Eircode-C15YE30**

See promo video here

<https://bit.ly/McGuinnessPromo>

more info on 2nd page ->>



## Grass10 Grazing Tips

This weeks grass growth figures from PastureBase Ireland show a drop in growth rates again to **54 & 47 Kg DM/ha** on Dairy + Beef & Sheep farms respectively, driven by the dry weather and high proportion of aftergrass returning on farms. Most areas of the country have now got 15-20mm of rain with areas along the western seaboard having received 40mm +. This should help to drive on grass growth rates on farms countrywide.

- Continue to walk the farm every 5 days & as growth rates respond after rainfall, react and reduce the supplementation.
- Rainfall will release N from the soil, so stick to the plan and continue to apply 1 unit per day. (20 units of Protected Urea per rotation)
- Keep Cover/LU at 160-180 Kg DM/ha and days ahead at 12-14 on beef and sheep farms.

6th July 2021

PastureBase data from sheep & beef farms:

AFC	Days Ahead	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Pre Grazing Yield
728 Kg DM/Ha	19 days	2.8 LU/ha	47 Kg DM/ha	38 Kg DM/Ha	1640 Kg DM/ha

**Sheep Research Demonstration Farm Update**

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

Current grazing systems research in Athenry is focusing on the impact of incorporating white clover into sheep grazed swards at two stocking rate levels (11 or 13 ewes/ha) with three pasture treatments at each stocking rate i) Perennial ryegrass receiving 145kg N/ha/yr, ii) Perennial ryegrass plus white clover receiving 145kg N/ha/yr and iii) Perennial ryegrass plus white clover receiving 90kg N/ha/yr.



Lambs were weaned in late June at 14 weeks of age (100 days). Lamb performance up to weaning for the 11 ewe/ha groups averaged 249g/day with lambs in the 13 ewe/ha groups averaging 241g/day. Lamb performance in the 0-5 week period was behind normal and this has affected subsequent lamb performance. Poor weather conditions and tight grass supplies during this time are likely to have contributed to this drop in performance. Lamb ADG from birth to weaning is down 5-10% on normal levels. There is little difference between lambs grazing the grass or grass clover swards to date but clover proportion in the swards has been low due to the cold spring averaging just 5% up to late May, although levels have increased in recent weeks to average 16% for June. Again due to lower levels of clover present in the sward there is little difference in sward production to date averaging approximately 6.5 tons DM/ha. As clover content continues to increase throughout July and August, differences in sward and animal performance are likely to develop.

**GFOY Update - Peter McGuinness, 2020 Grassland Farmer of the Year– Sheep Category Winner**

*“All ewes and lambs are now weaned we are currently running a leader follower system on the farm. Rainfall over the weekend has set grass growth back on track with demand, as the lack of rainfall was beginning to bite here in Co. Meath. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone to our farm this Wednesday evening for our Farm Walk”*



Peter & Tom McGuinness are sheep farmers from Co. Meath and last year won the Sheep Category of the Grassland Farmer of the Year. They are hosting a farm walk on their farm (Bellewstown, Trim, Co. Meath, Eircode: C15YE30) this Wednesday 7th July at 7pm. Come along on Wednesday to hear the McGuinness' story on grassland management.

Topics discussed on the night will be:- Farm Overview and Performance, Grazing Infrastructure for Sheep Systems, Using PastureBase Ireland, Soil Fertility and Reseeding. It promises to be an excellent event.

Click here for more information->> <https://bit.ly/McGuinnessFarmWalk>

Rotation No.	5
AFC	689 Kg DM/Ha
Days Ahead	18
Cover/LU	325 Kg DM/LU
Growth	65 Kg DM/Ha
Demand	40 Kg DM/Ha
Stocking Rate	2.12
PGY	1500 Kg DM/Ha
Fertiliser	20 units Protected Urea per acre
Annual Tonnage	6.2 T DM/Ha



*“Taking things to the next level with grass”*

## Sheep Farm Walk

Wednesday, 7 July | 7pm

Peter & Tom McGuinness, Co. Meath  
Sheep Grassland Farmer of the Year 2020

For more information see  
[www.teagasc.ie/McGuinnessFarmWalk](http://www.teagasc.ie/McGuinnessFarmWalk)

