

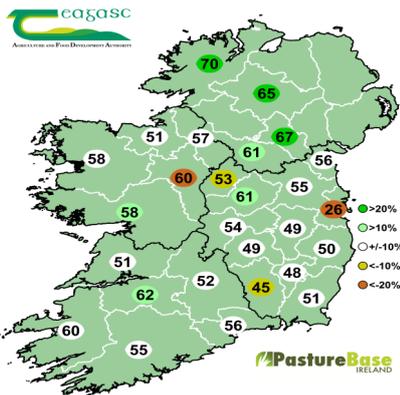
14th September 2021

PastureBase data from dairy farms:



AFC	Cover/LU	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Diet (Grass + Supplement)	Pre Grazing Yield
928 Kg DM/Ha	297 Kg DM/LU	3.15 LU/ha	62 Kg DM/ha	48 Kg DM/ha	15 Kg DM + 3 Kg	1954 Kg DM/Ha

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



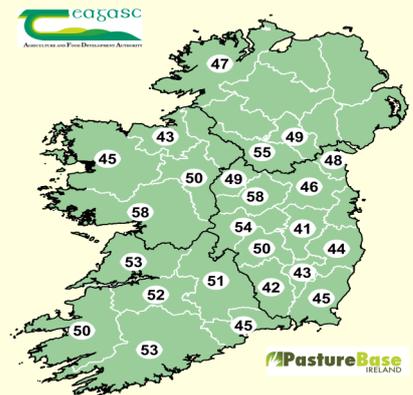
On the left: counties map showing **current** grass growth rates over the last week.

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 60 kg DM/ha
- Wexford 45 kg DM/ha
- Athenry 65 kg DM/ha
- Clonakilty 61 kg DM/ha

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



Super Grazing Conditions during September in Co. Galway

"Grass quality and ground conditions are the best I have had during September" remarked David Gannon who milks 157 cows just outside Athenry in Co. Galway. He is the host farmer for the Grass10 South Galway Grass Group.

"Average Farm Cover (AFC) is on target at the minute at **1102 Kg/DM/ha** and rotation length is 28 days which I will be pushing to 35 days throughout the 2nd half of September. We are still giving 24 hour allocations at the minute due to the favourable weather, this will reduce to 12 hour as weather conditions change"

"We blanket spread 26 units of Protected Urea on the 1st September on the whole milking platform and have got a great response from that N. I have K fertiliser, MOP 50% (0-0-50) purchased for about 10% of the Milking platform and I will apply 50 units per acre (1 bag per acre) after final round of grazing in October"

"September is a good time of the year to complete some maintenance on farms and we had a contractor in resurfacing sections of our farm roadways that had got damaged during the year. **I am looking forward to visiting Moorepark '21 this week which is always packed full of information and a good chance to meet farmers and researchers"**



Gannon's PBI Data

AFC	1102 kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	371 kg DM/cow
Growth	74 kg DM/ha/day
Demand	47 kg DM/ha/day
PGY	2150 kg DM/ha
Meal	2 kg
Milk Yield	1.63 kg MS/cow (18 L/cow)

Grazing Tips for the week: Continue to focus on the Autumn Targets

- Many farms around the country continue to be behind target for grass supply. Remember– Every day at grass extra in the Autumn is worth €1.80/LU/ day. Peak AFC should be hit on the 20th September before growth rates start to fall off. If considerably behind targets, (<800 Kg DM/ha) look at feeding silage, removing culls and removing surplus stock from the milking platform.
- Pre– grazing Yields are now approaching 2000 Kg DM/ha on Dairy farms and beef/sheep farms respectively so use 12 hour allocations to graze out heavy covers. On wet days, move to lower covers of grass 1400–1600 Kg DM/ha to keep residuals to 4cm. Rotation length should be pushed out to 35 days from 15th September 35 Ha grazing platform= 1 ha per day

Stocking Rate	AFC 15th Sept Target	Rotation Length
2.5 LU/ha	1000 kg DM/ha 40% hit target	30 days 27 days
3.0 LU/ha	1100 kg DM/ha 25% hit target	35 days 27 days
3.5 LU/ha	1200 kg DM/ha 25% hit target	35 days 27 days

Moorepark '21– begins today! Book your ticket here:- <http://www.teagasc.ie/moorepark21>

Moorepark '21

Irish Dairying - Delivering Sustainability
14, 15 & 16 September

PastureBase data from sheep & beef farms:

14th September 2021

AFC	Days Ahead	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Pre Grazing Yield
922 Kg DM/Ha	28 days	2.29 LU/ha	58 Kg DM/ha	34 Kg DM/ha	2050Kg DM/ha

Time for Building Soil Potassium (K)

Mark Plunkett, Teagasc Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford



Now is the ideal time to check soil test results and identify which fields (Index 1 or 2) that require additional K to build soil fertility to the optimum Index 3 or paddocks where a cut of silage was taken.

Each 1 ton grass dry matter/ha (~2 ton fresh grass /ac) removes 25kg K/ha (20 units/ac). For example 2 cuts of grass can remove in the region of 200 to 250kg/ha (160 to 200 units/ac) depending on grass yield (8 to 9t DM/ha or 16 to 18 t fresh grass/ac).

Potassium can be supplied as either cattle slurry (if available) or fertiliser K (MOP 50% K). Typically good quality cattle slurry (6%DM) contains ~ 3.2 to 3.5kg K / m³ (29 - 32 units K /1,000 gals). Muriate of Potash (MOP 50% K) can be applied at any time of the year and is an effective way to build soil K levels rapidly. Aim to apply recommended K build up rates as shown in table 1.

Soil Index	K kg/ha (Units/acre)	Suggested Fertiliser Programme
1	60 (50)	120kg/ha MOP 50% (1 bag/ac) K <i>or</i> Cattle slurry ~22m ³ /ha (2,000gals/ac)
2	30 (25)	60kg/ha MOP 50% K (1/2 bag/ac) <i>or</i> Cattle slurry ~11m ³ /ha (1/000 gals/ac)



"I aim to grow as much grass as possible from a low amount of nitrogen"

Dairy Farm Walk

Thursday, 23 September | 11am

David O'Leary, Castleisland, Co. Kerry. Eircode: V92 P523

Young Grassland Farmer of the Year 2020

For more information see www.teagasc.ie/DavidOLearyFarmWalk



GFOY Young Farmer of the Year – David O'Leary

Join the Grass10 team on **Thursday 23rd September at 11am** for a farm walk on the farm of the 2020 Young Grassland Farmer of the Year, **David O'Leary** on his farm in Castleisland, Co. Kerry.

Further information on the farm walk is here-:

www.teagasc.ie/DavidOLearyFarmWalk

GFOY Update: JP Hammersley, Lattin, Co. Tipperary

"I'm fattening 40 bullocks now, they weighed an average of 521kg on July 1st. They are getting 4kg meal at grass and this will continue, with the aim to have them finished by late October. These cattle have done 0.9 kg/day ADG since birth."

"Aim to get AFC to 1000 kg DM/ha in the next two weeks as my demand is only 32 kg DM/ha/day. The calves are being fed 1kg meal from now onwards as grass DM% dropped."



Rotation No.	7
AFC	845 Kg DM/Ha
Days Ahead	26
Growth	58 Kg DM/Ha
Demand	32 Kg DM/Ha
Stocking Rate	2.36 LU/Ha
PGY	1800 Kg DM/Ha
Fertiliser	23units N/ac, completed 5th Sept
Tonnage YTD	8.4 T DM/Ha YTD

I am holding a farm walk on Wed 29th September as part of the Teagasc GreenAcres Calf-to-Beef programme. For more info go to -:

<https://www.teagasc.ie/news--events/national-events/events/jphammersleyfarmwalk.php>

Grass Dry Matter %

Moorepark, Co. Cork

14% (1200 Kg DM/Ha)

Grange, Co. Meath

15% (1550 kg DM/Ha)

Chemical Fertiliser Deadline

The deadline for applying chemical Nitrogen & Phosphorus is today, **Tuesday 14th September 2021**

