

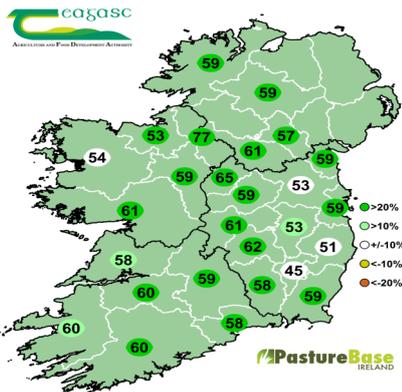
28th September 2021

## PastureBase data from dairy farms:



AFC	Cover/LU	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Diet (Grass + Supplement)	Pre Grazing Yield
1034Kg DM/Ha	351 Kg DM/LU	3 LU/ha	62 Kg DM/ha	45 Kg DM/ha	14.5 Kg DM + 3.5 Kg	2178 Kg DM/Ha

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



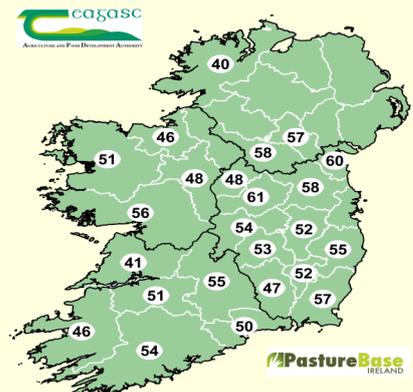
On the left: counties map showing **current** grass growth rates over the last week.

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 52 kg DM/ha  
Athenry 61 kg DM/ha  
Clonakilty 60 kg DM/ha

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



## Planning for the final rotation of grazing in Co. Cork

Aidan Murphy and his family are milking 170 cows on a mostly dry farm with a small amount of heavy land outside Newmarket, Co. Cork.

"My average farm cover is 1100 kg DM/ha at the moment and I'm happy with this level of grass supply. I'm entering covers of grass close to 2500 kg DM/ha but clean out is going well"

"I will start closing up the farm later this week. Rainfall is high in this area and I expect to have most of the farm closed by November 1<sup>st</sup>. The plan will be to try to close as much of the farm as possible before I begin to feed silage. My priority paddocks to close are those from mid-October on. These paddocks are drier, have lots of entry/exit gaps and I would like to have a cover of 900-1000 kg/ha on these by mid to late February. This is the land I will target to graze early in spring and especially on wet days"

"My plan is to graze the reseeded paddocks at a lower covers so that these will tiller out across winter. My cows are currently producing 1.41 kg MS/day on 3kg meal"

"I have 160 Tonne of Lime spread on the milking platform and on my outfarm this year"



### Murphy's PBI Data

AFC	1100 kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	302 kg DM/cow
Growth	60 kg DM/ha/day
Demand	55 kg DM/ha/day
PGY	2500 kg DM/ha
Meal	3 kg
Milk Yield	1.41 kg MS/cow

### Grass Dry Matter %

**Moorepark, Co. Cork**  
14% (1450 Kg DM/Ha)

**Clonakilty, Co. Cork**  
13% (1550 kg DM/Ha)

**Grass10/PastureBase Webinar -: Thursday 30th Sept at 7pm on managing the final rotation of grazing! Register here-: <https://bit.ly/FinalGrazingRotation>**

## Grass10 Grazing Tips for the week:

Most farmers countrywide have reached peak Average Farm Covers (AFC) with 1034 Kg DM/Ha and 1002 Kg DM/Ha on Dairy + Beef & Sheep farms respectively. Consistent growth rates of over 60 kg DM/ha over the last 4 weeks have made building grass an easier task on most farms in 2021.

Pre-grazing Yields are now over 2200 Kg DM/Ha on many farms so as weather starts to deteriorate, the use of 12 hour allocations to graze out heavy covers is essential. On wet days, move animals to lower covers of grass 1400-1800 Kg DM/Ha to keep residuals to 4cm.

Many farmers will be thinking about closing paddocks in the coming days so make sure to tune in to our webinar this Thursday night on managing the final grazing rotation!



## Managing the final grazing rotation with PastureBase

Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> September | 7pm

Join the Grass10 & PastureBase team as they discuss:

- Current grass supply on Irish dairy farms from PastureBase Ireland
- How correctly managing your final rotation ensures grass availability in Spring
- Deciding when to close paddocks on your farm
- Autumn grazing tips from the Grass10 team

Hear from special guest's dairy farmers Paudie O'Brien from Co. Kerry & Padraig Callanan from Co. Laois who will discuss their targets for the final rotation of grazing



Or visit [www.teagasc.ie/grass10](http://www.teagasc.ie/grass10)

28th September 2021

PastureBase data from sheep & beef farms:

AFC	Days Ahead	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Pre Grazing Yield
1002 Kg DM/Ha	26 days	2.2 LU/ha	47 Kg DM/ha	32 Kg DM/Ha	2016 Kg DM/ha

**Grange Dairy Calf –to – Beef Systems Update**

**Nicky Byrne, Teagasc Grange, Co. Meath**

Over the second grazing season dairy-beef steers achieved an ADG of 1.1 and 1.2 kg for groups managed on grass-only and grass-concentrate (introduced in July) diets, respectively. Currently these groups consisting of Holstein Friesian (HF) and Angus (AA) steers weigh 503 and 530 kg for those offered grass-only and concentrate diets. Steers are currently being drafted for slaughter, with the majority of AA steers that received concentrate since July expected to be slaughtered by the end of the grazing season, having achieved adequate fatness, this is in contrast to HF steers who will require further concentrate over an indoor finishing period. In early October all steers that haven't been drafted for slaughter will be housed and finished indoors on a high quality grass silage and concentrate diet. This will reduce herd demand, allowing weanlings continue grazing until early December. Over the summer, calves were managed in groups which received grass-only and grass-concentrate (1 kg/day) diets, currently grass-only calves weigh 193 kg with an ADG of 0.8 kg, compared to grass-concentrate calves at 209 kg and an ADG of 0.9 kg. Since mid-September grass-only calves have been introduced to concentrates (1 kg/day).



Currently across each management group grass growth is 50 kg DM/ha, while demand is 40 kg DM/ha. AFC is 702 kg DM/ha, meaning that there are only 18 days of grass ahead. However, with the slaughter and planned housing of finishing steers demand will reduce dramatically increasing days ahead. Calves are currently grazing covers of 1500-1600 kg DM/ha to a residual of 4 cm over a 48-hour allocation. Year to date 12.3 t DM/ha has been grown across the farm, using 225 kg N/ha.

**GFOY Update: David Brady, Co. Cavan - Merit Award Winner for Most Improved Grassland**



"Ground conditions are excellent for this time of the year & graze outs are clean even though I am grazing covers of 2500 Kg DM/Ha. Average Farm Cover is ahead of where I would like at 1166 Kg DM/Ha due to the excellent grass growth during September. Cows are holding very well at 1.7 Kg Milk solids on 3kg of meal. I am grazing heavy covers on some of my heavier soil at the minute and this will be the last time it is grazed in 2021"

Rotation No.	8
AFC	1166 Kg DM/Ha
Cover/LU	433 Kg DM/LU
Growth	53 Kg DM/Ha
Demand	46 Kg DM/Ha
Stocking Rate	2.69 LU/ha
PGY	2500 Kg DM/Ha
Milk Yield	19.8 L ( 4.44 F%, 3.94 P%)
Tonnage YTD	10.3 T DM/Ha YTD

**Picking Your Paddocks to Graze**

As we approach the 1st October, most farmers around the country will be beginning their final grazing rotation.

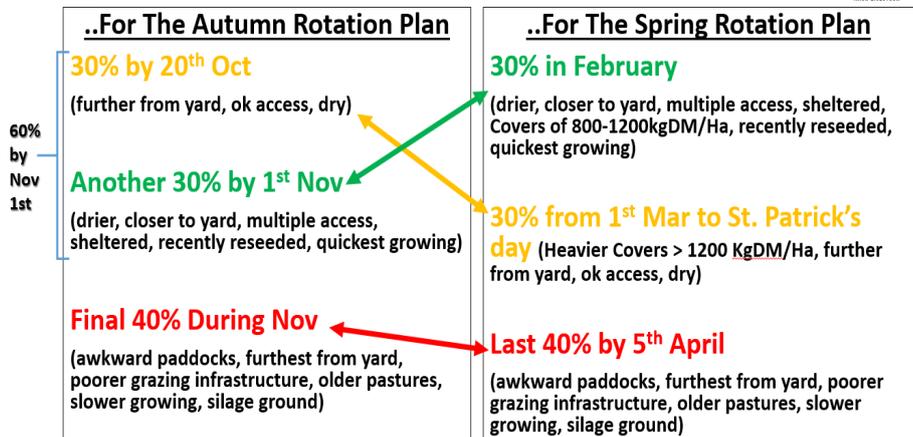
It is important to have a plan for October grazing on your farm so as to set the farm with a good grass supply in the correct paddocks for Spring 2022. For example, dry paddocks, with good grazing infrastructures should be closed in the 2nd bank of paddocks from mid October on so as to have the ideal covers of 800-1200 Kg DM/ha for grazing in mid- late February.

Tune in to our Webinar this Thursday evening to learn more on managing the final rotation!

<https://bit.ly/FinalGrazingRotation>



**Picking Your Paddocks to Graze**



\*Heavy Farm targets for autumn should be 7 – 10 days earlier and for the spring 7-10 days later.