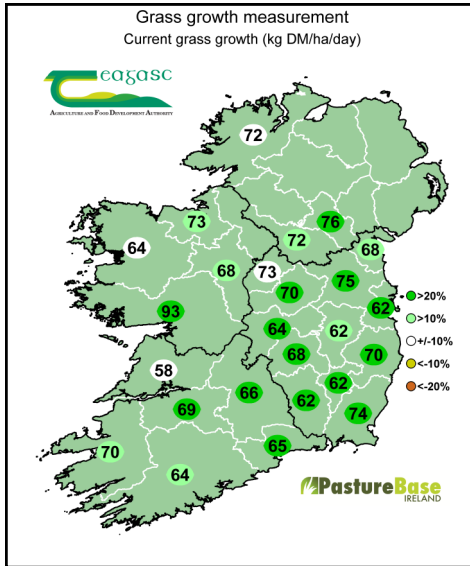


28th July 2020

PastureBase Ireland Current Performance (Last 7 Days):



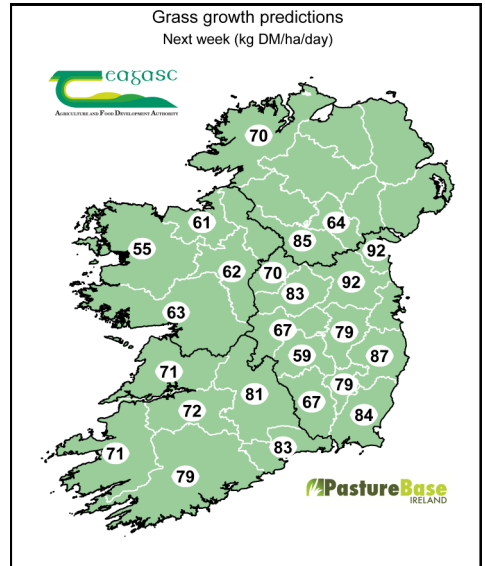
AFC	Stocking Rate	Cover/Cow	Growth	Demand	Pregrazing Yield
736 kg DM/ha	216 LU/ha	3.4 kg DM/ha	65 kg DM/ha	55 kg DM/ha	1,635 kg DM/ha



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 76 kg DM/ha
 South Wexford 55 kg DM/ha
 Athenry 52 kg DM/ha
 Clonakilty 72 kg DM/ha

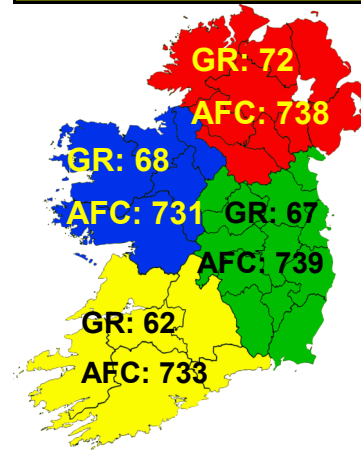


High Growth Predicted: Remove Surpluses This Rotation- Not When Building Farm Cover In August.

- Grass growth exceeding demand by **10 kg DM/ha** this week. Pre-grazing yields are **too high** at **1635 kg DM/ha** nationally. The target pre-grazing yield is **1400 kg DM/ha or 9-10cm**. This is compromising on graze outs and building quality grass for the autumn. Animal performance will also suffer.
- Higher grass growth predicted for coming week - this will mean **pre-grazing yields will increase** if no decision is made to remove surpluses.
- Keep Cover/LU between **160 and 180 kg DM/LU** (or **12-14 days ahead** for drystock farms). Currently at **216 kg DM/LU** nationally which means there is **3 days surplus grass ahead**.
- Remove surplus grass as high quality silage bales to get back to grazing quality grass. Choose swards with most stem or poorest quality. Tedding out reduces the time needed to wilt silage.
- Farms should continue to spread Nitrogen in the form of Protected Urea. Whilst grass growth on most farms is above demand, it is important to maintain this as building grass covers will begin in early August.

Grass Dry Matter %
13.7%
 in Moorepark.
 (1,550 Kg DM/ha cover, after heavy night of rain)

Below: Covers in the Last 7 Days



High Growth rates
 Walk your farm every **5 days** during the next few weeks so you can keep quality grass in front of animals.

Farming Weather
 RTE Weather
 Sun 26 July 2020

IRELAND GRASS GROWTH (kg Dry Matter/ha/day)

Teagasc are now supplying grass growth figures to RTE for the Farming Weather Forecast which is broadcast every Sunday. On the left is weather presenter Jean Byrne showing the latest growth figures from PastureBase Ireland.

28th July 2020

White Clover Delivering Positive Results in Moorepark

Moorepark Clover Trial - 2020 Update	Grass-Only 250 kg N/ha	Grass-White Clover 150 kg N/ha
Milk yield (kg/cow/day)	21.24	22.23
Milk solids yield (kg/cow/day)	1.69	1.92
Fat%	4.44	4.90
Protein %	3.56	3.79
Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha)	1300	1300
Post-grazing sward height (cm)	4.3	4.2
Milk solids yield YTD (kg/cow)	322	339
Grass grown YTD (T DM/ha)	8.4	8.5
Clover % (current paddock)	-	39.5

One of the objectives of the Moorepark Grass-White Clover Research is to compare dry matter production and milk solids production of a Grass-only sward receiving 250 Kg N/ha (200u n/acre) versus a Grass-White Clover sward receiving 150 kg N/ha (120u N/acre). Both treatments have a whole farm stocking rate 2.74 LU/ha and are on a 21-day rotation. Researcher Deirdre Hennessy says "it's from now we really see milk solids from grass-white clover swards outperform the grass only swards as the clover content increases and starts to peak." Both treatments receive same N fertiliser until May. It is from then on that the grass-white clover swards N application is reduced to encourage clover and N-fixation.

Why Follow Mike Tomorrow?

Mike Bermingham 2019 Grassland Farmer Of the Year Dairy Winner is taking over @TeagascGrass10 Twitter and @Teagasc Instagram on Wed 29th July. Three reasons to follow him on the day:

1. Achieves excellent performance from simple grass-based system
2. Consistently grown 14 T Grass DM per Ha on 200u N/acre (250 Kg N/ha). Farming at 500-600ft.
3. Delivered 560 Kg MS/cow from grazed grass plus 800 kg meal in 2019.

See the Promotional video here!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ACcLG5m188q>



"Making the best use of
grass in a simple system"

Social Media Takeover with Mike Bermingham

2019 Dairy Category Grassland Farmer of the Year

Wednesday, 29th July

@Teagasc
@TeagascGrass10

Rome Wasn't Built In A Day

Top grassland farmers know that next year's grazing season starts with building grass this August. This is why John Douglas, Grass10 and Micheál O'Leary, PastureBase Ireland are hosting an Autumn Grazing Live event on @Teagasc Instagram on Wed 5th August at 8pm.

They will focus on why building grass in August and autumn grazing management is so important and the targets for your farm. They will then answer your autumn grazing questions in a live Q&A session. More info at <https://bit.ly/InstaGrass>

Instagram LIVE

'Autumn Grazing Live'

Wednesday, 5th August
at 8pm | @teagasc

with
John Douglas, Teagasc Grass10
Micheál O'Leary, PastureBase Ireland



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

