

1st Sept 2020

Sward Quality

Sward quality results from samples taken at Clonakilty last week are below. The samples are all taken from the same paddock which is split into four different treatments (see below). This paddock was reseeded in April 2020. Dry matter was low due to heavy rainfall, and it was lower still for the two grass-clover treatments. However the energy (DMD & UFL) and protein (CP) content of both grass-clover swards were higher when compared with the grass-only swards. Dry matters have increased in most areas as rainfall has reduced and drier conditions have settled in. This is a welcome boost to animal performance which had declined on many farms due to continuous wet weather and difficult grazing conditions.

Date	Treatment	Cover	Clover %	DMD	CP	UFL	DM
24-08-2020	Grass-only - 250 kg N/ha	1,619	-	76.3	18.4	0.96	12.5
24-08-2020	Grass-clover - 250 kg N/ha	1,466	13	77.7	21.8	0.97	10.6
24-08-2020	Grass-only - 150 kg N/ha	1,056	-	76.1	17.6	0.96	11.7
24-08-2020	Grass-clover - 150 kg N/ha	1,445	11	78.6	23.1	0.98	9.2

Grassland Farmer Of The Year 2020—Deadline Extended

The deadline for entries for the 2020 Grassland Farmer Of The Year competition has been extended until Friday 11th Sept. This is to accommodate the later launch of the competition which coincided with peak holiday season. This gives farmers and advisors another chance to get in entries for the competition. In the videos below, our 4 category winners from the 2019 GFOY go through some of the reasons they entered the competition and what they learned along the way. Click into the videos to hear from the farmers. You can also click on the link attached to see more information on the competition and for the entry form <https://bit.ly/GFOY2020>



Terms and Conditions of the Grassland Farmer of the Year Competition 2020

- The competition is open to all resident farmers in the Republic of Ireland.
- Preliminary judging will be based on the information submitted on the application form and information from Teagasc, Bord Bia & Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine systems.
- Final judging will involve a panel of judges visiting farms.
- In the event of a winner, the winning farmers are obliged to allow reasonable media coverage to participate in the awards ceremony, host an Open Day on their farm to demonstrate the high levels of grass production and utilisation achieved in a sustainable manner, and participate in relevant promotional activity.
- The winners of the competition from previous years may not enter the competition in 2020.

Deadline Extended until the Friday 11th September



John O'Connell, 2019 Sheep Category Winner

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ya40jX6oVnc>

Bryan Daniels, 2019 Overall & Sustainable Farming Winner

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbanCULKpbo>



Trevor Boland, 2019 Beef (Suckling) Category Winner

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTRgSrK9D2Q>

Mike Bermingham, 2019 Dairy Category Winner

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FVCU52qa200>

