## Fodder Plan-Winter 2018 Requirement

## Section 1. What Fodder is required on the Farm?

|  | A B |  | C |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Animal Type | No. of Stock to be kept over Winter | Number of Months *(Include a 4-6 week reserve) | Pit Silage Needed tones / animal / month | Total tones of Silage Needed Multiply (AxBxC) |
| Dairy cows Suckler cows |  |  | 1.6 |  |
|  |  |  | 1.4 |  |
| 0-1 year old |  |  | 0.7 |  |
| 1-2 year old |  |  | 1.3 |  |
| 2+ year old Ewes |  |  | 1.3 |  |
|  |  |  | 0.15 |  |
| Total tonnes needed |  |  | D |  |
| Total bales needed (tonnes multiplied by 1.25) |  |  | E |  |

Section 2. Calculate pit silage conserved \& silage to be cut

| i. Silage in the pit | Length $\times$ breadth x settled height) <br> metres $\div 1.35=$ |  | Silage in the pit (t) <br> F |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :--- |
|  | $\mathbf{G}$ | $\mathbf{H}$ |  |
| ii. Pit silage to be cut | Area (Acres) | Yield t/acre | Total yield (t) <br> $\left(\mathbf{G x H} \mathrm{H}^{*}\right)$ |
| 2nd cut |  |  |  |
| 3rd cut |  |  |  |
| Total yield pit silage to be cut |  |  |  |


|  | $J$ | K |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| iiii. Bales | Number of bales | Yield/bale | Total yield ( t ) (JxK) |
| 1st \& 2nd cut bales |  | 0.8 t bale |  |
| Surplus bales |  | 0.8 t/ bale |  |
| Total yield baled silage |  |  | L |

Section 3. Calculate the surplus / deficit
Total silage demand ( $D$ ) minus total silage produced ( $F, I, L$ ) = D-F-I-L $\square$
\% deficit= (deficit in tonnes $\div$ total demand in tonnes) $\times 100$

## Additional Questions for the Census (To be filled if completing the survey)

1. Enter your company/organisation name?
2. Is the farmer a Teagasc client
3. What county do you farm in?
4. What is the main enterprise on the farm?
5. Did you include a reserve in you calculations (Yes / No)
6. If so, how many weeks
7. What is the farmers 1 st preference for filling the gap Buy silage

Buy meals
Buy silage \& meals
Buy straw \& meals
Buy maize / whole crop / beet etc
Other

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| :--- |
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## Top Tips for Filling the Gap

1. Continue to apply 20-30 units of $N$ to grazing ground
2. Remove surplus bales, where possible
3. Harvest 2nd cut by late July
4. Build grass for extended grazing in the Autumn
5. Build a reserve of 4-6 weeks into your calculations for fodder demand
6. If short of silage consider
A. Buy extra fodder locally
B. Buy additional meals
C. Reduce demand for feed-sell stock
D. Consider finishing beef animals on ad lib meals


## Sample Feed Budget

|  | Number | Months | Total t |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Suckler Cows | 40 | 5 | 280 |
| 0-1 years old | 35 | 5 | 123 |
| 1-2 years old | 35 | 5 | 228 |
| Total demand including 1 month reserve | 757 t |  |  |
| Total supply |  |  | 648 t |
| Deficit |  |  | 139 t |

## OPTIONS TO FILL THE 139 t GAP

1. Sell 6 cull cows - Save 50 tonnes
2. Buy 50 tonnes of silage
3. Restrict weanlings to $2 / 3$ of normal silage \& Feed and additional $1-1.5 \mathrm{~kg}$ meals—save 40 tonnes
