

23rd June 2020

PastureBase Ireland Current Performance (Last 7 Days):

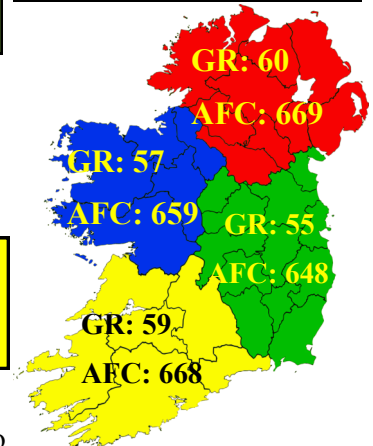


AFC	Stocking Rate	Cover/Cow	Growth	Demand
665 kg DM/ha	3.4 LU/ha	195 kg DM/ha	59 kg DM/ha	50 kg DM/ha

- Growth exceeding demand by 9 kg DM/ha nationally currently. If demand remains at 50 kg DM/ha, Projected Growth rates will exceed demand by 20 kg DM/ha this week
- Many farms have surplus grass (195 kg DM/cow nationally)
- Use the Projected Wedge to identify surpluses early.

Grass DM: 16.5%  
Moorepark (1500 kg DM/ha)

Below: Covers in the Last 7 Days



Predicted Growth Rate: Elodie Ruelle Moorepark

Ballyhaise 77 kg DM/ha  
Athenry 70 kg DM/ha

South Wexford 64 kg DM/ha  
Clonakilty 72 kg DM/ha

Growth Rates Increasing– Key Decisions to Maintain Grass Quality

- Growth will exceed demand on many farms this week. It is important to cut/earmark the poorest quality paddocks for surplus bales to keep pre grazing at 1200- 1400 kg DM/ha and to stay at 160-180 kg DM/cow (12 days ahead on drystock farms). Do not operate above targets or grass quality will be compromised
- Many farmers, particularly in the east, fed round bales to hold farm cover over the last few weeks due to low growth rates. It is important to take the opportunity, when growth exceeds demand, to cut high quality surplus bales and to build a reserve of high quality surplus bales for the autumn & next spring
- Operate a rotation length of 18-20 days
- Target poor quality paddocks for grazing at a lower cover (1200 kg DM/ha) to achieve a residual of 4 cm
- Any paddocks not grazed out well should be earmarked to be cut for bales in the next rotation
- Do not carry out a round of premowing/topping where there is too much grass on the farm. This is wasting feed and is not rectifying pregrazing yield. Surplus bales must be cut in this situation instead. Cows will produce less milk solids (or young stock will reduce daily liveweight gain) where pregrazing exceeds 1,500 kg DM/ha.
- By grazing ideal covers; every 5% increase in leaf content increases digestibility by 1 unit. Grazing heavy covers; every 4% reduction in grass digestibility will reduce milk solids yield by about 5%.
- On a 36 hr block, use a strip wire at the back of the paddock to save about 15% of the area which can be removed on the 3rd grazing to encourage cows to graze down to 4 cm across all the paddock
- Many farmers have 'flat' wedges due to after-grass or many paddocks growing at the same rate following rain. These should be targeted at 1,000-1200 kg DM/ha so that all paddocks can be grazed at the ideal yield

### Growth Increasing Nationally

Walk the Farm Twice this Week to Monitor Growth and to Make Decisions to Maintain Grass Quality on Farms

### Current Targets:

Pregrazing: 1200-1400 kg DM/ha  
Cover/Cow: 160-180 kg DM/ Cow  
Drystock: 12 Days Ahead  
Residuals: 4 cm

### 5 Key Points:

- ♦ Growth exceeding demand on most farms
- ♦ Target the poorest quality paddocks for surplus bales
- ♦ Operate an 18-20 day rotation
- ♦ Avoid premowing/ topping heavy covers as it is wasting feed. These should be skipped and baled where growth exceeds demand.
- ♦ Fill yards with round bales to have for next spring

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## Reseeding Update Moorepark: John Paul Murphy & Michael Egan:

Video: <https://youtu.be/QtlR-oT0Dvs>

- Reseed sown on May 1st 2020
- The sward is a 100% tetraploid with 1 kg of white clover seed included in the seed mix/acre
- The sward was sprayed with a clover friendly post emergence herbicide (Legumex DB) on June 4th when the docks were at the seedling stage.
- The reseed was grazed 2 weeks after spraying at a pre-grazing cover of 1000 kg DM/ha.
- The reseed will receive 30 kg N/ha of protected Urea after grazing.
- The plan for the remainder of the year is to continue to graze at a cover of 1200 kg DM/ha to a residual of 4 cm, to ensure that the grass and clover plant fully establish in the sward.



## New Farm Summary Report on PastureBase Ireland:

A new FARM SUMMARY report is available in the report section for all PBI users.

This report breaks down grass and milk production annually and per season, as well as fertiliser application and much more

PastureBase IRELAND

Farm Summary - Year 2020 - [redacted] Area (ha): [redacted] Generated on: 22/Jun/2020

PastureBase IRELAND

Parameter	YTD	Spring	Summer	Autumn
		J F M A	M J J A	S O N D
No. of Covers Recorded	25	12	13	
No. Of Grazings	3.7	1.7	2	
No. Of Silage Cuts	0.3		0.3	
Grazing DM (kg DM/ha)	5486	2171	3315	
Silage DM (kg DM/ha)	1148		1148	
Total DM (kg DM/ha)	6634	2171	4463	
Over Winter Growth (kg DM/ha)	134			
Average Pre-grazing Yield(kg DM/ha)	1483	1277	1658	
Average Growth Rate (kg DM/ha)	43	22	86	
Max Farm Cover (kg DM/ha)	902 (03/Mar)	902 (03/Mar)	748 (17/May)	
Min Farm Cover (kg DM/ha)	535 (15/Jun)	549 (13/Apr)	535 (15/Jun)	
Demand/ha (kg DM/ha)	36	22	61	
Stocking Rate (LU/ha)	2.44	1.68	3.84	
Opening/Closing Cover (kg DM/ha)		841 (22/Jan)		
Total Meal Fed/LU (kg/LU)	334	234	100	
Total Supplement Fed/LU (kg/LU)	391	291	100	
Area Cut for Silage (ha)	18.78		18.78	
Silage Yield (Tonnes of DM)	86		86	
Area Reseeded (%) (ha)				
Total Kg MS Produced	53536	29662	23874	
Average Milk Solids per ha	718	398	320	
Average Milk Solids per cow	275	171	103	

Grassland Performance

Milk Solids Production Figures

N Use Efficiency, Grazing Season Length & Key Grassland KPI's

Average kg N/ha (%)	158	102 (65)	56 (35)
Average kg P/ha (%)	29	19 (66)	9 (31)
Average kg K/ha (%)	94	57 (61)	37 (39)
Average kg S/ha (%)	24	12 (50)	11 (46)
Start Grazing on	19/Feb		
Finish Grazing on	18/Jun		
Grazing Season Length (days)	120		
Start Date of 2nd Rotation	05/Apr		
Growth Exceeded Demand on	25/Mar		
Peak Growth was on	18/Jun (149)	27/Apr (97)	18/Jun (149)
Your 5 Best Paddocks are	16, 06, 30, 07, 02		
Your 5 Worst Paddocks are	25, 24, 23, 26, 08		