

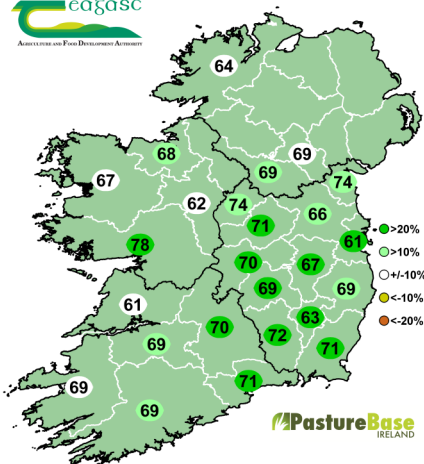
25th August 2020

PastureBase Ireland Current Performance (Last 7 Days):



AFC	Stocking Rate	Cover/Cow	Growth	Demand	Pregrazing Yield
826 kg DM/ha	3.2 LU/ha	258kg DM/cow	66 kg DM/ha	52kg DM/ha	1,781 kg DM/ha

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



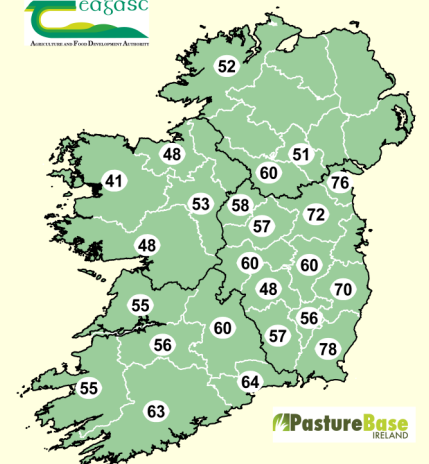
On the left: counties map showing **current** grass growth rates over the last week.

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 60kg DM/ha
South Wexford 50 kg DM/ha
Athenry 44 kg DM/ha
Clonakiilty 66kg DM/ha

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



Grazing conditions deteriorate after more heavy rain

Since last weeks newsletter, grazing conditions have worsened with daily falls of rain culminating in Storm Francis dumping 30-60 mm of rain around the country on Monday night, with the west and south bearing the brunt of the storm.

Farmers in certain parts of the country or farmers on heavy soils are running out of dry ground to graze and some have had to temporarily house animals as paddocks are flooded or just too wet to graze.

Spring time grazing rules apply as we get through this challenging spell

- Strip graze with 12 hour allocations and back fence animals
- On- off grazing for 3 hour blocks AM & PM in order to minimise damage
- Graze medium covers of 1200 – 1500 Kg/DM/ha or 10 –12 cm on drystock farms
- Use spur roadways and paddocks with good access in order to get grass in the diet and minimise damage

Grass DM: 12%

Moorepark
(1400 kg DM/ha)

Monday 24th August

Continue to walk your farm and enter covers on Pasturebase weekly

Update from Co. Kerry

"Grazing conditions are extremely difficult at the minute" remarks Paudie O'Brien after another tough night of rain



Paudie O'Brien,
Co. Kerry

- "AFC is 766 kg/DM/ha and cover per cow is 271 kg/so I'm on target"
- Cows are getting grass for 3-4 hours per day and are housed at night on high quality round bale silage.
- Meal feeding is 6kg.

Target No. Farm Walks For The Remainder Of 2020

Month	# Farm Walks
August	1 (Weekly To Build Grass)
September	4 (Weekly To Build Grass)
October	2 (Early Oct & Late Oct)
November	2 (Early Nov & At Housing)
December	1 (Dec 1 st Closing Cover)
Total	10

25th August 2020



Clover update from Clonakilty Research Farm, Clonakilty, Co. Cork.

Brian McCarthy, research officer and Aine Murray, PhD student give an update on the clover trial from Clonakilty in the video. Click on the link below for the update.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3frl6luyCQ>

Summary

See table to the left for grass grown in 2020 and current milk production.

Grass— only 150kg N/ha is behind on target AFC for this time of the year.

Cows grazing 1800 kg/DM/ha currently on 1kg supplement.

Clover % are currently at 23% and 22% on the two clover swards.

Treatment	2020 DM Yield (t DM/ha)	Milk Production (Kg MS/Cow/Day)
Grass-only 250 kg N/ha	10.9	1.52
Grass-only 150 kg N/ha	9.9	1.47
Grass-clover 250 kg N/ha	11.6	1.62
Grass-clover 150 kg N/ha	10.3	1.64

Grassland Farmer of the year 2020

There is only one week left until the deadline for entries for the 2020 Grassland farmer of the Year 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>

John O Connell – Sheep Category winner

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ya40jX6oVNC>



Summary

Competition helped him to “up his game”

Proud day to show that farmers in the west of Ireland and Leitrim can grow grass.

John O'Connell

2019 GFOY Sheep Category Winner

Brian Daniels– Overall & Sustainable winner

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



Summary

Great to see other farms and the techniques they use to maximise grass in the diet

Great to have access to the Grass10 team

Bryan Daniels

2019 GFOY Sustainable Farming & Overall Winner

Trevor Boland—Suckler Beef category winner

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



Summary

Good recognition of what can be achieved on suckler beef farms.

Great opportunity to meet judges and pick up tips for your farm

Trevor Boland

2019 GFOY Beef (Suckling) Category Winner

Mike Bermingham– Dairy category winner

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



Summary

Entered the competition to get an overview of where the farm was and its potential.

Judging was like a discussion group meeting— learned a lot from it

Mike Bermingham

2019 GFOY Dairy Category Winner