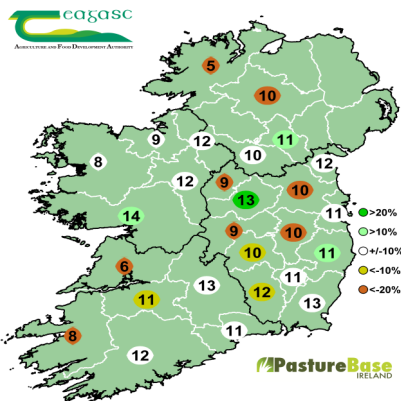


9th March 2021

PastureBase
IRELAND

AFC	Growth	Diet
855 Kg DM/Ha	12 Kg DM/Ha	9.5 Kg grass, 3.5 Kg meal, 2 Kg silage

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



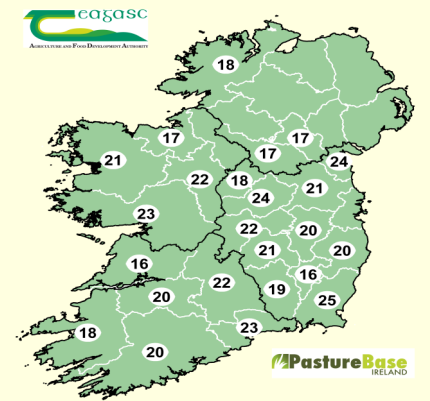
On the left: counties map showing **current** grass growth rates over the last week.

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 17 kg DM/ha
South Wexford 21 kg DM/ha
Athenry 24 kg DM/ha
Clonakilty 23 kg DM/ha

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



What a difference a week makes!

The past week has seen ground conditions improve immensely enabling most farmers to get stock out to grass, even on heavy soils. With the forecast broken for the week ahead the focus should remain on keeping stock at grass and getting area grazed.

- Farms should continue to graze hard while the conditions are good (remove silage from diet).
- Graze wetter paddocks while still dry. Save drier paddocks for the wet days.
- Use on-off grazing to get animals to grass - allocate enough grass for 2-3hrs grazing using a stripwire, let stock out with an appetite, bring the stock back in when finished grazing.
- Backfence and remove stock when finished grazing to avoid poaching.
- Farms with low AFC or 50% grazed should use a PastureBase grass budget to stretch grass until the 2nd rotation.
- Farmers should begin walking the farm weekly to monitor AFC, grass growth and regrowth on the first 3-4 paddocks grazed.
- Apply appropriate rates of chemical fertiliser and slurry where necessary and when conditions allow.

Grass Dry Matter %

Moorepark, Co. Cork
16.6% (1300KgDM/Ha)
Curtin's Farm, Co. Cork
15.8% (1250 Kg DM/Ha)
Grange, Co. Meath
20.5% (1125 Kg DM/Ha)

Planning Your Spring Grazing Webinar

Last week, the Grass10 team & PastureBase Ireland hosted a spring grazing webinar highlighting how to use the PastureBase tools to make the most of spring grazing on your farm. Key messages for farmers were:-

- Have a spring grazing plan
- For better accuracy complete a grass budget
- Walk the farm weekly from now on
- Update plan and budget

If you missed it, view the recording at;

<http://bit.ly/springgrazingwebinar>



Hitting Grazing Targets in 2021
with PastureBase Ireland

Wednesday, 7th April | 7pm

Join the Grass10 & PastureBase team on the night and hear:

- Update on Spring grass supply & grazing from PastureBase Ireland
- Tips & advice on managing the 2nd rotation during April
- Helping you to understand terms on PastureBase Ireland such as Average Farm Cover, Cover per Livestock Unit, Demand and Days Ahead so you can make better grazing decisions
- Setting your farm up with quality grass as we transition from low to high growth rates

Hear from special guest's dairy farmer Noel Hurley, Co. Cork & sheep farmer Peter McGuinness, Co. Meath as they discuss April grassland management on their farms and how PastureBase Ireland helps them achieve targets.

Or visit www.teagasc.ie/grass10

9th March 2021

Clonakilty Agricultural College Update

Brian McCarthy

We have 85% of the cows calved so far. We were due to start calving on the 1st of February but the first calf arrived on the 23rd of January.

Grazing was difficult in February but we managed to get a good bit of area grazed and thanks to the dry weather in the last week are back on target this week with 42% of the farm grazed. We are out at grass fulltime with the last week and we will stay out as much as possible, depending on the weather.

Cows are milking well, with the herd producing 2.1 kg milk solids at 3.38% protein and 4.94% fat.

	Grass-only 250 kg N/ha	Grass-clover 150 kg N/ha
Date	8/3/2021	8/3/2021
Average farm cover (kg DM/ha)	1,059	915
Growth (kg DM/ha per day)	18	17
Demand (kg DM/ha per day)	32	32
Area grazed	42%	42%
Pre-grazing yield (kg DM/ha)	2,300	1,800
Fertiliser	58 units N/acre (72 kg N/ha) spread to date, including N from LESS. For the 2 nd round of fertiliser 26% of area grazed in Feb got slurry, rest got 35 units/acre of protected urea in the last week	
Cow diet	14 kg DM grass plus 3 kg concentrate	



Cows grazing in Clonakilty this week



Photo Competition



Have you started your 2021 grazing year?

If so, post a picture on social media of your cattle out grazing!

Use hashtag #SpringRotationPlanner and tag @TeagascBeef in your post and be in with a chance to win one of three €50 One4All Vouchers. We will exhibit some of the best pictures on our social media channels and at our National Beef Conference later in the year.

**Entry
Deadline
20 March**

GFOY Update - Sean Barry (Disadvantaged Land Winner)

"Going great so far, and great to be out so early!"



Grassland Farmer of the Year Take Over!

Sean Barry, Disadvantaged Land Category Winner, will take over @TeagascGrass10 Twitter and @teagasc Instagram accounts on the 24th March. Sean will showcase how he operates the farm in terms of current grazing management, soil fertility, drainage, grazing infrastructure as well as many other topics.

Date	03/03/2021
AFC	765 Kg DM/ha
Growth	3 Kg DM/ha/day
Demand	14 Kg DM/ha/day
% Grazed	15%
PGY	800-1000 Kg DM/ha
Fertiliser	52% Farm got 46 units N, 17% 2500 gallons slurry. 31% of farm too wet
Cow Diet	7 Kg Grass, 4 Kg Silage, 4 Kg Meal



Social Media Takeover
Sean Barry
Co. Limerick
2020 Heavy Soils Category
Grassland Farmer of the Year
@Teagasc @TeagascGrass10
Wednesday, 24th March

Need help getting set up on PBI for grass measuring in 2021?

Email support@pbi.ie or call 046-9200965



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

