

# **Grass10 Weekly Update**



11th February 2020

#### <u>PastureBase Ireland Current Performance:</u>

AFC	Growth	
827	6	

Predicted Growth Elodie Ruelle:

Ballyhaise 5 kg DM/ha, Johnstown 7 kgDM/ha,

Moorepark 10 kg DM/ha, Clonakilty 11 kg DM/ha

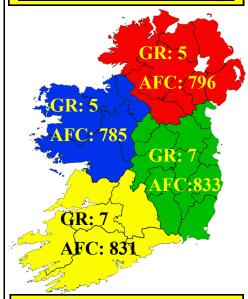
#### Wet Weather Plan-Storm Ciara

• The 3 objectives daily for grazing in wet weather are:

#### 1. Feed the cow 2. Minimise damage 3. Residuals (if possible)

- Make an effort to get <u>cows out with an appetite</u>. Take cows off the paddock if they are <u>finished grazing or if they are poaching</u>
- Hold cows in the shed/yard after milking time with no access to silage. This will give a cows appetite for grazing when let out to grass
- Walk the paddock to see if it is fit for grazing. If it is fit for grazing, set up a <u>strip wire</u> and <u>backfence</u>. This paddock should be <u>very dry</u>, have <u>multiple access points</u>, <u>low cover</u> (allocate larger area than heavy cover), ideally the <u>paddock to be reseeded</u> this year/ underperforming paddock
- <u>If feeding silage by night</u>, make sure that it has <u>ran out by the following morning</u> if planning to put cows out grazing the next day. Silage is a bulky feed and will inhibit grass intake
- If you walk the farm and there are no paddocks available for grazing (waterlogged/snow etc.), unfortunately cows will have to be housed.
- Make sure to get cows out grazing at the 1st opportunity again!

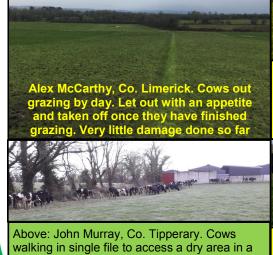
#### Below: Covers in the Last 7 Days



#### **Every Day at Grass**

Increases milk solids/ liveweight gain
Reduces costs on farms
Reduces workload for farmers
Reduces Green House Gas Emissions!

Grass 10 Course Members: Grazing Where Possible Despite the Storm



paddock to graze. Cows taken off once they

have finished grazing



Jim White, Mullinahone, taking the opportunity to get cows out for a few hours between the heavy showers. Jim walks paddocks daily to see where cows can graze & to see where is too wet



Newford farm, Co. Galway, had cows and calves out last week beside the shed. Unfortunately grazing became impossible so cows & calves were rehoused at weekend



Micheal Kelly, Co. Tipperary. Cows grazed a wet paddock last Friday, however were moved to a dry paddock with a low cover to continue grazing over the weekend. Backfencing grazed areas

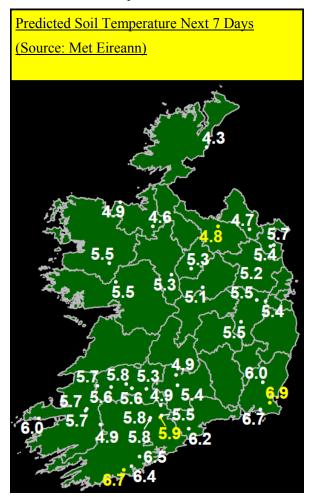


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## Predicted Soil Temperatures & Rainfall for the Next 7 Days:



• Where rainfall is high, snow is falling, and where soil temperatures are low, spreading of slurry and fertiliser should cease. Watch the weather forecast to see if conditions improve during the week.

### Teagasc Research Farms Current Performance:

Teagasc Research Farm	Average Farm Cover	Growth
Curtins, Fermoy, Co. Cork	938 kg DM/ha	7 kg DM/ha/day
Newford Suckler Farm, Athenry, Co. Galway	1068 kg DM/ha	13 kg DM/ha/day
Kildalton College, Co. Kilkenny	794 kg DM/ha	4 kg DM/ha/day
Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford	753 kg DM/ha	10 kg DM/ha/day
Ballyhaise, Co. Cavan	1091 kg DM/ha	15 kg DM/ha/day













