

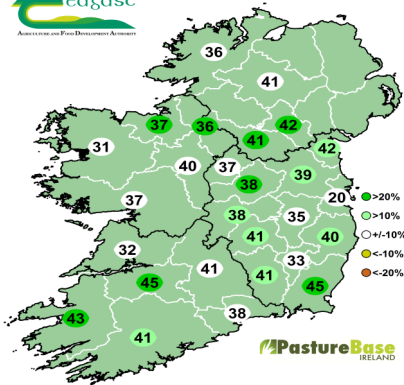
12th October 2021

## PastureBase data from dairy farms:



AFC	Cover/LU	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Diet (Grass + Supplement)	Pre Grazing Yield
955 Kg DM/Ha	325 Kg DM/LU	2.95 LU/ha	42 Kg DM/ha	41 Kg DM/ha	14 Kg DM + 4 Kg	2240 Kg DM/Ha

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



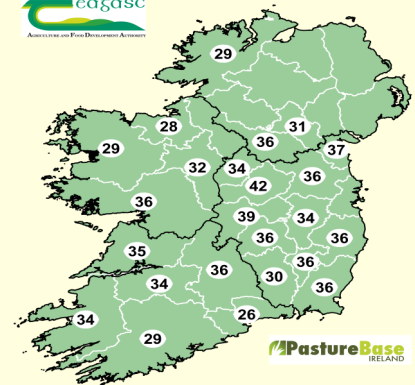
On the left: counties map showing **current** grass growth rates over the last week.

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 35 kg DM/ha
- Wexford 31 kg DM/ha
- Athenry 33 kg DM/ha
- Clonakilty 31 kg DM/ha

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



## A welcome return to drier weather in the North West

Oisín Gallen farms in Ramelton, Co. Donegal milking 81 cows on 27 Ha. Oisín is the host farmer for the Grass10 Donegal Grazing Group.

"Last week turned quite wet so to minimise damage and maximise grass utilisation, I came out of some of my very heavy covers and started grazing paddocks with 1500 Kg DM/Ha on them. I also used spur roadways to get to the back of paddocks and thankfully I got away with very little damage"

"My farm turned around with the drying over the weekend and I am back in grazing my last very heavy cover now of 2800 Kg DM/Ha and then I am back to 1600 – 1700 Kg DM/Ha covers after. Graze outs are very good"

"I completed a grass budget & Autumn Rotation Planner on PastureBase Ireland with my target to start closing paddocks on the 4th October and have 70% grazed by 1st November. I have currently 27% closed as of today. I will keep walking my farm weekly on PastureBase to avoid any large fall off in Average Farm Cover"

"My cows are milking 16 litres at the minute, Fat% is 5.10 & Protein % is 4.11 ( 1.5 Kg MS per cow per day)"

Did you miss last weeks Grass10 & PastureBase Ireland webinar titled "Managing the Final Grazing Rotation with PastureBase"?

Not to worry! You can watch it back here:-  
[Bit.ly/ClosingUpWebinar](https://bit.ly/ClosingUpWebinar)



Oisín Gallen



### Grass Dry Matter %

Moorepark, Co Cork:

13% (1500 Kg DM/Ha)

Grange: Co. Meath

13% (1450 Kg DM/ha)

Gallen's PBI Data	
AFC	919 kg DM/ha
Cover/LU	305 kg DM/cow
Growth	41 kg DM/ha/day
Demand	45 kg DM/ha/day
PGY	2800 kg DM/ha

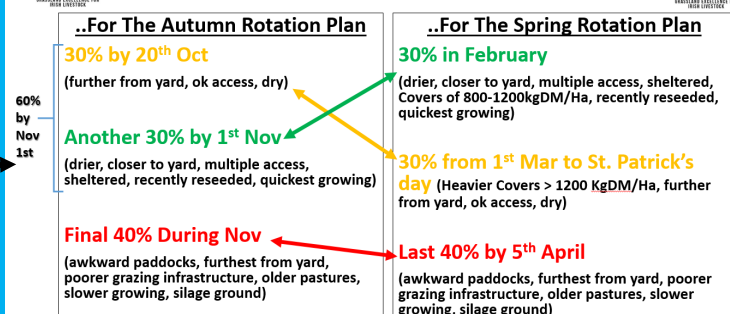
## Grass10 Grazing Tips for the week:

The weather forecast looks excellent for the week which will help to get the last few heavy grass covers grazed on most farms around the country.

- As we move towards mid October, now is the time to start thinking about grazing paddocks where you want a medium cover of grass next Spring (800-1200 Kg DM/Ha)
- Continue to walk your farm weekly to monitor AFC vs. grass budget on PastureBase
- Complete and follow the Autumn Rotation Planner on PastureBase



## Picking Your Paddocks to Graze



\*Heavy Farm targets for autumn should be 7 – 10 days earlier and for the spring 7-10 days later.

12th October 2021

**PastureBase data from sheep & beef farms:**

AFC	Days Ahead	Stocking Rate	Growth	Demand	Pre Grazing Yield
920 Kg DM/Ha	28 days	2.0 LU/ha	37 Kg DM/ha	31 Kg DM/Ha	2040 Kg DM/ha

**Sheep Autumn Closing Guidelines**

**Philip Creighton, Teagasc Athenry**



Autumn is the starting point of the grassland year. Management and decisions made in this period have a direct effect on the quality and availability of grass the following spring. To ensure adequate grass availability for ewes at lambing in March you should begin to close paddocks from mid to late October onwards. This is important so we can build cover while grass growth is still active. Very little grass will be grown during December and January. When grass growth starts to increase again in February and March it is the earlier closed fields that will respond quickest to the increasing temperatures and an early application of fertiliser.

**Key Points**

- Use the Teagasc Sheep Autumn Closing Planner to aid with closing your farm this winter →
- To ensure adequate grass availability for ewes at lambing in March you should begin to close paddocks from mid October onwards.
- The first paddocks closed should be dry, sheltered and close to the lambing area.
- A ewes feed requirement in mid pregnancy is approximately half that of a ewe in early lactation producing milk for two lambs.
- Do not re-graze closed paddocks

**Beef and Sheep Webinar**

To learn more on closing your sheep or beef farm correctly, join us this Thursday evening for our next Webinar. This webinar will benefit you and your farm because you will have the **right amount of grass on your farm next spring; and you will have the right covers of grass in the right paddocks.**

Register for our webinar at:

<https://bit.ly/G10webinars>



**Taking Control of Grass Supply on Beef & Sheep Farms**

Having the Right Grass in the Right Place Next Spring  
**Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> October | 7pm**

Join the Grass10 & PastureBase team as they discuss:

- How correctly managing your final rotation ensures grass availability
- Deciding when to close paddocks on your farm
- How Teagasc grazing tools can aid with the final grazing rotation
- Autumn grazing tips from the Grass10 team

Suckler Farmer Trevor Boland from Co. Sligo and Sheep farmer Tomas O' Leary from Co. Kerry will join us on the night to discuss how they maximise days at grass in the autumn while keeping grass for priority animals for the spring

For more info visit [www.teagasc.ie/grass10](http://www.teagasc.ie/grass10)

**GFOY Update: Caroline Walsh, Co. Cork- Dairy Category & Overall Winner**

*"I'm currently grazing reseeds and awkward paddocks whilst the weather is good. I got a good grazing on some of the heavier ground also."*

*"The last of the slurry is going out on ground that was reseeded last year. We spread lime in the spring based on last years soil test results. We will soil sample again this December."*

*"We started closing the farm here last week and there is about 20% closed. Next week we will graze and close the paddocks we want to graze first next spring. I'm aiming to have AFC 600-650 Kg DM/ha on the 1st December."*



Rotation No.	9
AFC	930 Kg DM/Ha
Cover/Lu	294 Kg DM/Ha
Growth	35 Kg DM/Ha
Demand	41 Kg DM/Ha
Stocking Rate	3.16 LU/Ha
PGY	1800 Kg DM/Ha
Milk Yield/Cow	13 L (1.2 Kg MS)
Supplement	3 kg meal
Tonnage YTD	12 T DM/Ha