

7th August 2018

Current Pasture Performance PastureBase Ireland: www.pbi.ie Micheal O'Leary

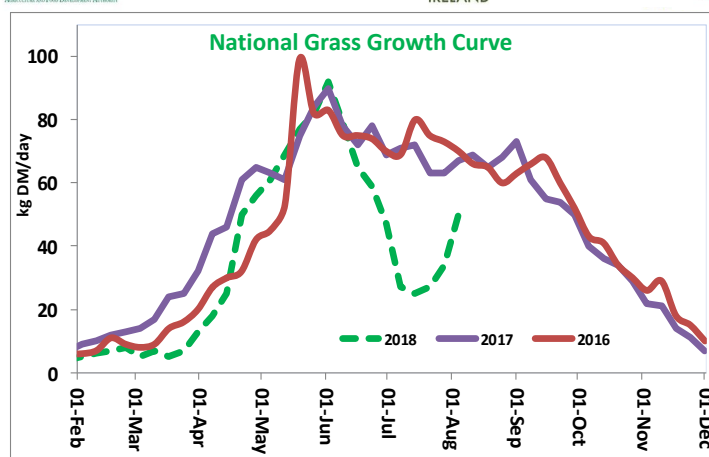


	Farm Cover (kg DM/ha)	Cover/LU (kg DM/LU)	Stocking Rate (LU/ha)	Growth (kg DM/ha)	Demand (kg DM/ha)
Average	620	198	3.15	53	35

- Feed allocation per cow: 10.8 kg DM grass, 5 kg concentrates, 1.5 kg DM silage
- It is clear that recovery is taking place in many areas following the drought. Growth rates have increased over the last seven days due to the rainfall received recently
- Some heavy soils are experiencing very high growth rates (80-100kg DM/ha/day), particularly in the north west region

Dry Matter Content:

Location	Moorepark
Sampling Date	07/08/2018
Time of Day	09.30
Weather	Cloudy
Rotation No	6
Cover:	400 kg DM/ha
DM%:	20%



Grazing Message:

- The target rotation length for August is 30 days to build grass for the autumn. Supplementation will have to continue to build grass on farms (about 300 kg DM/LU by August 31st)
- Keep silage ground closed after second cut and aim to harvest a third cut on this ground. Fertilise accordingly
- Continue to graze to 4 cm
- It is clear from PastureBase Ireland farms that growth rate has increased over the last seven days. Farms must be walked weekly to monitor grass supply and to build grass for the autumn
- There is rain in the forecast for this week. This is an opportunity for farmers to spread fertiliser to build grass for the autumn

Winter Feed Message:

- Forage crops may be an option for farmers short on winter feed, but the 15th August is the cut-off date for sowing these crops, The later the sowing date, the lower the yield of the crop
- Source hay, straw etc. now to help build fodder reserves
- Cull cows early and sell surplus livestock
- Farmers should complete a fodder budget to see if they have enough feed for the winter ahead. The fodder budget can be accessed on the following link: <https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/publications/2018/Fodder-plan--Winter-2018.pdf>



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Fertiliser following cutting/grazing of second cut silage:

Both intensive and lowly stocked farmers should harvest surpluses and consider growing a third cut crop of silage which can be sold for the winter 2018/2019. Rain is in the forecast this weekend, so it's a good time to spread fertiliser. See the following table for N, P, K & S requirements to grow a crop of silage for third cut:

Silage ground	Requirement per tonne DM (units/acre)	3 t DM/ha (units/acre): 6-7 bales/acre
Nitrogen (N)	25 kg N/ha/t DM (20)	75 kg N/ha (60)
Phosphorus (P)	4 kg P/ha/t DM (3)	12 kg P/ha (10)
Potassium (K)	25 kg K/ha/t DM (20)	75 kg K/ha (60)
Sulphur (S)	2.5 kg S/ha/t DM (2)	7.5 kg S/ha (6)

Grassland Farmer of the Year 2018 deadline extended to 17/08/18

We would like to invite you to enter the 2018 Grassland Farmer of the Year competition. 2018 has been a difficult year for all farmers with a cold and wet spring, followed by a period of drought. The deadline has been extended as a result to August 17th. We would like to remind you that this competition is judged on previous grazing seasons grassland performance.

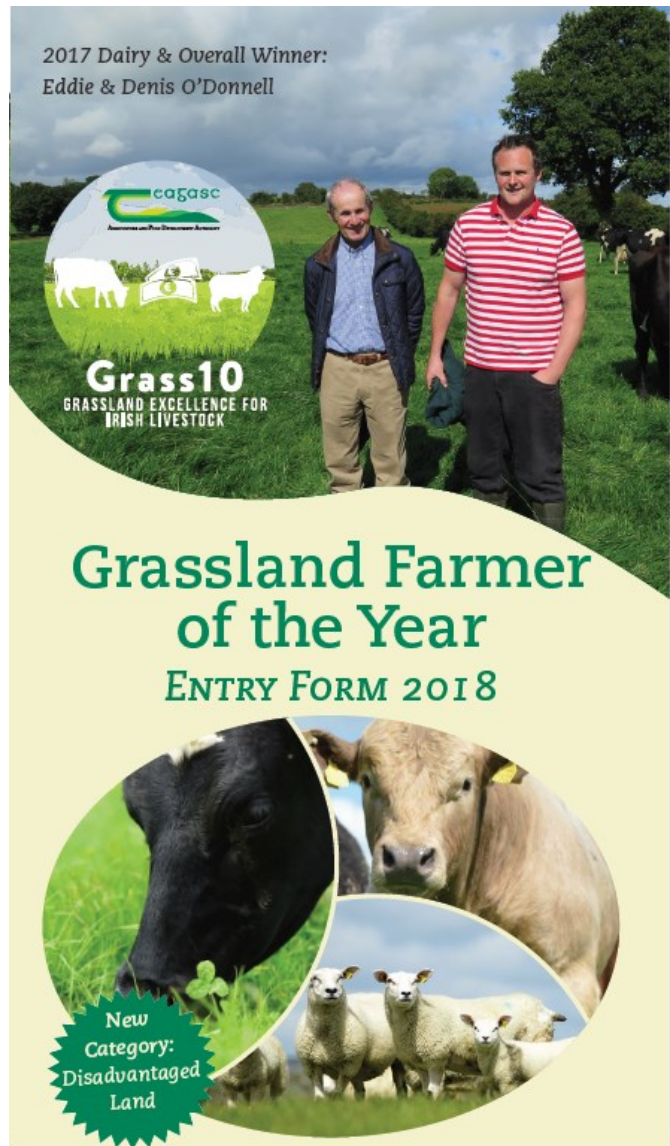
This competition invites farmers to participate from all enterprises (dairy, beef and sheep).

The purpose of this competition is to recognise farmers who are achieving high levels of grass production and utilisation and to promote grassland excellence for Irish livestock farmers.

Click on the following link to access the entry form:
https://www.teagasc.ie/media/website/publications/2018/2018_GFOTY_application-form.pdf

The Grass10 team would like to thank everyone who has entered the competition so far. We would also like to encourage all farmers interested in grassland to enter the competition.

We wish you all the best of luck!



2017 Dairy & Overall Winner:
Eddie & Denis O'Donnell

Grass10
GRASSLAND EXCELLENCE FOR
IRISH LIVESTOCK

Grassland Farmer of the Year
ENTRY FORM 2018

New Category:
Disadvantaged Land