

11th September 2018

**Current Pasture Performance PastureBase Ireland:** [www.pbi.ie](http://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)
<b>Average</b>	838	289	3	57	39

- The PBI team will be able at the National Ploughing Championships on the Teagasc stand. Take your chance to ask us any questions or to give us any feedback
- The PBI offline app is available for download on Google Play and on the App Store. Search 'PBI Grass' to download. The following can be recorded on the app:
  - 1) grass covers
  - 2) graze/silage events
  - 3) fertiliser/slurry applications
  - 4) livestock/demand
  - 5) milk details
- For more information you can email [support@pbi.ie](mailto:support@pbi.ie) or call 046-9200965

### Forecasting Average Farm Cover and Cover/LU:

Using our figures above: Average farm cover: 838, Cover/LU: 289, Growth: 57, Demand 39. Grass surplus: 18 kgDM/ha/day (126 kgDM//week). If this growth rate continues, our average farm cover will be 964 kgDM/ha (321 kgDM/LU) in 7 days (moving towards the target AFC: 1,100 kgDM/ha). It is important that demand remains low and farmers allow for a reduced growth rate going forward to build grass to 1,100 kgDM/ha as soon as possible

### Dry Matter Results:

Location	Moorepark	Grange
Sampling Date	10/09/18	11/09/18
Time of Day	09.15	12.15
Weather	Cloudy	Cloudy
DM%:	15%	17.5%

### Mid-September Grazing Target:

@ 3 LU/ha	15th September
Average Farm Cover	1,100– 1,150 kgDM/ha
Cover per Livestock Unit	370 kgDM/LU
Rotation Length	35 days

### Grazing Tips for the Week:

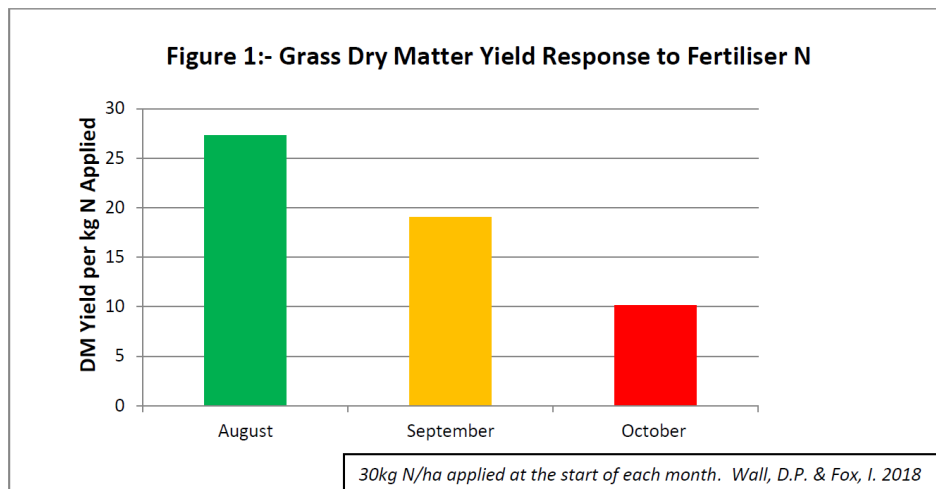
- Spread 30 units of N/acre on the grazing platform now. Do not wait to spread because of an extension to the chemical fertiliser deadline
- Graze paddocks down to 4 cm. Good clean outs will remove dead material from the sward and promote growth for the remainder of the autumn and winter
- Measure grass supply weekly so that you know how much grass you have and how to reach your target (see the mid-September grazing target above)
- The PastureBase figures show that average farm cover and cover/LU are not on target yet. Keep demand low through supplementation or reducing stocking rate, to build a bank of grass for the autumn
- Photograph: Cows being strip grazed on the farm of Sean Hennessy Vicarstown, Co. Cork



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## Nitrogen Response in the Autumn:

- Applying N now results in greater grass growth & more efficient use of each kilo of N applied
- Grass dry matter yield response to applied N reduces by 63% in October
- Apply cattle slurry to meet grass fertiliser demands & empty slurry tanks before winter. Slurry can be spread on the grazing platform (rotation length: 30-35 days).



## Grass10 Autumn Farm Walks:

2018 has been a very challenging grass year for farmers. It's essential to make the most of autumn grass to reduce winter feed demand, and to set the farm up for early spring grazing. This will help lower feed costs and shorten the winter period. Teagasc has organised a series of on-farm demonstrations which will focus on:

- Autumn Grassland Management, Winter Fodder Plan

Farmer	Address	Date	Time	Enterprise
Pallaskenry Agricultural College	Pallaskenry, Co. Limerick. Eircode V94V8N3	Thur 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	7.30pm	Dairy, Beef, Sheep
Seamus Laffan	Boher, Co. Limerick. Eircode V94PK3C	Thur 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11am	Dairy
Andy Phelan	Ballyarsney, Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny Eircode X91KH60	Thur 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11am	Beef
Matthew Fogarty	Whitechurch, Cappagh, Co. Waterford Eircode X35FK46	Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	11am	Dairy
Ronan Joyce	Carrowjames, Belcarra, Castlebar, Co. Mayo. Eircode F23C560	Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	2pm	Dairy
Tom & John Leahy	Ballyharrahan, Dungarvan Co. Waterford. Eircode X35N528	Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11am	Beef & Sheep
Martin Kenny	Cams, Cloverhill, Co. Roscommon Eircode F42E766	Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11am	Beef
P.J Murphy	Ballyconra, Ballyraggett, Co. Kilkenny Eircode R95FN23	Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11am	Dairy
Donal & Michael Keane	Dromerin, Listowel, Co. Kerry. Eircode V31A525	Thur 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11am	Dairy
Liam Kearns	Tobernabrone, Piltown, Co. Kilkenny Eircode E32PW61	Thur 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11am	Dairy
Thomas & Constance Hennessy	Kilaree, Threecastles, Co. Kilkenny Eircode R95AC98	Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	11am	Beef