

## Week Beginning 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023



## **MANAGEMENT NOTES:**

Grass growth for the week past has been in line with the LT av. at 37 kg DM/ha/day.
Weather conditions of late have been very difficult and the opposite of what had been hoped for after a wet summer, with ground conditions deteriorating further.

• For many the low hanging fruit, in terms of grazing the drier areas and lower covers have been exhausted. For some on heavy land with waterlogged soils, housing livestock has been the only and most sensible option. It is important to assess conditions daily to try and get some stock back out. Leaving heavy covers of ungrazed grass over the winter will be a problem and it's best to try and chip away at these.

• On-off grazing can be a great tool, getting stock out to grass with an appetite for 3 hours before taking them off again, to utilise the grass and minimise the damage.

• Other tools include spur roads, strip wires, back fencing and fibre supplementation.



Value of Grass		Grass Quality	
Dairy – maintenance plus (M+) (kg/cow/day)*	7.4	DM (%)	16.0
Growing animals – daily live weight gain (kg/head/day)**	0.92	CP (% DM)	19.5
*M+ calculated assuming: 650kg cow, and 12 kg DMI. Maintenance=75 MJ/day, 5.3 MJ/kg milk **Beef daily gain assuming: 300 kg beef steer, and 6.6 kg DMI. Maintenance=35 MJ/day, 40 MJ/kg gain		WSC (% DM)	10.8
		ME (MJ/kg DM)	10.9

