







AGRI-FOOD & BIOSCIENCES INSTITUTE

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College of Agriculture,

Food & Rural Enterprise

MANAGEMENT NOTES:

- Grass growth has been similar to the LT av. but it is forecast to fall significantly behind.
- Many are at a risk of running tight for grass, especially if a large proportion of grazing has been removed as surplus. To avoid the risk of an increasingly shorter rotation length and lower pre-grazing covers, maintain AFC above a min. of 2100kg DM/ha.
- Measure and budget grass at least weekly and model the effect that increasing the grazing area following 1st cut silage or increasing the supplementation rate will have.
- Weather conditions are ideal for reseeding and overseeding with clover in grazing swards, with soil moisture, soil temperature and daylight hours all favourable.
- Be mindful of bloat risk if grazing low pre grazing covers, in wet conditions with a high clover content. In this case add a fibrous supplement to the diet.

Value of Grass		Grass Quality	
Dairy — maintenance plus (M+) (kg/cow/day)*	18.4	DM (%)	19.2
Growing animals — live weight gain (kg/head/day)**	0.99	ME (MJ/kg DM)	11.4
*M+ calculated assuming: 650kg cow, and 15 kg DMI. Maintenance=75 MJ/day, 5.3 MJ/kg milk		CP (% DM)	15.2
**Beef daily gain assuming: 300 kg beef steer, and 6.6 kg DMI. Maintenance=35 MJ/day, 40 MJ/kg gain		WSC (% DM)	15.2



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