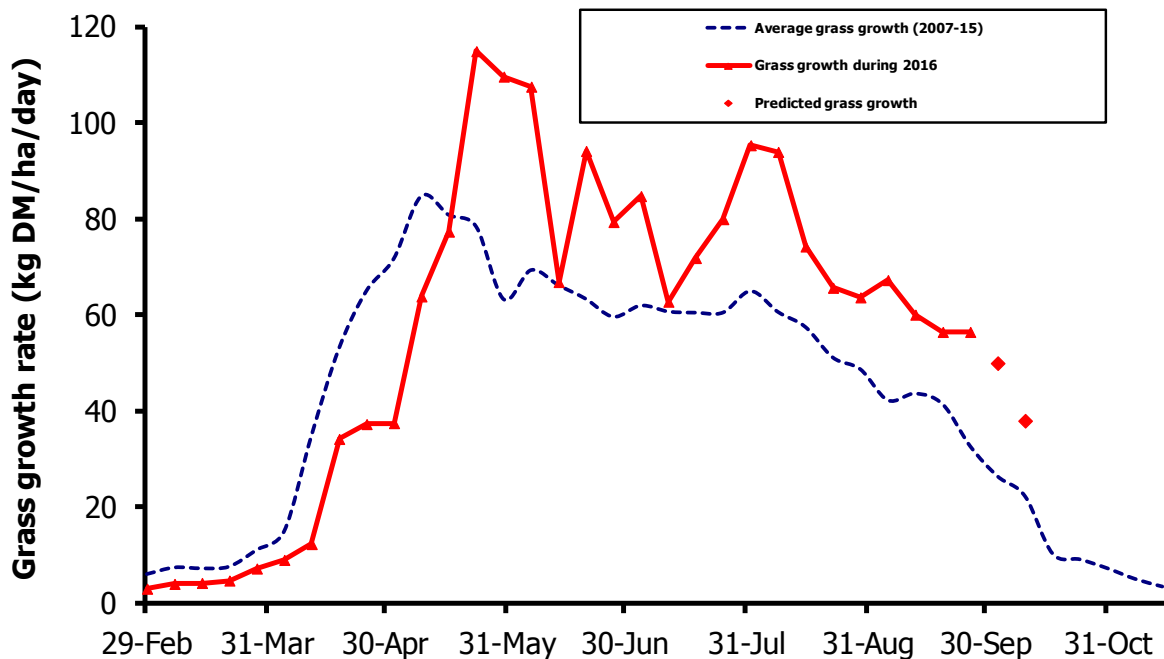


GrassCheck

Week beginning 26 September



Grass growth and quality measured from swards at Hillsborough and Greenmount

Grass Growth (kg DM/ha/day)*		
Previous 3 weeks	26 Sep	57
Predicted	3 Oct	50
	10 Oct	38

* 270 kg N/ha/year applied

Grass Quality	
Dry matter (%)	12.6
ME (MJ/kg DM)	11.2
Crude protein (%)	22.3
Sugars (% DM)	7.7

Management notes.

- Growing conditions have been better than forecast, with a continuing trend of above average growth rates on the GrassCheck monitor plots. However at farm level, while there may be plenty of grass, grazing conditions are very difficult, with many farmers struggling to get swards adequately grazed.
- As conditions dictate, implement extended grazing techniques, such as on/off grazing, separate entry/exit points and back fences, to improve utilisation and minimise both sward and field damage due to poaching.
- With the last round of grazing, target drier fields first, aiming to get them well grazed out, to ensure quality grass for an early spring bite.