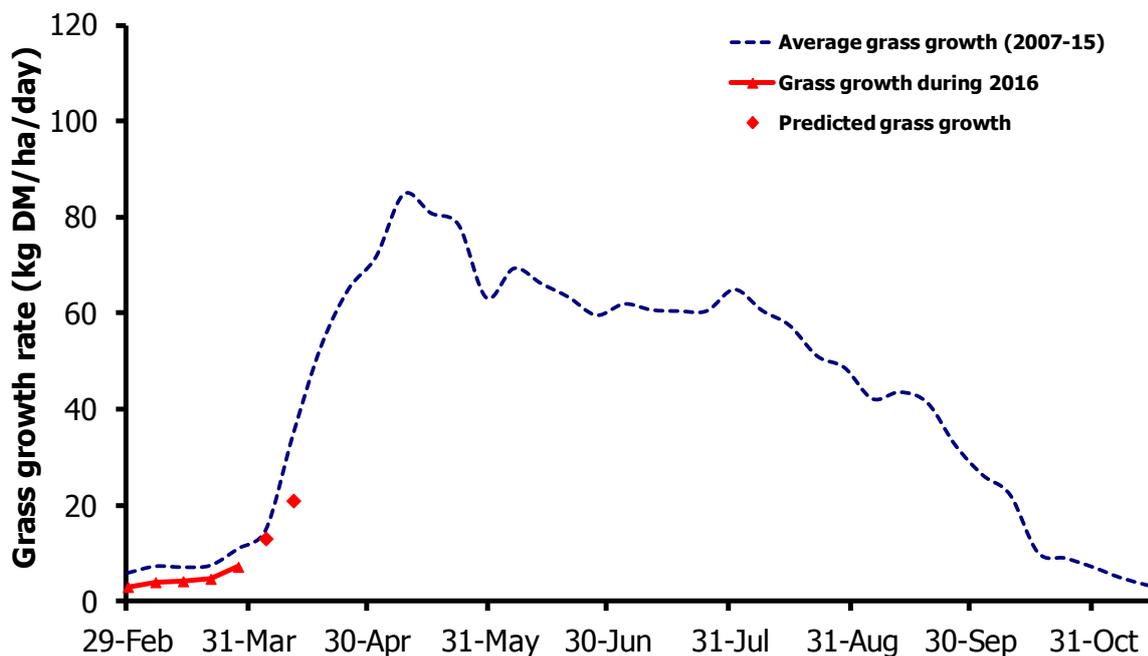


GrassCheck

Week beginning 28 March 2016



Grass growth and quality measured from swards at Hillsborough and Greenmount

| Grass Growth (kg DM/ha/day)* | | |
|------------------------------|--------|-----|
| Previous 3 weeks | 28 Mar | 7.2 |
| Predicted | 4 Apr | 13 |
| | 11 Apr | 21 |

* 270 kg N/ha/year applied

| Grass Quality | |
|-------------------|------|
| Dry matter (%) | 18.9 |
| ME (MJ/kg DM) | 12.5 |
| Crude protein (%) | 23.5 |
| Sugars (% DM) | 14.2 |

Management notes.

- Cold temperatures continue to keep growth rates low, with growth well below the seasonal average throughout March.
- Unfortunately the cold theme to the weather is forecasted to continue into early April, so whilst growth is increasing, it is likely to remain below the seasonal average.
- The unsettled conditions are also increasing soil moistures, but as we enter April, it is critical that every opportunity to get stock grazing is utilised.
- Using back fences, alternating entry/exit points and grazing for short 2 to 3 hour durations will help, with the potential to graze for short periods after both morning and evening milking as day length increases.