GrassCheck NI

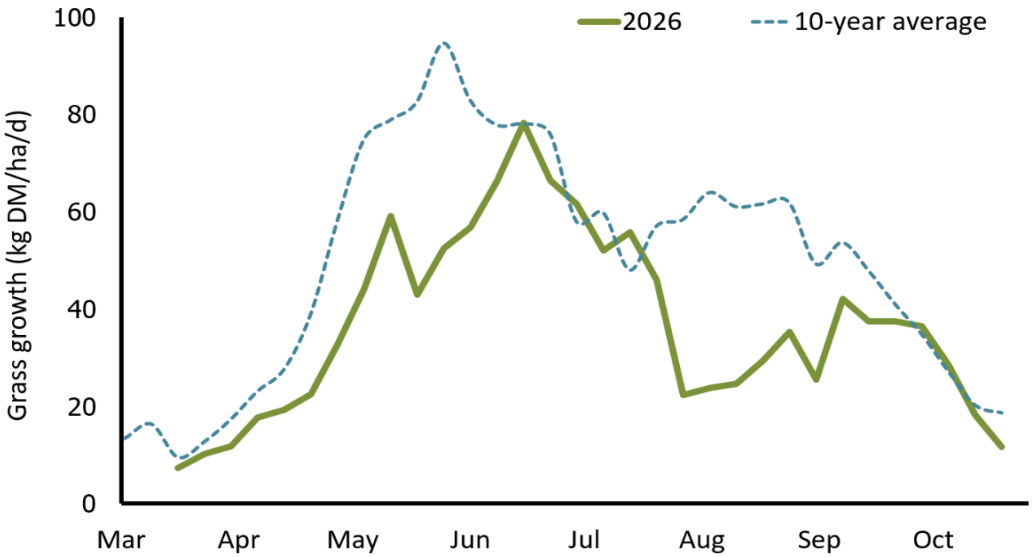
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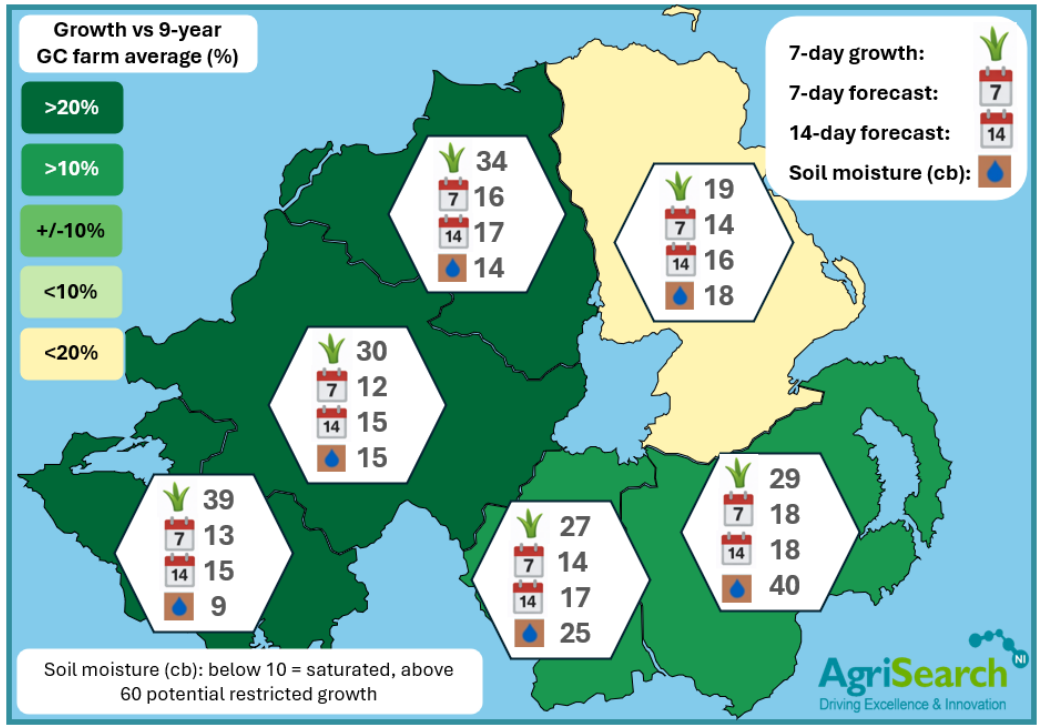
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Week beginning 19th October 2026

Plot growth at AFBI Hillsborough & CAFRE Greenmount



GrassCheck on farm grass growth (kg DM/ha)



MANAGEMENT NOTES:

- Grass growth on farm has remained strong over recent weeks and above the LT av.
- Continuing to walk the farm into early November will help to keep track of AFC and highlight if covers are getting too heavy to be able to carry over winter successfully.
- Target to have 60–80% of the grazing platform closed by 1st Nov, depending on ground conditions and target an average closing farm cover of 2,100–2,150 kg DM/ha
- Paddocks best suited to early spring grazing with good grazing infrastructure should be closed in the next few days if not already, to provide the option of an early turnout.
- Grass DM% is low and will reduce further with wetter weather in the forecast. Use the grazing tools best suited including 12 hr allocations, strip wires and on-off grazing.
- Avoid the temptation to graze paddocks closed at the start of Oct, as this grass will be of greater value in the spring. 80% of the grass grazed in Feb and is grown in Oct.
- This is the final 2026 Grasscheck bulletin. Our thanks to all the Grasscheck farmers who diligently provide figures on a weekly basis and to everyone who contributes.

GrassCheck Dairy Farm Data (kg DM/ha)

Current	Current	Target
Growth 30	AFC 2352	AFC 2600
Demand 35	Cover/LU 267	Cover/LU 365

GrassCheck Beef/Sheep Farm Data (kg DM/ha)

Current	Current	Target
Growth 30	AFC 2461	AFC 2600
Demand 27		

GrassCheck on farm Grass Quality

DM (%)	ME (MJ/kg DM)
15.2	11.1
CP (%)	**WSC (%)**
18.2	11.0

Value of grass calculator →