

12th June 2018

**Current Pasture Performance PastureBase Ireland:** [www.pbi.ie](http://www.pbi.ie) Micheal O'Leary

**PastureBase**  
IRELAND

Farm Cover (kg DM/ha)	Cover/LU (kg DM/LU)	Stocking Rate (LU/ha)	Growth (kg DM/ha)	Demand (kg DM/ha)
<b>645</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>3.84</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>62</b>

- Over 1,250 grass covers being recorded each week.
- New projected wedge now available on the latest wedge screen.
- The PastureBase Android App will be available in the coming week.
- Enter residual in cm or in kg DM/ha.
- Contact [support@pbi.ie](mailto:support@pbi.ie) for further information.



**Grazing Tips for this Week:**

1. Stock the grazing platform at >4LU/ha (demand: >64kgDM/ha) as growth rate is high.
2. Enter pre-grazing covers of 1400kgDM/ha.
3. Avoid pre-mowing heavy covers. Skip and cut for bales.
4. Meet residuals of 4cm regardless of quality to maintain quality grass for the next round.
5. Operate a short rotation length of 16-20 days.
6. Make sure water trough size and flow is adequate in this period of warm weather.



**Fertiliser Strategy for Grazing Platforms for the Next Month:**

1. Apply 1 unit of N per day on the grazing platform.
2. Make sure all fertiliser being spread contains Sulphur.
3. Apply compound fertilisers on paddocks deficient in P and K to build index's.
4. Slurry should be applied where fields/paddocks are cut to replace P & K offtake.
5. Spread lime to build soil pH to 6.2- 6.5 when given an opportunity.



**Silage/ Fodder Message:**

<b>80 Units N/Acre for 2nd Cut Silage</b>	<b>2,500-3,000 Gallons Slurry/Acre</b>
<b>Soils Adequate in P &amp; K: Slurry and Nitrogen Fertiliser + S</b>	<b>Soils Deficient in P &amp; K: Slurry and/or Compound Fertiliser</b>
<b>10 Units of Sulphur in All Cases</b>	<b>Low Emission Slurry Spreading: Can minimise N losses</b>

**2 Sample Fertiliser Strategies for 2nd Cut Silage to Grow 8 Tonne Fresh Weight/Acre**

<b>2,500 Gallons Slurry/Acre</b>	<b>4 Bags 15-3-20</b>
<b>2.75 Bags CAN/Acre</b>	<b>0.75 Bags CAN/Acre</b>

**Apply Extra P & K after Harvest to Build Soil Fertility**



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### Rotation Length Calculation:

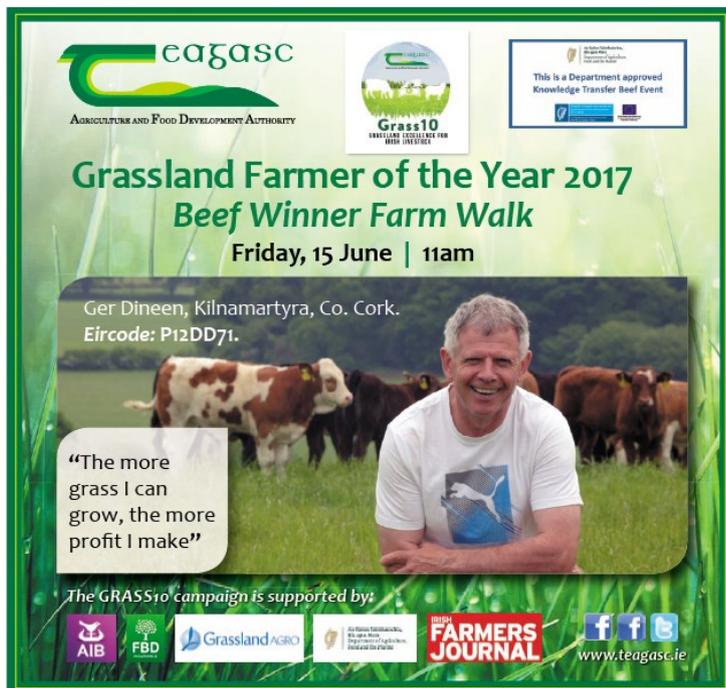
- How do I know what rotation length I should be operating at?
- A farmer is growing 70kgDM/day and the target pre-grazing yield is 1400kgDM/ha.
- Target pre-grazing yield / Growth = Rotation Length.
- $1400 / 70 = 20$  day rotation.

### Designing the Correct Paddock System on Drystock Farms:

- Decide on the number of paddocks required (a minimum of 7 paddocks per livestock group).
- Set up the paddocks to grow in 3 weeks, graze in 3 days.
- Determine most appropriate water trough position in each paddock (centre to be able to split paddock again if needed).
- Install multiple entrances into each paddock.
- Keep paddocks square/rectangular, depth: width ratio should be 2:1 maximum (reduces damage).
- Position the paddock entrances on dry ground.
- Have a paddock entrance on the down-hill corner of the paddock.
- Record the final layout on an accurate map and hang up in the office.



### Upcoming Event:



Teagasc  
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Grass10  
GRASSLAND EXCELLENCE FOR  
IRISH LIVESTOCK

This is a Department approved  
Knowledge Transfer Beef Event

## Grassland Farmer of the Year 2017 Beef Winner Farm Walk

Friday, 15 June | 11am

Ger Dineen, Kilnamartyra, Co. Cork.  
Eircode: P12DD71.

"The more grass I can grow, the more profit I make"

The GRASS10 campaign is supported by:

AIB FBD Grassland AGRO

IRISH FARMERS JOURNAL

www.teagasc.ie



**"In 2013, I grew 7 tonnes grass DM per hectare..  
In 2017, I grew 14 tonnes grass DM per hectare..  
It was like being given a new farm next door!"**