



Walk the farm to get your wedge back on track

- Every year, farmers get caught moving from spring to summer grazing management. A jump in growth rates is predicted on top of high farm cover. Are you ready for the change?
- Avoid poor grass quality this in May by walking your farm at least once per week now.
- Many wedges need tidying up. Where AFC is high increase demand for grass by removing silage from the diet and the grazing block, graze the heifers, and reduce supplement.
- The 2nd rotation grass swards need to be prioritised for grazing where 1st rotation has not finished. Skip remaining 1st rotation paddocks or heavy 2nd rotation covers, option to bale some this week.

Use the mid-season grazing targets

- The targets have been established to work for all farms to keep a balance between grass supply and grass quality. They work very well when monitored weekly and acted on.
- Average Farm Cover should be between 600-700 Kg DM/ha across all enterprises (PBI figure 798 Kg DM/ha).
- Cover/LU should be around 180 KgDM/LU on dry farms and 200 KgDM/ha on heavy soils (PBI at 238 Kg DM/LU). Days ahead on drystock farms should be around 14 days ahead.
- Match demand to grass growth. Check your PBI records for historic growth rates for your farm. This will help you make decisions on stocking rate, reseeding, silage, etc.

Bring fertiliser applications up to date this week

- Focus on getting up to date with fertiliser and slurry applications this week on both grazing and silage ground.
- Include P and K where necessary. Remember to include Sulphur in fertiliser applications from April to early July.
- Target by early May is to have 80u N/acre applied on dry paddocks and 65u N/ac on heavy paddocks. This figure includes slurry. Consult your nutrient management plan.

Ensure paddocks grazed to 4cm

- Grazing conditions over the past 6 weeks have been challenging.
- To keep grass in the diet and avoid poaching, residuals on paddocks grazed during this period have suffered.
- **There is only 2-3 weeks before stem appears in swards.** Ensure animals grazing to 4cm for excellent grass quality.
- Paddocks carrying a heavy residual should be grazed at 1100-1200Kg DM/ha to help reach 4cm this rotation.