



Current grazing management

- Growth rates remain moderate for this time of the year at 53 kg and 48 kg DM/Ha respectively on Irish dairy and drystock farms
- At growths of 50 kg DM/Ha, growth is just about supporting 3 cows/ha on dairy farms and additional supplement is necessary to bridge the gap
- Target a rotation length of 21-25 days, Farm cover >600kg DM/Ha (>170kg DM/LU) on dairy farms or 12-15 days ahead on drystock farm and pre-grazing yield of >1400 kg DM/Ha
- Continue to walk every 5 days, AFC cannot afford to drop at this stage of the year
- 2nd cuts growing since 20th May should be cut in the next week to allow the possibility of a reasonable 3rd cut

Correcting grass quality on farm

- Grass quality remains a challenge on many farms
- Paddocks will need corrective action this rotation
- If no surpluses are appearing on farm, mow post grazing
- Another option is to fertilise a paddock with poor grass quality for a light crop of bales. Apply 25 units/ac (30kg/Ha) and cut it in 25 days (if chemical N allowance available)

Identify paddocks for weed control before the end of July

- Assess your farm and complete any outstanding weed control
- Weeds such as docks should be targeted when the plant is green (leafy) and is actively growing.
- Think of paddocks that you want to oversow clover into in 2025 and spray these paddocks to have a clean sward for the oversowing

K fertiliser on silage and grazing ground & N for 3rd cut silage

- Opportunity to Apply K with Fertiliser N for next 7 weeks (Zero P products with N, K & S)
- Products like 29-0-14 can help to replace K on paddocks that have been cut for silage or surplus bales
- Important to fertilise paddocks with N correctly in order to try bridge the gap in winter feed
- However, on dairy farms it is important to get milking platform back into grass production to reduce stocking rate & fertilise outfarms for a 3rd cut
- 3000 Kg DM/Ha 3rd cut in early September will require – 60 units of N (1 bag of pro.urea + 2500g slurry)

P & K Offtakes

Pre-cutting yield (kg DM/ha)	Bales/ac	N units/ac	P units/ac	K units/ac
1,500	3	30	4.8	30
2,000	4	40	6.4	40
2,500	5	50	8	50