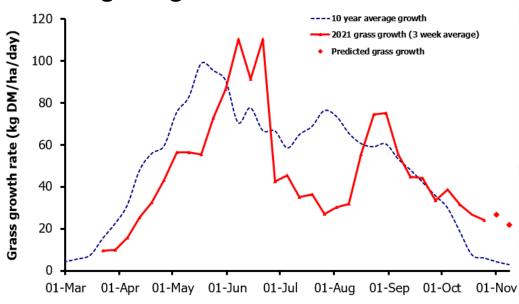








Week Beginning 25th October 2021



MANAGEMENT NOTES:

- This will be our final bulletin for 2021. Grass growth is still significantly above the seasonal average. However, ground conditions are beginning to deteriorate and housing of livestock is well underway.
- GrassCheck plot yields for this season were 1.9 t DM/ha below the long-term average, impacted mainly by the cold and dry spring, and the drought conditions during the summer. However, there has been considerable regional variation, with Co. Fermanagh farms growing approximately 2t DM/ha more grass than farms in Co. Down.
- Many thanks to our GrassCheck farmers and to the staff at AFBI,
 CAFRE and AgriSearch for their contributions this year.

Grass Growth (kg DM/ha/day)	☐ Grass growth (kg DM/ha/d) Soil temperature (°C) Arainfall (mm/7d)
GrassCheck plots# 24.0 Dairy farms* 29.9	22.5 12.0 13.8 37.8 12.5
Beef & sheep farms* 29.9	12.0 22.3
Forecast	W 34.6
7 day 14 day	30.0
26.6 21.7	14.3 16.9 12.4 12.2
*On-farm grass growth data supplied by AgriNet # GrassCheck plots receive 270 kg N/ha/year	

,	Value of Grass		Grass Quality	
	Dairy – maintenance plus (M+) (kg/cow/day)*	6.8	DM (%)	12.9
	Growing animals – daily live weight gain (kg/head/day)** 0.87		CP (% DM)	23.2
	*M+ calculated assuming: 650kg cow, and 10.5 kg DMI. Maintenance=75 MJ/day, 5.3 MJ/kg milk **Beef daily gain assuming: 300 kg beef steer, and 6.6 kg DMI. Maintenance=35 MJ/day, 40 MJ/kg gain		WSC (% DM)	6.4
			ME (MJ/kg DM)	10.6





