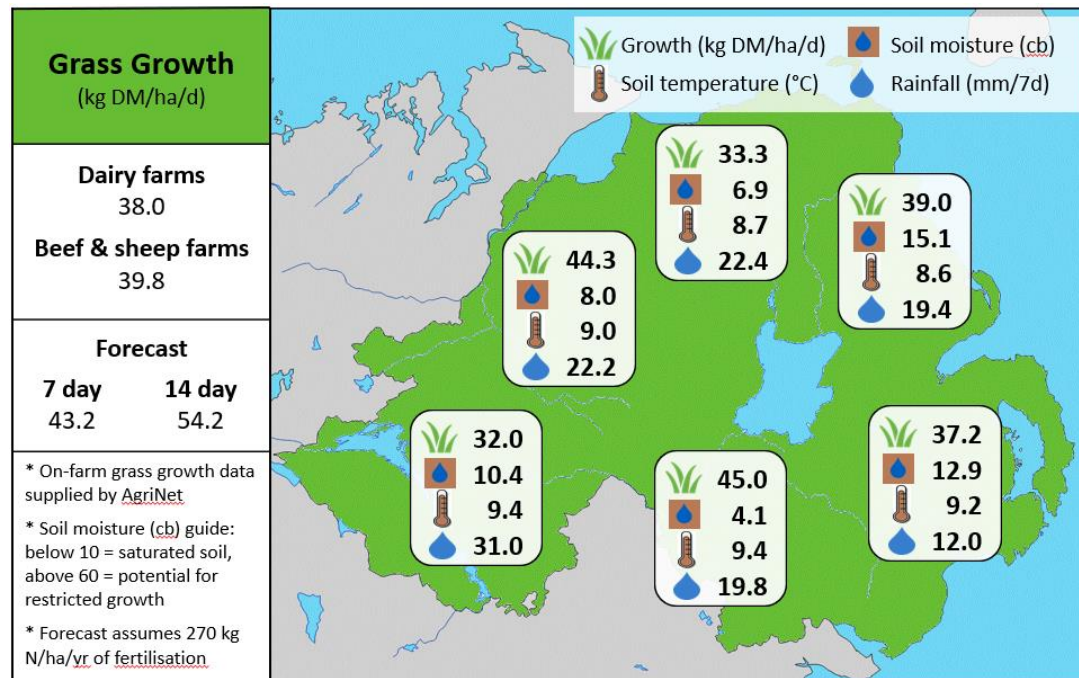
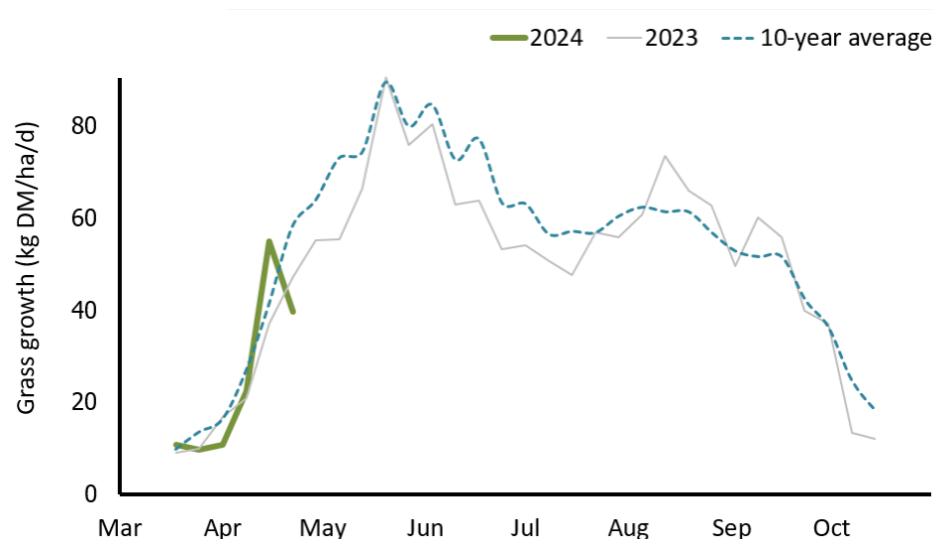


Week beginning 22nd April 2024



MANAGEMENT NOTES:

- A long awaited and greatly needed settled spell of weather has seen the start of grazing on many farms and delayed field operations being carried out.
- Farmers are relieved to see the end of the winter routine, but they have been pushed straight into summer management decisions bypassing spring, which calls timely decision making and swift action, based on knowing how much grass there really is.
- The priority for many will now be to establish a grazing wedge asap. Identify all animals which are suitable for grazing to maximise demand, target grazing the lower covers first, this will acclimatise cattle to grass and increase the area grazed daily.
- Skip heavier covers and ideally remove a number of these as surplus bales weekly as conditions permit to ensure there is a supply of quality grass to graze in 21 days. If left to coincide with first cut harvesting, a grazing deficit could hit in 2 to 3 weeks.

Value of Grass		Grass Quality	
Dairy — maintenance plus (M+) (kg/cow/day)*	17.5	DM (%)	20.7
Growing animals — live weight gain (kg/head/day)**	0.97	ME (MJ/kg DM)	11.2
*M+ calculated assuming: 650kg cow, and 15 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		CP (% DM)	16.9
		WSC (% DM)	17.1