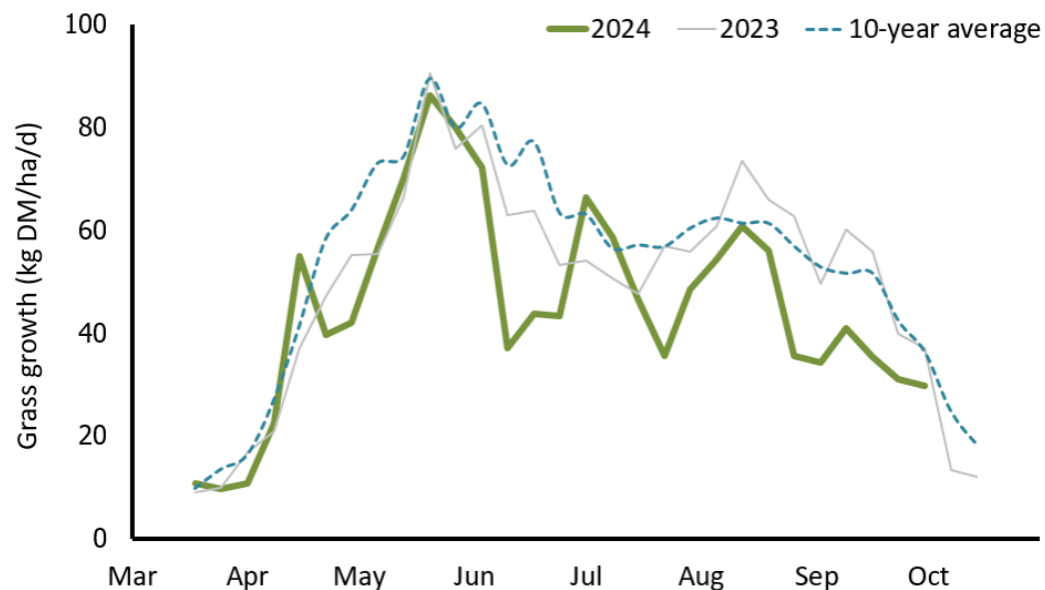
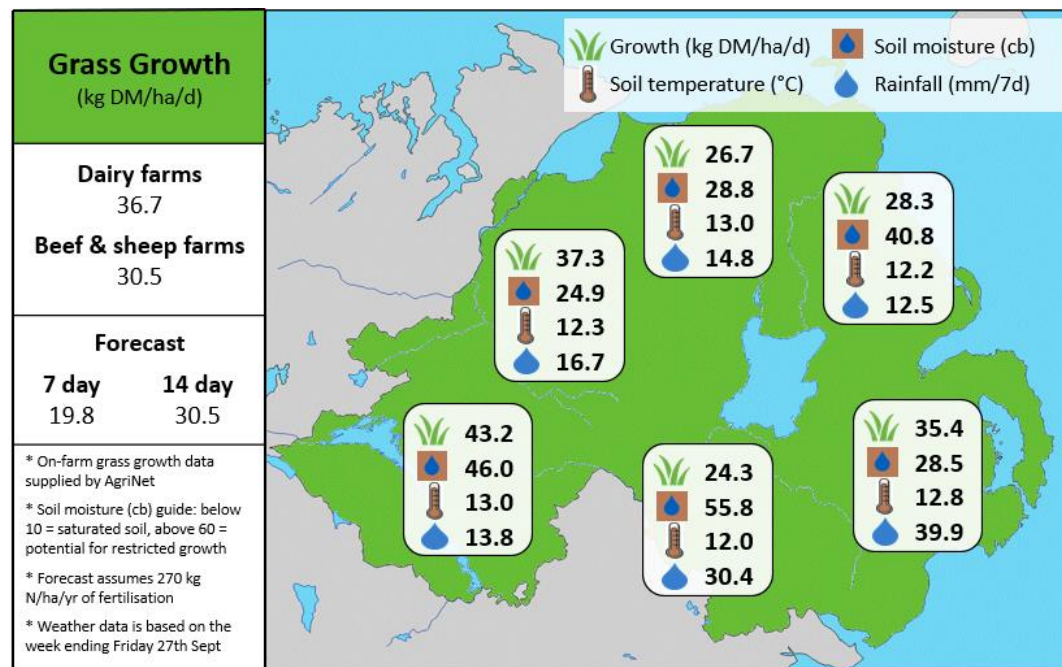


Week beginning 30th September 2024



* Grass growth curve based on AFBI Hillsborough and CAFRE Greenmount Plot data only (21-day rotation)



MANAGEMENT NOTES:

- On farm grass growth for the week past has been similar to the LT av. at 36 kg DM/ha/day.
- There are promising signs that grass growth might exceed the LT. av over the next fortnight.
- Several difficult weather events over the past week have been interspersed through settled spells. Have a plan in place for areas to grazed through the wet spells, including drier areas and swards with lower covers, so that the area allocated can be increased to avoid damage.
- In an ideal scenario for an extended autumn grazing, the rotation length should now be at its peak at 40 days and AFC > 2,500 kg DM/ha. Many farms are significantly below these targets.
- Assess your own farm situation to reduce grazing demand, options will include the housing of priority stock (beef animals or freshly calved cows) or continuing/increasing supplementation at grass to maintain the rotation length and keep certain groups of animals at grass for longer.
- As heavier farms begin to close paddocks for the winter this week, plan where you want to have grass available to graze in the early spring, which should be easily accessible, drier areas.

Value of Grass		Grass Quality	
Dairy — maintenance plus (M+) (kg/cow/day) *	9.2	DM (%)	16.6
Growing animals — live weight gain (kg/head/day) **	0.97	ME (MJ/kg DM)	11.3
*M+ calculated assuming: 650kg cow, and 15 kg DMI. Maintenance=75 MJ/day, 5.3 MJ/kg milk		CP (% DM)	22.4
**Beef daily gain assuming: 300 kg beef steer, and 6.6 kg DMI. Maintenance=35 MJ/day, 40 MJ/kg gain		WSC (% DM)	9.6