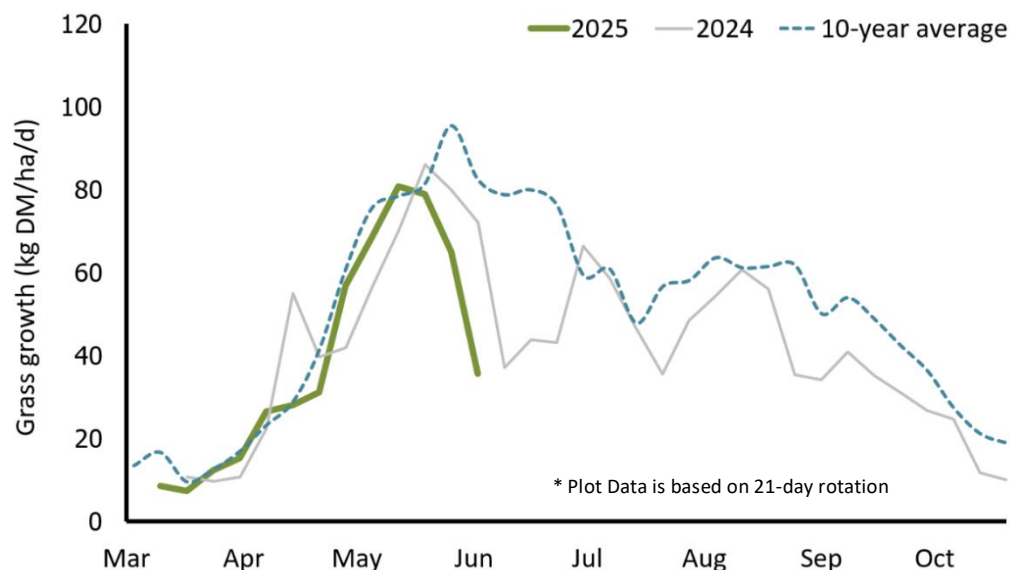


Week beginning 2nd June 2025

Grass Growth – AFBI Hillsborough and CAFRE Greenmount Plots

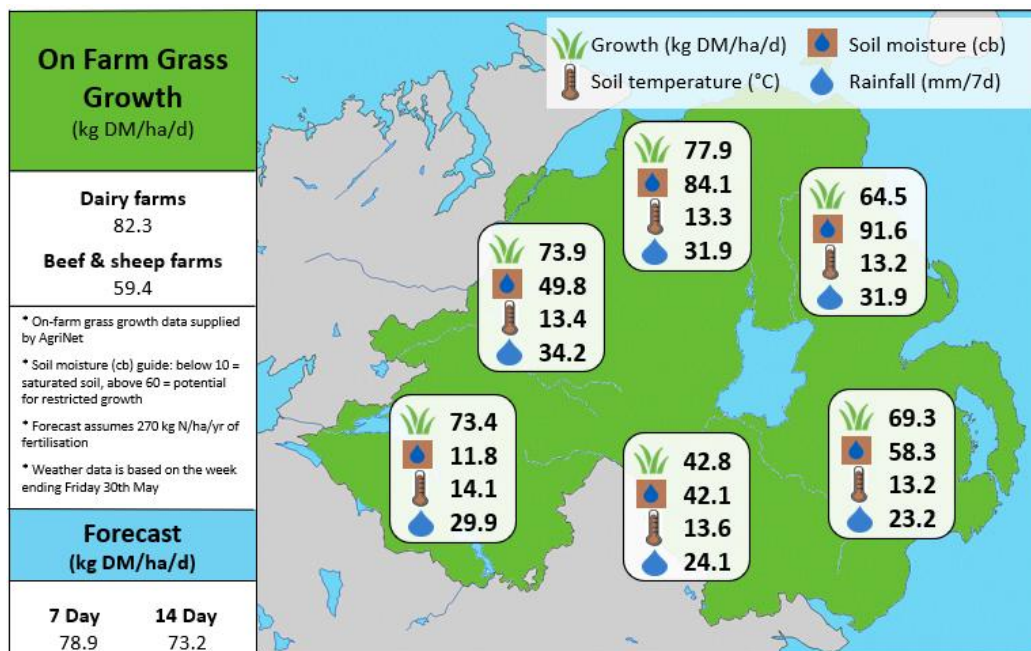


MANAGEMENT NOTES:

- Plot grass growth was significantly lower than on-farm growth last week, however it is forecast to return to the 10-year av. over the next fortnight as soil moisture returns.
- Perennial ryegrass is naturally entering its reproductive phase, which can be difficult to manage on farm. Measure grass at least weekly as grass covers will change very quickly.
- Target pre-grazing covers of 2800-3000 kg DM/ha. Grazing high covers >3000 Kg DM/ha will have a negative effect on animal performance, grass recovery, clean outs & quality.
- Paddocks with a high proportion of stem will require mechanical correction. Ideally remove these paddocks in the form of surplus bales, however disc mowing before or after grazing may be an option for some paddocks, but this will reduce growth rates.
- Apply fertiliser after each rotation in line with a NMP plan. Nitrogen application on paddocks with good clover contents (30% clover content) should be reduced.

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Value of Grass		Grass Quality	
Dairy — maintenance plus (M+) (kg/cow/day)*	18.7	DM (%)	19.1
Growing animals — live weight gain (kg/head/day)**	1.04	ME (MJ/kg DM)	11.6
*M+ calculated assuming: 650kg cow, and 15 kg DMI. Maintenance=75 MJ/day, 5.3 MJ/kg milk		CP (% DM)	15.0
**Beef daily gain assuming: 300 kg beef steer, and 6.6 kg DMI. Maintenance=35 MJ/day, 40 MJ/kg gain		WSC (% DM)	17.8