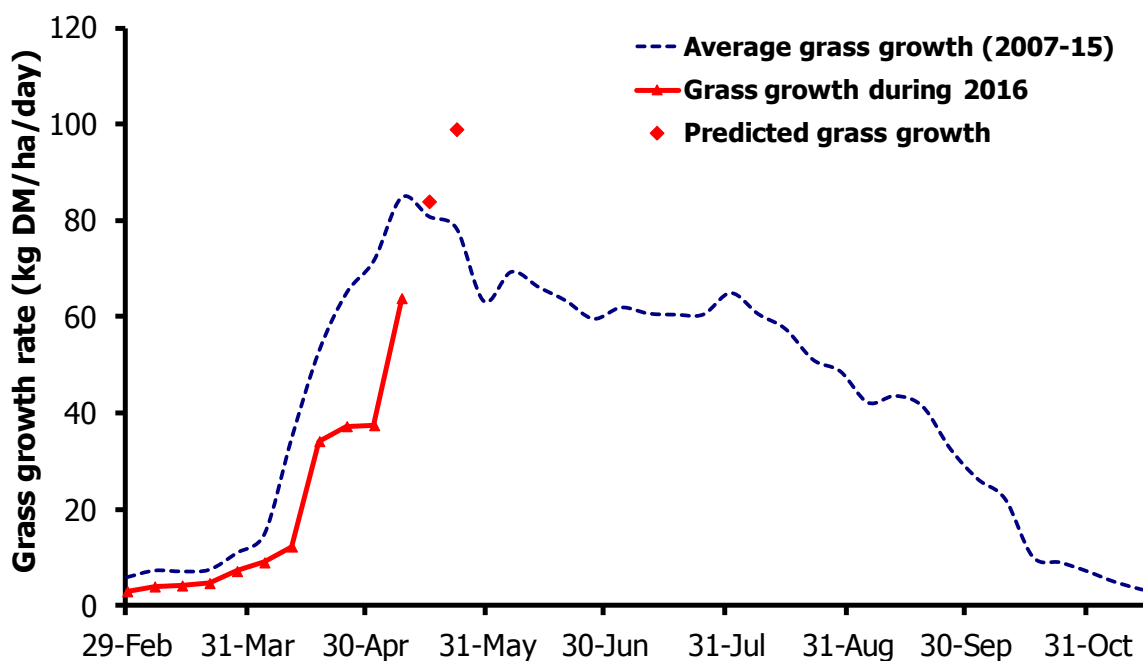


GrassCheck

Week beginning 9 May 2016



Grass growth and quality measured from swards at Hillsborough and Greenmount

Grass Growth (kg DM/ha/day)*		
Previous 3 weeks	9 May	64
Predicted	16 May	84
	23 May	99

* 270 kg N/ha/year applied

Grass Quality	
Dry matter (%)	17.5
ME (MJ/kg DM)	11.8
Crude protein (%)	21.9
Sugars (% DM)	12.5

Management notes.

- As expected growth has responded to the rising temperatures, and with the current showery and warm conditions, growth is racing towards its annual peak.
- It is a critical time to focus on providing grazing livestock with the correct quality and quantity of grass, as decisions made in the next two weeks will have a long lasting effect on grass quality and growth through early and mid summer.
- Where surplus grass is identified and first cut silage is not expected for a further week, consider baling these paddocks to get the sward back growing again.
- With grass supply increasing, supplementation with forage and concentrates can now be reduced, with research demonstrating that quality grass in May is capable of supporting at least 22 litres of milk.