

Grass growth remains low due to weather conditions.

Paddocks need to be walked weekly to estimate growth rates and covers .

Growth rate is dependant on weather , soil type , location , soil fertility etc.

Many farms are very short of grass and are grazing low covers.

Grassland management is not easy due to fluctuations in growth rates.

Dairy herds need to be on a rising plane of nutrition and getting enough to eat.

There is a tendency to overestimate grass availability.

There is a tendency to overestimate grass dry matter.

There is a tendency to overestimate cow intake from grass.

Overestimating the previous will lead to overgrazing and restricted intake.

Restricting intake and thereby increasing hunger will decrease output.

Cows will be on a falling plane of nutrition.

If cows look empty , showing as low gut fill and low rumen fill , intake is reduced.

Well fed cows will exhibit a ' full bellied ' appearance.

Empty cows are unsettled , they will rush to a new paddock or back to the yard

Herds need to be well fed