

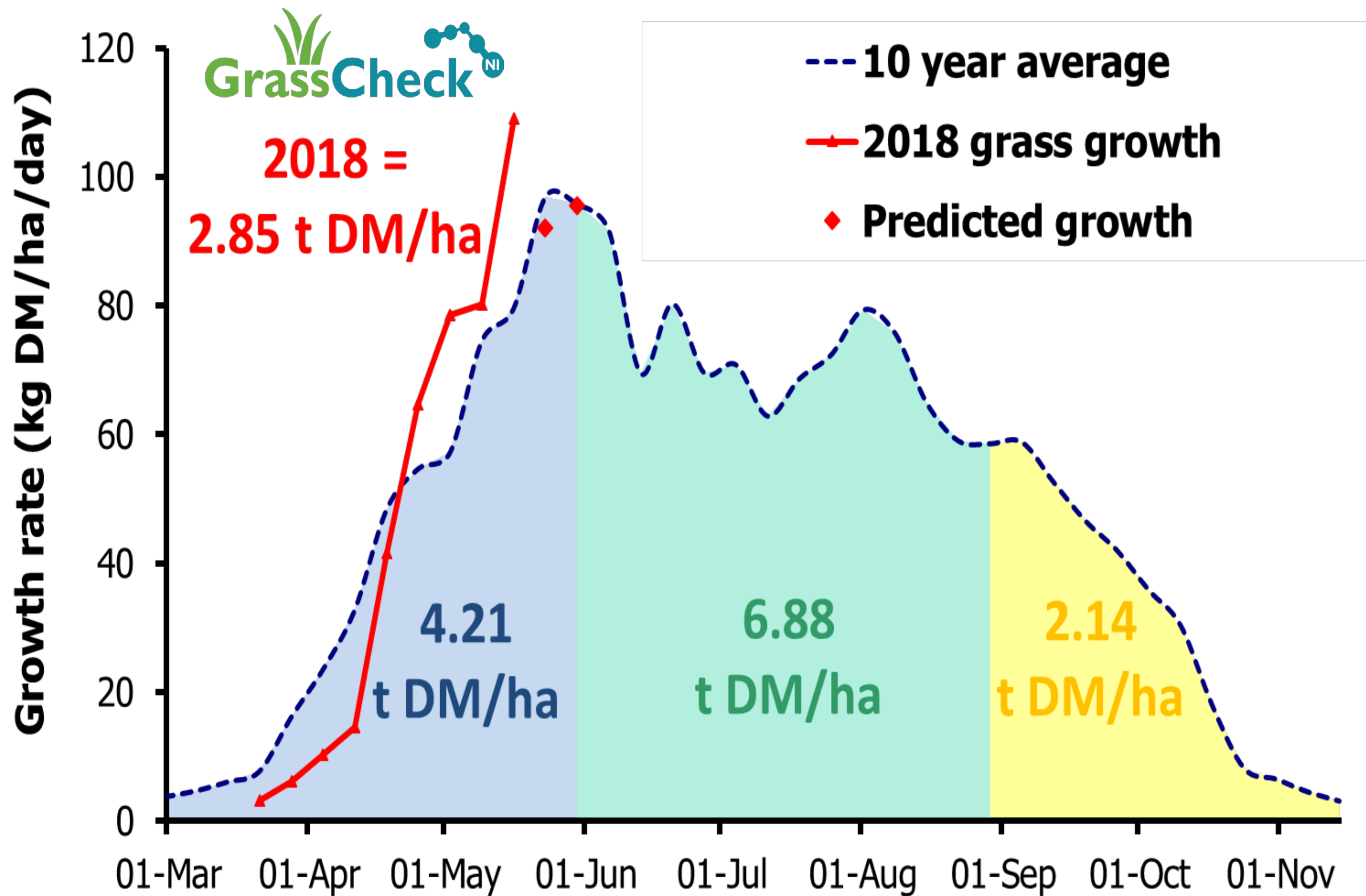
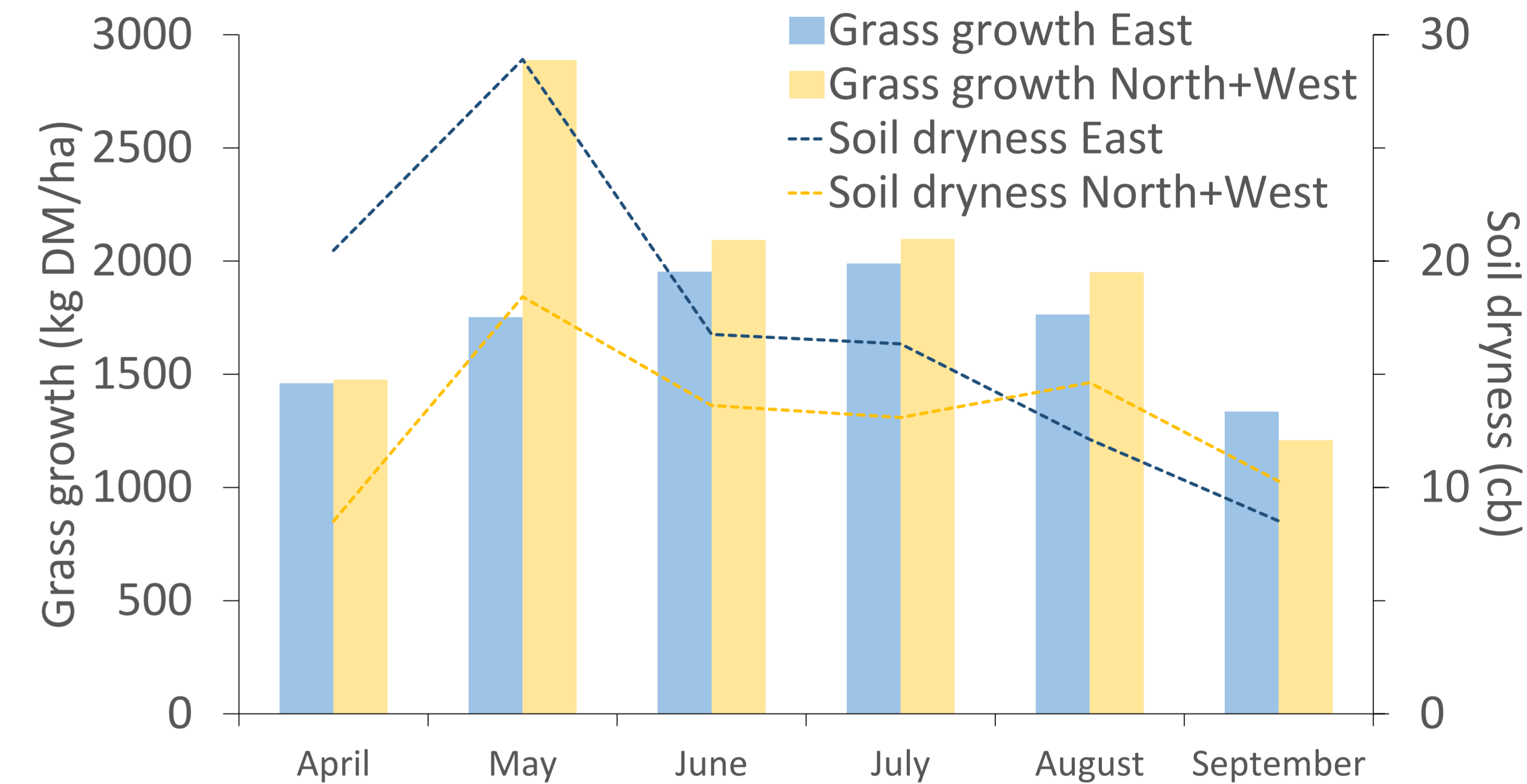
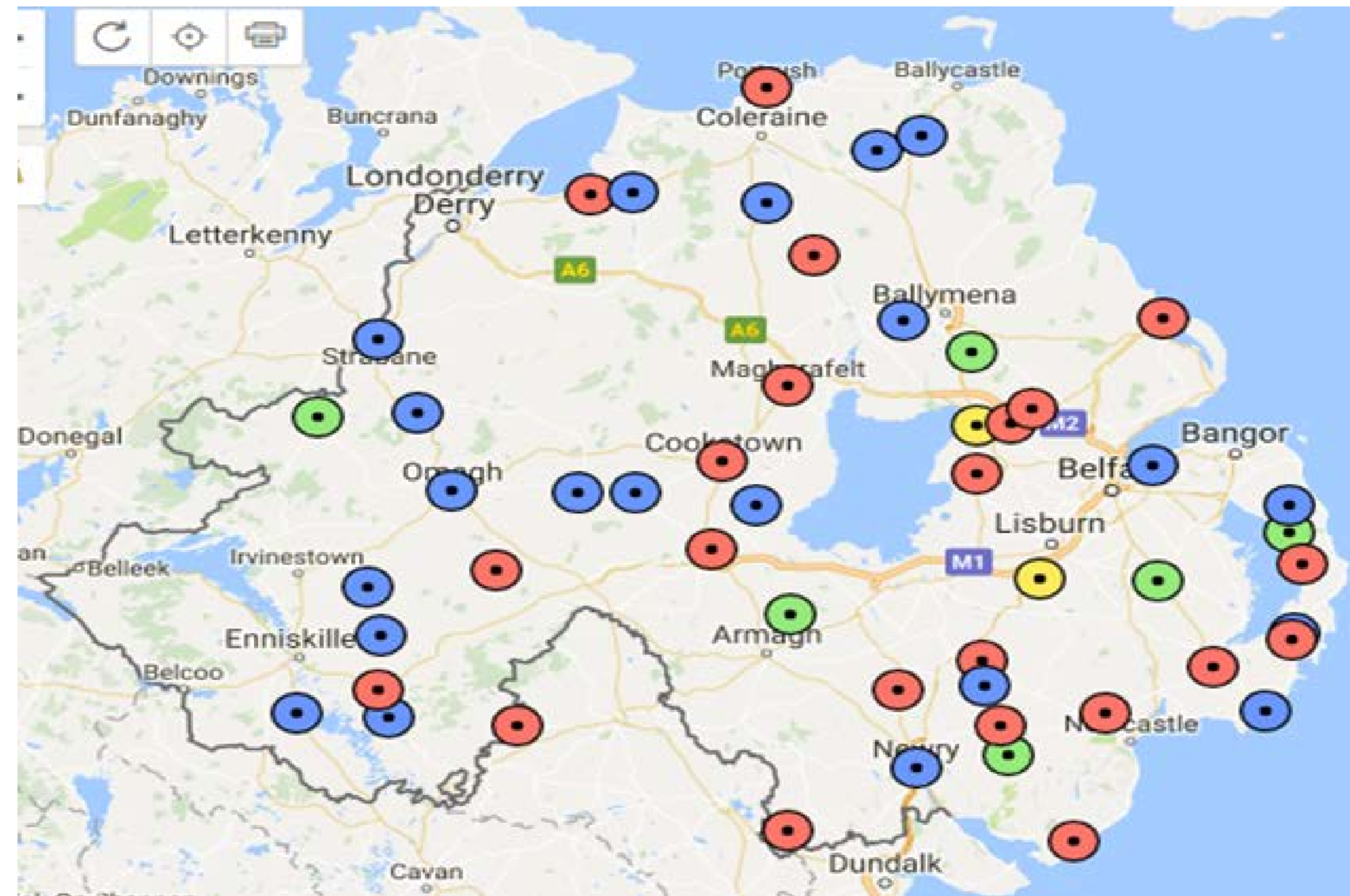
# Green Gold: Making the most of grass

- Opportunity to double grass growth and utilisation on N.I. dairy farms:

**+1t DM/ha = +£334/ha**

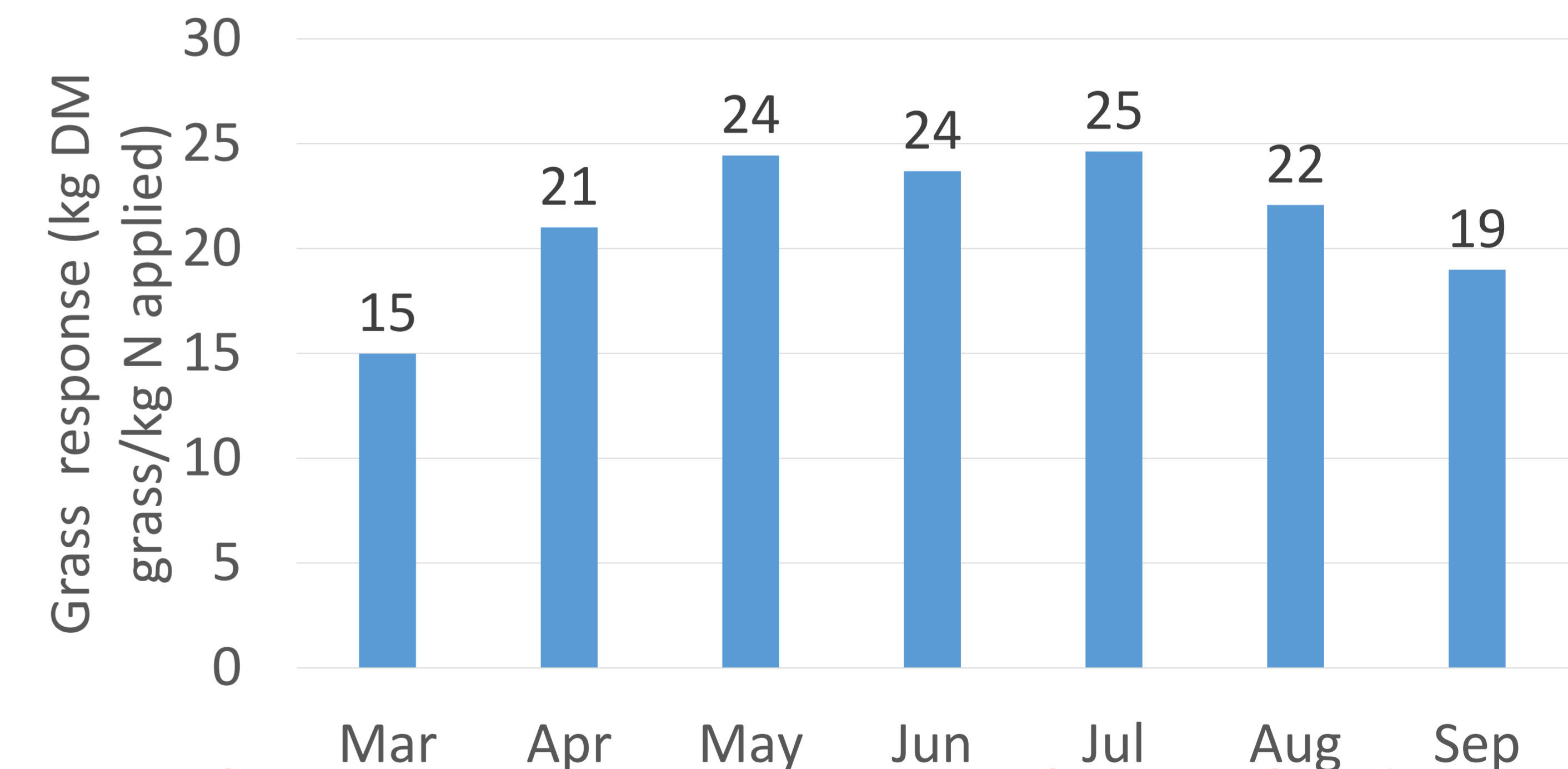
- 10 year average = 13.2t DM/ha 2018 season: 10% reduction in spring yield but currently strong recovery

Monitoring of beef and dairy farms – range of land type, location, production systems



	Plot	Dairy	Beef
Yield (t DM/ha)	13.8	<b>11.7</b>	11.1
Dry matter (%)	15.3	<b>16.5</b>	16.6
ME (MJ/kg DM)	11.3	<b>11.4</b>	11.4
Crude protein (%)	19.5	<b>19.0</b>	14.4

**Capacity to achieve over 10t DM/ha across all systems**



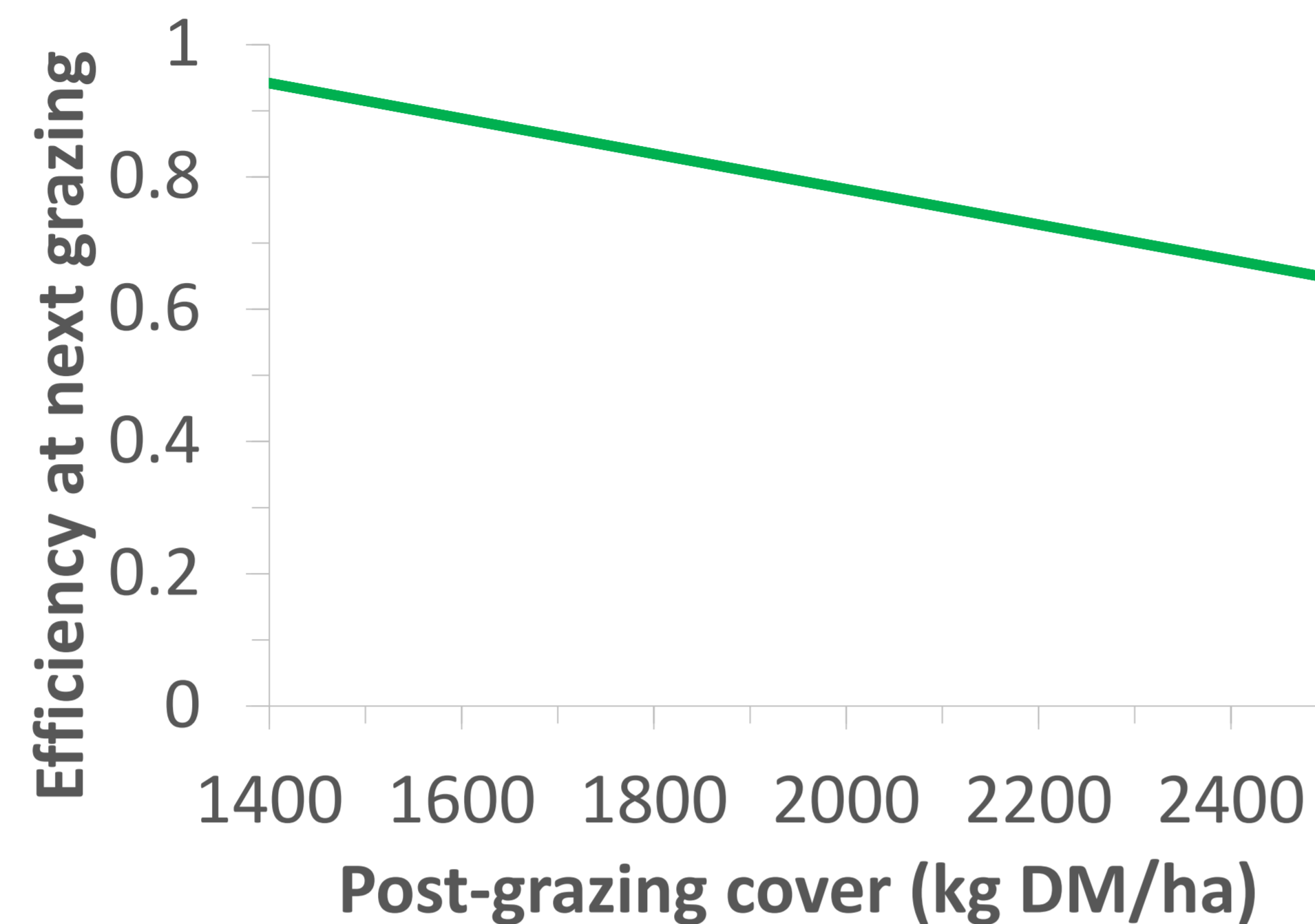
**Significant return on investment from N fertiliser throughout season: 11.6:1**

# Green Gold: Making the most of grass

## GrassCheck: On-farm grazing efficiency

Achieving target pre- and post-grazing residuals key to:

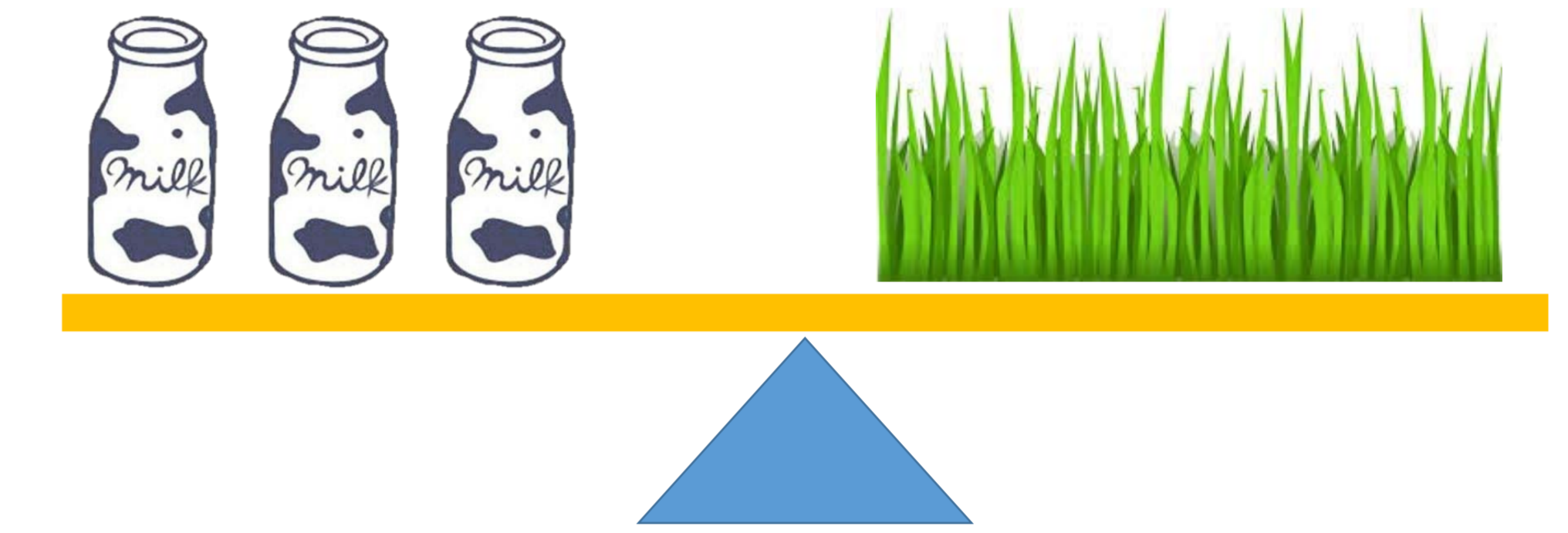
- Higher intakes of good quality pasture
- Reduction in herbage wastage
- Higher quality re-growths
- Shorter re-growth interval
- Improved response to N fertiliser



	Target	Group average	% grazings on target
<b>Pre-grazing cover</b> (kg DM/ha)	3000 - 3300	3074	72.4
<b>Post-grazing cover</b> (kg DM/ha)	1500 – 1800	1674	67.9
<b>Grazing efficiency</b> (used/available; %)	>75	85	76

## Impact of residuals for high yielding cows?

Constant balance between grass utilisation and cow performance



	Post-grazing sward height		
	5.2 cm	6.1 cm	6.8 cm
<b>Grass utilisation efficiency (%)</b>	81	69	62
<b>Milk yield (kg/cow/day)</b>	30.5	32.2	33.2
<b>Grazing stocking rate (cows/hectare)</b>	7.8	6.7	5.6
<b>Margin over feed and forage</b> (£/ha; 142d study)	6061	5195	4270

**Achieving target pre- and post-grazing residuals key to increasing grazing efficiency and margin per hectare**