





## **NASCO – A National Agricultural Soil Carbon Observatory for Ireland**

- •Peat soils are considered to emit 20 t C/ha/yr, while grassland on mineral soils are assumed to sequester 0.5 t C/ha/yr
- •National values for the impact of management on carbon emissions and removals from peat and mineral soils are urgently needed
- •NASCO is establishing 30  $CO_2$  flux monitoring towers across the country (see map) – these measure field scale  $CO_2$  uptake and release 10 times per second all year round.
- •Soil organic carbon is also measured every 5 years to 1 metre. Soil carbon is also being monitored on the 100+ Signpost Farms.
- •The grassland at Johnstown Castle has been sequestering, on average, 3.8 t CO<sub>2</sub>e/ha/yr over the past 18 years



