



**DAIRY BEEF 500 PROGRAMME E-NEWSLETTER - ISSUE 9**

**Join us on Tuesday, 12 September at 5pm for a Farm Walk with Pat Collins, Castlemartyr, Co. Cork**

# DairyBeef 500 Farm Walk

**Tuesday, 12 September  
@ 5pm**

**Pat Collins,  
Castlemartyr,  
Co. Cork**

**Eircode: P25 W892**

**Register  
Now!**



Join us on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 5pm for a Dairy Calf to Beef Farm Walk and Live forum event on the farm of Pat Collins, Castlemartyr, Co. Cork.

The theme of the event is **'Dairy Breeding for Beef Feeding'** which will be of great interest to both dairy farmers and those interested in rearing dairy bred stock.

On the farm walk, attendees will get to see at first hand, Pat's calf to beef system in action. There will be 2023 spring born calves and finishing stock on display on the day.

Topics will include Pat's farm system and financial details, grassland management tips for maximum performance and we will get Pat's and Teagasc specialists views on multi species swards and red clover which he has both of on farm.

There will also be information on finishing diets and getting the animal fit for slaughter.

Afterwards, there will be a **live forum** where attendees will have the opportunity to interact with an excellent panel of speakers.

Farmers can get answers to questions on calf breeding from the dairy herd where Chris Daly, ICBF will discuss the new Commercial Breeding Value which can be used as a tool to select calves of higher quality potential at purchase.

Martin Kavanagh, Munster Bovine will discuss health issues over the lifetime of the animal and will offer knowledge and ideas on calf housing and preparation for dairy calving next spring.

Laurence Shalloo, Teagasc will give his views on the future of the dairy industry and the outlook/options for dairy calves being produced in the future.

Pat Collins, host farmer will give his personal experiences of dairy calf to beef systems and a representative from a meat processor will provide information on the market specifications and what type of animal for slaughter is required by the factories.

The forum will be chaired by the well-known and respected Doreen Corridan, Munster Bovine.

This farm walk and forum is free to attend and should be of great interest and provide excellent information to both dairy and beef farmers.

All are welcome to attend and we look forward to meeting many of you on the evening, starting at 5pm.

[Click here to register for the farm walk](#)

## Winter fodder situation on DairyBeef 500 farms



The dry spell in late May / early June has affected participating farmers in the DairyBeef 500 Campaign across the country very differently. Farmers in the north west and west saw little or no effect of the dry weather, whereas the farmers in the east, south east and south suffered varying degrees of drought conditions for a number of weeks.

Remedial action had to be taken in many cases by introducing silage and concentrates to animals at grass to get over the grass deficit for a few weeks. This all has had a knock on effect. In some cases, winter silage stocks have been reduced, the opportunity to plan for second cut silage has not gone to plan and the removal of surplus grass from paddocks as quality silage bales has not happened as expected.

## Shane Cranny, Teagasc DairyBeef 500 Farmer

Shane Cranny, one of fifteen participating farmers in the Teagasc DairyBeef 500 Campaign is farming close to Myshall, Co. Carlow, one of the areas worst affected by the recent dry spell. Click below to see an example of a fodder budget for Shane.



[Read more here!](#)





## DairyBeef500 Programme

### Sustainable Dairy Beef Production

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Ballyvadin Demonstration Farm is sponsored by:



### Teagasc

Oak Park, R93 XE12, Carlow

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