



Small Woodlands on Dairy and Drystock Farms

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Overview

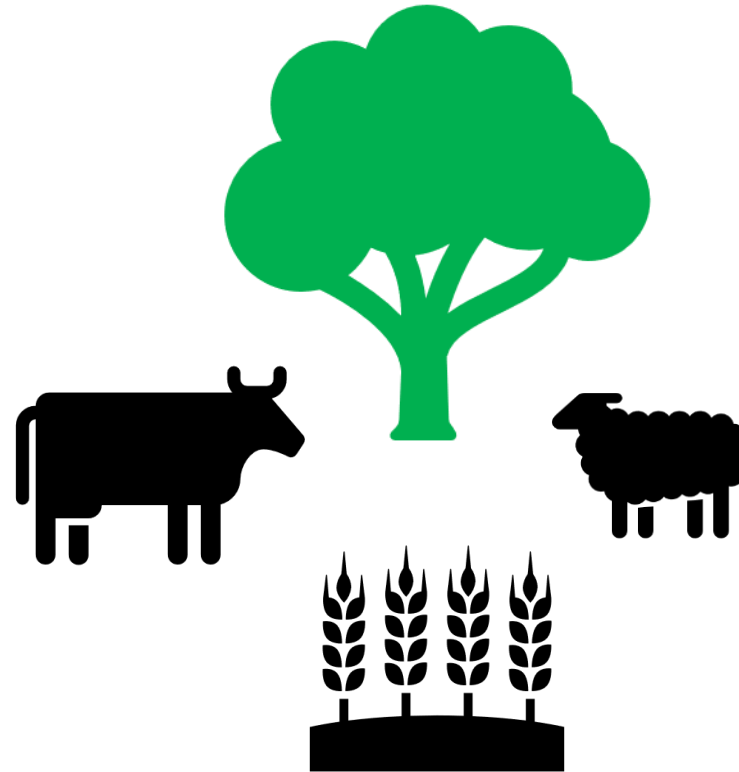
- Introduction to Agroforestry
- Impacts of trees on farms
- Importance of the research
- Project objectives
- Findings to date
- Stage 2 of study: Questionnaire



What is Agroforestry?



Not Agroforestry



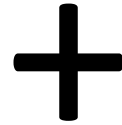
Agroforestry – integration of managed trees on farms



Impacts of trees on farms

Environmental impacts

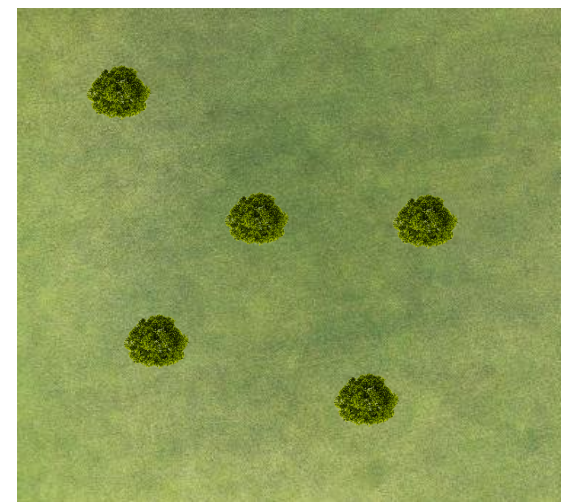
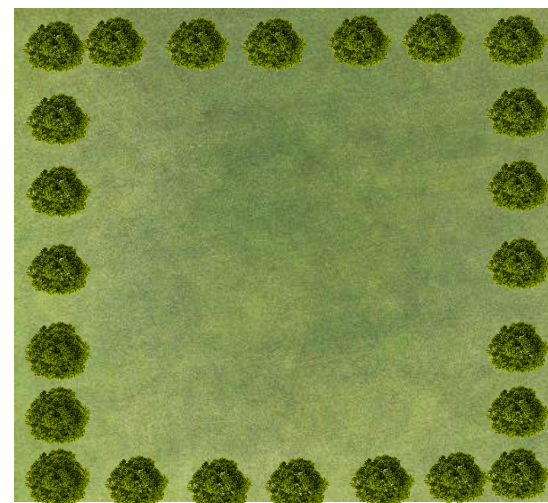
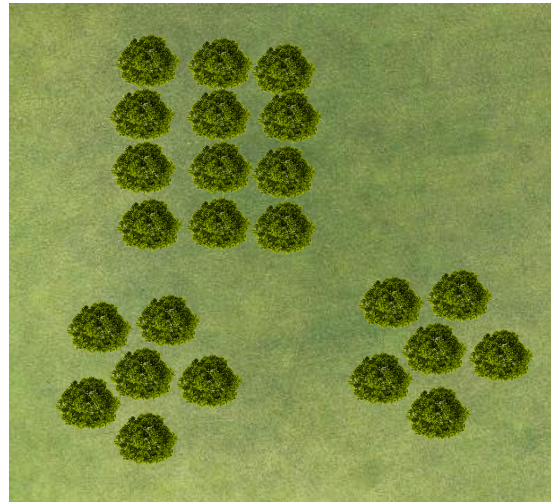
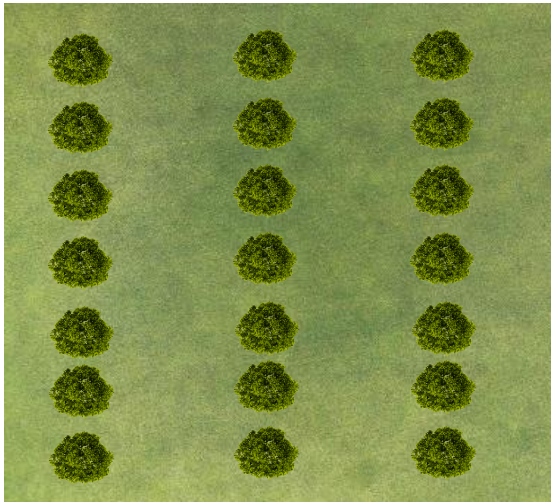
- Increased biodiversity
- Pollution abatement
- Flood mitigation
- Landscape aesthetics
- Soil stabilisation
- Carbon sequestration



Farm-based impacts

- Diversity in incomes
- Increased grass growth of up to 16%
- Decreased pathogens and temperature related stressors
- Reduced fertiliser input requirements
- Tree fodder
- Microclimate regulation
- Climate change adaptation
- Offset N_2O , NH_3 and CH_4 emissions

Agroforestry System Design



- GPC 11
 - Stocking rate = 400-1000 trees/ ha
 - Tree-to-tree width of 20m
 - €6220/ha = 80% of eligible costs
- REPS
 - Riparian planting, widely-spaced planting, establishment of a traditional grazed orchard etc.



Agroforestry on Drystock Farms

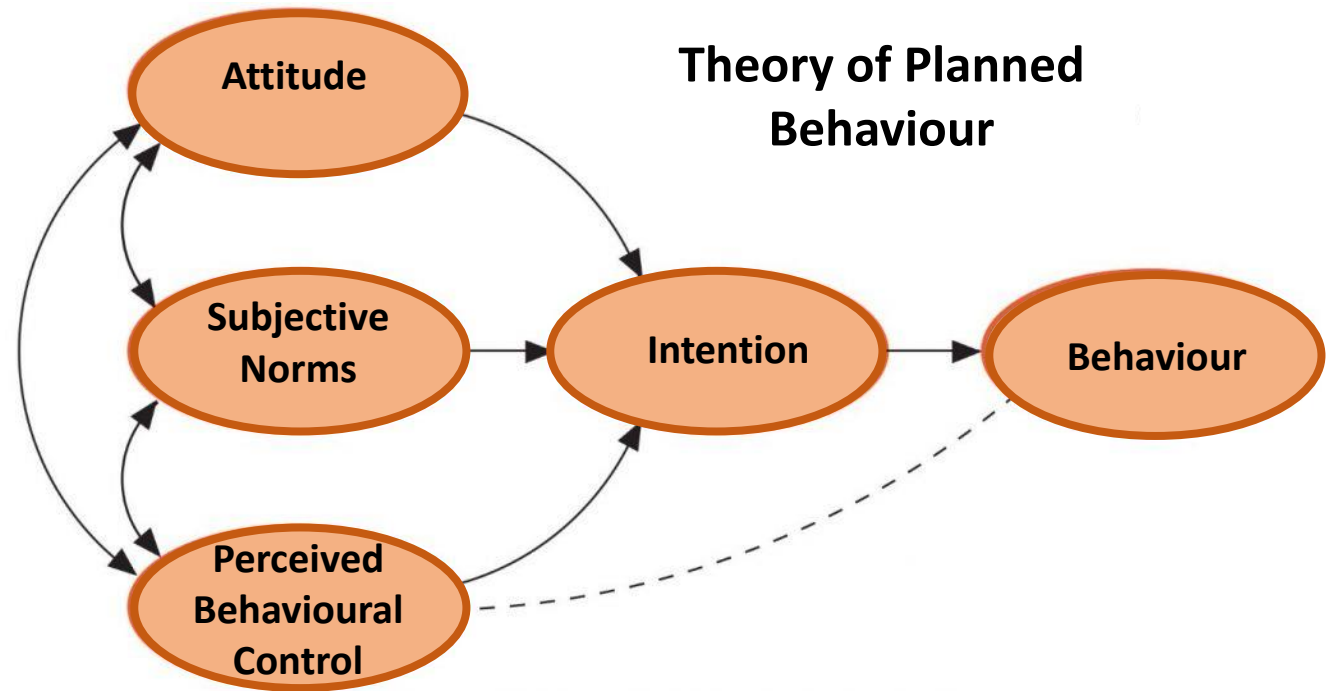


Importance of Study

- 1 ha of trees would be required on every EU farm as a potential initiative of the Post-2020 CAP...**agroforestry**



€€€€€ x uptake



Project Objectives

- Impacts of incorporating agroforestry practices, such as small woodlands, on dairy and drystock farms
- Collate information on the management of existing and the establishment of new trees
- **Investigate farmer attitudes, perceptions and willingness to plant trees and adopt agroforestry practices**

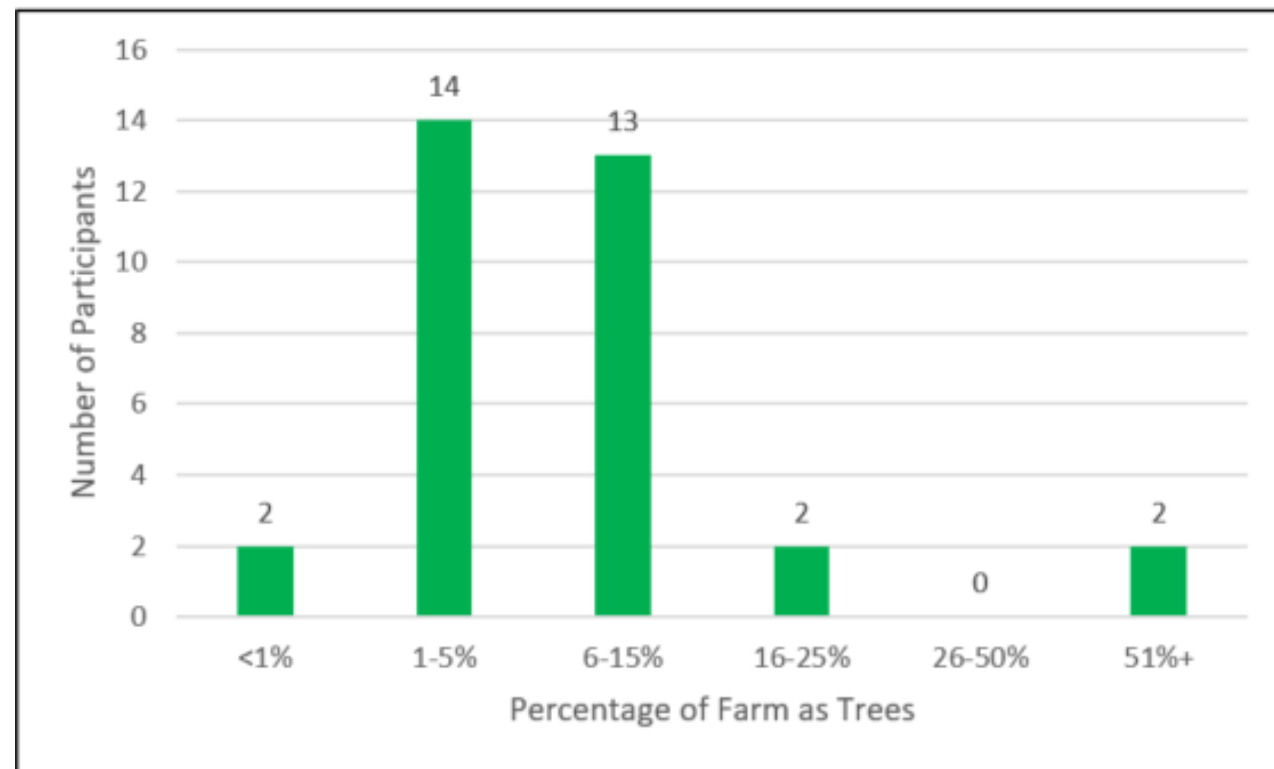
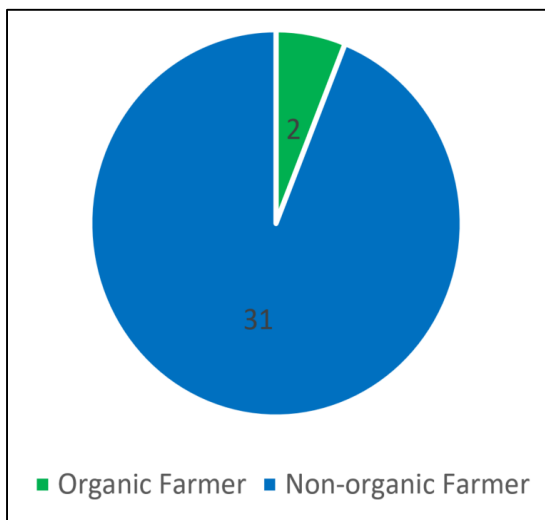
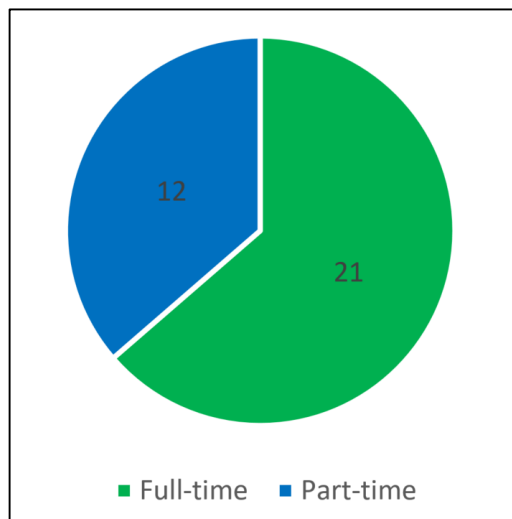
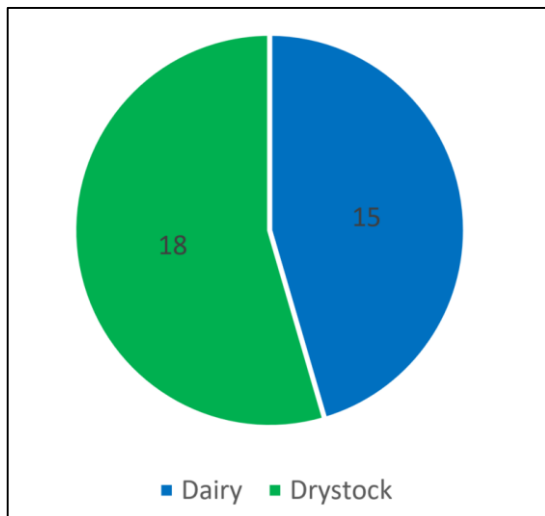


Results to Date

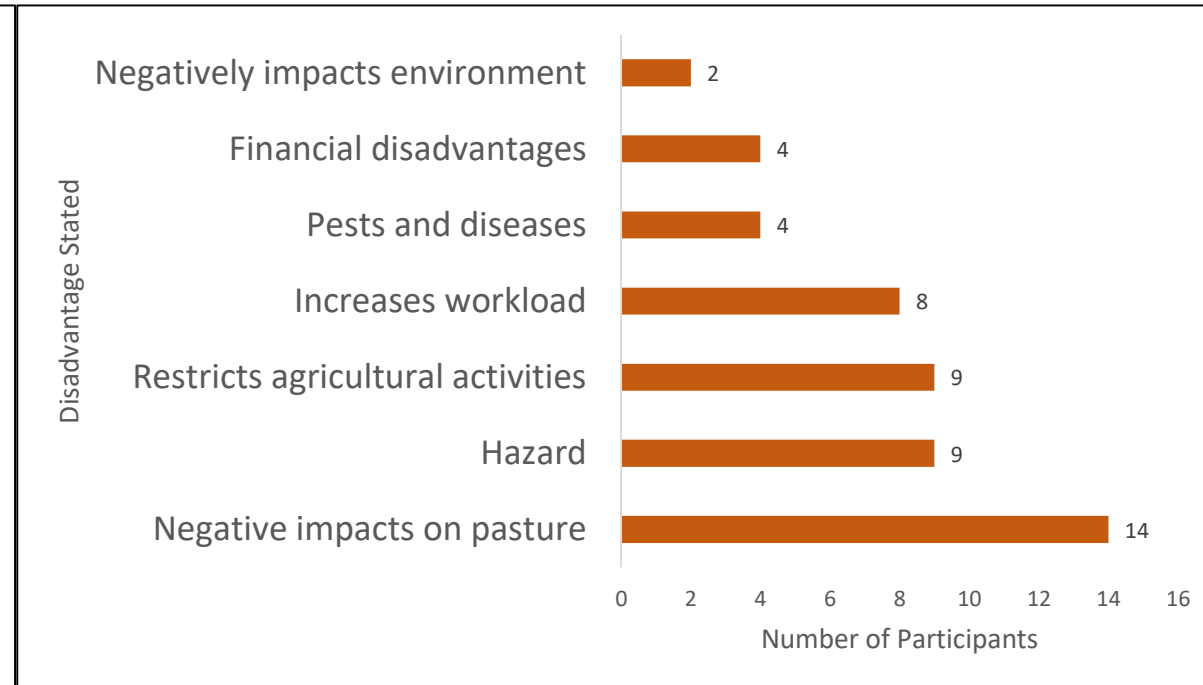
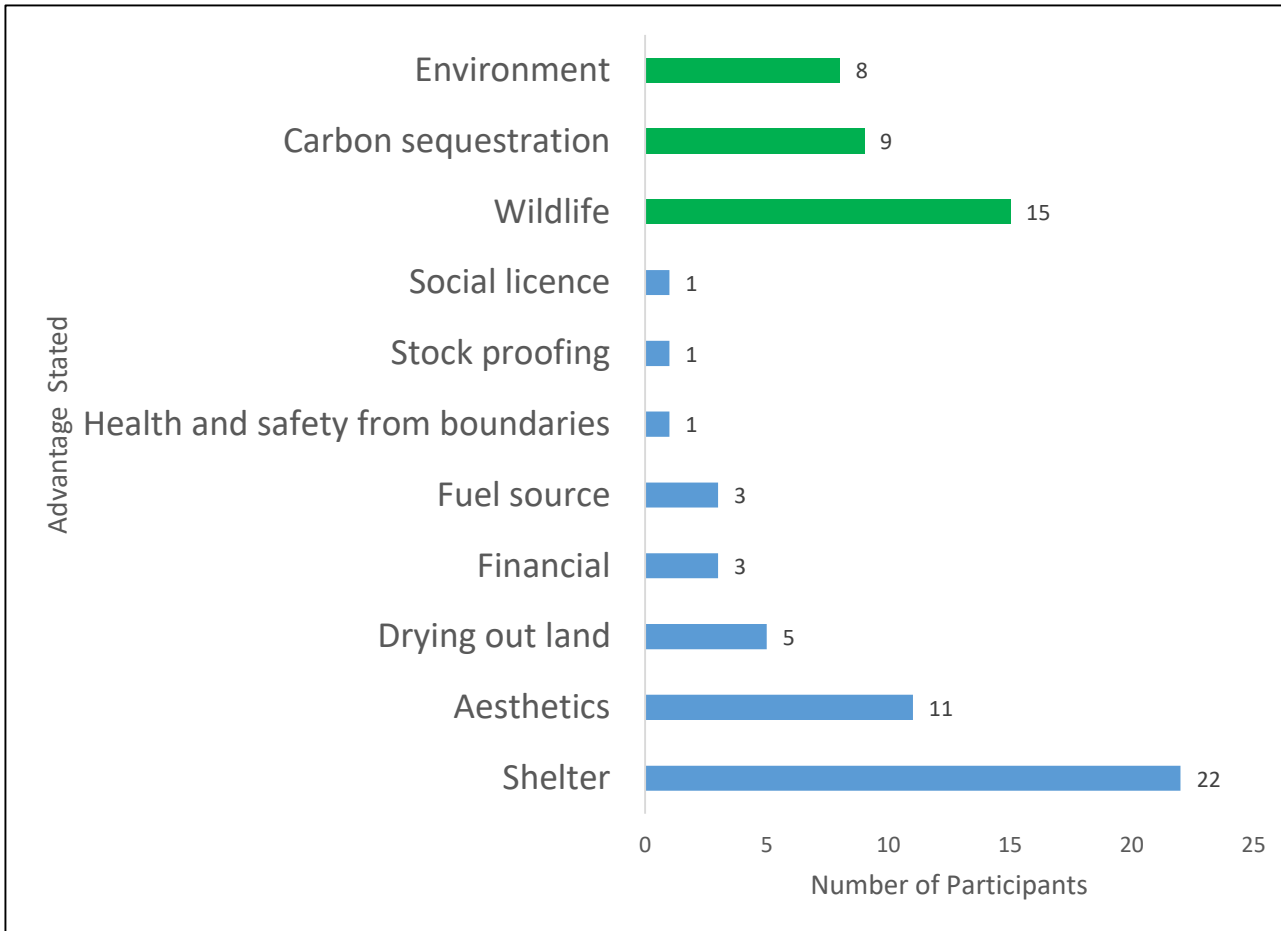
- **Stage 1: Interviews with discussion group members**
 - 33 farmers from 6 out of the 12 advisory regions:
 - Sligo/Leitrim/Donegal
 - Mayo
 - West Cork
 - Kerry/Limerick
 - Westmeath/Offaly/Cavan/Monaghan
 - Wicklow/Carlow/Wexford
 - Open-ended questions based on the Theory of Planned Behaviour
 - Zoom
 - Recorded and transcribed



Results to Date



Results to Date: Attitude and Perceived Behavioural Control



Major barriers cited:

- Lack of knowledge
- Requirement to replant
- Financial barriers
- Location constraints

Results to Date: Subjective Norms

- Top five influential people / organisations:
 - Teagasc
 - Family
 - Other farmers
 - Media
 - Local people



- Majority of influential people would respond positively to planting trees on farms
- 64% of farmers stated that the decision to plant trees was entirely up to them.

Questionnaire

- **Stage 2: Questionnaire**
- Aimed at all dairy and drystock farmers across Ireland

Have your say on trees

In recent years, there has been increased emphasis on the multiple values of trees on farms. MGo Walsh Scholar Rachel Irwin is conducting an online survey of dairy and drystock farmers' perceptions of, and attitudes towards, trees on farms.

The results of this study will be collated and analysed to aid policy and help create guidelines for policy makers.

To anonymously complete the survey, please either scan the QR code with your smartphone or go to <https://tinyurl.com/fkj3n85z>.



Questionnaire

Methods of Distribution:

- **Advisors**
 - **Distribution to clients**
 - **PUCA Test Message (160 character limit)**
 - **Link: tinyurl.com/teagascsmallwoodlands**



“A survey on farmers’ attitudes to trees is being conducted to aid new policy measures. To anonymously complete this survey go to <https://tinyurl.com/fkj3n85z>.”

Thank You

- Link to project website:
 - <https://www.teagasc.ie/crops/forestry/research/small-woodlands-on-farms/>
- Rachel Irwin
 - Rachel.irwin@teagasc.ie
 - Rachel.irwin1@ucdconnect.ie



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<https://tinyurl.com/teagascsmallwoodlands>