

MANAGEMENT DATA for FARM PLANNING 2008

Incorporating budgets for livestock, crops, poultry,
horticulture and alternative enterprises.

Also information on taxation, social welfare, credit,
grants and schemes.



FARM MANAGEMENT DATA HANDBOOK 2008

*Prepared by:
Farm Management and Enterprise Specialists, Poultry,
Horticultural and Environmental / REPS Personnel*

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Conversion Tables

IR£	=	1.27 Euros
€1	=	£.787564
1c	=	0.79p
£1/acre	=	€3.138/ha
£1/gallon	=	€0.279/litre
£1/lb	=	€2.8/kg

AREA

1 sq. foot	=	144 sq inches	=	0.0929m ²	
1 sq. yard	=	9 sq. foot	=	0.836m ²	
1 sq. Metre	=	10.765 sq. foot	=	1.196 sq. Metres	
1 acre	=	4 roods	=	160 perches	= 4840 sq. yards
1 hectare	=	2.471 acres	=	10,000m ²	

LENGTH

1 yard	=	3 feet	=	0.9144 metres
1 millimetre			=	0.0394 in
1 centimetre	=	10 mm	=	0.3937 in
1 metre	=	100 cm	=	1.0936 yards
1 kilometre	=	1000 cm	=	0.6214 miles

WEIGHT

1 gramme (g)	=	100 mg	=	0.0353 oz
1 kilogramme (kg)	=	1000 grams	=	2.2046 lb
1 tonne	=	1000 kg	=	0.9842 ton
1 lb	=	16 oz	=	0.4536 kg
1 stone	=	14 lb	=	6.3503 kg

CAPACITY

1 cubic yard	=	27 cubic feet	=	0.7646 m ³
1 cubic metre	=	1.3080 cubic yards		
1 litre	=	0.22 gallon		
1 gallon	=	4.5461 litres	=	4.681kg

BALE CAPACITY (approx)	Ave Weight	Chopped	m.c. %
Silage - 4 x 4 Round Bale	600 kg	750 kg	25 - 30 % m.c.
Hay - Small Square Bale	18 - 20 kg		
4 x 4 Round	200 kg		
Straw - Small Square Bale	15 kg	8 x3 x2 (Square)	150 kg
4 x 4 Round	150 kg	8 x4 x3 (Square)	450 kg
5 x 4 Round	240 kg	8 x4 x4 (Square)	625 kg

INTRODUCTION

This handbook sets out the background budgets to the 2008 Summary of Guideline Gross Margins, together with other information which is regularly needed for farm planning. The budgets are designed to reflect medium term expectations from the principal farm enterprises at levels of efficiency characteristic of typical farm situations.

The suitability of the budgets as a specific income indicator for a particular year will vary from enterprise to enterprise, e.g. budgeted figures can closely reflect the outturn in the case of an enterprise subject to a well-defined market regime such as dairying, while being considerably less dependable in the case of short term cattle systems, pigs and potatoes.

The impact of the Fischler mid-term reforms will affect enterprise gross margins over the coming years. Dairy margins will get tighter and the price of male calves, weanlings and young stores will probably move downwards to reflect the real returns available from the marketplace. The budgets for 2008 are prepared with premia excluded.

From 2006/2007 forward, it is important to check farm stocking rates, Fertiliser levels being used and slurry storage and application levels so that they comply with the new nitrates directive and the conditions for EU derogations.

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The Farm Retirement Scheme and Installation Aid Scheme was updated by John Norris, Teagasc Kildalton

The section on Fixed Costs and Comparative Gross Margins is based on data supplied by co-operating farmers in the National Farm Survey (Teagasc) and analysed by Gerry Quinlan of Teagasc, Kinsealy.

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SECTION I

SUMMARY OF GUIDELINE GROSS MARGINS FOR USE IN FARM PLANNING 2008

(The impact of the Fischler mid-term review will only become clear in future years. Farmers, therefore, need to take extreme care if budgeting for medium/long term developments involving high investment costs and/or borrowings).

INTRODUCTION:

The guideline gross margins should be adjusted when circumstances differ from those assumed in the source budgets. (These budgets are documented separately). The areas which might demand most frequent adjustment are as follows:

- Silage Making:** the budgets assume contractor charges. When the farmer makes his own silage the margins should be increased by the amount shown in the relevant budget.
- By-Products:** No value is imputed to straw or beet tops either as output from tillage or as an input to livestock. Adjustments for by-products are seldom necessary except where large proportions are bought or sold.
- There are variations throughout the country in milk price, contractor charges, etc; budgets for individual farmers should be adjusted to allow for these variations.

(1) CREAMERY AND LIQUID MILK PRODUCTION - Excluding milk Single Payment (Gross Margin/Cow-2007/2008) The milk single payment will add approx. 16c per gallon (3.51 c/l) to margins from 2006 onwards

Yield per Cow (Litres) Gallons	(4500) 990	(5000) 1100	(5500) 1210	(6000) 1320	(6500) 1430	(7000) 1540	(7500) 1650
G.M. per Cow (Liquid/Winter)	N.A.	N.A.	€1189	€1295	€1305	€1427	€1503
G.M. per Cow (Creamery)	€931	€1,088	€1,184	€1,297	€1,321	€1,413	-

(2) CATTLE PRODUCTION (Gross margin per animal, excluding premia/single payment) FRIESIAN CATTLE SYSTEMS

		Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Calf to 24 months —Steers	Wt. at sale Gross Margin/head	375kg €40	435kg €77	520kg €146	595kg €237	635kg €262
0-6 months	Wt. at 6 months Gross Margin	165kg €14	187kg €19	215kg €21	230kg €35	257kg €36
7-12 months	Wt. at 12 months Gross Margin	205kg €8	230kg €9	275kg €40	295kg €46	330kg €55
13-18 months	Wt. at 18 months Gross Margin	330kg €6	368kg €41	425kg €46	445kg €49	493kg €62
19-24 months	Wt. at 24 months Gross Margin/head	375kg €8	435kg €9	520kg €39	595kg €107	635kg €108
Calf to 30 months —Steers	Wt. at 30 months Gross Margin/head	450kg €81	510kg €99	575kg €188	610kg €272	670kg €339
Winter Finishing —Steers	Gross Margin per head	—	€5	€11	€21	€39
Store to Beef (Aut.) – Steers	Gross Margin Per head	—	€30	€87	€140	€172
Summer Grazing —Steers	Gross Margin per head	—	€17	€28	€45	€53

HEREFORD X FRIESIAN SYSTEMS (Excl. premia/single payment)

		Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Calf to 24 months - Steer	Wt. at sale Gross Margin/Unit	370kg (€8)	420kg €20	505kg €83	565kg €234	610kg €267
Calf to 30months - Steers	Wt. at sale Gross Margin/Unit	415kg €57	475kg €58	545kg €154	580kg €244	650kg €333
Calf to 24 months - Heifers	Wt. at sale Gross Margin/Unit	335kg €78	365kg €92	425kg €166	465kg €206	520kg €251
Winter Finishing – Steers	Gross Margin per head	—	€7	€30	€34	€49

HEREFORD X FRIESIAN SYSTEMS (continued)

		Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Winter Finishing — Heifers	Gross Margin per head	—	€10	€32	€40	€57
Store to Beef (Aut.) — Steers	Gross Margin per head	—	€41	€96	€137	€169
Summer Grazing — Steers	Gross Margin per head	—	€12	€25	€47	€56

CONTINENTAL X FRIESIAN SYSTEMS (Excl. Premia/Single Payments)

		Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Calf to 24 months - Steers	Wt. at sale Gross Margin/Unit	420kg €53	480kg €87	570kg €209	670kg €286	715kg €306
Calf to 30 months - Steers	Wt. at sale Gross Margin/Unit	485kg €94	550kg €92	640kg €247	680kg €325	740kg €393
Calf to 24 months - Heifers	Wt. at sale Gross Margin/Unit	370kg €53	415kg €102	480kg €199	535kg €227	590kg €262
0-6 months - Heifers	Wt. at 6 months Gross Margin	175kg (€10)	190kg €9	220kg €27	235kg €32	260kg €42
7-12 months Heifers	Wt. at 12 months Gross Margin	210kg (€6)	235kg €5	270kg €38	295kg €48	330kg €65
13-18 months - Heifers	Wt. at 18 months Gross Margin	325kg €34	355kg €51	405kg €53	445kg €53	495kg €59
19-24 months - Heifers	Wt. at 24 months Gross Margin	370kg €35	415kg €38	480kg €81	535kg €94	590kg €96
Winter Finishing - Steers	Gross Margin per head	—	€28	€61	€53	€78
Winter Finishing - Heifers	Gross Margin per head	—	(€19)	€6	€17	€43
Store to Beef - Steers (autumn)	Gross Margin per head	—	€65	€121	€179	€231
Summer Grazing - Steers	Gross Margin per head	—	€9	€38	€53	€70

SUCKLING SYSTEMS (Gross margin per animal, (excluding Premia/Single Payments)

		Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Single Suckling to Weanling	Gross Margin per Cow (excl. Premia)	€157	€182	€235	€271	€316
Single Suckling to 1 year old	Gross Margin per Cow (excl. Premia)	€106	€154	€243	€289	€332
Single Suckling to 1½ year old	Gross Margin per Cow (excl. Premia)	€145	€199	€300	€341	€429
Single Suckling to Beef	Gross Margin per Cow (excl. Premia)	—	€164	€301	€397	€522

(3) Sheep Production (Gross margins exclude Rural World Premium and Headage/Single Payments)

		Poor	Moderate	Good	Excellent
lowland flocks * G.M./ewe	Early lamb	€34.35	€44.38	€54.92	€66.08
	Mid Season	€39.25	€47.53	€54.73	€65.53

* The Ewe Premium and Rural World Premium are part of the Single Farm Payment in 2005 and future years up to 2012.

(4) PIG PRODUCTION - (All Meal Feeding)**(a) Breeding only (selling weaners at 32kg)**

Performance - Bonhams per sow	20	21	22	23	24	25
Gross Margin per Sow	€105	€125	€145	€164	€182	€201

(b) Finishing only (32 - 100kg)

Feed Conversion Efficiency	Moderate (2.8)	Good (2.7)	V. Good (2.6)	Excellent (2.5)
Gross Margin per Pig	€11.65	€13.20	€14.75	€16.30

- (5) CEREAL PRODUCTION** (Contractor charges of €40/ha for sowing and €135/ha. for harvesting are deducted. Appropriate adjustments should be made when operations are carried out by a farmer).
All cereal margins exclude the value of straw and the cost of baling. The margins also exclude VAT.

MARGINS EXCLUDING AREA AID/SINGLE PAYMENT

Winter Wheat (For Feeding)	Yield per hectare Gross Margin per ha.	7.4t €332	8.6t €530	10.0t €761	10.5t €843
Spring Wheat (Milling Wheat)	Yield per hectare Gross Margin per ha.	5.0t €146	6.2t €356	7.4t €566	8.6t €776
Winter Barley (For Feeding)	Yield per hectare Gross Margin per ha.	5.0t (-€34)	6.2t €152	7.4t €338	8.6t €524
Spring Barley (For Feeding)	Yield per hectare Gross Margin per ha.	4.5t €80	5.0t €157	6.0t €312	6.9t €451
Winter Oats (For Feeding)	Yield per hectare Gross Margin per ha.	5.0t €64	6.2t €250	7.4t €436	8.6t €622
Spring Oats (For Feeding)	Yield per hectare. Gross Margin per ha.	4.5t €56	5.3t €179	6.2t €319	7.4t €505
Winter Oilseed rape	Yield per hectare Gross Margin per ha.	2.5t (-€65)	3.1t €124	3.7t €313	4.3t €500
Protein Peas	Yield per hectare Gross Margin per ha.	3.1t €21	3.7t €162	4.3t €303	5.0t €467

(6) SUGAR BEET (excl. value of tops) - For Animal Feeding (2008)

Yield per ha. (Tonnes)	35	40	45	50	54
Gross Margin per ha.	€31	€196	€361	€526	€691

The margins exclude VAT.

NOTE: Sugar Beet production for Sugar in Ireland ceased at the end of the 2005 season.

(7) Sale of Hay = €213/Acre (€571/Ha) Gross Margin.**(8) Sale of Baled Silage - Gross Margin = €148/Acre. (€366/Ha)**

STANDARD LABOUR REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAIN AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES

DAIRYING: (SMD's/Cow)

Modern buildings, self feed silage, paddocks, roadway, bulk tank etc.		Self feed Silage, cubicles		
		Efficient layout Herringbone/ Abreast	Moderate layout Abreast/ Bucket	Poor layout Abreast/ Bucket
Herringbone	Abreast			
5	6	7	9	10

SUCKLING (Calf to 6 months)

	Self feed Silage cubicles	Outwintering, Hay/Silage
Single suckling	2.5	3.5
Suckling 2 - 3 calves	3.5	5.5
Suckling more than 3 calves	5.5	12.0

CATTLE

Standard man days required per head	Self Feed Silage, efficient layout		Inefficient building, poor farm layout	
	Modern calf houses, slats etc.	Loose calf house, cubicles	Self feed silage, loosehousing	
0 - 6 months	1.0	1.2	1.5	
6 - 12 months (Wintering)	0.6	0.7	1.0	
12 - 18 months (Grazing)	0.3	0.3	0.4	
18 - 24 months (Wintering)	0.6	0.8	1.1	
Total (0 - 24 mths)	2.5	3.0	4.0	

SHEEP

Standard Man Days		Good Layout, modern handling facilities	Traditional
Early Fat Lamb	per ewe	0.7	1.0
Mid Season & Store	per ewe	0.7	1.0
Mountain and Hill	per ewe	0.6	0.6
Hoggets for 6 months	per head	0.2	0.3
Lambs on slats (Finishing)	per head	0.075	--

- NOTE: (1) The above S. M. D. figures assume contract silage making. If a farmer makes silage with own machinery, an additional 0.05 S.M.D. should be added per tonne of silage. Where feed roots (kale, turnips, etc.) are fed allow 2 S.M.D. per acre grazed in situ and 7 S.M.D. per acre when hand fed.
- (2) The S.M.D. figures showing the labour requirements of farm enterprises are based mainly on the farm buildings currently available or planned. Reasonable variations within the above limits are acceptable under the F.I.P. in order to reflect the circumstances which may occur on individual farms; such as farms with poor access roads, poor location of fields relative to main farm yard, or poorly mechanised farms, etc.
- (3) The labour requirements appropriate to lowland sheep systems should be used on mountain and hill farms where the management systems are comparable.

PIGS

Standard Man Days	Modern buildings efficient layout, computerised/mechanised feeding	Average buildings and layout, manual/mechanised feeding
Weaners only per Sow	3.0	4.0
Finishing only per Pig finished	0.05	0.1
Breeding and Finishing per Sow	4.0	6.0

OTHER ENTERPRISES

S.M.D.'S

Horses	
Barren Mare	10
Mare - selling foal	12
Mare + Foal + Yearling (18 Mth.)	16
Mare + Foal + 2½ Yr. Old (30 mth.)	20
Deer Breeding Doe	0.7
Milking Goats	2.0
Goats for Fibre	0.7
Rabbits - (Doe)	0.7
Greyhound - Breeding	8.0
rearing all progeny	
Forestry - Maintenance done on contract/ha/ (ac)	2.5 (1.0)
Forestry - Maintenance done by farmer/ha (ac)	7.5 (3.0)
Agritourism @ Crafts	<u>annual income</u> <u>60</u>

TILLAGE

Standard Man Days per acre (ha)	More Important Machinery Hired	All Machinery Required Owned
Cereals	1.5 (3.75/ha)	2.0 (4.5/ha)
Sugar Beet	5.5 13.6/ha)	7.0 (17.3/ha)
Potatoes (Ware)	14.0 (34.6/ha)	17.0 (42.0/ha)

NOTE: Standard Man Day (S.M.D.) - one S.M.D. is equal to eight hours work done by a person over 18 years of age.
Man Work Unit (M.W.U.) - one M.W.U. is equal to 225 standard man days.

STANDARD FIXED CHARGES (2008) For use in Farm Improvement Programme (FIP)

				Fixed Charge per Unit
1.	DAIRY COWS			
	Creamery / Liquid			€283 per cow
2. (a)	CATTLE			
	0- 7 months	€14 per head	}	€170/head 0 - 24months
	7 - 12 months	€34 per head		
	12 - 19 months	€42 per head		
	19 - 24 months	€80 per head		
	24 - 30 months	€71 per head		
(b)	SUCKLED COWS	Single Suckling	Double Suckling, Per Cow	Multiple Suckling
	(includes calf to 6 months)	€114	€133	€162
3.	SHEEP			
	Lowland Sheep	€30.0 per ewe		
	Hill Sheep	€21.0 per ewe		
	Mountain Sheep	€9.0 per ewe		
	Fattening Store Lambs	€7.5 per lamb		
4.	DEER			
	Red Deer	€102 per hind		
	Fallow/Sika	€51 per hind		
5.	PIGS			
	Breeding (Rearing to 32 kg)	€10 8 per sow		
	Finishing (32 kg - X2 kg)	€6.3 per pig finished		
6.	HORSES			
	Mare + Foal	€140		
	Mare + Foal + Yearling	€197		
	Mare + Foal + 2½ year Old	€279		
7.	CASH CROPS			
	Per hectare		
	Cereals	€198		
	Sugar Beet	€321		
	Potatoes	€359		
	Hay (for sale) and Silage (for sale)	€158		
8.	OTHERS			
	Milking Goats	€38 per head		
	Geese	€1.3 per head		

The adjustment for land taken (conacre or leased) will be total rent paid less €95 per hectare for each hectare taken.
Fixed cost per enterprise unit are taken as 50% of Standard Fixed Charges for calculation of income for Farm Retirement Scheme (pre 2000 Scheme) and Milk Quota allocation purposes.

NOTE: Fixed costs per enterprise unit are taken as 50% of Standard Fixed Charges for calculation of Farm Income in the New Farm Retirement Scheme (ERS 3) - 2007 to 2013.

SECTION II

Background Budgets - Main Farming Enterprises

LIQUID/WINTER MILK (GROSS MARGIN PER COW, (2007/2008))

Yield								
Litres/Cow	5510	6000	6508	7502				
Gallons/Cow	1212	1320	1432	1650				
Co-Op Price (c/Litre) ¹	35.67	35.23	34.86	34.73				
Milk Sales (€/Cow)	1881	2032	2187	2440				
Replacement rate (%)	24.2	24.7	29.2	30.1				
Gross Output								
e/Cow	1994	2119	2294	2624				
Cent per litre	36.17	35.30	35.26	35.04				
Stocking Rate LU/ha)/Meal Input								
Cows/Hectare	2.18	2.00	2.13	2.01				
Acres/Cow	1.13	1.24	1.16	1.23				
Meal input (kg/cow) ²	909	1168	1295	1673				
Variable Costs	c/l	€/Cow	c/l	€/Cow	c/l	€/Cow	c/l	€/Cow
Meal Costs	3.71	200	4.28	257	4.35	285	4.92	368
Fertiliser Costs	1.60	88	1.56	93	1.37	89	1.20	89
Contractor Costs	1.44	79	0.99	60	1.16	75	1.58	120
Veterinary Costs	0.92	51	0.74	44	1.01	66	1.10	83
AI Costs	0.38	21	0.47	28	0.50	33	0.48	36
Other Variable Costs	2.03	112	1.64	98	2.11	137	2.16	162
Total Variable Costs	10.08	556	9.67	580	10.49	685	11.45	859
Gross Margin	26.10	1437	25.63	1539	24.77	1609	23.60	1765
Gross Margin (at 31c/l of Milk Sold)	21.43	1191	21.40	1295	20.91	1367	19.87	1503
Notes 1) Guideline Gross Margin figures based on Profit Monitor Financial Data for 2007 for Teagasc clients (an excellent year). 2) The decoupled dairy premium has not been included in the above calculation. 3) As Stocking rate increases (or decreases) by 0.1 LU/Ha, fertiliser N usage should be increased/decreased (within legislative limits by approximately 30 kg – costing approx. €30 per cow to fertiliser costs). 4) At lower stocking rates (<2.0 LU/Ha), participation in REPS is an option. 5) Fertiliser and meal costs are likely to increase by 30% in 2008. All other variable costs are likely to increase by 5% in 2008 unless improvements in production efficiency are obtained. 6) For Medium Term Planning, a milk price of 31 to 32 c/l approx can be used.								
¹ Milk Price net of levies ² Assuming meal purchased at €220/tonne								

Spring Milk - Gross Margin per Cow, (2007/2008)

Yield Litres/Cow Gallons/Cow	4501 990	4999 1100	5494 1209	6001 1320	6549 1441					
Co-Op Price (c/Litre) ¹ Milk Sales (€/Cow) Replacement rate (%)	34.50 1476 24.5	34.72 1646 27.8	34.40 1797 25.3	34.72 1989 26.7	34.01 2125 28.6					
Gross Output e/Cow Cent per litre	1543 34.5	1732 34.72	1884 34.40	2091 34.72	2220 33.61					
Stocking Rate LU/ha)/Meal Input Cows/Hectare Acres/Cow	1.91 1.29	2.02 1.22	2.01 1.23	2.03 1.22	2.09 1.18					
Meal input (kg/cow) ²	514	541	663	800	934					
Variable Costs	c/l	€/Cow	c/l	€/Cow	c/l	€/Cow	c/l	€/Cow	c/l	€/Cow
Meal Costs	2.52	113	2.38	119	2.65	146	2.93	176	3.49	230
Fertiliser Costs	1.77	80	1.58	79	1.57	86	1.48	89	1.39	91
Contractor Costs	1.04	46	0.92	46	0.93	51	0.82	50	0.89	58
Veterinary Costs	0.51	23	0.49	24	0.51	28	0.51	31	0.49	32
AI Costs	0.71	77	1.38	69	1.30	74	1.27	76	1.27	83
Other Variable Costs	1.79	81	1.65	82	1.58	87	1.71	103	1.87	122
Total Variable Costs	9.34	420	8.40	420	8.60	473	8.73	524	9.41	618
Gross Margin	24.93	1123	26.24	1312	25.70	1412	26.12	1567	24.20	1582
Gross Margin (at 30c/l of Milk Sold)	20.43	931	21.52	1088	21.30	1182	21.40	1297	20.19	1331
Notes: 1) Guideline Gross Margin figures based on Profit Monitor Financial Data for 2007 for Teagasc clients (an excellent year). 2) The decoupled dairy premium has not been included in the above calculation. 3) As Stocking rate increases (or decreases) by 0.1 LU/Ha, fertiliser N usage should be increased/decreased (within legislative limits by approximately 30 kg – costing approx. €30 per cow to fertiliser costs). 4) At lower stocking rates (<2.0 LU/Ha), participation in REPS is an option. 5) Fertiliser and meal costs are likely to increase by 30% in 2008. All other variable costs are likely to increase by 5% in 2008 unless improvements in production efficiency are obtained. 6) For Medium Term Planning, a milk price of 30 to 31 c/l approx can be used.										
1 Milk Price net of levies 2 Assuming meal purchased at €220/tonne										

MILK SUPPLY AND PRICE PATTERNS
LACATION CURVES OR SUPPLY PATTERNS, % PER MONTH
MONTH OF CALVING

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
% of total supply each month	Jan	6.4	0.0	4.0	6.0	6.4	8.0	8.0	8.8	10.9	13.1	13.0	13.7
	Feb	12.8	6.5	0.0	4.0	5.6	6.0	7.0	7.1	9.5	10.8	12.0	13.0
	Mar	13.9	13.0	7.0	0.0	4.0	5.5	6.0	6.9	8.7	10.8	12.0	13.0
	Apr	13.5	13.8	13.4	7.5	0.0	3.5	5.0	5.9	7.4	9.3	11.0	12.5
	May	12.4	13.0	13.7	14.5	7.0	0.0	3.0	5.2	6.6	8.2	10.0	12.0
	Jun	10.9	12.0	12.0	13.5	15.0	8.0	0.0	2.5	5.1	6.6	9.0	10.0
	Jul	9.9	10.5	11.4	11.5	14.0	14.0	9.0	0.0	2.3	5.0	6.0	8.5
	Aug	8.3	9.5	10.5	10.5	12.0	13.0	16.0	9.2	0.0	2.6	4.0	5.0
	Sep	6.4	8.0	9.0	9.0	11.0	12.0	14.0	18.0	8.4	0.0	2.0	2.3
	Oct	3.8	6.5	7.8	8.5	10.0	11.0	13.0	16.2	17.3	8.0	0.0	2.0
	Nov	1.7	4.0	6.2	8.0	8.0	10.0	10.0	10.6	12.7	13.0	8.0	0.0
	Dec	0.0	3.2	5.0	7.0	7.0	9.0	9.0	9.6	11.0	12.6	13.0	8.0
		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source - S. Crosse, Moorepark

HERD MILK SUPPLY PATTERNS—CALVING PATTERN

		Early Spring		Late Spring		Spread		Autumn/Spring	
		25% Jan		40% Feb		15% Jan		10% Sept, 25% Jan	
		50% Feb		50% Mar		30% Feb		15% Oct, 20% Feb	
		20% Mar		10% Apr		35% Mar		10% Nov, 10% Mar	
		5% Apr				20% Apr		5% Dec, 5% Apr	
% of total supply each month	Jan	2.7		2.6		3.6		7.3	
	Feb	6.7		3.0		4.7		9.1	
	Mar	11.4		8.7		8.4		11.1	
	Apr	13.3		13.0		12.4		11.7	
	May	13.1		13.5		13.5		11.3	
	June	11.8		12.2		12.1		9.9	
	July	10.6		11.1		10.9		8.3	
	Aug	9.5		10.1		9.9		6.6	
	Sept	7.9		8.6		8.3.		5.7	
	Oct	6.2		7.4		7.0		6.5	
	Nov	4.1		5.5		5.2		6.3	
	Dec	3.0		4.5		4.1		6.2	
	TOTAL	100		100		100		100	

MONTHLY MILK PRICES PAID (CENTS/LT) BY CREAMERIES
BASED ON ACTUAL BUTTERFAT CONTENT.

(Price includes VAT & bonuses and net of levies)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Jan	30.7	27.7	29.1	29.5	28.1	30.2	29.0	28.8	28.5	28.7	27.3	26.5
Feb	30.0	26.8	27.8	28.4	27.3	29.4	28.3	27.5	27.2	28.1	27.0	25.9
Mar	29.3	25.8	26.8	27.2	26.8	28.7	27.2	26.7	26.9	27.1	26.2	24.9
Apr	28.6	26.2	27.8	27.4	27.4	28.7	27.2	26.7	26.5	26.7	25.7	27.1
May	28.8	26.5	28.1	27.3	27.6	29.5	27.4	27.0	26.7	26.5	25.7	29.1
June	29.0	26.4	28.3	27.4	28.1	29.9	27.3	26.9	26.7	26.2	25.1	31.7
July	29.0	26.7	28.6	27.6	28.6	30.2	27.2	26.9	27.0	26.2	24.7	33.6
Aug	29.3	27.3	29.1	28.1	29.7	30.8	27.7	27.3	27.6	26.9	25.4	37.4
Sept	30.2	29.1	30.6	29.5	31.6	32.1	28.8	28.5	29.3	28.5	26.8	41.2
Oct	31.2	30.5	32.1	31.1	33.6	33.4	30.5	30.1	30.4	29.8	28.0	43.3
Nov	31.7	31.1	31.7	31.2	33.0	33.4	31.1	30.6	30.6	29.7	28.3	44.5
Dec	30.0	29.2	30.1	29.3	31.5	30.8	29.4	29.0	29.3	28.9	27.3	41.8
Avg.-	29.6	27.4	29.1	28.4	29.3	30.7	28.3	27.9	27.9	27.4	26.4	-

Source- CSO, Skehard Road, Cork. (Contact Kieran Riordan at 021 453 5352. Detailed information also on CSO Website (www.cso.ie) - See Agriculture and link to database direct - prices - manufacturing milk.

* Subject to revision

Replacement Heifers - Guideline Costings

The guideline costings for Spring and Winter/Spring milk replacement heifers comes from the average 2007 'Profit Monitor' data for 623 Spring Milk and 93 Winter Milk farms. The costs are evaluated per heifer introduced to the herd or sold off the farm.

	Spring Milk	Winter / Spring
	(€/head ¹)	(€/head ²)
Stocking rate (LU/ha)	2.03	2.10
Variable Costs		
Concentrate Costs	62	122
Fertiliser and Lime	83	128
Vet	43	75
AI/Breeding	12	17
Contractor	76	119
Other variable costs	36	75
Total variable costs	312	537
Fixed costs		
Hired labour	22	37
Machinery costs	22	35
Interest	16	19
Car/ESB/Phone	20	22
Depreciation	28	34
Other fixed costs	32	33
Total fixed costs	140	180
Total fixed and Variable Costs	452	717

Not included in the costs outlined above are:

- 1) The value of the replacement heifer calf – approximately €400 per head (including cost of meals and milk replacer to 8 weeks of age)
- 2) The opportunity cost of using the land for grazing replacement heifers. Assuming a value of €250/ha, the land cost per replacement is €123 and €179 per head in Spring and Winter Milk systems respectively.
- 3) The own labour costs associated with replacement heifer rearing – Moorepark Labour Survey estimate approximately €220/LU.
- 4) Further information sources
 - (A) Rearing replacement heifers – Teagasc Booklet – September 2001
 - (B) Contact rearing or replacement heifer – Paper in the proceedings for the Teagasc National Dairy Conference 2006, Limerick 15th November 2006.

Notes:

- (1) Assuming Heifers are calved at 24 months of age (1.0 lu)
- (2) Assuming Heifers are calved at 30 months of age (1.5 lu)
- (3) Excludes land rental cost.

CATTLE BUDGETS 2008

The budgets for beef and calf rearing systems for 2008 are split according to the following breed types

1. Friesians
2. Continental Cross Friesians
3. Hereford Cross Friesians
4. Single suckling using a continental bull

This approach is adopted because of the wide variation that exists in performance and prices for calves and steers between the different breeds.

The variation in performance between breeds is based on research findings from the Teagasc Research Centre at Grange. While not every beef breed is covered, the range of budgets included provides a benchmark against which estimates for the other breeds can be developed. Budgets for the Continental X Friesians represent the large commercial breeds that can be finished at higher weights than our traditional breeds.

Prices for the different breeds and systems (except Summer Grazing) are based on each system at excellent efficiency level achieving a gross margin per hectare equivalent to Single Suckling to Beef at the excellent efficiency level.

Spring beef price for top quality steers from the suckler herd is assumed at €3.60 per kg carcass weight for sales in March and €3.20 per kg for heifers sold in December and represents medium term expectation on beef prices. Store and calf prices have been adjusted to represent the medium term price expectations.

At the excellent efficiency level the gross margin achieved is approximately €640 per hectare with all direct payments excluded. The decoupled Single Farm Payment and the Compensatory Allowances Scheme Payments do not have any link to the animal or the production efficiency of the system and are therefore left out of the calculation of Gross Margins.

Included in each budget this year is an estimate of the organic nitrogen loading on a per hectare basis for each efficiency level. This figure is estimated based on the animal types/ ages and the period they spend on the farm between birth/ purchase and sale. The chemical nitrogen requirement for each level of efficiency level is also listed. The fertiliser usage and efficiency rates for good, very good and excellent efficiency have been adjusted downwards to reflect the better slurry utilisation that is likely to occur on farms operating at these efficiencies.

Most of the systems presented here will easily comply with the annual maximum fertilization rates for nitrogen as specified by the directive governing Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters 2006 (Nitrates). However selected budgets (notably those for the Winter Finishing systems) would be at or above the limits set by the directive. For these systems options to reduce stock numbers, increase land area, export slurry from the farm or an application for a derogation may have to be considered in order to comply with the regulations.

FRIESIAN CATTLE SYSTEMS SUMMARY (Excluding ALL Premia)

GROSS MARGINS excl. Premia (€ PER HECTARE)

2008

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	V. Good	Excellent
Calf to 2 Years-Steers *	56	126	286	484	535
Calf to Yearling-Steers *	40	71	272	406	465
Calf to 1.5 Years-Steers	35	139	288	369	441
Calf to 2.5 Years-Steers	80	132	265	395	493
Winter Finishing-Steers		33	72	139	259
Store to Beef(Aut/Aut)-Steers		55	174	333	425
Store to Beef(Spring/Spring)-Steers		0	110	185	294
Summer Grazing-Steers		43	105	222	289
NOTE: Refer to individual budgets to check sensitivity of gross margin to price changes.					

FRIESIAN CATTLE SYSTEMS SUMMARY (Excluding ALL Premia)

GROSS MARGINS excl. Premia (€ PER UNIT)

2008

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	V. Good	Excellent
Calf to 2 Years-Steers	40	77	146	237	262
Calf to Yearling-Steers	14	19	53	73	83
Calf to 1.5 Years-Steers	16	56	95	118	141
Calf to 2.5 Years-Steers	81	99	188	272	339
Winter Finishing-Steers		5	11	21	39
Store to Beef(Aut/Aut)-Steers		30	87	140	172
Store to Beef(Spring/Spring)-Steers		0	46	75	107
Summer Grazing-Steers		17	28	45	53
Notes: 1. Hectares required per unit varies substantially between systems. 2. Refer to budgets to check sensitivity of gross margin to price changes.					

OVERALL BUDGET FOR CALF TO 2 YEAR STEERS - BUCKET REARING GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of performance		Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Date of Purchase		15 April	1 April	1 March	15 Feb.	1 Feb.
Weight at Sale - kg	15-Mar	375	435	520	595	635
Sale Price € / 100 kg liveweight		€155	€155	€155		
(K.O.%) & € / kg dead weight	€3.15				0.52	0.525
Total Sales Value	15th March	€581	€674	€806	€975	€1050
Cost of Calf		€-135	€-135	€-145	€-150	€-170
Allowance for Mortality		€-14	€-10	€-9	€-8	€-7
GROSS OUTPUT		€432	€529	€652	€817	€873
Stocking Rate -Hectares per unit to 2 yrs.		0.71	0.61	0.51	0.49	0.49
kg Organic N per Hectare		114	133	159	165	165
kg Chemical N per Hectare		68	98	125	148	164
Silage Quality (DMD%)		0.55	0.6	0.65	0.68	0.72
Silage tonnes per unit (No. Days)	120	6.75	7.36	8.76	9.08	9.71
% Farm Cut - 1st Cut	140	36%	45%	60%	60%	66%
- 2nd Cut		0%	10%	24%	38%	33%
VARIABLE COSTS PER UNIT						
Milk Replacer (kg)		25	25	25	25	25
Milk Replacer Cost	€ / tonne €1960	€49	€49	€49	€49	€49
Weaner Ration (kg)		75	100	125	125	125
Weaner Ration Cost	€ / tonne €300	€23	€30	€38	€38	€38
Weanling Meals						
Autumn Barley (kg)		0	25	50	50	50
Autumn Barley Cost	€ / tonne €240	€0	€6	€12	€12	€12
Weanling Winter Meals (kg)		190	135	130	60	50
Weanling Meals Cost	€ / tonne €270	€51	€36	€35	€16	€14
1.5 Yr. old Barley (kg)		150	215	300	545	620
1.5 Yr old Barley Cost	€ / tonne €260	€39	€56	€78	€142	€161
Lime	€ / tonne €20	€7	€8	€9	€10	€12
P & K (kg)		136	144	61	59	61
P & K Cost	€ / tonne €340	€46	€49	€21	€20	€21
Urea (kg)		64	90	55	53	55
Urea Cost	€ / tonne €400	€26	€36	€22	€21	€22
C.A.N. 27.5% (kg)		68	66	140	175	200
C.A.N. 27.5% Cost	€ / tonne €320	€22	€21	€45	€56	€64
Silage Cutting	€ / hectare €275	€70	€92	€118	€132	€133
Polythene Cost	€ / tonne €2.00	€15	€17	€19	€20	€20
Additive Cost	€ / tonne €0.00	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0
Dosing, Transport, Marketing, etc.		€44	€52	€60	€64	€65
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS (€)		€392	€452	€506	€580	€611
GROSS MARGIN PER UNIT (€)		€40	€77	€146	€237	€262
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE (€)		€56	€126	€286	€484	€535

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)					
Buying Price -- (Calf Cost)	+ or -	€15	per head		€31
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per kg		€34
Final Liveweight	+ or -	25	kg		€84
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne		€26
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne		€10
INTEREST COST € PER HA @		8.50%		€184	Per Hectare
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)					

GROSS MARGIN FOR EACH STAGE OF PRODUCTION
CALF TO 2 YEARS -STEERS
STAGE 1: BIRTH TO HOUSING IN NOVEMBER (0 - 6 months)

Level of performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Weight (Kg) @ Housing 20-Nov	165	187	215	230	257
Weanling Price	€150	€140	€135	€135	€130
Value	€248	€262	€290	€311	€334
Mortality	€-9	€-7	€-6	€-5	€-5
OUTPUT/HEAD	€104	€120	€139	€156	€159
VARIABLE COSTS					
Milk Replacer & Weaner Ration	€72	€79	€87	€87	€87
Autumn Barley	€0	€6	€12	€12	€12
Dosing etc	€10	€10	€10	€12	€12
Grazing	€8	€7	€9	€10	€12
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€90	€102	€118	€121	€123
GROSS MARGIN	€14	€19	€21	€35	€36

STAGE 2: WEANLINGS -HOUSING TO TURNOUT (6 - 12 mths)

Weight (Kg) @ Turnout 10-Apr	205	230	275	295	330
Price	€180	€165	€160	€155	€150
Value	€369	€380	€440	€457	€495
Mortality	€-3	€-2	€-2	€-2	€-2
OUTPUT/HEAD	€118	€116	€148	€144	€159
VARIABLE COSTS					
Meals	€51	€36	€35	€16	€14
Silage	€48	€61	€61	€68	€75
Dosing etc	€11	€11	€12	€14	€15
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€110	€108	€108	€98	€104
GROSS MARGIN	€8	€9	€40	€46	€55
Notes: All Gross Margins shown are excluding all premia					

CALF TO 2 YEARS -STEERS

STAGE 3: YEARLINGS -TURNOUT TO HOUSING IN NOV (12 - 18 mths)

Level of performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Weight (Kg) @ Housing 15-Oct	330	365	425	445	493
Price	€125	€125	€125	€125	€125
Value	€413	€456	€531	€557	€616
Mortality	€-1	€-1	€-1	€-1	€0
OUTPUT/HEAD	€43	€75	€90	€99	€121
VARIABLE COSTS					
Grazing	€30	€28	€35	€41	€49
Dosing etc	€7	€7	€9	€9	€10
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€37	€35	€44	€50	€59
GROSS MARGIN	€6	€41	€46	€49	€62

CALF TO 2 YEARS -STEERS

STAGE 4: 1.5 YEAR OLDS -HOUSING TO SALE (18 - 24 mths)

Weight (Kg) @ Sale 15-Mar	375	435	520	595	635
Price	€155	€155	€155	€3.15	€3.15
Value	€581	€674	€806	€975	€1050
Mortality	€-1	€0	€0	€0	€0
OUTPUT/HEAD	€167	€218	€275	€418	€434
VARIABLE COSTS					
Meals	€39	€56	€78	€142	€161
Silage	€101	€128	€129	€140	€137
Dosing etc	€19	€26	€29	€29	€29
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€159	€210	€236	€311	€327
GROSS MARGIN	€8	€9	€39	€107	€108
Notes: All Gross Margins shown above are excluding all premia					

OVERALL BUDGET FOR CALF TO 2.5 YEAR STEERS - BUCKET REARING GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance		Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Date of Birth		15 April	1 April	1 March	15 Feb	1 Feb.
Weight at Sale (kg)	01-Jul	450	510	575	610	670
Sale Price € / 100 kg liveweight		€150	€155	€155		
(K.O.%) € / kg carcaseweight	€3.00				52.0%	52.5%
Total Sales Value		€675	€791	€891	€952	€1055
Cost of Calf		€-135	€-135	€-145	€-150	€-170
Allowance for Mortality		€-15	€-11	€-10	€-8	€-7
GROSS OUTPUT		€525	€645	€736	€794	€878
Stocking -Hectares Per Unit to 2.5yrs.		1.01	0.75	0.71	0.69	0.69
kg Organic N per Hectare		112	151	160	165	165
kg mineral N per Hectare		61	118	150	167	181
Silage Quality (DMD%)		55%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Silage tonnes / Unit (No.Days)	120	7.3	8.0	9.6	10.2	11.6
% Farm Cut - 1st Cut	155	26%	24%	34%	36%	41%
- 2nd Cut		0%	38%	46%	52%	49%
VARIABLE COSTS PER UNIT						
Milk Replacer (kg)		25	25	25	25	25
Milk Replacer Cost € / tonne	€1960	€49	€49	€49	€49	€49
Weaner Ration (kg)		75	100	125	125	125
Weaner Ration Cost € / tonne	€300	€23	€30	€38	€38	€38
Weanling Meals						
Autumn Barley (kg)		0	25	50	50	50
Autumn Barley Cost € / tonne	€240	€0	€6	€12	€12	€12
Weanling Winter Meals (kg)		190	135	130	60	50
Weanling Meals Cost € / tonne	€270	€51	€36	€35	€16	€14
1.5yr. old Barley (kg)		160	200	75	0	0
1.5Yr old Barley Cost € / tonne	€260	€42	€52	€20	€0	€0
Lime € / tonne	€20	€22	€27	€10	€0	€0
P & K (kg)		161	158	71	70	73
P & K Cost € / tonne	€340	€55	€54	€24	€24	€25
C.A.N. 27.5% (kg)		112	185	281	315	344
C.A.N. 27.5% Cost € / tonne	€320	€36	€59	€90	€101	€110
Urea (kg)		66	81	62	62	64
Urea Cost € / tonne	€400	€26	€32	€25	€25	€26
Silage Cutting € / hectare	€275	€72	€128	€156	€166	€170
Polythene Cost € / tonne	€2.00	€16	€18	€22	€24	€25
Additive Cost € / tonne	€0.00	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0
Dosing, Transport, etc		€52	€55	€67	€67	€70
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS (€)		€444	€546	€548	€522	€539
GROSS MARGIN PER UNIT (€)		€81	€99	€188	€272	€339
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE (€)		€80	€132	€265	€395	€493

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS - EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)			
Buying Price -- (Calf Cost)	+ or -	€15 per head	€22
Selling Price	+ or -	5 cent per kg	€26
Final Liveweight	+ or -	25 kg	€57
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15 per tonne	€5
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15 per tonne	€10
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @		8.50%	€146 Per Hectare
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)			

WINTER FINISHING BULLOCKS GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Silage Quality (DMD%)	63%	68%	72%	74%
Meal Feeding kg per head per day	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Daily Gain (kg)	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.95
Winter Feeding Period Days	140	140	140	140
Silage/Head (incl waste @ 15; 10; 5; & 3%)	6.46	6.23	6.14	6.07
Bullocks Wintered Per Hectare on 2 Cuts	6.50	6.54	6.64	6.64
KGS Organic N per Hectare	159	159	162	162
KGS of chemical N per Hectare	225	195	195	195
Output Live Weight kg 600				
K.O.%	51.0%	51.5%	52.0%	52.5%
Carcase Value at € / kg dead weight €3.40	€1040	€1051	€1061	€1071
Purchased Bullock (kg)	502	488	474	467
Price € / 100 kg	€140	€150	€155	€155
Cost	€-703	€-732	€-735	€-724
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€337	€319	€326	€347
Variable Costs per Head				
Silage	€163	€134	€129	€129
Barley Cost Total @ € / tonne €240	€134	€134	€134	€134
Dosing,Transport, & Marketing	€35	€40	€42	€45
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€332	€308	€305	€308
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD (€)	€5	€11	€21	€39
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE (€)	€33	€72	€139	€259

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)			
Buying Price	+ or -	€5per 100 kg liveweight	€155
Selling Price	+ or -	5cent per kg carcass weight	€105
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1 kg	€166
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15 per tonne	€37
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15 per tonne	€9
INTEREST COST € PER HA @ 8.50%		€275 Per Hectare	
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)			

STORE TO BEEF BULLOCKS -AUTUMN PURCHASE & SALE

**Animals purchased in October/November and overwintered on silage only
and finished off grass the following October/November at 600 kg.**

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Hectares Per Animal Sold	0.55	0.50	0.42	0.41
kgs Organic N per Hectare	107	118	140	146
kg mineral N per Hectare	85	101	104	138
Silage Quality -DMD%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Meal Feeding Kgs per head per day	0	0	0	0
Winter Weight Gain kg	30	50	65	80
Silage Per Head (Winter Duration-Days) 140	5.9	5.7	5.4	4.8
% Farm Cut - 1st Cut	42%	48%	55%	58%
- 2nd Cut	0%	0%	0%	0%
Summer Weight Gain kg -(Turnout to Sale)	145	155	165	180
OUTPUT PER ANIMAL				
Weight at Sale (kg)	600	600	600	600
Sale Price per 100 kg	€155	€155	€155	€155
Sales per Animal	€930	€930	€930	€930
Purchase Weight (kg)	425	395	370	340
Purchase Price per 100 kg	€160	€160	€160	€160
Cost per Animal	€-680	€-632	€-592	€-544
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€250	€298	€338	€386
VARIABLE COSTS				
Silage	€134	€108	€104	€106
Grazing Fertiliser	€33	€50	€41	€55
Winter Meals @ € / tonne €260	€0	€0	€0	€0
Dosing,Vet	€8	€8	€8	€8
Transport, Marketing, etc.	€45	€45	€45	€45
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€220	€211	€198	€214
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€30	€87	€140	€172
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€55	€174	€333	€425

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE(EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€42
Selling Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€74
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€140
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€0
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€8
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @		8.50%	€141 Per Hectare	
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				

STORE TO BEEF BULLOCKS - SPRING PURCHASE & SALE

Animals purchased in March/April and grazed for the summer and finished off silage and 4 kg meals the following March/April at 550 to 620 kg.

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Hectares Per Animal Sold	0.42	0.42	0.41	0.36
kgs Organic N per Hectare	140	140	146	162
kg mineral N per Hectare	85	101	103	153
Silage Quality -DMD%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Meal Feeding Kgs per head per day	4	4	4	4
Winter Weight Gain kg	80	100	110	130
Silage Per Head (Winter Duration-Days) 140	5.6	5.8	5.7	6.2
% of Farm Cut - 1st Cut	42%	53%	60%	60%
- 2nd Cut	0%	0%	0%	18%
Summer Weight Gain kg (Purchase to housing)	135	145	150	160
OUTPUT PER ANIMAL				
Weight at Sale (kg)	550	575	580	620
K.O. %	51.0%	51.5%	52.0%	52.5%
Carcase Value at € / kg deadweight €3.25	€912	€962	€980	€1058
Purchase Weight (kg)	335	330	320	330
Purchase Price per 100 kg	€175	€175	€175	€175
Cost per Animal	€-586	€-578	€-560	€-578
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€326	€384	€420	€480
VARIABLE COSTS				
Silage	€102	€100	€109	€126
Grazing Fertiliser	€25	€39	€37	€48
Winter Meals Cost @ € / tonne €260	€146	€146	€146	€146
Dosing,Vet	€8	€8	€8	€8
Transport, Marketing,etc.	€45	€45	€45	€45
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€326	€338	€345	€373
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€0	€46	€75	€107
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€0	€110	€185	€294

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€45
Selling Price	+ or -	5.0	cent per kg carcass weight	€45
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€171
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€23
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€9
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ 8.50% €187 Per Hectare				
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				

SUMMER GRAZING STEERS
PURCHASE MARCH / APRIL FOR SALE JULY TO NOVEMBER
GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Levels of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
kg per hectare at start	1110	1670	2225	2470
Bullocks per hectare at start	2.5	3.7	4.9	5.5
Bullocks per hectare from July 10th.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.7
kgs Organic N per Hectare	100	126	151	167
kg mineral N per Hectare	63	139	146	167
Bullock Weight @ Purchase in April - kg	450	450	450	450
Weight Gain per Bullock (kg) - April to July 10th	90	100	110	115
- July 10th. to Nov.	45	55	55	55
Sales				
- July at € / 100 kg €150	€0	€1024	€2079	€2347
- Oct / Nov at € / 100 kg €145	€2095	€2167	€2203	€2445
Total Sales per Acre	€2095	€3191	€4282	€4792
Purchases -April at € / 100 kg €165	€1834	€2756	€3671	€4076
GROSS OUTPUT PER HECTARE	€261	€435	€611	€716
VARIABLE COSTS PER HECTARE				
Fertiliser	€103	€195	€207	€235
Dosing and Vet	€15	€15	€22	€22
Transport, Marketing, etc.	€100	€120	€160	€170
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€218	€330	€389	€427
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€17	€28	€45	€53
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€43	€105	€222	€289

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€124
Selling Price - July	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€78
- Oct / Nov	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€84
Liveweight Gain - April to July	+ or -	10	kg per bullock	€81
- July to Nov	+ or -	10	kg per bullock	€39
Input Costs - Haulage / Marketing	+ or -	€15	per bullock	€82
- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€9
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @		8.50%	€177	Per hectare
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				

**MARGIN € PER HECTARE TO MEET FIXED COSTS (EXCL.INTEREST)
& FAMILY LIVING EXPENSES**

**(Gross Margin € / ha; Investment Requirements € / Unit & € / ha; Repayment Burden € / ha)
(Very Good Level of Performance)**

Calf Bucket Rearing Systems		Calf to 2 Years Steers	Calf to Yearling Steers	Calf to 1.5 Yrs Steers	Calf to 2.5 Yrs Steers
Gross Margin € Per Hectare		484	406	369	395
INVESTMENT € PER UNIT					
Short term					
Livestock - peak		150	0	457	530
- average		25	0	267	177
Variable costs - peak		580	227	281	522
- average		348	136	169	313
Long Term					
Livestock		607	150	150	607
Buildings		1330	830	830	1330
Machinery		0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER UNIT		2310	1116	1416	2427
Adjusted Hectares Per Unit		0.49	0.17	0.32	0.69
INVESTMENT € PER HECTARE					
Short term					
Livestock - peak		306	0	1428	770
- average		51	0	834	257
Variable costs - peak		1184	1335	878	759
- average		710	800	528	455
Long Term					
Livestock		1239	882	469	882
Buildings		2714	4882	2594	1933
Machinery		0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER HA		4178	6564	4425	3527
INTEREST and REPAYMENTS € PER HA					
A. GREEN FIELD					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%		65	68	116	61
Repayments € Per €1000 €139		550	802	426	392
Total Repayments € Per Hectare		615	870	542	453
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%		65	68	116	61
Repayments € Per €1000 €139		341	593	217	183
Total Repayments € Per Hectare		406	661	333	244
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%		65	68	116	45
Repayments € Per €1000 €139		133	384	0	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare		198	452	116	45
GROSS MARGIN less TOTAL REPAYMENTS €/HA					
Non-Handicapped Area					
A. GREEN FIELD		-131	-464	-173	-58
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500		78	-255	36	151
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000		286	-46	253	350

**MARGIN € PER HECTARE TO MEET FIXED COSTS (EXCL. INTEREST)
& FAMILY LIVING EXPENSES**

**(Gross Margin € / ha; Investment Requirements € / Unit & € / ha; Repayment Burden € / ha)
(Very Good Level of Performance)**

Cattle Trading Systems		Winter Finishing	Store to to Beef	Spring Str to Beef	Summer Grazing
Gross Margin € Per Hectare		139	333	185	222
INVESTMENT € PER UNIT					
Short term					
Livestock - Peak		735	0	0	3671
- Average		306	0	0	1688
Variable costs - Peak		305	198	345	389
- Average		183	119	207	195
Long Term					
Livestock		0	592	560	0
Buildings		500	500	500	0
Machinery		0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € UNIT		989	1211	1267	1883
Adjusted Hectares Per Unit (Animals Per Hectare ***)		6.64	0.42	0.41	1.00
INVESTMENT € PER HECTARE		***			
Short term					
Livestock - Peak		4879	0	0	3671
- Average		2033	0	0	1688
Variable costs - Peak		2025	471	852	389
- Average		1215	283	511	195
Long Term					
Livestock		0	1410	1383	0
Buildings		3319	1190	1235	0
Machinery		0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER HA		6567	2883	3129	1883
INTEREST and REPAYMENTS € PER HA					
A. GREEN FIELD					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%		276	24	43	160
Repayments € Per €1000 €139		462	362	364	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare		738	386	407	160
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%		276	24	43	33
Repayments € Per €1000 €139		253	153	156	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare		529	177	199	33
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%		303	0	11	0
Repayments € Per €1000 €139		0	0	0	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare		303	0	11	0
GROSS MARGIN less TOTAL REPAYMENTS €/HA					
Non-Handicapped Area					
A. GREEN FIELD		-599	-53	-222	62
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500		-390	156	-14	189
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000		-164	333	174	222

CONTINENTAL CROSS FRIESIAN CATTLE SYSTEMS (Excluding ALL Premia)**GROSS MARGINS excl. Premia (€ PER HECTARE)****2008**

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Calf to 2 Years - Steers	71	134	383	524	560
Calf to Yearling - Steers	-25	10	168	262	340
Calf to 1.5 Years-Steers	31	96	286	405	447
Calf to 2.5 Years-Steers	93	114	349	462	558
Calf to 2 Years-Heifers	91	176	398	473	546
Winter Finishing-Steers		165	360	314	462
Winter Finishing-Heifers		-165	52	150	380
Store to Beef(Aut/Aut)-Steers		115	230	368	519
Store to Beef(Spring/Spring)-Steers		61	218	267	442
Summer Grazing-Steers		21	131	238	347
NOTE: Refer to Individual Budgets to check sensitivity of gross margins to price changes					

GROSS MARGINS excl. Premia (€ PER UNIT)**2008**

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Calf to 2 Years-Steers	53	87	209	286	306
Calf to Yearling-Steers	-7	2	32	50	65
Calf to 1.5 Years-Steers	15	40	100	142	157
Calf to 2.5 Years-Steers	94	92	247	325	393
Calf to 2 Years-Heifers	53	102	199	227	262
Winter Finishing-Steers		28	61	53	78
Winter Finishing-Heifers		-19	6	17	43
Store to Beef(Aut/Aut)-Steers		65	121	179	231
Store to Beef(Spring/Spring)-Steers		32	106	119	179
Summer Grazing-Steers		9	38	53	70
Notes 1. Hectares required per unit varies substantially between systems. 2. Refer to Individual Budgets to check sensitivity of gross margins to price changes					

OVERALL BUDGET FOR CALF TO 2 YEAR STEERS--BUCKET REARING GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Date of Purchase	15 April	1 April	1 March	15 Feb.	1 Feb
Weight at Sale - kg	420	480	570	670	715
Sale Price € / 100 kg liveweight	€195	195	190		
(K.O.%) & € per kg deadweight	€3.40			54.5%	55.0%
Total Sales Value	€819	€936	€1083	€1242	€1337
Cost of Calf	€-320	€-330	€-330	€-340	€-360
Allowance for Mortality	€-32	€-25	€-20	€-17	€-14
GROSS OUTPUT	€467	€581	€733	€885	€963
Stocking Rate - Hectares per unit to 2 years	0.75	0.65	0.55	0.55	0.55
kg Organic N per Hectare	108	125	148	148	148
kg Chemical N per Hectare	70	103	132	138	161
Silage Quality (DMD%)	55.0%	60.0%	65.0%	68.0%	72.0%
Silage tonnes per unit (No.Days)	8.0	8.6	10.3	10.7	11.4
% Farm Cut - 1st Cut	38.0%	45.0%	60.0%	65.0%	70.0%
- 2nd Cut	0.0%	15.0%	30.0%	30.0%	30.0%
VARIABLE COSTS PER UNIT					
Milk Replacer (kg)	25	25	25	25	25
Milk Replacer Cost € / tonne €1960	€49	€49	€49	€49	€49
Weaner Ration (kg)	75	100	125	125	125
Weaner Ration Cost € / tonne €300.00	€23	€30	€38	€38	€38
Weanling Meals					
Autumn Barley (kg)	0	25	50	50	50
Autumn Barley Cost € / tonne €240.00	€0	€6	€12	€12	€12
Weanling Winter Meals (kg)	190	135	130	60	50
Weanling Meals Cost € / tonne €270.00	€51	€36	€35	€16	€14
1.5 Yr old Barley (kg)	180	260	260	550	680
1.5 Yr old Barley Cost € / tonne €260.00	€47	€68	€68	€143	€177
Lime € / tonne €20.00	€8	€8	€9	€12	€14
P & K (kg)	149	158	66	68	70
P & K Cost € / tonne €340.00	€51	€54	€22	€23	€24
Urea (kg)	71	95	59	61	63
Urea Cost € / tonne €400.00	€28	€38	€23	€61	€63
C.A.N. 27.5% (kg)	70	83	162	171	214
C.A.N. 27.5% Cost € / tonne €320.00	€22	€27	€52	€55	€69
Silage Cutting € / hectare €275.00	€78	€107	€135	€143	€150
Polythene Cost € / tonne €2.00	€17	€19	€21	€22	€23
Additive Cost € / tonne €0.00	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0
Dosing, Transport, Marketing, etc.	€40	€52	€60	€62	€62
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€414	€494	€524	€599	€657
GROSS MARGIN PER UNIT	€53	€87	€209	€286	€306
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€71	€134	€383	€524	€560

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)					
Buying Price--(Calf Cost)	+ or -	€20	per head		€37
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per kg		€36
Final Liveweight	+ or -	25	kg		€86
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne		€25
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne		€10
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ 8.50% €230 Per Hectare					
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)					

GROSS MARGIN FOR EACH STAGE OF PRODUCTION

CALF TO 2 YEARS -STEERS

STAGE 1: BIRTH TO HOUSING IN NOVEMBER (0 - 6 months)

Level of performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Weight (Kg) @ Housing 20-Nov	175	190	230	240	270
Weanling Price	€245	€240	€215	€215	€200
Value	€429	€456	€495	€516	€540
Mortality	€-19	€-15	€-12	€-10	€-10
OUTPUT/HEAD	€90	€111	€153	€166	€170
VARIABLE COSTS					
Milk Replacer & Weaner Ration	€72	€79	€87	€87	€87
Autumn Barley	€0	€6	€12	€12	€12
Dosing etc	€8	€8	€10	€10	€11
Grazing	€8	€7	€9	€11	€13
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€88	€100	€118	€120	€123
GROSS MARGIN	€2	€11	€35	€46	€47

STAGE 2: WEANLINGS -HOUSING TO TURNOUT (6 - 12 mths)

Weight (Kg) @ Turnout 10-Apr	220	245	290	310	350
Price	€245	230	210	200	190
Value	€539	€564	€609	€620	€665
Mortality	€-6	€-5	€-4	€-3	€-3
OUTPUT/HEAD	€104	€103	€110	€101	€122
VARIABLE COSTS					
Meals	€51	€36	€35	€16	€14
Silage	€46	€59	€60	€63	€72
Dosing etc	€8	€9	€10	€10	€10
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€105	€104	€105	€89	€96
GROSS MARGIN	€-1	€-4	€5	€12	€26

Notes: All Gross Margins shown are **excluding** all premia

CALF TO 2 YEARS -STEERS
STAGE 3: YEARLINGS -TURNOUT TO HOUSING IN NOV (12 - 18 mths)

Level of performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Weight (Kg) @ Housing 15-Oct	355	390	455	480	530
Price	€170	165	160	160	155
Value	€604	€644	€728	€768	€822
Mortality	€-3	€-3	€-2	€-2	€-1
	62	77	117	146	156
OUTPUT/HEAD					
VARIABLE COSTS	31	29	37	42	52
Grazing	€5	€6	€8	€8	€8
Dosing etc					
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€36	€35	€45	€50	€60
GROSS MARGIN	€26	€42	€72	€96	€96

CALF TO 2 YEARS -STEERS
STAGE 4: 1.5 YEAR OLDS -HOUSING TO SALE (18 - 24 mths)

Weight (Kg) @ Sale 15-Mar	420	480	570	670	715
Price	€195	€195	€190	€3.40	€3.40
Value	€819	€936	€1083	€1242	€1337
Mortality	€-4	€-2	€-2	€-2	€0
OUTPUT/HEAD	€211	€290	€353	€472	€515
VARIABLE COSTS					
Meals	€47	€68	€68	€143	€177
Silage	€120	€157	€157	€163	€168
Dosing etc	€17	€28	€32	€32	€31
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€184	€253	€257	€338	€376
GROSS MARGIN	€27	€37	€96	€134	€139

Notes: All Gross Margins shown are **excluding** all premia

**OVERALL BUDGET FOR CALF TO 2.5 YEARS STEERS
- BUCKET REARING -
GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS**

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Date of Birth	15 April	1 April	1 March	15 Feb.	1 Feb
Weight at Sale (kg)	485	550	640	680	740
Sale Price € / 100 kg liveweight	€180	€175	€175		
(K.O.%) & € / kg deadweight	€2.90			54.5%	54.5%
Total Sales Value	€873	€963	€1120	€1186	€1291
Cost of Calf	€-320	€-330	€-330	€-340	€-360
Allowance for Mortality	€-35	€-26	€-23	€-17	€-14
GROSS OUTPUT	€518	€607	€767	€829	€917
Stocking -Hectares Per Unit to 2.5yrs.	1.01	0.81	0.71	0.70	0.70
kgs Organic N per Hectare	112	140	160	161	161
kg mineral N per Hectare	60	109	144	154	174
Silage Quality (DMD%)	55.0%	60.0%	65.0%	68.0%	72.0%
Silage tonnes / Unit (No.Days)	120	7.5	8.1	9.7	10.3
% Farm Cut - 1st Cut	155	25.0%	20.0%	30.0%	33.0%
- 2nd Cut		0.0%	32.0%	40.0%	40.0%
VARIABLE COSTS PER UNIT					
Milk Replacer (kg)	25	25	25	25	25
Milk Replacer Cost € / tonne	€1960	€49	€49	€49	€49
Weaner Ration (kg)	75	100	125	125	125
Weaner Ration Cost € / tonne	€300	€23	€30	€38	€38
Weanling Meals					
Autumn Barley (kg)	0	25	50	50	50
Autumn Barley Cost € / tonne	€240	€0	€6	€12	€12
Weanling Winter Meals (kg)	190	135	130	60	50
Weanling Meals Cost € / tonne	€270	€51	€36	€35	€16
1.5 Yr old Barley (kg)	160	200	75	0	0
1.5 Yr old Barley Cost € / tonne	€260	€42	€52	€20	€0
Lime € / tonne	€20	€10	€12	€12	€15
P & K (kg)	158	152	69	70	71
P & K Cost € / tonne	€340	€54	€52	€23	€24
C.A.N. 27.5% (kg)	€114	€184	€269	€290	€341
C.A.N. 27.5% Cost € / tonne	€320	€36	€59	€86	€93
Urea (kg)	63	81	60	61	62
Urea Cost € / tonne	€400	€25	€32	€24	€25
Silage Cutting € / hectare	€275	€69	€116	€136	€141
Polythene Cost € / tonne	€2.00	€15	€16	€20	€21
Additive Cost € / tonne	€0.00	€0	€0	€0	€0
Dosing, Transport,etc	€50	€55	€65	€70	€70
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€424	€515	€520	€504	€524
GROSS MARGIN PER UNIT	€94	€92	€247	€325	€393
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€93	114	349	462	558

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)					
Buying Price--(Calf Cost)	+ or -	€20	per head		€28
Selling Price	+ or -	5.0	cent per kg		€29
Final Liveweight	+ or -	25	kg		€62
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne		€5
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne		€10
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @		8.50%		€241	Per Hectare
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)					

OVERALL BUDGET FOR CALF TO 2 YEAR HEIFERS
-BUCKET REARING-
GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Date of Birth	15 May	1 May	1 April	15 March	1 March
Weight at Sale (kg)	370	415	480	535	590
Sale Price € / 100 kg liveweight	€185	€180	€180		
(K.O.%) & € / kg deadweight	€3.30			53.0%	53.5%
Total Value	€685	€747	€864	€936	€1,042
Cost of Calf	-€240	-€240	-€260	-€275	-€280
Allowance for Mortality	-€22	-€19	-€16	-€11	-€8
GROSS OUTPUT	€423	€488	€588	€650	€754
Stocking rate - hectares per unit to 2 years	0.58	0.58	0.50	0.48	0.48
kg Organic N per Hectare	123	123	143	149	149
kg mineral N per Hectare	68	85	101	121	158
Silage Quality (DMD%)	55%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Silage Per Unit tonnes	5.4	5.8	6.5	7.1	8.0
% Farm Cut - 1st Cut	36%	42%	60%	60%	60%
- 2nd Cut	0%	0%	0%	15%	25%
VARIABLE COSTS PER UNIT					
Milk Replacer (kg)	25	25	25	25	25
Milk Replacer Cost € / tonne	€49	€49	€49	€49	€49
Weaner Ration (kg)	60	60	70	80	100
Weaner Ration Cost € / tonne	€18	€18	€21	€24	€30
Weanling Meals					
Autumn Barley (kg)	0	0	0	20	40
Autumn Barley Cost € / tonne	€0	€0	€0	€5	€10
Winter Meals (kg)	160	125	85	50	40
Winter Meals Cost € / tonne	€43	€34	€23	€14	€11
1.5 Yr. Old Barley (kg) € / tonne	280	270	280	300	375
1.5 Yr Old Barley Cost € / tonne	€73	€70	€73	€78	€98
Fodder Cost Per Unit -- Grazing	€31	€34	€43	€46	€63
-- Silage	€121	€141	€135	€159	€179
Dosing, Transport, etc	€35	€40	€45	€48	€52
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€370	€386	€389	€423	€492
GROSS MARGIN PER UNIT	€53	€102	€199	€227	€262
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€91	€176	€398	€473	€546

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price -- (Calf Cost)	+ or -	€15	per head	€31
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per kg	€33
Final Liveweight	+ or -	25	kg	€92
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€17
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€12
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)		8.50%		€208 Per Hectare

BUDGET FOR EACH STAGE OF PRODUCTION
CALF TO 2 YEARS -HEIFERS

STAGE 1: BIRTH TO HOUSING IN NOVEMBER (0 - 6 mths) - HEIFERS

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Weight (kg) @ Housing 20-Nov	175	190	220	235	260
Weanling Price	€180	€180	€175	€175	€170
Value	€324	€342	€386	€411	€442
Mortality	-€13	-€11	-€10	-€7	-€6
OUTPUT/HEAD	€71	€91	€116	€129	€156
VARIABLE COSTS					
Milk Replacer & Weaner Ration	€67	€67	€70	€73	€79
Autumn Barley	€0	€0	€0	€5	€10
Dosing etc	€8	€8	€10	€10	€12
Grazing	€6	€7	€9	€9	€13
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€81	€82	€89	€97	€114
GROSS MARGIN	-€10	€9	€27	€32	€42

STAGE 2: WEANLINGS -HOUSING TO TURNOUT (6 - 12 mths) - HEIFERS

Weight (kg) @ Turnout 10-Apr	210	235	270	295	330
Price	€200	€190	€190	€185	€182
Value	€420	€447	€513	€546	€601
Mortality	-€4	-€4	-€4	-€2	-€2
OUTPUT/HEAD	€92	€101	€123	€133	€157
VARIABLE COSTS					
Meals	€43	€34	€23	€14	€11
Silage	€49	€56	€56	€64	€73
Dosing etc	€6	€6	€6	€7	€8
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€98	€96	€85	€85	€92
GROSS MARGIN	-€6	€5	€38	€48	€65

BUDGET FOR EACH STAGE OF PRODUCTION (Contd.)
CALF TO 2 YEARS -HEIFERS

STAGE 3:YEARLINGS-TURNOUT TO HOUSING IN NOV(12-18 mths)-HEIFERS

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Weight (kg) @ Housing 15-Oct	325	355	405	445	495
Price	€150.00	€150.00	€150.00	€144.50	€145.00
Value	€488	€533	€608	€643	€718
Mortality	-€2	-€2	-€2	-€1	-€1
OUTPUT/HEAD	€66	€84	€93	€96	€116
VARIABLE COSTS					
Grazing	€25	€27	€34	€37	€50
Dosing etc	€7	€6	€6	€6	€7
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€32	€33	€40	€43	€57
GROSS MARGIN	€34	€51	€53	€53	€59

STAGE 4: 1.5 YEAR OLDS -HOUSING TO SALE (18 - 24 mths) - HEIFERS

Weight (kg) @ Sale 01-Feb	370.00	415.00	480.00	535.00	590.00
Price	€185	€180	€180	€3.30	€3.30
Value	€685	€747	€864	€936	€1,042
Mortality	-€3	-€2	€0	-€1	€1
OUTPUT/HEAD	€194	€212	€256	€292	€325
VARIABLE COSTS					
Meals	€73	€70	€73	€78	€98
Silage	€72	€85	€79	€95	€106
Dosing etc	€14	€19	€23	€25	€25
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€159	€174	€175	€198	€229
GROSS MARGIN	€35	€38	€81	€94	€96

WINTER FINISHING BULLOCKS GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Silage Quality (DMD%)	63.0%	68.0%	72.0%	74.0%
Meal Feeding kg per head per day	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Daily Gain (kg)	0.8	0.9	0.95	1
Winter Feeding Period Days	140	140	140	140
Silage/Head (incl Waste @ 15; 10; 5; & 3%)	7.14	6.90	6.89	6.80
Bullocks Wintered Per Hectare on 2 Cuts	5.88	5.90	5.92	5.93
kg Organic N per Hectare	143	144	144	145
kg Chemical N per Hectare	225	166	146	146
Output				
Live Weight kg 700				
K.O.%	53.5%	54.0%	54.5%	55.0%
Carcase Value at € / kg deadweight €3.50	€1,311	€1,323	€1,335	€1,348
Purchased Bullock (kg)	588	574	567	560
Price € / 100 kg	€155	€160	€165	€165
Cost	-€911	-€918	-€936	-€924
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€400	€405	€399	€424
Variable Costs per Head				
Silage	€181	€148	€145	€145
Barley Cost Total @ € / tonne €240	€151	€151	€151	€151
Dosing, Transport, & Marketing	€40	€45	€50	€50
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€372	€344	€346	€346
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€28	€61	€53	€78
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€165	€360	€314	€462

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€166
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per kg carcass weight	€114
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€160
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€56
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€9
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)			8.50%	€299 Per Hectare

WINTER FINISHING HEIFERS

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Silage Quality (DMD%)	63.0%	68.0%	72.0%	74.0%
Meal Feeding kg per head per day	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Daily Gain (kg)	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.88
Winter Feeding Period -Days	120	120	120	120
Silage / Head (Incl. Waste @ 15; 10 ; 5 & 3%)	4.84	4.69	4.62	4.56
Heifers Wintered Per Hectare on 2 Cuts	8.67	8.69	8.83	8.83
kg Organic N per Hectare	169	169	172	172
kg Chemical N per Hectare	225	195	195	195
Output				
Live Weight kg 530				
K.O.%	52.0%	52.5%	53.0%	53.5%
Carcase Value at € / kg deadweight €3.50	€965	€974	€983	€992
Purchased Heifer (kg)	458	446	434	424
Price € / 100 kg	€160	€165	€170	€170
Cost	-€733	-€736	-€738	-€721
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€232	€238	€245	€271
Variable Costs per Head				
Silage	€123	€101	€97	€97
Autumn Barley Cost € / tonne €240	€86	€86	€86	€86
Dosing, Transport, Marketing etc.	€42	€45	€45	€45
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€251	€232	€228	€228
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	-€19	€6	€17	€43
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	-€165	€52	€150	€380

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS -- EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€187
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per kg carcass weight	€125
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€198
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€32
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€9
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @		8.50%	€328	Per Hectare
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				

STORE TO BEEF BULLOCKS -AUTUMN PURCHASE & SALE

**Animals purchased in October/November and overwintered on silage only and finished off grass the following October/November at 700 kg.
GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS**

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Hectares Per Animal Sold	0.57	0.53	0.49	0.45
kg Organic N per Hectare	104	112	121	133
kg Chemical N per Hectare	86	101	104	138
Silage Quality - DMD%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Meal Feeding kg per head per day	0	0	0	0
Winter Weight Gain kg	35	55	70	85
Silage Per Head (Winter Duration- Days)	140	6.6	6.4	6.1
% of Farm Cut - 1st Cut	43%	50%	54%	57%
- 2nd Cut	0%	0%	0%	0%
Summer Weight Gain kg (Turnout to Sale)	160	170	180	200
OUTPUT PER ANIMAL				
Weight at Sale (kg)	700	700	700	700
Sale Price per 100 kg	€165	€165	€170	€170
Sales per Animal	€1,155	€1,155	€1,190	€1,190
Purchase Weight (kg)	505	475	450	415
Purchase Price per 100 kg	€170	€170	€175	€175
Cost per Animal	-€859	-€808	-€788	-€726
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€296	€347	€402	€464
VARIABLE COSTS				
Silage	€141	€118	€118	€115
Grazing Fertiliser	€33	€51	€48	€61
Dosing,Vet	€12	€12	€12	€12
Transport, Marketing, etc.	€45	€45	€45	€45
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€231	€226	€223	€233
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€65	€121	€179	€231
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€115	€230	€368	€519

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs & animal purchase costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€47
Selling Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€79
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€139
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€0
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€8
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @		8.50%	€165	Per Hectare
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				

STORE TO BEEF BULLOCKS -SPRING PURCHASE & SALE
Animals purchased in March/April and grazed for the summer and finished off silage
and 5 kg meals the following March/April at 640 to 680 kg.

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Hectares Per Animal Sold	0.53	0.49	0.45	0.41
kg Organic N per Hectare	112	121	133	146
kg mineral N per Hectare	86	101	103	147
Silage Quality -DMD%	60.0%	65.0%	68.0%	72.0%
Meal Feeding kg per head per day	5	5	5	5
Winter Weight Gain kg	90	110	120	140
Silage Per Head (Winter Duration-Days)	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.5
% of Farm Cut - 1st Cut	43.0%	52.0%	60.0%	60.0%
- 2nd Cut	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.0%
Summer Weight Gain kg (Purchase to housing)	150	160	170	185
OUTPUT PER ANIMAL				
Weight at Sale (kg)	640	650	660	680
K.O. %	53.5%	54.0%	54.5%	55.0%
Carcase Value at € / kg	€3.60	€1,233	€1,264	€1,295
Purchase Weight (kg)	400	380	370	355
Purchase Price per 100 kg	€200	€200	€210	€210
Cost per Animal	-€800	-€760	-€777	-€746
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€433	€504	€518	€600
VARIABLE COSTS				
Silage	€131	€113	€120	€128
Grazing Fertiliser	€31	€46	€40	€54
Winter Meals Cost @ € / tonne	€260	€182	€182	€182
Dosing,Vet	€12	€12	€12	€12
Transport, Marketing,etc.	€45	€45	€45	€45
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€401	€398	€399	€421
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€32	€106	€119	€179
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€61	€218	€267	€442

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs & animal purchase costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€44
Selling Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€84
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€178
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€26
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€9
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)			8.50%	€210 Per Hectare

**SUMMER GRAZING STEERS
PURCHASE MARCH / APRIL FOR SALE JULY TO NOVEMBER**

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance		Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
kg per Hectare at start		1285	1730	2225	2470
Bullocks per hectare at start		2.5	3.5	4.5	4.9
Bullocks per hectare from July 10th.		2.5	2.5	2.5	2.7
kg Organic N per hectare		100	121	141	156
kg Chemical N per Hectare		63	139	146	167
Bullock Weight @ Purchase in April - kg		520	500	500	500
Weight Gain per Bullock (kg) - April to July 10th.		90	110	120	130
-July 10th. to Nov.		45	60	60	60
Sales - July at € / 100 kg	€170	€0	€1,027	€2,087	€2,378
- Oct / Nov at € / 100 kg	€165	€2,669	€2,731	€2,771	€3,097
Total Sales per Hectare		€2,669	€3,758	€4,858	€5,475
Purchases - April at € / 100 kg	€190	€2,440	€3,287	€4,228	€4,693
GROSS OUTPUT PER HECTARE		€229	€471	€630	€782
VARIABLE COSTS PER HECTARE					
Fertiliser		€103	€195	€207	€235
Dosing and Vet		€15	€20	€25	€25
Transport, Marketing, etc.		€90	€125	€160	€175
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS		€208	€340	€392	€435
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD		€9	€38	€53	€70
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE		€21	€131	€238	€347

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs & animal purchase costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€124
Selling Price - July	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€70
- Oct / Nov	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€94
Liveweight Gain - April to July	+ or -	10	kg per bullock	€83
- July to Nov	+ or -	10	kg per bullock	€45
Input Costs - Haulage / Marketing	+ or -	€15	per bullock	€74
- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€9
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)		8.50%	€209 Per hectare	

**MARGIN € PER HECTARE TO MEET FIXED COSTS(EXCL.INTEREST)
& FAMILY LIVING EXPENSES**
(Gross Margin € / ha; Investment Requirements € / Unit & € / ha; Repayment burden € / ha)
(Very Good Level of Performance)

Calf Bucket Rearing Systems	Calf to 2 Years Steers	Calf to Yearling Steers	Calf to 1.5 Yrs Steers	Calf to 2.5 Yrs Steers	Calf to 2 Years Heifers
Gross Margin € Per Hectare	524	262	405	462	473
INVESTMENT € PER UNIT					
Short term					
Livestock - peak	340	0	620	622	546
- average	57	0	362	207	546
Variable costs - peak	599	217	271	504	423
- average	359	130	163	302	254
Long Term					
Livestock	960	340	340	960	275
Buildings	1330	830	830	1330	1305
Machinery	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER UNIT	2706	1300	1695	2799	2380
Adjusted Hectares Per Unit	0.55	0.19	0.35	0.70	0.45
INVESTMENT € PER HECTARE					
Short term	0	0	0	0	0
Livestock - peak	623	0	1771	884	1138
- average	104	0	1034	294	1138
Variable costs - peak	1097	1143	775	716	881
- average	658	684	466	429	529
Long Term					
Livestock	1758	1789	971	1364	573
Buildings	2436	4368	2371	1889	2719
Machinery	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER HA	4956	6841	4842	3976	4959
INTEREST and REPAYMENTS € PER HA					
A. GREEN FIELD					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	65	58	128	61	142
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	583	856	465	453	458
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	648	914	593	514	600
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	65	58	128	61	142
Repayments € Per €1000 €139%	375	648	256	244	249
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	440	706	384	305	391
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	65	58	128	83	167
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	166	439	0	0	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	231	497	128	83	167
GROSS MARGIN less TOTAL REPAYMENTS €/HA					
A. GREEN FIELD	-124	-652	-188	-52	-127
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500	84	-444	21	157	82
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000	293	-235	277	379	306

**MARGIN € PER HECTARE TO MEET FIXED COSTS(EXCL.INTEREST)
& FAMILY LIVING EXPENSES**
(Gross Margin € / ha; Investment Requirements € / Unit & € / ha;Repayment burden € / ha)
(Very Good Level of Performance)

Cattle Trading Systems	Winter Finishing Steers	Winter Finishing Heifers	Aut Store to Beef Steers	Spring Str to Beef Steers	Summer Grazing Steers
Gross Margin € Per Hectare	314	150	368	267	238
INVESTMENT € PER UNIT					
Short Term					
Livestock - peak	936	738	0	0	4228
- average	390	308	0	0	2034
Variable costs - peak	346	228	223	399	392
- average	208	137	134	239	196
Long Term					
Livestock	0	0	788	777	0
Buildings	500	475	500	500	0
Machinery	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER UNIT	1098	920	1422	1516	2230
Adjusted Hectares Per Unit (Animals Per Hectare ***)	5.92	8.83	0.49	0.45	1.00
INVESTMENT € PER HECTARE	***	***			
Short Term					
Livestock - peak	5539	6517	0	0	4228
- average	2308	2715	0	0	2034
Variable costs - peak	2048	2013	459	897	392
- average	1229	1208	276	537	196
Long Term					
Livestock	0	0	1621	1746	0
Buildings	2959	4194	1029	1124	0
Machinery	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER HA	6496	8117	2926	3407	2230
INTEREST and REPAYMENTS € PER HA					
A. GREEN FIELD					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	301	333	23	46	190
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	412	583	369	399	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	713	916	392	445	190
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	301	333	23	46	62
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	203	375	160	191	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	504	708	183	237	62
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	297	435	0	35	0
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	0	166	0	0	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	297	601	0	35	0
GROSS MARGIN less TOTAL REPAYMENTS €/HA					
A. GREEN FIELD	-399	-799	-24	-178	48
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500	-190	-558	185	30	176
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000	17	-451	368	232	238

HEREFORD CROSS FRIESIAN SYSTEMS (Excluding ALL Premia)**GROSS MARGINS excl. Premia (€ PER HECTARE)****2008**

Calf to 2 Years-Steers	-12	34	169	488	556
Calf to Yearling-Steers	-4	148	362	563	744
Calf to 1.5 Years-Steers	6	108	265	387	491
Calf to 2.5 Years-Steers	59	75	230	367	501
Calf to 2 Years-Heifers	66	128	247	469	569
Winter Finishing-Steers		46	196	224	322
Winter Finishing-Heifers		97	318	401	572
Store to Beef(Aut/Aut)-Steers		79	198	339	418
Store to Beef(Spring/Spring)-Steers		66	174	304	426
Summer Grazing-Steers		29	96	241	323
NOTE: Refer to individual budgets to check sensitivity of gross margin to price changes					

GROSS MARGINS excl. Premia (€ PER UNIT)**2008**

Calf to 2 Years-Steers	-8	20	83	234	267
Calf to Yearling-Steers	-1	31	61	96	126
Calf to 1.5 Years-Steers	3	41	85	120	152
Calf to 2.5 Years-Steers	57	58	154	244	333
Calf to 2 Years-Heifers	32	62	120	198	240
Winter Finishing-Steers		7	30	34	49
Winter Finishing-Heifers		10	32	40	57
Store to Beef(Aut/Aut)-Steers		41	96	137	169
Store to Beef(Spring/Spring)-Steers		33	84	128	162
Summer Grazing-Steers		12	25	47	56
Notes 1. Hectares required per unit varies substantially between systems. 2. Refer to Individual Budgets to check sensitivity of gross margins to price changes					

OVERALL BUDGET FOR CALF TO 2 YEARS (STEERS) - BUCKET REARING

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Date of Purchase	15 April	1 April	1 March	15 Feb.	1 Feb.
Weight at Sale - kg	370	420	505	565	610
Sale Price € / 100 kg liveweight	€160	€160	€155		
(K.O.%) & € / kg deadweight				53.0%	53.5%
Total Sales Value	€592	€672	€783	€988	€1077
Cost of Calf	€-190	€-190	€-210	€-210	€-220
Allowance for Mortality	€-19	€-14	€-13	€-11	€-9
GROSS OUTPUT	€383	€468	€560	€767	€848
Stocking Rate -Hectares per unit to 2 yrs.	0.69	0.59	0.49	0.48	0.48
Kg Organic N per hectare	117	137	165	169	169
Kg Chemical N per Hectare	71	113	152	180	197
Silage Quality (DMD%)	55%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Silage tonnes per unit (No.Days)	120	6.5	7.8	8.1	8.7
% Farm Cut - 1st Cut	34%	43%	58%	58%	65%
- 2nd Cut	0%	10%	22%	35%	30%
VARIABLE COSTS PER UNIT					
Milk Replacer (kg)	25	25	25	25	25
Milk Replacer Cost € / tonne	€49	€49	€49	€49	€49
Weaner Ration (kg)	75	100	125	125	125
Weaner Ration Cost € / tonne	€23	€30	€38	€38	€38
Weanling Meals					
Autumn Barley (kg)	0	25	50	50	50
Autumn Barley Cost € / tonne	€0	€6	€12	€12	€12
Weanling Winter Meals (kg)	190	135	130	60	50
Weanling Meals Cost € / tonne	€51	€36	€35	€16	€14
1.5 Yr old Barley (kg)	125	180	180	340	470
1.5 Yr old Barley Cost € / tonne	€33	€47	€47	€88	€122
Lime € / tonne	€7	€8	€8	€10	€12
P & K (kg)	162	161	74	72	72
P & K Cost € / tonne	€55	€55	€25	€24	€24
Urea (kg)	59	105	83	81	83
Urea Cost € / tonne	€23	€42	€33	€32	€33
C.A.N. 27.5% (kg)	80	66	133	179	203
C.A.N. 27.5% Cost € / tonne	€26	€21	€42	€57	€65
Silage Cutting € / hectare	€275	€65	€86	€108	€123
Polythene Cost € / tonne	€2.00	€14	€16	€18	€19
Additive Cost € / tonne	€0.00	€0	€0	€0	€0
Dosing, Transport, Marketing, etc.	€45	€52	€62	€65	€68
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€391	€448	€477	€533	€581
GROSS MARGIN PER UNIT	€-8	€20	€83	€234	€267
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€-12	34	169	488	556

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price -- (Calf Cost)	+ or -	€15	per head	€31
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per kg	€34
Final Liveweight	+ or -	25	kg	€92
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€22
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€11
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @		8.50%	€213	Per Hectare
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				

OVERALL BUDGET FOR CALF TO 2.5 YEARS (STEERS)
- BUCKET REARING -
GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance		Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Date of Purchase		15 April	1 April	1 March	15 Feb.	1 Feb.
Weight at Sale (kg)	01-Jun	415	475	545	580	650
Sale Price € / 100 kg liveweight			€165	€165	€165	
(K.O.%) & € / kg deadweight	€3.20				52.5%	53.0%
Total Sales Value		€685	€784	€899	€974	€1102
Cost of Calf		€-170	€-170	€-180	€-180	€-200
Allowance for Mortality		€-19	€-14	€-13	€-9	€-8
GROSS OUTPUT		€496	€600	€706	€785	€894
Stocking -Hectares Per Unit to 2.5yrs.		0.97	0.77	0.67	0.66	0.66
kg Organic N per hectare		117	147	169	171	171
kg Chemical N per Hectare		66	139	183	204	221
Silage Quality (DMD%)		55.0%	60.0%	65.0%	68.0%	72.0%
Silage tonnes / Unit (No.Days)	120	7.3	7.9	9.5	10.1	11.5
% Farm Cut - 1st Cut	155	27.0%	20.0%	30.0%	35.0%	38.0%
- 2nd Cut		0.0%	38.0%	50.0%	50.0%	50.0%
VARIABLE COSTS PER UNIT						
Milk Replacer (kg)		25	25	25	25	25
Milk Replacer Cost € / tonne	€1960	€49	€49	€49	€49	€49
Weaner Ration (kg)		75	100	125	125	125
Weaner Ration Cost € / tonne	€300	€23	€30	€38	€38	€38
Weanling Meals						
Autumn Barley (kg)		0	25	50	50	50
Autumn Barley Cost € / tonne	€240	€0	€6	€12	€12	€12
Weanling Winter Meals (kg)		190	135	130	60	50
Weanling Meals Cost € / tonne	€270	€51	€36	€35	€16	€14
1.5 Yr old Barley (kg)		160	200	75	0	0
1.5 Yr old Barley Cost € / tonne	€260	€42	€52	€20	€0	€0
Lime € / tonne	€20	€10	€11	€11	€14	€16
P & K (kg)		211	198	100	100	100
P & K Cost € / tonne	€340	€72	€67	€34	€34	€34
C.A.N. 27.5% (kg)		124	194	280	325	363
C.A.N. 27.5% Cost € / tonne	€320	€40	€62	€90	€104	€116
Urea (kg)		65	116	99	100	102
Urea Cost € / tonne	€400	€26	€46	€40	€40	€41
Silage Cutting € / hectare	€275	€72	€123	€147	€155	€161
Polythene Cost € / tonne	€2.00	€16	€17	€21	€22	€23
Additive Cost € / tonne	€0.00	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0
Dosing, Transport,etc		€38	€43	€55	€57	€57
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS		€439	€542	€552	€541	€561
GROSS MARGIN PER UNIT		€57	€58	€154	€244	€333
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE		€59	€75	€230	€367	€501

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)					
Buying Price--(Calf Cost)	+ or -	€15	per head		€23
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per Kg		€26
Final Liveweight	+ or -	25	Kgs.		€64
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne		€5
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne		€13
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)			8.50%	€176	Per Hectare

**OVERALL BUDGET FOR CALF TO 2 YEARS (HEIFERS)
- BUCKET REARING -
GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS**

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Date of Birth	15 May	1 May	1 April	15 March	1 March
Weight at Sale (kg)	335	365	425	465	520
Sale Price € / 100 kg liveweight	€155	€150	€150		
(K.O.%) & € / kg deadweight	€2.90			52.5%	53.0%
Total Value	€519	€548	€638	€708	€799
Cost of Calf	€-190	€-195	€-200	€-200	€-210
Allowance for Mortality	€-17	€-16	€-12	€-8	€-6
GROSS OUTPUT	€312	€337	€426	€500	€583
Stocking Rate - ha / unit- 2yrs.	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.42	0.42
kg Organic N per hectare	147	147	147	169	169
kg Chemical N per hectare	69	100	130	161	193
Silage Quality (DMD%)	55.0%	60.0%	65.0%	68.0%	72.0%
Silage Per Unit tonnes	4.1	4.3	5.0	5.3	5.9
% Farm Cut - 1st Cut	31%	36%	45%	50%	55%
- 2nd Cut	0%	0%	0%	20%	25%
VARIABLE COSTS PER UNIT					
Milk Replacer (kg)	25	25	25	25	25
Milk Replacer Cost € / tonne	€46	€46	€46	€46	€46
Weaner Ration (kg)	60	60	70	80	100
Weaner Ration Cost € / tonne	€13	€13	€15	€18	€22
Weanling Meals					
Autumn Barley (kg)	0	0	0	20	40
Autumn Barley Cost € / tonne	€0	€0	€0	€3	€6
Winter Meals (kg)	160	125	85	50	40
Winter Meals Cost € / tonne	€29	€23	€15	€9	€7
1.5 Yr old Barley (kg)	100	100	100	110	140
1.5 Yr old Barley Cost € / tonne	€17	€17	€17	€19	€24
Fodder Cost Per Unit -- Grazing	€26	€32	€42	€39	€46
-- Silage	€68	€79	€85	€112	€129
Dosing, Transport,etc	€35	€35	€40	€48	€52
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€234	€245	€260	€294	€332
GROSS MARGIN PER UNIT	€78	€92	€166	€206	€251
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€160	€189	€342	€488	€595

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price--(Calf Cost)	+ or -	€15	per head	€36
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per kg	€33
Final Liveweight	+ or -	25	kg	€91
Input Costs--Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€11
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)			6.50%	€120 Per Hectare

WINTER FINISHING BULLOCKS

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance		Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Silage Quality (DMD%)		63.0%	68.0%	72.0%	74.0%
Meal Feeding kg per head per day		3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Daily Gain (kg)		0.7	0.8	0.9	0.95
Winter Feeding Period Days		140	140	140	140
Silage / Head (Incl. Waste @ 15 ; 10 ; 5 ; & 3%)	- tonnes	6.46	6.23	6.18	6.13
Bullocks Wintered Per Hectare on 2 Cuts		6.50	6.54	6.60	6.58
kg Organic N per Hectare		159	159	161	160
kg Chemical N per Hectare		225	195	195	195
OUTPUT					
Live Weight kg	600				
K.O.%		52.0%	52.5%	53.0%	53.5%
Carcase Value at € / kg deadweight	€3.45	£1,076	£1,087	£1,097	£1,107
Purchased Bullock (kg)		502	488	474	467
Price € / 100 kg		€148	€155	€160	€160
Cost		-€743	-€756	-€758	-€747
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD		€333	€331	€339	€360
VARIABLE COSTS PER HEAD					
Silage		€163	€138	€137	€138
Barley Cost Total @ € / tonne	€240	€118	€118	€118	€118
Dosing, Transport, & Marketing		€45	€45	€50	€55
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS		€326	€301	€305	€311
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD		€7	€30	€34	€49
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE		€46	€196	€224	€322

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€154
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per kg carcase weight	€106
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€170
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€32
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€11
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)			8.50%	€278 Per Hectare

WINTER FINISHING HEIFERS

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Silage Quality (DMD%)	63.0%	68.0%	72.0%	74.0%
Meal Feeding kg per head per day	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Daily Gain (kg)	0.55	0.65	0.75	0.8
Winter Feeding Period -Days	120	120	120	120
Silage / Head (Incl. Waste @ 15 ; 10 ; 5 & 3%)	4.34	4.10	4.07	4.02
Heifers Wintered Per Hectare on 2 Cuts	9.69	9.94	10.02	10.03
kg Organic N per Hectare	222	227	229	229
kg Chemical N per Hectare	225	195	195	195
OUTPUT				
Live Weight kg 460				
K.O.%	51.0%	51.5%	52.0%	52.5%
Carcase Value at € / kg deadweight €3.45	€809	€817	€825	€833
Purchased Heifer (kg)	394	382	370	364
Price € / 100 kg	€145	€150	€155	€155
Cost	-€571	-€573	-€574	-€564
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€238	€244	€251	€269
VARIABLE COSTS PER HEAD				
Silage	€110	€91	€90	€91
Barley Cost Total @ € / tonne €240	€86	€86	€86	€86
Dosing, Transport, Marketing etc.	€32	€35	€35	€35
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€228	€212	€211	€212
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€10	€32	€40	€57
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€97	€318	€401	€572

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€183
Selling Price	+ or -	5	cent per kg carcase weight	€121
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€218
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€36
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€11
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @		8.50%	€309 Per Hectare	
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				

STORE TO BEEF BULLOCKS - AUTUMN PURCHASE & SALE

Animals purchased in October/November and over wintered on silage only and finished off grass the following October/November at 600 kg.

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Hectares Per Animal Sold	0.53	0.49	0.41	0.41
kg Organic N per Hectare	112	121	146	146
kg mineral N per Hectare	102	130	133	167
Silage Quality -DMD%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Meal Feeding kg per head per day	0	0	0	0
Winter Weight Gain kg	30	50	65	80
Silage Per Head (Winter Duration-Days) 140	5.9	5.7	5.4	5.2
% of Farm Cut - 1st Cut	42%	48%	55%	58%
- 2nd Cut	0%	0%	0%	0%
Summer Weight Gain kg (Turnout to Sale)	145	155	165	180
OUTPUT PER ANIMAL				
Weight at Sale (Kg)	600	600	600	600
Sale Price € per 100 kg	€165	€165	€165	€165
Sales per Animal	€990	€990	€990	€990
Purchase Weight (kg)	425	395	370	340
Purchase Price € per 100 kg	€170	€170	€175	€175
Cost per Animal	-€723	-€672	-€648	-€595
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€267	€318	€342	€395
VARIABLE COSTS				
Silage	€128	€110	€106	€112
Grazing Fertiliser	€47	€61	€48	€63
Dosing,Vet	€10	€10	€10	€10
Transport, Marketing, etc.	€41	€41	€41	€41
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€226	€222	€203	€226
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€41	€96	€137	€169
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€79	€198	€339	€418

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€42
Selling Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€74
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€149
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€0
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€10
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)			8.50%	€153 Per Hectare

STORE TO BEEF BULLOCKS - SPRING PURCHASE & SALE

Animals purchased in March/April and grazed for the summer and finished off silage
and 3.5 kg meals the following March/April at 550 to 620 kg.

GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Hectares Per Animal Sold	0.50	0.48	0.42	0.38
kg Organic N per Hectare	118	123	140	155
kg mineral N per Hectare	102	130	132	185
Silage Quality -DMD%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Meal Feeding kg per head per day	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5
Winter Weight Gain kg	80	100	110	130
Silage Per Head (Winter Duration-Days) 140	5.6	5.8	5.8	5.2
% of Farm Cut - 1st Cut	42%	53%	60%	60%
- 2nd Cut	0%	0%	0%	18%
Summer Weight Gain kg (Purchase to housing)	135	145	150	160
OUTPUT PER ANIMAL				
Weight at Sale (kg)	550	575	585	615
K.O. %	52.0%	52.5%	53.0%	53.5%
Carcase Value at € / kg €3.30	€944	€996	€1,023	€1,086
Purchase Weight (kg)	335	330	325	325
Purchase Price per 100 kg	€170	€170	€170	€170
Cost per Animal	-€570	-€561	-€553	-€553
GROSS OUTPUT PER HEAD	€374	€435	€470	€533
VARIABLE COSTS				
Silage	€122	€120	€120	€138
Grazing Fertiliser	€44	€56	€47	€58
Winter Meals Cost @ € / tonne €260	€127	€127	€127	€127
Dosing,Vet	€9	€9	€9	€9
Transport, Marketing, etc.	€39	€39	€39	€39
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€341	€351	€342	€371
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€33	€84	€128	€162
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€66	€174	€304	€426

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Buying Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€43
Selling Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€81
Daily liveweight gain	+ or -	0.1	kg	€170
Input Costs -- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€19
-- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€11
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)	8.50%	€176 Per Hectare		

SUMMER GRAZING STEERS
PURCHASE MARCH / APRIL FOR SALE JULY TO NOVEMBER
GROSS MARGIN OVER PRODUCTION COSTS

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
kg per Hectare at start	1110	1670	2225	2470
Bullocks per hectare at start	2.5	3.8	5.2	5.7
Bullocks per hectare from July 10th.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.7
kg Organic N per Hectare	100	127	155	171
kg Chemical N per Hectare	92	168	175	195
Bullock Weight @ Purchase in April - kg	450	440	430	430
Weight Gain per Bullock (kg) - April to July 10th.	90	100	110	115
- July 10th. to Nov.	45	55	55	55
Sales - July at € / 100 kg	€155	€0	€1,109	€2,264
- Oct / Nov at € / 100 kg	€150	€2,167	€2,204	€2,204
Total Sales per Hectare	€2,167	€3,313	€4,468	€4,999
Purchases - April at € / 100 kg	€170	€1,890	€2,839	€3,783
GROSS OUTPUT PER HECTARE	€277	€474	€685	€800
VARIABLE COSTS PER HECTARE				
Fertiliser	€153	€245	€257	€285
Dosing and Vet	€15	€18	€22	€22
Transport, Marketing, etc.	€80	€115	€165	€170
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS	€248	€378	€444	€477
GROSS MARGIN PER HEAD	€12	€25	€47	€56
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€29	€96	€241	€323

NOTE : Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs, animal purchase & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS--EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)					
Buying Price		+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€124
Selling Price	- July	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€84
	- Oct / Nov	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg liveweight	€80
Liveweight Gain	- April to July	+ or -	10	kg per bullock	€88
	- July to Nov	+ or -	10	kg per bullock	€40
Input Costs	- Haulage / Marketing	+ or -	€15	per bullock	€86
	- Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€11
INTEREST COST € PER HECTARE @ (All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				8.50%	€179 Per Hectare

**MARGIN € PER HECTARE TO MEET FIXED COSTS (EXCL.INTEREST)
& FAMILY LIVING EXPENSES**
(Gross Margin € / ha; Investment Requirements € / Unit & € / ha; Repayment burden € / ha)

(Very Good Level of Performance)

Calf Bucket Rearing Systems	Calf to 2 Years Steers	Calf to Yearling Steers	Calf to 1.5 Yrs Steers	Calf to 2.5 Yrs Steers	Calf to 2 Years Heifers
Gross Margin € Per Hectare	488	563	387	367	469
INVESTMENT € PER UNIT					
Short term					
Livestock -Peak	210	0	546	656	328
-Average	35	0	319	219	328
Variable Costs -Peak	533	231	292	541	363
-Average	320	139	175	325	218
Long Term					
Livestock	756	210	210	726	200
Buildings	1,330	830	830	1,330	1,305
Machinery					
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER UNIT	2,441	1,179	1,534	2,600	2,051
Adjusted Hectares Per Unit	0.48	0.17	0.31	0.66	0.42
INVESTMENT € PER HECTARE					
Short term					
Livestock -Peak	438	0	1,761	988	777
-Average	73	0	1,029	330	777
Variable Costs -Peak	1,110	1,361	942	815	860
-Average	667	818	565	489	517
Long Term					
Livestock	1,575	1,235	677	1,093	474
Buildings	2,771	4,882	2,677	2,003	3,092
Machinery					
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER HA	5,086	6,935	4,948	3,915	4,860
INTERST and REPAYMENTS ? PER HECTARE					
A. GREEN FIELD					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	63	70	135	70	110
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	605	851	467	431	496
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	668	921	602	501	606
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	63	70	135	70	110
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	396	642	258	222	287
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	549	712	393	292	397
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	63	70	135	78	158
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	187	434	0	0	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	250	504	135	78	158
GROSS MARGIN less TOTAL REPAYMENTS ?/ha					
A. GREEN FIELD	-180	-358	-215	-134	-137
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500	29	-149	-6	75	72
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000	238	59	252	289	311

**MARGIN € PER HECTARE TO MEET FIXED COSTS (EXCL.INTEREST)
& FAMILY LIVING EXPENSES**
(Gross Margin € / ha; Investment Requirements € / Unit & € / ha; Repayment burden € / ha)

(Very Good Level of Performance)

Cattle Trading Systems	Winter Finishing Steers	Winter Finishing Heifers	Aut Store to Beef Steers	Spring Str to Beef Steers	Summer Grazing Steers
Gross Margin € Per Hectare	224	401	339	304	241
INVESTMENT € PER UNIT					
Short term					
Livestock -Peak	758	574	0	0	3783
-Average	316	239	0	0	1704
Variable Costs -Peak	305	211	205	342	444
-Average	183	127	123	205	222
Long Term					
Livestock	0	0	648	553	0
Buildings	500	475	500	500	0
Machinery	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER UNIT	999	841	1,271	1,258	1,926
Adjusted Hectares Per Unit (Animals Per Hectare ***)	6.60	10.02	0.41	0.41	1.00
INVESTMENT € PER HECTARE	***	***			
Short term					
Livestock -Peak	5,001	5,754	0	0	3,783
-Average	2,084	2,398	0	0	1,704
Variable Costs -Peak	2,012	2,115	505	815	444
-Average	1,207	1,269	304	488	222
Long Term					
Livestock	0	0	1,600	1,317	0
Buildings	3,299	4,762	1,235	1,190	0
Machinery	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT € PER HA	6,590	8,429	3,139	2,995	1,926
INTERST and REPAYMENTS € PER HECTARE					
A. GREEN FIELD					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	280	312	26	41	164
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	459	662	394	349	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	739	974	420	390	164
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1500					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	280	312	26	41	36
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	250	454	186	140	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	530	766	212	181	36
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3000					
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	305	312	12	0	0
Repayments € Per €1000 €139	0	245	0	0	0
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	305	557	12	0	0
GROSS MARGIN less TOTAL REPAYMENTS €/ha					
A. GREEN FIELD	-515	-573	-81	-86	77
B. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €1,500	-306	-365	127	123	205
C. €'s PER HECTARE OWN CAPITAL €3,000	-81	-156	327	304	241

SUCKLING SYSTEMS EXCLUDING ALL PREMIA

GROSS MARGIN (€ PER HECTARE)

2008

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	V. Good	Excellent
Single Suckling Selling Weanlings	242	319	480	553	672
Single Suckling Selling Yearlings	138	230	420	498	627
Single Suckling Selling 1.5 Year Olds	156	234	411	467	622
Single Suckling to Beef (Heifers @ 21; Steers @ 24)	-	176	363	488	641
<p>NOTE: Refer to Individual Budgets to check sensitivity of gross margins to price changes</p> <p>No premia or compensatory allowances payments are included in the calculations of the gross margins</p>					

SUCKLING SYSTEMS EXCLUDING ALL PREMIA

GROSS MARGIN (€ PER Suckling Unit)

2008

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	V. Good	Excellent
Single Suckling Selling Weanlings	157	182	235	271	316
Single Suckling Selling Yearlings	106	154	243	289	332
Single Suckling Selling 1.5 Year Olds	145	199	300	341	429
Single Suckling to Beef (Heifers @ 21; Steers @ 24)	-	164	301	397	522
<p>NOTE: Hectares required per unit varies substantially between systems.</p> <p>Refer to Individual Budgets to check sensitivity of gross margins to price changes</p>					

**SINGLE SUCKLING -SELLING WEANLINGS IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER
FROM CALVES BORN IN MARCH/APRIL**

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Stocking Rate : Adjusted Hectares per Unit	0.65	0.57	0.49	0.49	0.47
Feed Quality (DMD%)	55%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Calving Rate	85%	88%	90%	95%	95%
% of Farm Cut (1 cut)	30%	35%	45%	45%	46%
Feed /Cow (tonnes) 90 bales	5.5	5.5	5.5	5	5
Kg Organic N per hectare	123	140	163	163	170
kg Chemical N per hectare	63	81	101	105	126
OUTPUT					
Steers Weight (kg)	250	265	280	295	320
Price per 100 kg	€220	€220	€220	€215	€215
Heifer Weight (kg)	230	240	255	270	290
Price per 100 kg	€200	€200	€200	€200	€195
Sales per Cow	€429	€468	€507	€558	€595
Less Mortality	-€24	-€20	-€15	-€11	-€9
Cow Replacement	-€46	-€61	-€54	-€69	-€55
GROSS OUTPUT PER SUCKLING UNIT	€359	€387	€438	€478	€531
VARIABLE COSTS					
Winter Feed	€114	€116	€99	€99	€98
Grazing	€38	€38	€50	€54	€63
Vet, Dosing + Bull / AI	€32	€32	€32	€32	€32
Calmag Nuts + Meal	€6	€8	€10	€10	€10
Transport + Marketing	€12	€12	€12	€12	€12
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS PER SUCKLING UNIT	€202	€205	€203	€207	€215
GROSS MARGIN PER COW	€157	€182	€235	€271	€316
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€242	€319	€480	€553	€672

NOTE: Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS -EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE				
			Very Good	Excellent
Calving Rate	+ or -	5%	€60	€67
Selling Price	+ or -	€5 per 100 kg	€27	€31
Selling Weight	+ or -	25 kg	€101	€104
Cow Replacement Cost	+ or -	€15 per head	€31	€32
INTEREST COSTS € PER HECTARE @		8.50%	€219	233
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)			Per Hectare	

SINGLE SUCKLING - SELLING YEARLINGS IN MARCH/APRIL FROM CALVES BORN IN MARCH/APRIL

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Stocking Rate : Adjusted Hectares per Unit	0.77	0.67	0.58	0.58	0.53
Feed Quality (DMD%)	55%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Calving Rate	85%	88%	90%	95%	95%
Feed / Unit (tonnes)					
-Cow	5.5	5.5	5.5	5	5
-Weanling	2.3	2.6	2.6	3	3.3
Meals Fed per Weanling (kg)	350	310	280	200	160
Average Daily Gain - Weanling (kg)	0.4	0.55	0.65	0.65	0.7
% of Farm Cut - 1st cut	35%	45%	58%	58%	60%
- 2nd cut	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%
Kg Organic N per hectare	116	133	153	153	168
kg mineral N per Hectare	67	86	100	103	135
OUTPUT PER SUCKLING UNIT					
Steers Weight (kg)	315	340	370	390	415
Price per 100 kg	€210	€210	€210	€200	€200
Heifer Weight (kg)	280	310	335	360	380
Price per 100 kg	€200	€200	€200	€190	€190
Sales per Cow	€519	€587	€651	€695	€737
Less Mortality	-€25	-€21	-€17	-€13	-€11
Cow Replacement	-€46	-€61	-€54	-€69	-€55
GROSS OUTPUT PER SUCKLING UNIT	€448	€505	€580	€613	€671
VARIABLE COSTS					
Winter Feed	€157	€175	€151	€151	€166
Grazing	€42	€38	€51	€54	€64
Weanling Meals € / tonne €270	€80	€74	€68	€51	€41
Calmag + Meals (Cow)	€6	€8	€10	€11	€11
Vet, Dosing + Bull's AI	€40	€40	€40	€40	€40
Transport + Marketing	€17	€17	€17	€17	€17
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS PER SUCKLING UNIT	€342	€351	€337	€324	€339
GROSS MARGIN PER COW	€106	€154	€243	€289	€332
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€138	€230	€420	€498	€627

NOTE: Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS -- EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (VERY GOOD)				
Calving Rate	+ or -	5%		€63
Selling Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg	€31
Selling Weight	+ or -	25	kg	€80
Cow Replacement Cost	+ or -	€15	per head	€26
INTEREST COSTS € PER HECTARE @			8.50%	€190 Per Hectare
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				

**SINGLE SUCKLING - SELLING 1.5 YEAR OLDS IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER
FROM CALVES BORN IN MARCH/APRIL**

Level of Performance	Poor	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Stocking Rate : Adjusted Hectares per Unit	0.93	0.85	0.73	0.73	0.69
Feed Quality (DMD%)	55%	60%	65%	68%	72%
Calving Rate	85%	88%	90%	95%	95%
Summer Weight Gain -Bullocks to Mid Oct	130	135	145	150	170
-1.5 Year Olds (kg) -Heifers to 1st Oct	105	110	120	125	140
Weanling Average Daily Gain (kg) over Winter	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6
Meals Fed per Weanling (kg)	300	210	170	170	70
Feed per Unit (tonnes) -Cow	5.5	5.5	5.5	5	5
-Weanling	3.3	3.3	3	3.2	3.4
% of Farm Cut - 1st cut	30%	36%	47%	47%	52%
- 2nd cut	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Kg Organic N per hectare	126	138	161	161	170
kg mineral N per Hectare	63	82	101	105	125
OUTPUT PER SUCKLING UNIT					
Steers Weight (kg)	420	455	505	530	575
Price € per 100 kg Sale Date Mid Oct-Steers	€170	€170	€170	€165	€165
Heifer Weight (kg)	380	405	440	470	510
Price € per 100 kg Sale Date 1st Oct-Heifers	€165	€165	€165	€160	€160
Sales per Cow	€570	€634	€713	€773	€838
Less Calf Mortality	-€26	-€22	-€18	-€14	-€13
Less Cow Replacement Costs	-€46	-€61	-€54	-€69	-€55
GROSS OUTPUT PER SUCKLING UNIT	€498	€551	€641	€690	€770
VARIABLE COSTS					
Winter Feed	€162	€177	€154	€154	€163
Grazing	€54	€56	€74	€78	€87
Meals € / tonne €270	€69	€50	€41	€55	€18
Calmag -Cow	€6	€8	€10	€11	€11
Vet, Dosing + Bull / AI	€40	€40	€40	€40	€40
Transport + Marketing	€22	€22	€22	€22	€22
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS PER SUCKLING UNIT	€353	€352	€341	€349	€341
GROSS MARGIN PER COW	€145	€199	€300	€341	€429
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€156	€234	€411	€467	€622

NOTE: Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS -- EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (VERY GOOD)					
Calving Rate	+ or -	5%			€56
Selling Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg		€33
Selling Weight	+ or -	25	kg		€53
Cow Replacement Cost	+ or -	€15	per head		€21
INTEREST COSTS € PER HECTARE @					
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)		8.50%		€189 Per Hectare	

**SINGLE SUCKLING - SELLING PROGENY AS BEEF
HEIFERS AT 21 MONTHS & STEERS AT 2 YEARS**

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Stocking Rate : Adjusted Hectares per Unit	0.93	0.83	0.81	0.81
Fodder Quality (DMD%)	60%	65%	68%	72%
Calving Rate	88%	90%	95%	95%
Winter Weight Gain -Steers 150 Days	90	120	135	150
(1.5 Yrs to Finish) - Heifers 60 Days	35	45	50	55
Feed per Unit (tonnes) Cow	5.5	5.5	5	5
Weanling 120 Days	3.3	3	3.2	3.4
Steer (5 Mths) + Heifer (2 Mths)	3.8	4	4.5	4.9
% of Farm Cut - 1st cut	45%	55%	55%	60%
- 2nd cut	10%	10%	15%	15%
Kg Organic N per hectare	149	167	171	171
kg Chemical N per Hectare	97	111	121	141
OUTPUT				
Steers Weight @ 2 years (kg)	545	615	665	725
Price per 100 kg -- Steers Sale Date 15th March	€205	€200		
- (K.O.% & € / kg carcase weight) €3.60			55.0%	56.0%
Heifer Weight @ 1.5 years (kg)	440	480	520	585
Price per 100 kg -- Heifers Sale Date 1st Dec	€165	€165	€170	€170
Sales per Cow	€811	€910	€1,045	€1,167
Less Calf Mortality	-€22	-€18	-€14	-€13
Less Cow Replacement Costs	-€61	-€54	-€69	-€55
GROSS OUTPUT PER SUCKLING UNIT	€728	€838	€962	€1,099
VARIABLE COSTS				
Winter Fodder	€288	€240	€251	€271
Grazing	€52	€76	€84	€99
Meals -Cow(Calmag)	€6	€8	€9	€10
-Weanling € / tonne €270	€50	€41	€44	€18
-.5 Steer + .5 Heifer € / tonne €260	€94	€96	€101	€101
Vet, Dosing + Bull's AI	€50	€50	€50	€50
Transport + Marketing	€24	€26	€26	€28
TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS PER SUCKLING UNIT	€564	€537	€565	€577
GROSS MARGIN PER COW	€164	€301	€397	€522
GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE	€176	€363	€488	€641

NOTE: Gross Margins shown are exclusive of any direct payments and reflect the margins left after variable costs & mortality costs are deducted from market returns

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS -- EFFECT ON GROSS MARGIN € PER HECTARE (EXCELLENT)				
Calving Rate	+ or -	5%		€75
Selling Price	+ or -	€5	per 100 kg	€38
Selling Weight	+ or -	25	kg	€54
Input Prices - Fertiliser	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€5
- Meal	+ or -	€15	per tonne	€9
INTEREST COSTS € PER HECTARE @			8.50%	€203 Per Hectare
(All borrowed for variable costs and livestock)				

**MARGIN € PER HECTARE TO MEET FIXED COSTS (EXCL. INTEREST)
& FAMILY LIVING EXPENSES.**

(Gross Margin € / ha; Investment Requirements € / Unit & € / ha; Repayment Burden € / ha)

(Very Good Level of Performance)

Suckling Systems	S. Suck to Weanl.	S. Suck to Yearl.	S. Suck to 1.5 Years	S. Suck to Beef
Gross Margin € Per Hectare	553	498	467	488
INVESTMENT € PER UNIT Short Term				
Livestock - Peak	0	0	626	626
- Average	0	0	313	480
Variable costs - Peak	271	324	349	565
- Average	163	194	209	339
Long Term				
Livestock	1100	1100	1100	1100
Buildings	1000	1450	1450	1700
Machinery				
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT €/UNIT	2263	2744	3072	3619
Adjusted Hectares Per Unit	0.49	0.58	0.73	0.81
INVESTMENT € PER HECTARE Short Term				
Livestock - Peak	0	0	858	769
- Average	0	0	429	590
Variable costs - Peak	553	559	478	694
- Average	333	334	286	416
Long Term				
Livestock	2245	1897	1507	1351
Buildings	2041	2500	1986	2088
Machinery				
TOTAL AVERAGE INVESTMENT €/HA	4619	4731	4208	4445
INTEREST and REPAYMENTS €/HA				
A. GREEN FIELD				
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	28	28	61	86
Repayments € Per €1000 @ €139	596	612	486	478
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	624	640	547	564
B. €'s PER HA OWN CAPITAL @ €1500				
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	28	28	61	86
Repayments € Per €1000 @ €139	388	403	277	270
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	416	431	338	356
C. €'s PER HA OWN CAPITAL @ €3000				
Interest on W.C. @ 8.5%	138	28	103	123
Repayments € Per €1000 @ €139	179	194	69	61
Total Repayments € Per Hectare	317	222	172	184
GROSS MARGIN LESS REPAYMENTS €/HA (= Amount available per hectare to meet fixed costs (excl. interest) and living expenses).				
A. GREEN FIELD	-71	-142	-80	-76
B. €'s PER HA OWN CAPITAL @ €1500	137	67	129	132
C. €'s PER HA OWN CAPITAL @ €3000	236	276	295	304

BACKGROUND DATA AND ASSUMPTIONS FOR CATTLE BUDGETS

ANIMAL PERFORMANCE

Summer

Summer weight gains are based on performance achieved at Teagasc, Grange and cattle weighings by Teagasc advisers under good, average and poor management.

Winter

1.5 Year Old Bullocks

(a) Silage

Expected performance from silage alone is based on formula from Teagasc, Grange where: -

$$\text{Livestock Gain (g/day)} = 34.6 \text{ D.M.D.} - 1763$$

As indications from performance at farm level do not appear to be as good as this formula would suggest at high D.M.D. levels (68% +), the expected contribution from silage of 68% DMD and higher is reduced to 90% of that predicted by the above formula.

(b) Meals

The response to meals is based on work from Teagasc, Grange, i.e.

at a meal level of 1.8 kg per day 7 kg meal produces 1 kg liveweight gain;

at a meal level of 3.6 kg per day 10 kg meal produces 1 kg liveweight gain.

1.5 Year Old Heifers

Performance on silage and meals based on 85% of the expected performance of bullocks on an equivalent quality silage and amount of meals.

Weanlings

(a) Expected performance on silage is 0.23 kg per day liveweight gain LESS than 1.5 year old performance on silage of similar quality.

(b) Response to Meals

At moderate feeding levels (less than 1.5 kg per day) the following are the expected responses:

Light Weanling - (under 180 kg) - 4.0 kg meal produces 1 kg liveweight gain;

Medium Weanling - (181 - 209 kg) - 4.5 kg meal produces 1 kg liveweight gain;

Heavy Weanling - (210 kg +) - 5.0 kg meal produces 1 kg liveweight gain.

Weanlings Heifers

Performance assumed at 90% of that expected from weanling bullocks on the same feed quality and level of meals.

SILAGE REQUIREMENTS

(a) Silage Intake

Intake is closely related to Dry Matter Digestibility (D.M.D.) percentage of silage. The expected intake of well preserved silage (pH 3.9), at 20% dry matter content, expressed as a percentage of liveweight is based on work from Teagasc, Grange for 1.5 year old bullocks and is calculated using the following formula :

$$\text{Dry Matter Intake (\% Liveweight)} = 0.019 \text{ D.M.D.} + 0.518$$

While the formula can not be taken to be the correct for all types and weights of cattle it's used in the following budgets on the basis that it is the best information available.

(b) Effect of meal feeding on Silage Intake

Feeding 1.8 kg meal to 1.5 year old reduces silage intake by 10%.

Feeding 3.6 kg meal to 1.5 year old reduces silage intake by 18%.

Single Suckling Cows - Silage requirement per cow is based on restricting the cow to 85% of her voluntary intake.

INVESTMENT IN LIVESTOCK AND WORKING CAPITAL

Interest Cost (€ per Hectare)

This is estimated assuming money is borrowed for all livestock and variable costs at an interest rate of 8.5% per annum. **It is presented at the bottom of the sensitivity analysis with each budget.**

It is given as interest cost in € per ha and it reflects **the amount of money required per hectare and the duration of overdraft during the year for all systems.** No account is taken of interest on land, buildings, machinery or other working capital required for fixed costs or living expenses.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT COSTS

Capital required per unit and per hectare is shown for all budgets in a summary table at the end of each cattle section. The investment requirements are based on the following assumptions for the average value of breeding herd and the approximate cost of providing farm buildings nett of grant and Vat refund.

Farm Buildings (Assumed capital cost after grant & Vat refund)

Calf House	€380 per place
Weanling (Housing & Silage storage)	€450 per place
1.5 Year Old (Housing & Silage storage)	€500 per place
Suckler Cow (Housing & Silage storage)	€1000 per place

Breeding Stock (Assumed Average value of cows in the herd)

Suckling Cow (Single , Double or Multiple)	€1100 per head
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INTEREST RATES AND REPAYMENT BURDEN

Overdraft interest rate is assumed at 8.5%.

Term Loan rate is assumed at 6.5% resulting in repayments of €139 per €1000 over 10 years.

Borrowing required to cover variable costs and short term livestock investment are charged at overdraft rate. Building costs and long term livestock carry a repayment burden of €139 per €1000 , i.e. repayments per 1000 at 6.5% over 10 years.

HISTORICAL CATTLE PRICES

The following three tables outline the prices recorded by the Central Statistics Office for bullocks and heifers in Spring and Autumn since 1991. Prices for bullocks over 550 kg are also given for the months June and July since 1988.

BULLOCK PRICES (550 KG AND OVER)
C.S.O. 1987 - 2007

YEAR	Euro (€) PER 100 KG LIVEWEIGHT			
	SPRING (March/April)	JUNE	JULY	AUTUMN (October/November)
1988	168.4	171.5	170.1	170.1
1989	175.9	173.7	162.5	153.9
1990	167.0	154.9	154.5	145.8
1991	158.1	150.3	143.6	142.2
1992	152.5	152.5	149.3	145.1
1993	164.4	164.9	162.3	152.6
1994	174.2	164.4	162.3	150.8
1995	168.0	162.0	156.1	153.9
1996	150.7	139.9	131.2	124.9
1997	134.9	133.7	129.3	127.2
1998	137.6	132.1	125.7	115.8
1999	126.2	123.2	121.5	121.8
2000	135.6	145.1	140.9	149.3
2001	Not Available	Not Available	130.4	131.8
2002	141.7	135.3	129.6	136.1
2003	138.7	137.3	136.5	140.9
2004	155.9	159.2	148.0	143.8
2005	154.3	149.5	134.4	132.2
2006	155.3	150.7	141.0	149.3
2007	154.7	146.1	142.9	143.9

C.S.O. - BULLOCK PRICES EURO (€) PER 100 KG 1990 - 2007

SPRING AVERAGE MARCH / APRIL								AUTUMN AVERAGE OCTOBER / NOVEMBER					
Weight kg	200 - 249	250 - 300	350 - 399	400 - 449	450 - 499	500 - 549	550 +	200 - 249	350 - 399	400 - 449	450 - 499	500 - 549	550 +
YEAR	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
1992	182.8	170.3	161.6	159.0	157.7	155.5	152.5	168.0	146.7	145.1	144.5	142.5	145.1
1993	191.7	185.9	174.1	171.4	169.5	167.0	164.4	188.1	164.2	160.6	158.0	154.7	152.6
1994	216.6	206.8	188.3	183.7	181.2	182.1	174.2	189.7	164.7	160.0	157.3	154.7	150.8
1995	219.0	202.8	185.1	179.2	174.6	171.3	168.0	201.6	166.0	162.5	158.8	155.0	153.9
1996	204.9	188.3	169.6	164.2	158.6	153.6	150.7	175.4	138.0	134.3	131.3	129.0	124.9
1997	194.3	161.6	155.2	148.9	143.7	138.4	134.9	185.1	139.3	136.1	133.5	130.5	127.2
1998	206.1	187.3	152.4	145.9	142.6	139.2	137.6	145.3	118.5	116.3	119.2	117.5	115.8
1999	150.0	146.0	133.6	131.9	128.2	126.7	126.2	138.4	121.1	124.1	124.6	122.8	121.8
2000	172.2	163.7	152.8	145.9	139.5	137.4	135.6	210.8	160.2	154.9	149.3	142.2	133.7
2001			Not Available					207.9	152.8	149.1	145.3	141.4	131.8
2002	206.2	188.0	170.9	164.7	159.0	151.6	141.7	212.5	150.7	144.3	142.8	140.7	136.1
2003	199.5	177.5	163.9	159.2	150.4	144.3	138.7	214.1	162.4	156.5	151.5	148.3	140.9
2004	214.1	202.4	184.1	176.0	168.1	162.5	157.3	203.3	161.2	158.6	154.7	150.1	143.8
2005	197.2	176.5	168.3	164.4	160.5	157.5	154.3	174.0	143.1	138.0	136.4	134.9	132.2
2006	184.7	171.8	161.5	159.3	155.3	154.3	154.7	179.8	153.5	151.4	150.0	148.6	149.3
2007	190.7	170.9	166.0	163.3	159.7	157.9	154.7	162.7	150.2	148.9	147.1	145.2	143.9

C.S.O. - HEIFER PRICES EURO (€) PER 100 KG 1991 - 2007

SPRING AVERAGE MARCH / APRIL						AUTUMN AVERAGE OCTOBER / NOVEMBER				
Weight kg	200 - 249	250 - 299	300 - 349	350 - 399	400 - 449	200 - 249	250 - 299	300 - 349	350 - 399	400 - 449
YEAR	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
1992	148.1	144.0	142.2	140.4	138.4	135.4	133.7	134.0	131.7	131.9
1993	160.1	157.6	157.1	155.3	154.7	152.9	145.6	144.5	143.7	143.4
1994	185.5	180.4	174.1	167.5	166.1	148.1	144.5	144.5	143.0	142.3
1995	171.2	167.6	168.2	163.3	160.0	149.1	146.0	142.5	142.6	142.1
1996	153.0	156.6	154.2	150.2	146.4	118.1	113.8	116.4	117.1	115.3
1997	138.3	135.1	136.9	135.0	131.9	126.5	129.4	117.8	120.0	120.0
1998	151.7	148.7	133.6	133.1	131.2	89.5	102.9	95.7	100.4	104.5
1999	113.9	123.0	107.7	116.1	118.3	96.6	104.8	91.3	102.0	107.4
2000	123.0	126.7	128.1	128.8	129.3	131.8	129.5	125.8	125.7	127.0
2001			Not Available			126.9	123.8	124.1	126.0	127.7
2002	151.1	150.1	150.9	150.7	146.5	125.4	119.4	118.3	121.5	123.1
2003	139.9	140.0	140.2	139.1	137.0	133.1	128.8	128.5	130.1	130.8
2004	163.1	161.5	159.1	156.1	152.1	147.9	141.0	136.6	136.5	136.7
2005	173.8	169.4	163.8	160.0	154.8	149.1	143.3	136.1	135.1	134.8
2006	162.3	160.5	160.1	158.0	156.1	137.7	149.7	149.4	147.3	149.7
2007	175.1	168.4	166.4	164.6	160.9	149.2	150.3	144.1	146.3	146.5

Fertiliser & Lime usage rates at different Management Levels

<p>Grazing Area</p> <p>0.5 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>3 bags 0 10 20 per hectare</p> <p>3.5 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p>	<p>Poor Efficiency Level</p> <p>Silage - First Cut (30 t / ha)</p> <p>0.6 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>8 bags 0 7 30 per hectare</p> <p>5 bags Urea 46% N per hectare</p>
<p>Grazing Area</p> <p>0.6 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>3 bags 0 10 20 per hectare</p> <p>2.5 bags Urea 46% N per hectare</p> <p>2.5 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p>	<p>Moderate Efficiency Level</p> <p>Silage - First Cut (27 t / ha)</p> <p>0.7 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>8 bags 0 7 30 per hectare</p> <p>5 bags Urea 46% N per hectare</p> <p>Silage - Second Cut (15 t / ha)</p> <p>3 bags 0 7 30 per hectare</p> <p>8 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p>
<p>Grazing Area</p> <p>0.8 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>3 bags 0 10 20 per hectare</p> <p>2.5 bags Urea 46% N per hectare</p> <p>5.5 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p> <p>Aftergrass</p> <p>2.5 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p>	<p>Good Efficiency Level</p> <p>Silage - First Cut (25 t / ha)</p> <p>0.9 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>3 bags 0 7 30 per hectare</p> <p>4 bags Urea 46% N per hectare</p> <p>Silage - Second Cut (16 t / ha)</p> <p>0 bags 0 7 30 per hectare</p> <p>7.5 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p>
<p>Grazing Area</p> <p>1.0 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>3 bags 0 10 20 per hectare</p> <p>2.5 bags Urea 46% N per hectare</p> <p>6 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p> <p>Aftergrass</p> <p>2.5 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p>	<p>Very Good Efficiency Level</p> <p>Silage - First Cut (24 t / ha)</p> <p>1.1 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>3 bags 0 7 30 per hectare</p> <p>4 bags Urea 46% N per hectare</p> <p>Silage - Second Cut (17 t / ha)</p> <p>0 bags 0 7 30 per hectare</p> <p>7.5 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p>
<p>Grazing Area</p> <p>1.2 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>3 bags 0 10 20 per hectare</p> <p>2.5 bags Urea 46% N per hectare</p> <p>6 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p> <p>Aftergrass</p> <p>2.5 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p> <p>Late Grazing (60 % of farm)</p> <p>2 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p>	<p>Excellent Efficiency Level</p> <p>Silage - First Cut (24 t / ha)</p> <p>1.3 tonne lime per hectare</p> <p>3 bags 0 7 30 per hectare</p> <p>4 bags Urea 46% N per hectare</p> <p>Silage - Second Cut (17 t / ha)</p> <p>0 bags 0 7 30 per hectare</p> <p>7.5 bags C.A.N. 27.5% N per hectare</p>

Cattle Suckling Farms 2006 - eProfit Monitor Figures

	Average		Top 1/3		Bottom 1/3	
No. of Farms	147		49		49	
Farm Size/Ha	53 HA		58 HA		47 HA	
Stocking Rate LU/Ha	1.73 LU/Ha		2.01 LU/Ha		1.52 LU/Ha	
Gross Output (Kgs Liveweight Per Ha)	544 Kg/Ha		721 Kg/Ha		391 Kg/Ha	
	€ Per Hectare (%of Gross Output)					
Gross Output	870	(100.0%)	1155	(100.0%)	592	(100.0%)
Purchased Concentrate	134	(15.4%)	142	(12.3%)	118	(20.0%)
Home Grown Concentrate	18	(2.1%)	25	(2.1%)	19	(3.3%)
Purchased Forage	17	(1.9%)	15	(1.3%)	33	(5.6%)
Fertiliser	96	(11.0%)	111	(9.6%)	88	(14.8%)
Lime	3	(0.4%)	2	(0.2%)	5	(0.9%)
Veterinary	65	(7.5%)	74	(6.4%)	67	(11.3%)
AI / Breeding	5	(0.6%)	4	(0.3%)	5	(0.8%)
Total Contractor	88	(10.2%)	84	(7.2%)	99	(16.7%)
Seed and Spray	12	(1.4%)	11	(0.9%)	14	(2.3%)
Silage Additive & Polythene	6	(0.7%)	5	(0.5%)	4	(0.7%)
Levies and Transport	9	(1.0%)	10	(0.9%)	9	(1.5%)
Straw	21	(2.4%)	30	(2.6%)	18	(3.0%)
Sundry Var. Costs	15	(1.7%)	17	(1.4%)	12	(2.0%)
Total Variable Costs	490	(56.3%)	529	(45.8%)	490	(82.8%)
Gross Margin	380	(43.7%)	626	(54.2%)	102	(17.2%)
Hired Labour	32	(3.7%)	43	(3.8%)	33	(5.5%)
Mach. Running	61	(7.1%)	70	(6.1%)	60	(10.2%)
Mach. Leases	15	(1.7%)	16	(1.4%)	19	(3.1%)
OD & Credit Int.	8	(0.9%)	7	(0.6%)	7	(1.2%)
Loan Interest	19	(2.2%)	19	(1.6%)	25	(4.3%)
Car (Farm)	29	(3.4%)	29	(2.5%)	29	(4.8%)
E.S.B. (Farm)	11	(1.2%)	10	(0.9%)	10	(1.7%)
Phone (Farm)	9	(1.1%)	9	(0.8%)	10	(1.7%)
Dep. Build.	35	(4.0%)	47	(4.1%)	26	(4.4%)
Dep. Machinery	50	(5.8%)	62	(5.3%)	49	(8.3%)
Repairs and Maint.	43	(4.9%)	45	(3.9%)	44	(7.4%)
Insurance	29	(3.4%)	32	(2.8%)	28	(4.8%)
Prof. Fees	23	(2.6%)	22	(1.9%)	25	(4.3%)
Sundry Fixed Costs	11	(1.2%)	13	(1.2%)	7	(1.2%)
Land Lease	54	(6.2%)	67	(5.8%)	47	(8.0%)
Total Fixed Costs	430	(49.4%)	492	(42.6%)	420	(70.9%)
Net Profit	-50	-(5.8%)	134	(11.6%)	-318	-(53.7%)
Total REPS, CAS & SFP	630		650		609	
% REPS, CAS & SFP Retained	92%		121%		48%	

1. Analysis carried out on cattle farms where weanlings, stores or beef animals from the suckling herd were sold during the 2006 trading year
2. The farms were ranked by **Gross Margin per hectare** into top and bottom 1/3
3. Gross Output (€ per hectare) is calculated as Sales - Purchases + / - Inventory Change
4. The figures in brackets show cost & profit figures as a % of Gross Output
5. **REPS** - Rural Environment Protection Scheme Payment
CAS - Compensatory Allowance Scheme Payment
SFP - Single Farm Payment

Cattle Non-Breeding Farms 2006 - eProfit Monitor Figures

	Average		Top 1/3		Bottom 1/3	
No. of Farms	37		12		12	
Farm Size/Ha	43 HA		56 HA		34 HA	
Stocking Rate LU/Ha	1.63 LU/Ha		1.87 LU/Ha		1.48 LU/Ha	
Gross Output (Kgs Liveweight Per Ha)	685 Kg/Ha		1001 Kg/Ha		368 Kg/Ha	
	€ Per Hectare (%of Gross Output)					
Gross Output	1061	(100.0%)	1622	(100.0%)	505	(100.0%)
Purchased Concentrate	240	(22.6%)	409	(25.2%)	136	(27.0%)
Home Grown Concentrate	23	(2.2%)	20	(1.2%)%		
Purchased Forage	8	(0.8%)	11	(0.7%)	5	(1.0%)
Fertiliser	86	(8.1%)	80	(4.9%)	93	(18.4%)
Lime	2	(0.2%)			1	(0.2%)
Veterinary	50	(4.7%)	69	(4.2%)	56	(11.0%)
AI / Breeding	4	(0.4%)	1	(0.0%)	16	(3.2%)
Total Contractor	88	(8.3%)	80	(4.9%)	109	(21.5%)
Seed and Spray	14	(1.4%)	7	(0.4%)	10	(2.0%)
Silage Additive & Polythene	5	(0.5%)	4	(0.2%)	6	(1.1%)
Levies and Transport	34	(3.2%)	37	(2.3%)	19	(3.7%)
Straw	14	(1.3%)	15	(0.9%)	10	(2.1%)
Sundry Var. Costs	11	(1.0%)	9	(0.5%)	16	(3.2%)
Total Variable Costs	580	(54.7%)	741	(45.7%)	477	(94.4%)
Gross Margin	481	(45.3%)	881	(54.3%)	28	(5.6%)
Hired Labour	32	(3.0%)	51	(3.2%)	9	(1.9%)
Mach. Running	89	(8.4%)	136	(8.4%)	39	(7.8%)
Mach. Leases	24	(2.3%)	39	(2.4%)	15	(2.9%)
OD & Credit Int.	11	(1.1%)	4	(0.3%)	8	(1.5%)
Loan Interest	16	(1.5%)	17	(1.0%)	8	(1.6%)
Car (Farm)	31	(2.9%)	23	(1.4%)	38	(7.5%)
E.S.B. (Farm)	15	(1.4%)	18	(1.1%)	17	(3.3%)
Phone (Farm)	10	(0.9%)	10	(0.6%)	11	(2.2%)
Dep. Build.	23	(2.2%)	35	(2.1%)	15	(2.9%)
Dep. Machinery	40	(3.8%)	47	(2.9%)	33	(6.6%)
Repairs and Maint.	49	(4.6%)	71	(4.4%)	25	(5.0%)
Insurance	29	(2.8%)	36	(2.2%)	27	(5.3%)
Prof. Fees	28	(2.7%)	30	(1.8%)	32	(6.3%)
Sundry Fixed Costs	15	(1.4%)	16	(1.0%)	7	(1.4%)
Land Lease	32	(3.0%)	24	(1.5%)	60	(11.8%)
Total Fixed Costs	444	(41.9%)	556	(34.3%)	343	(68.0%)
Net Profit	37	(3.5%)	324	(20.0%)	-315	-(62.4%)
Total REPS, CAS & SFP	714		701		718	
% REPS, CAS & SFP Retained	105%		146%		56%	

1. Analysis carried out on cattle farms where the animals sold during the 2006 trading year had been purchased onto the farm
2. The farms were ranked by **Gross Margin per hectare** into top and bottom 1/3
3. Gross Output (€ per hectare) is calculated as Sales - Purchases + / - Inventory Change
4. The figures in brackets show cost & profit figures as a % of Gross Output
5. **REPS** - Rural Environment Protection Scheme Payment
CAS - Compensatory Allowance Scheme Payment
SFP - Single Farm Payment

Sheep 2006 - eProfit Monitor Figures

	Average		Top 1/3		Bottom 1/3	
No. of Farms	31		10		10	
Farm Size/Ha	44 HA		34 HA		65 HA	
Stocking Rate LU/Ha	2.07 LU/Ha		2.23 LU/Ha		1.86 LU/Ha	
Ewes/Hectare	7.8		9.9		6.5	
Lambs reared per ewe to ram	1.5		1.55		1.51	
Average Lamb Price	73 € / lamb		77 € / lamb		71 € / lamb	
Gross Output (Kgs Liveweight Per Ha)	513 Kg/Ha		642 Kg/Ha		370 Kg/Ha	
	€ Per Hectare (%of Gross Output)					
Gross Output	797	(100.0%)	1176	(100.0%)	522	(100.0%)
Purchased Concentrate	136	(17.1%)	148	(12.6%)	99	(19.0%)
Home Grown Concentrate	11	(1.4%)	23	(2.0%)	6	(1.2%)
Purchased Forage	5	(0.6%)				
Fertiliser	79	(9.9%)	93	(7.9%)	63	(12.1%)
Lime	5	(0.6%)	3	(0.3%)	1	(0.3%)
Veterinary	86	(10.8%)	107	(9.1%)	64	(12.2%)
AI / Breeding	1.98	(0.2%)			4.14	(0.8%)
Total Contractor	106	(13.3%)	69	(5.9%)	156	(29.9%)
Seed and Spray	14	(1.7%)	7	(0.6%)	20	(3.8%)
Silage Additive & Polythene	4	(0.5%)	5	(0.4%)	3	(0.6%)
Levies and Transport	7	(0.9%)	1	(0.1%)	6	(1.2%)
Straw	16	(2.0%)	16	(1.4%)	17	(3.3%)
Sundry Var. Costs	18	(2.2%)	18	(1.5%)	24	(4.6%)
Total Variable Costs	488	(61.3%)	490	(41.7%)	465	(89.0%)
Gross Margin	308	(38.7%)	685	(58.3%)	57	(11.0%)
Hired Labour	67	(8.5%)	68	(5.8%)	67	(12.8%)
Mach. Running	60	(7.6%)	51	(4.3%)	46	(8.8%)
Mach. Leases	15	(1.8%)	12	(1.0%)	12	(2.4%)
OD & Credit Int.	8	(1.0%)	4	(0.4%)	10	(1.9%)
Loan Interest	17	(2.1%)	12	(1.0%)	8	(1.6%)
Car (Farm)	19	(2.4%)	31	(2.6%)	10	(1.9%)
E.S.B. (Farm)	8	(1.0%)	11	(0.9%)	5	(1.0%)
Phone (Farm)	7	(0.8%)	11	(0.9%)	3	(0.6%)
Dep. Build.	17	(2.1%)	12	(1.0%)	15	(2.9%)
Dep. Machinery	36	(4.5%)	38	(3.3%)	31	(5.9%)
Repairs and Maint.	39	(4.9%)	36	(3.0%)	26	(5.0%)
Insurance	30	(3.8%)	24	(2.0%)	33	(6.4%)
Prof. Fees	19	(2.4%)	17	(1.5%)	18	(3.4%)
Sundry Fixed Costs	8	(1.0%)	11	(0.9%)	4	(0.9%)
Land Lease	58	(7.2%)	94	(8.0%)	28	(5.3%)
Total Fixed Costs	407	(51.0%)	431	(36.6%)	317	(60.6%)
Net Profit	-98	-(12.3%)	254	(21.6%)	-259	(49.7%)
Total REPS, CAS & SFP	521		663		422	
% REPS, CAS & SFP Retained	81%		138%		39%	

1. Analysis carried out on cattle farms where the animals sold during the 2006 trading year had been purchased onto the farm
2. The farms were ranked by **Gross Margin per hectare** into top and bottom 1/3
3. Gross Output (€ per hectare) is calculated as Sales - Purchases + / - Inventory Change
4. The figures in brackets show cost & profit figures as a % of Gross Output
5. **REPS** - Rural Environment Protection Scheme Payment
CAS - Compensatory Allowance Scheme Payment
SFP - Single Farm Payment

SHEEP - EARLY LAMB PRODUCTION - LAMBS SOLD BEFORE END OF MAY (2008)

Gross Output/Ewe	Poor	Moderate	Good	Excellent
No. sold/ewe put to ram	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.7
Lamb Sales Price - €4.80/kg deadweight*				
Value - 18.5 kg carcasses	€97.68	€115.44	€133.2	€150.96
Wool	€2.56	€2.56	€2.56	€2.56
Less				
Ewe & Ram replacement cost	-€14	- €14	- €14	- €14
Total Output	€86.24	€104.0	€121.76	€139.52
Variable Costs	€	€	€	€
Meals	22.59	28.42	33.46	37.17
Forage costs (grazing & silage)	18.73	19.6	20.86	22.6
Veterinary & other miscellaneous	10.57	11.6	12.52	13.67
Total Variable Costs	51.89	59.62	66.84	73.44
Gross Margin per Ewe* (excluding subsidies)	34.35	44.38	54.92	66.08

MID-SEASON LAMB PRODUCTION (2008)

Gross Output/Ewe	Poor	Moderate	Good	Excellent
No. sold/ewe put to ram	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.7
Lamb Sales Price -€3.90/kg deadweight-kg	19	19	19	19
Value-Lamb sales/ewe	€81.51	€96.33	€111.15	€125.97
Wool	€2.56	€2.56	€2.56	€2.56
Less				
Ewe & Ram replacement cost	-€14	-€14	-€14	-€14
Gross Output	€70.07	€84.89	€99.71	€114.53
Stocking Rate (ewes/hectare)	7.5	8.5	10	12.5
Variable Costs	€	€	€	€
Meals	6.25	9.75	14.72	15.36
Forage costs	15.6	18.35	19.73	22.37
Veterinary & other miscellaneous costs	8.97	9.26	10.53	11.27
Total Variable Costs	30.82	37.36	44.98	49.0
Gross Margin per Ewe* (excluding premium)	€39.25	€47.53	€54.73	€65.53

EARLY LAMB PRODUCTION (Input Details)

	Moderate	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Meals (Ewe and Lambs)				
(a) per ewe	46kg	55kg	60kg	60kg
(b) creep (30-42kg per lamb)	36kg	48kg	61kg	74kg

* **Note:** This gross margin is based on expected market prices. The ewe premium and top up are now included in the Single Farm Payment from 2005 forwards to 2012.

Mid-Season Lamb

- (A) Meals: 40 kg per ewe.
- (B) Forage: (Moderate stocking rate with a hay based system) (9.25 ewes/ha)
 Hay (0.25ha) = €82
 Grazing (0.75ha) = €94 } €176/ha (€19.02 per ewe)
- (C) Forage: (Intensive silage based systems e.g. 12 ewes/ha).
 Fertilisers on 0.7ha grazed throughout year = €116
 Fertilisers on 0.3ha grazed to mid-season and then closed for silage = €57
 Additive and polythene and hire of silage contractor. = €96 } €269/ha (€22.41 per ewe)

(D) **NOTE:** The above Gross Margins do not include the Single Farm Payment or Payments under the Compensatory Allowance Scheme for disadvantaged areas.

STORE LAMB FINISHING (2007/2008)

	Grass (+ Meals) August—November	Roots/Catch Crop Dec.—Jan./Feb.	Concentrate December—March
Target Sale Date	Nov./Dec.	Dec-Jan./Feb.	Feb./Mar.
Target Sale Weight	44 kgs	43 kgs	42 kgs
Target l/weight gain/week	0.8 kg	0.7 kg	1.2 - 1.4 kgs
Feeding Period	8 - 10 weeks	6 - 8 weeks	6 - 8 weeks
Initial liveweight required	37 kgs	37 kgs	32 kgs
Purchase price	€58	€58	€47
Sale Price €/kg carcass	€3.90	€4.10	€3.90
Carcass weight	20 kgs	20 kgs	20 kgs
Sale Value	€78	€82	€78
Gross Output/Head	€20	€24	€31
Variable Costs			
Grass average 24/hectare	€2.77		€1.30
Root crop (swedes 100 lamb/hectare-8 weeks)	-	€6.96	-
Concentrates (1.2 kgs/day)	€1.70	-	€21.00
Vet/dosing/mortality/transport)	€7.80	€7.80	€7.80
Gross Margin/Head	€7.73	€10.34	€3.20

NOTE: For more detailed information on the technical and financial performance on sheep farms consult the Teagasc E Profit Monitor Analysis on Drystock Farms for 2006 - Booklet published September 2007. The full report is also on the Teagasc T Net Website. The 2007 results are due out in September 2008

FORAGE COSTINGS (Grass/Grass Silage) - (2008) - €/Hectare

	Grass	1st Cut Grass Silage	2nd Cut Grass Silage	Baled Silage
Roads and Fencing	100	43	34	43
Reseeding	29	20	16	20
Fertiliser	214	110	98	110
Lime	36	20	16	20
Plastic	0	15	12	-
Contractor	0	247	227	435
Total Costs Per Hectare	€379	€455	€403	€628
Yield (Tonnes Dry Matter/Ha)	13.7	6.1	4.7	37 Bales
Utilisable Proportion	0.85	0.75	0.74	-
Cost Per Tonne Dry Matter (Utilised)	*€43	€100	€115	€17.00 per bale
Cost Per Tonne Fresh	€6.3 (14.7% DM)	€20.00 (20% DM)	€23.00 (20% DM)	-

* NOTE: The cost of grass on typical drystock farms would be about 25% lower than budget (€33 per tonne of dry matter utilised).

(c) HAY (Cost per bale: 325bales/ha at 18kg each) - (2008)

Fertiliser	€	
250kg 0:7:30 at €380/Tonne	95	} €350.00/ha i.e. €1.08 per bale approx.
270kg C.A.N. €370/Tonne	100	
Lime	21	
Baling only	134	

(a) The Sale of Hay - Gross Margin and Net Income (2008)

1) Sell 132 Bales Hay at 18kg (Small Bales)		
At €2.50 per bale (approx) per acre	=	€330
2) Less Costs/Acre (Fertilisers/Lime/Cutting/Baling/Tedding at €1.23/bale).	=	(-€162)
		<hr/>
	=	€168
3) Add after grass Grazing value	=	€45
		<hr/>
4) Gross Margin Per Acre	=	€213
5) Less Standard Fixed Charge = (€64/Acre x 50%)	=	€32
		<hr/>
6) Net Income from Sale of Hay Per Acre	=	€181/Acre
		<hr/>

(b) The Sale of Baled Silage - Gross Margin and Net Income (2008)

1) Sell 15 Round 4 x 4 Bales at 700kg each at €24 Bale. (15 bales per acre)	=	€360
2) Less costs (Reseeding/Fertiliser/Lime/Contractor charges)		
at €15 per bale x 15 bales	=	(-€225)
		<hr/>
	=	€135
3) Add Value of Aftergrass Grazing	=	€45
		<hr/>
4) Gross margin per acre	=	€180
5) Less standard fixed charge = (€64/acre x 50%)	=	(-€32)
		<hr/>
6) Net - Income from Sale of Silage per Acre	=	€148
		<hr/>

(d) FORAGE AND ROOT CROPS (Cost per hectare) (2008) (Excluding VAT)

	Maize Silage*	F. Beet	Swedes	Kale	Rape	Stubble Turnips
Seed	€ 185	€ 150	€ 70	€ 85	€ 55	€ 55
Fertiliser	364	553	250	180	180	170
Herbicides	60	170	90	0	0	0
Fungicides	0	33	33	0	0	0
Insecticides	0	55	25	0	0	0
Total Materials	€609	€961	€468	€265	€235	€225
Hire Cost of Other Operations						
Seedbed Preparation	185	210	175	140	140	125
Spraying	36	72	36	0	0	0
Fertiliser Spreading	18	36	18	18	18	17
Harvesting & Covering	300	310	0	0	0	0
Green Yield (tonnes/hectare)						
Leaves and Roots	50	124	74	37	42	25
Dry Matter t/ha Utilised						
Utilised	12.6	13.0	5.2	3.7	3.5	2.5
Cost (€/tonne DM) (Utilised)	€91	€122	€134	€114	€112	€147

NOTES:

- (a) The Arable Area Aid Payment for maize silage in 2004 when grown on eligible land is: €365.4 per hectare or €148 per acre. The Area Aid is payable if the National Base Area is not exceeded. The N.B.A was exceeded in 2003. From 2005, the area aid payable is Decoupled from production into the Single Farm Payment, payable up to 2012.
- (b) Covering maize with Plastic will increase yield by approximately 3.0 to 3.5 tonnes DM (Dry Matter) per hectare and improve quality. Extra cost is about €300/hectare.

PIG PRODUCTION (2008)

REARING WEANERS TO 32kg

	Number of weaners sold per sow per annum					
	20	21	22	23	24	25
Gross Output	€	€	€	€	€	€
Weaners @ €49.50	990	1,040	1,089	1,139	1,188	1,238
Sow and Boar Depreciation	- 35	- 35	- 35	- 35	- 35	- 35
Gross Output	955	1,005	1,054	1,104	1,153	1,203
Variable Cost (Meals)						
Creep/Link @ €675 per tonne (Average)	101	106	111	116	122	127
Weaner diet @ €310 per tonne	230	242	253	265	276	288
Sow diet @ €250 per tonne (Average)	299	301	303	306	309	312
Healthcare, heating costs, repairs, etc. } Miscellaneous, etc. }	220	231	242	253	264	275
Total Variable Costs	850	880	909	940	971	1,002
GROSS MARGIN per Sow	€ 105	125	145	164	182	201

FINISHING PIGS 32 kg to 100 kg (2008)

Feed Conversion Efficiency (FCE)	Moderate (2.8)	Good (2.7)	Very Good (2.6)	Excellent (2.5)
Gross Output	€	€	€	€
Value of Pig (71kg @ €1.55/kg of carcass)	110.05	110.05	110.05	110.05
Less cost of Weaner	- 49.5	- 49.5	- 49.5	- 49.5
Less Mortality	- 1.0	- 1.0	- 1.0	- 1.0
Gross Output	59.55	59.55	59.55	59.55
Variable Costs				
Cost of meal @ €250/tonne	43.4	41.85	40.3	38.75
Vet, medicines, electricity etc.	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5
Total Variable Costs	47.9	46.35	44.8	43.25
GROSS MARGIN per Pig (Euros)	€11.65	€13.20	€14.75	€16.30

INTEGRATED HERD - SELLING AT 100 KG l.w. (2008)

No. Pigs Produced/Sow/Year	21	22	23	24	25
Finisher F.C.E. (Feed Conversion Efficiency)	2.8	2.7	2.65	2.6	2.55
Gross Output	€	€	€	€	€
Value of Pigs 75kg at €1.55/kg Carcase	2,441	2,558	2,674	2,790	2,906
Sow and Boar Depreciation	(-35)	(-35)	(-35)	(-35)	(-35)
Gross Output	2,406	2,523	2,639	2,755	2,871
Variable Costs					
Creep\Link - Average €675/tonne	106	111	116	122	127
Weaner Diet - Ave. €310/tonne	242	253	265	276	288
Sow Diet - €250/tonne (average)	301	303	306	309	312
Finisher Diet - €250/tonne	911	921	945	967	988
Vet, Medicine, power, etc. } Miscellaneous }	277	290	304	317	330
Total Variable Costs	1,837	1,878	1,936	1,991	2,045
Gross Margin per Sow	€569	€645	€703	€764	€826

Guidelines on Loan Repayment Capacity

Maximum Loan Repayments	- For Units of 150 + Sows	
	- Breeding Only	€100 per sow
	- Finishing	€5.00 per pig
	- Integrated Units	€10.00 per pig (14c/kg D. Wt.)

Note: These guideline figures will vary depending on size of unit, efficiency, level of personal drawings, taxation, etc.

SURVEY OF COMMERCIAL PIG UNITS IN IRELAND - JANUARY 2007

A. INTEGRATED BREEDING & FINISHING UNITS

Unit Size (Sows)	No. Units	Total Number of Sows	Total Number of Finishers
<100	35	2,264	11,675
100-199	49	6,735	33,905
200-299	64	15,483	70,897
300-499	49	18,205	84,350
500-999	58	38,229	174,690
1,000 +	24	29,795	137,067
2,000 +	9	19,610	105,896
TOTALS	288	130,321	618,480

B. SPECIALISED BREEDING UNITS

Unit Size (Sows)	No. Units	Total Number of Sows
<100	9	505
100-199	8	1,100
200-299	8	1,915
300-499	9	3,635
500-999	13	8,696
1,000 +	4	6,870
TOTALS	51	22,731

C. SPECIALISED FINISHING UNITS

Unit Size Finishing Places	No. Units	Total Number of Pig Finishing Places
<500	14	4,030
500-999	30	19,494
1,000-1,999	32	42,810
2,000-4,999	17	44,600
5,000 +	9	59,100
TOTALS	102	170,034

GRAND TOTALS:	Units:	441
	Sows:	153,070
	Finishing Places:	788,514

PIG INDUSTRY FACTS AND FIGURES

THE NATIONAL PIG HERD (DECEMBER 2006)

(A)	Number of sows and served gilts	=	148,500
(B)	Total Number of pigs	=	1,643,000
(C)	Pig disposals in 2007:		
	▲ Pig slaughterings	=	2,570,000
	▲ Live exports (estimated)	=	500,000
	▲ Total disposals	=	3,070,000
(D)	Value of pig output (2005)	=	€292 million
(E)	Pig meat exports (2007)	=	103,000 Tonnes
(F)	Number of approved slaughter plants	=	14

THE NITRATES REGULATIONS (SI 378 PF 2006) AND PIG PRODUCTION

1 LICENSED UNITS

The application of nitrogen and phosphorous to land at any time prior to 30th October 2007 in quantities exceeding those prescribed in Article 16 shall not be an offence for the purposes of Article 16 in the case where nitrogen and phosphorous arises from an activity in which there was in force a licence on 30th April 2006 a licence under PART IV of the Act of 1992 (Integrated Pollution Control Licencing).

2 ALL UNITS

Notwithstanding Articles 16 and 26 and Sub-article (2) the application to land prior to 1st January 2011 of phosphorous in excess of the quantities prescribed by Article 16 shall not be an offence for the purposes of Article 16 in a case where:

- (A) the excess arises from the application of manure produced by pigs
- (B) Such manure is produced on a holding on which, on the making of these regulations, activities were being carried on which gave rise to manure from pigs and there has not been an increase in the scale of such activities on the holding subsequent to the making of these regulations, and
- (C) the occupier of the holding on which the phosphorous is applied to land holds records which demonstrate compliance with paragraphs (A) and (B).

LICENSING OF PIG UNITS

From 8th May 2007 every pig unit will be required to have or to have applied for an Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) license if it exceeds the following.

- ▲ 750 places for sows in a breeding unit
- ▲ 285 places for sows in an integrated unit
- ▲ 2000 places for production pigs

These limits apply whether the stocks are within the same complex or within 100 metres of the same complex.

- ▲ 'Breeding unit' means a piggery in which pigs are bred and reared up to 30 kg in weight
- ▲ 'Integrated unit' means a piggery in which pigs are bred and reared to slaughter.
- ▲ 'Production pig' means any pig over 30 kg in weight which is being fattened for slaughter
- ▲ 'Sow' means female pig after first farrowing.

Application Forms and Guidance documents are available from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Consult Teagasc Pig Development Officer first.

- ▲ These regulations are set out in S.I. 279 of 2006.

It is an offence not to comply with the licensing requirements by 8th May 2007.

Agenda 2000 and Tillage Crops (2008)

The direct support system for the arable crops sector was first introduced under the REFORM of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) beginning with the 1993 harvest. This system provided for a reduction in cereal prices which was compensated for by a new system of direct payments.

Further changes were made to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) in the final agreement on AGENDA 2000 reached in Berlin on 26th March 1999. This agreement continues the trend introduced under the 1992 CAP reforms of switching the emphasis from market support towards direct payments to farmers.

Arable crop producers are eligible for compensatory payments (i.e. Area Aid per hectare) on land used to grow the main cereal crops (any cereal including common wheat and durum wheat, barley, oats, rye, triticale, maize, sorghum, buckwheat, millet and canary seed); linseed, oilseeds (Soya beans, oilseed rapes and sunflower seed) and protein crops (peas harvested in a dry state, field beans, sweet lupins - but vining peas are excluded). All these crops are eligible for payment if grown for grain, seed or fodder. Maize silage is also eligible for area aid.

However, certain varieties of rapeseed grown exclusively for fodder have been excluded from the system. Certain varieties of linseed grown mainly for fibre are not eligible for Arable Area Payments.

Arable Area Aid compensation payments cannot be claimed for other crops e.g. Sugar beet, fodder beet, potatoes and horticultural crops generally. If a producer is using land to claim aid under the arable support system, he/she cannot count the same land as part of his/her forage area under the Livestock Schemes (Suckler Cow Premium or Special beef Premium). However, payments under the Rural Environment Protection Scheme (REPS) are extra and separate.

Participation in the arable support system is not compulsory but if a producer wants to receive compensatory payments, he/she must join the system and may have to set aside some land. Set aside aid is payable on the land set aside within the rules.

Under the new Fischler Agreement, further changes will be put in place for 2005 and subsequent years. For a more detailed description of the Agenda 2000 Agreement relating to the tillage sector, refer to the earlier editions of this book up to 2004.

1. Setaside period and permitted uses of setaside land

The set aside period and the permitted uses of set aside land apply throughout the 12 month period, 15th January 2006 to 14th January 2007.

The core setaside period for setaside land is 15 January to 31 August each year -during that period land in setaside **must NOT** be used for any type of agricultural production (except where contracts exist for the production of non-food crops, as specified) or any other lucrative use. However, farmers may harvest hay or silage (but not the cuttings left after the 'core' setaside period) for use on their own holdings or may graze **their own** animals on the land concerned from 1 September 2006 to 14 January 2007. Setaside land must be managed as specified so as to protect the environment - otherwise penalties shall apply. Contact the Area Aid Unit at 01-6072000 for further details of the rules governing setaside or contact the local D.A.F. office or Teagasc.

Important dates for setaside management (15 January 2007 to 14 January 2008) - A summary

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| ● Core setaside period (No agricultural Production Allowed) | 15 January - 31 August 2007 |
| ● May harvest hay or silage for use on own farm
or graze own animals | 1 September 2007 - 14 January 2008 |
| ● Closing date for Single Farm Payment applications | 15th May 2007 |
| ● Retain green cover on setaside until at least | 15 April 2007 |
| ● May cut green cover at minimum 15 cm to control weeds
and leave on land | 16 April - 15 July 2007 |
| ● Must cut green cover at maximum 15 cm or less | 16 July - 15 Aug. 2007 |
| ● May apply fertiliser or slurry or lime to green cover | 16 April - 15 Sept. 2007 |
| ● Various other points apply to Set-aside also (Consult D.A.F. or Teagasc) | |

NOTE: The Single payment Scheme Helpsheet from DAF for 2002/2007 and 2008 contains more detailed information on Setaside Land and Setaside Entitlements.

NOTE: The E.U. has set the rate of obligatory set-aside at 0% for 2008. However, a farmer with set aside entitlements must declare adequate hectare eligible for set-aside so as to get paid on set aside in 2008.

Setaside Management

There are a number of strategies for the management of setaside. The most appropriate will depend on the use of the land following the previous years setaside, soil type, ownership status and enterprise mix of the applicant. There are 3 broad options:

- (a) **Natural Regeneration:** Appropriate where rotational setaside is to be used for cropping the following year.
- (b) **Grass/Clover Mixture:** Sowing a suitable grass-clover mixture is a good use of setaside land on livestock farms. Farmers are permitted to harvest hay or silage for use on their own farms only (but not cuttings left after the "core" setaside period of 15th January to 31st August each year). Farmers may also graze their own animals between 1st September and 14th January, each year.
- (c) **Non Food Uses for Setaside Land:** Setaside land may be used for the provision of materials for manufacture within the community of products not primarily intended for human or animal consumption. Possible crops which may be grown on setaside land include:
 1. Oilseed rape or beet for biodiesel production
 2. Various oilseeds for industrial or pharmaceutical use
 3. Biofuels from short rotation forestry such as willows
 4. Miscanthus for timber board or fuel
 5. There is no setaside aid on setaside land used to grow sugar beet for industrial usesConsiderable work is in progress at Teagasc, Oak Park Research Centre on the feasibility of these options.

One company in the North-East (Drummonds) are offering contracts for oilseed rape for non food use in 2008. This is in addition to the Single Farm Payment of €383/hectare (€155/acre). Both Winter and Spring O.S.R. is eligible. Drummonds also offer contracts for winter wheat for non food.

2. REPS FOR TILLAGE FARMERS

REPS may add up to €61/acre (€150 per hectare) to the margins for tillage crops in the budgets. The Rural Environmental Protection Scheme (REPS) will play a vital role in maintaining the viability of medium and small scale tillage farmers. REPS constraints on straw burning, phosphorous use and the uncultivated field margin will not cause a problem for tillage farmers. However, the restrictions on nitrogen application and plant growth regulators will need to be considered. A financial assessment in relation to REPS can be undertaken for small to medium sized tillage producers. Crop choice is also important as some crops are more suitable than others to the REPS regime. The new REPS 4 Scheme in 2007-2008 has higher payment rates - For more information, see the REPS Section

3. More detailed information on crop budgets is produced in January each year by TEAGASC in the booklet “Crop Costs and Returns”,

(See booklets for January 2006 and January 2007 and January 2008)

4. VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT)

The larger tillage farmers and contractors are registered for Value Added Tax (VAT) purposes. They can claim back VAT incurred/paid on their input costs as follows:

- (a) Crop seeds, fertilisers and grain sales are **Zero Rated** for VAT purposes.
- (b) The **13.5% VAT Rate** applies to contractors charges, other agricultural services, red diesel, electricity, machine parts fitted, garage service charges, etc.
- (c) The **21% VAT Rate** applies to purchased machinery, commercial vehicles, machinery leasing charges, hire of machines, machine parts unfitted, crop chemicals, farm accountant, telephone, etc.

Smaller size tillage farms and most grassland/livestock farmers are not registered for VAT and cannot claim back the VAT on their normal inputs. However, they are “Flat Rate Farmers” for VAT purposes and they are compensated by the Flat Rate VAT addition of 4.8% which is added to the value of their sales of farm products. e.g. grain, livestock and milk to VAT registered outlets. The flat rate VAT addition increases from 4.8% to 5.2% from 1st January 2007 and remains at 5.2% in 2008.

The CROP BUDGETS presented later in the section are exclusive of VAT.

5. THE FISCHLER AGREEMENT AND THE SINGLE FARM PAYMENT SCHEME

Agreement on the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP - Agenda 2000) was reached in Luxembourg on 26 June 2003. This agreement is known as “THE FISCHLER AGREEMENT” or the “LUXEMBOURG AGREEMENT” and follows on from the MID TERM REVIEW (MTR) Process. It will result in a new “SINGLE FARM PAYMENT SCHEME” being introduced for all farmers, starting in 2005 and running to 2012. A further review of the system is scheduled for 2007/2008. The full EU Council Regulation was published on 29 September 2003. Ireland opted for full decoupling of payments from production in October 2003, to begin in 2005. These changes are radical and will allow farmers to have flexibility in the type of farming and enterprises which they practice (“Freedom to Farm”)

The review of the system (known as the “Health Check”) is expected to be completed in the Autumn of 2008/Spring 2009 period by the EU in Brussels.

A SUMMARY OF THE MAIN POINTS (STARTING IN 2005)

A SINGLE FARM PAYMENT AND ENTITLEMENTS

- Each farmer is allocated a single farm payment based on the average number of animals/arable hectares which attracted payment in the 3 year reference period (2000, 2001, 2002) and multiplying them by the payment rate for 2002 in respect of livestock or by €383.04 per hectare in the case of Arable Aid for crops. This Single Payment amount is then divided by the average number of hectares declared on the Area Aid applications over the three year reference period (2000, 2001, 2002) to give a number of Entitlements with a certain value each.
- The Department of Agriculture and Food (DAF) sent a provisional statement to each farmer in September 2004 (Approx) with full details of their Single farm Payment and the number and value of entitlements. Farmers have appeal mechanisms available if they are not happy with their figures. A summary statement of entitlements was sent to each farmer in Spring 2005 and an update statement again in Spring 2006. This summary is updated each year going forward.
- Separate application forms for Force Majeure cases, new entrant farmers and those who inherited land in the reference period are being processed by DAF.

B THE NATIONAL RESERVE

Applications for entitlements from THE NATIONAL RESERVE were available in Early 2005 and was extended to 16th May 2005 and appeal mechanisms will also be available. Possible applicants can include those who:

- 1) have entitlement problems taking over inherited land which had been leased out to third parties. This includes cases where the Early retirement Scheme operated.
- 2) made new investments in productive capacity before 29 September 2003 and were unable to establish adequate entitlements.
- 3) began farming as new entrants after the reference period (2000 - 2002) or began farming in 2002 and received no payments in that year.
- 4) various other cases to be defined
- 5) applicants were notified in 2006 by DAF of their new allocations, if successful.

C DEDUCTIONS FROM THE SINGLE FARM PAYMENT

- For National reserve = A maximum of 3%
- For modulation = 3% in 2005, 4% in 2006, 5% in 2007
The first €5000 of Single Farm Payment each year is exempt. (The modulation deduction for 2005 will be refunded in July 2006). Modulation deductions in 2007 will be refunded in mid 2008.
- A percentage reduction across all payments if national ceiling is exceeded (No reduction was applied in 2005 or 2006) or in subsequent years.

D CONSOLIDATION (STACKING) OF ENTITLEMENTS

- This is a concession allowing farmers to draw their full entitlements on 50% or more of their average hectares declared in the reference period
- It applies to land afforested, land sold under compulsory purchase order (CPO) and rented land not renewed and when the leases end on leased land and are not renewed.
- All consolidated (stacked) entitlements are regarded as coming from the National Reserve and they must be farmed for 5 years and cannot be leased out or sold until after the 5 years ends.
- Farmers can Stack entitlements in 2005 or subsequent years but subject to the 50% land rule and the 5 years National Reserve rule.
- The farmer must declare all land farmed each year. The land farmed can be increased the following year or subsequently, but not in a year when stacking takes place.
- Stacking or Consolidation of entitlements offers potential to reduce conacre/rental prices for land in Ireland as over half the arable land farmed for tillage is on rented ground. However, in practice land rental costs have remained high.
- Stacking (Consolidation) can be used in any year up to 2012 and applies to all farming enterprises.

E ACTIVATION OF ENTITLEMENTS IN 2005 AND 2006

- Farmers who have established entitlements must submit a Single Farm Payment Scheme application by 16th May 2005 to activate their entitlements. A farmer is required to have one eligible hectare per entitlement claimed. The closing date for Single Farm Payment Scheme applications in 2008 is 15th May 2008.

F TRADING OF ENTITLEMENTS

- Farmers will be able to sell entitlements with or without land and these transactions will have a deduction applied for the National reserve. Details were agreed 21st December 2005. Deductions were abolished for entitlements traded in 2008.
- Entitlements can be leased or rented but only with land. (A maximum of one entitlement per hectare).
- Consolidated (Stacked) Entitlements cannot be leased, rented or sold. They can only transfer by gift or by inheritance.

G AREAS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO TILLAGE FARMERS

- With decoupling, farmers must pay more attention to crop gross margins while being aware of their fixed costs.
- Set Aside rules will be largely similar to the rules under the earlier Area Aid system. However, Setaside entitlements must be claimed first and can only be placed on arable land. This includes fields in tillage or setaside for the period 1998 to 2003. There is no obligatory set-aside in 2008 but enough eligible hectares for set-aside must be declared in 2008 to get set-aside payments

H IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS IN THE SINGLE FARM PAYMENT SCHEME

- **ELIGIBLE LAND** - Is land which CAN be used to activate entitlements. It includes land used for grazing, silage, hay, etc. (i.e. forage) and land under arable crops and sugar beet.
- **INELIGIBLE LAND** - Is land which CANNOT be used to activate entitlements. It includes land under permanent crops (such as forestry or orchards), potatoes, fruit and vegetables. However, from the 2008 SPS years, land used for fruit and vegetables, potatoes, riparian zones, orchards and REPS landscape features will be eligible land.
- **ARABLE LAND** - Is land which was ploughed/cultivated for crop production/setaside in the previous five years (since 1998 to 2003).
- **PERMANENT PASTURE** - Is land which was not ploughed for crop production in the previous five years. The land was used for grass production for 5 years or more. (Reference date of 31 May 2003)

I THE TEAGASC PLANNING POST FISCHLER (PPF) PROGRAMME

- Starting from January 2004, Teagasc is offering the PPF programme Throughout the country. This programme is specially designed to help farm families confront the challenges and exploit the opportunities in the new Post-Fischler era. It will examine farming and off-farm options into the future for each farm family. Contact your local Teagasc office/Advisor for more details. This programme is now known as the Options Analysis Programme (2006 to 2008).

J INFORMATION SOURCES

- The Single Farm Payment Scheme - An Explanatory Guide - May 2004. Published by the Department of Agriculture and Food. (32 pages) - Copy sent to each farmer.
- The relevant application forms and explanatory notes from DAF (2004 - 2005-2006 - 2007 - 2008)
- New DAF Booklet on Cross Compliance (Sent to all farmers in April 2005).
- Full details on all elements of the EU SINGLE PAYMENT SCHEME (SPS) for 2008 are presented in the Helpsheet/Terms and conditions and the 2008 Application Form for SPS sent to all farmers by Department of Agriculture and Food in March/April 2008. (please read these documents for full information)
- Completed SPS Application Form with supporting documentation must reach the DAF Single Payment Scheme Unit, Government Offices, Old Abbeylax Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois by 15th May 2008. Stiff penalties apply to applications which are late. All payments are lost if the application is more than 25 days late.

K PAYMENT DATES FOR SINGLE FARM PAYMENT IN 2008

Payments under the Single Payment Scheme will commence on 1st December 2008 and must be made in full by 30th June 2009, once all paperwork, etc. is in order. However, it is hoped that the majority of payments will be made in December 2008. Agreement was reached with the EU and 50% of the SFP was paid from 16th October 2007 with the balance of 50% paid from 1st December 2007. For the 2007 applications. There is no guarantee that the same payment pattern will be approved by the EU for 2008. But it is hoped that a similar payment pattern will be put in place.

L TILLAGE FARMING EFFICIENCY AND COSTS

The level of yield has a major influence on profitability. Decisions on input strategies must be tailored for individual fields and farms. Time lines and attention to detail in carrying out all operations are vital to maintaining profitability in crop production. All costs (both direct and fixed) need to be kept to a minimum but consistent with good husbandry practices. Fixed costs will need closer attention in the future as they are continuously increasing. Pay particular attention in the future to investments in machinery and to land rental prices. Labour efficiency must be scrutinised.

6 NEW EU REFORMS APPLYING TO THE SUGAR INDUSTRY AND THE SUGAR BEET GROWERS IN IRELAND IN 2006

Ireland had a sugar quota of 200,200 tonnes made up of an A quota of 182,000 tonnes and a B quota of 18,200 tonnes.

Sugar quotas were temporarily reduced for 2005/6 in the context of WTO limits on export refunds. The quota for Ireland was reduced by just over 14,000 tonnes and the revised quota is 185,072 tonnes. A total of 30,816 hectares of Sugar Beet was produced by about 3700 farmers in 2005 and yielded 1.2 million tonnes of Sugar Beet with average sugar content of 16.7%.

The EU Commission announced reform proposals for the sugar regime in June 2004 and May 2005. The Final Reform of the EU Sugar Regime was agreed by the EU Council of Agricultural Ministers on 24th November 2005.

The main elements of the EU reforms are as follows:

- (A) EU support prices for sugar to decrease by 36% compared with the initial proposal of a 39% reduction.
- (B) The corresponding reduction in the minimum price for Sugar Beet is being phased in over four years rather than the two-step reduction initially proposed.
- (C) The total financial package available to Ireland is approx €310 million over coming years.

The final Sugar Beet Crop for 2005/6 year was processed at the Mallow factory and the company announced the closure of this factory on the 15th March 2006 and the cessation of Sugar Beet processing in Ireland.

- (D) The level of compensation for price cuts being provided by the new direct payments increases from 60% to 64% and the regional allowance is also taken into account.
 - (E) Irish Sugar Beet Growers will receive compensation of €121 million, spread over the 7 years (2006 - 2012) in direct decoupled payments (ie Single Farm Entitlements).
 - (F) Irish Beet Growers will also benefit from a special once off payment (the Diversification Fund) worth €43.6 million (equivalent to €32.50/tonne of contract sugar beet quota), if sugar beet production ceased in Ireland. This will be paid at a rate of about €8.11 per tonne of beet for each of the 4 year periods (2006, 2007, 2008 2009)
 - (G) In addition, an Aid Package (Restructuring Package) amounting to €145.5 million was agreed to provide finance for future restructuring of the industry (this is also known as the "Close down package") and includes social and environmental impacts. Farmers, machinery contractors and employees will have to be taken into account in any restructuring plan.
- The Irish Sugar Company which is part of Greencore plc closed down the Carlow Sugar Factory on 11th March 2005.

On 12th July 2006, the Department of Agriculture and Food announce the share out arrangements for the restructuring aid package of €145.5 million as follows:

- Greencore plc will receive 67.6% (€98.4 million) (Greencore were not fully happy with this and may challenge it)
 - Sugar Beet Growers will receive 27.5% (€40 million) or about €29.50/tonne of contract sugar beet quota. It is proposed that 40% of this compensation would be paid to farmers in June 2007 and 60% in February 2008.
 - Contractors and owners of specialised machinery will receive 4.9% (€7.1 million). About 250 contractors, many of whom are also beet growers are expected to benefit from this payment with an average of about €28,400 each.
- (H) **NOTE:** The main calculations for Sugar Beet compensation in Ireland are based on a contracted beet tonnage of 1,344,000 tonnes and (1 tonne sugar = 7.6923 tonnes sugar beet)
- (I) The Department of Agriculture and Food estimate that the total compensation payable to about 3700 sugar Beet Growers under the Diversification Fund (€43.6 million) and the Restructuring Aid Package (€40 million) as outlined above will amount to an average of €22,703 per grower paid in increments over the four year period 2006 - 2009.
- This compensation is based on €64.62 per tonne of contract sugar beet quota at an average yield of 20 tonnes sugar beet per acre which equals €1292/acre for an average area of 17.6 acres per grower during the reference period.

7. The New Single Farm Payment for Sugar Beet Growers (7 years Period 2006 - 2012)

As outlined at 6E above, a direct decoupled payment of €121 million spread over the 7 years (2006 - 2012) will be paid to sugar beet growers to compensate for the cuts agreed by the EU for sugar price supports.

The Single Payment Scheme Entitlements and compensation for sugar beet producers have been calculated by the Department of Agriculture and Food on the basis of the average contracted quantity which the farmer had with Irish Sugar Ltd in the 3 year reference period (2001, 2002 and 2004). The above together with the number of hectares used for sugar beet production during the reference period, will establish the number of entitlements for each sugar beet grower.

(A) The €121 million compensation will be paid as a single farm payment entitlement in the period 2006-2012 as follows:

Year	Compensation (€ Millions)	Compensation €/Tonne Sugar Beet
2006/07	12.559	9.615
2007/08	15.392	11.709
2008/09	18.225	13.803
2009/10	19.741	14.924
2010/2011	18.441	13.632
2011/2012	18.441	13.632
2012/2013	18.441	13.632
TOTAL	121.24 Million	€90.95/Tonne

Note on the above:

- ▲ The Single Payment element increases from €8.37 per tonne in 2006 to €10.48 (2007), €12.50 (2008) and €13.63 in 2009 and up to 2012.
- ▲ The envelope for loss of Regional Premium is €1.30 per tonne of Sugar Beet each year (2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009).
- ▲ The above payments are subject to deductions for National Reserve (3%) and Modulation (4% in 2006, 5% in 2007).

(B) There is provision for the following categories of farmers within the overall scheme

Farmers who did not grow sugar beet in one or two of the 3 reference years (2001, 2002, 2004) on the grounds of plant health (Referred to as “Temporary Release”)

New Entrant Farmers (apply on Form SPS/35/SBNE)

Force Majeure Cases (Apply on Form SPS/22/FMSB)

There is scope to amalgamate SFP sugar beet entitlements among family members (Apply on Form SPS/19/SBEET).

Sugar beet growers have scope to divide the compensation between family members where the sugar beet contract was held in joint names in one or more of the reference years. (Apply on Form SPS/23/SBEET).

Most of the above Forms should have been submitted to DAF by the closing date for Single Farm Applications - 15 May 2006. However some of them can be submitted to DAF by the new closing date of 18th August 2006.

Contact Address:

The Single Payment Unit (sugar Beet Section), Department of Agriculture and Food, Old Abbeylax Road, Portlaoise Co. Laois.

(C) Farmers who consolidated (stacked) in 2005 and who are granted additional sugar beet entitlements in 2006, will automatically have their additional sugar beet entitlements topped up onto their existing consolidated entitlements. Farmers who consolidate in 2006 will also benefit from this system. Farmers need to make themselves aware of all the other rules applying to Consolidation. The Relevant Forms = (SPS/CONS/2006) and (SPS/25/SB CON) should have been returned to DAF by 15th May 2006 closing date at :

THE CONSOLIDATION SECTION,
SINGLE PAYMENT UNIT,
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD,
EIRCOM BUILDING, KNOCKMAY, PORTLAOISE CO. LAOIS.

(D) Sugar Beet Entitlements can also be transferred by way of Sale, Lease or Rental and various rules apply. (Use Form SPS/24/PCC SB). (PCC = Private Contract Clauses).

(8) ENERGY CROPS SCHEME (2006/2007/2008)

The rate of aid for Energy crops grown under the Energy Crops Scheme has been set at €45/HA. Energy crops will be used to produce (A) BIOFUELS (B) Electric and Thermal energy produced from Biomass. Energy Crops may also be grown for non food use on setaside land under a contract with an end user but the €45/HA Aid is not paid. See full details in Help Sheet for EU Single Payment System (March 2007 and 2008). A new national top up of €80 per hectare was added in 2007 to bring payment to €125/ha. (Various rules apply).

9. OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON CROPS/CEREALS

(A) RECOMMENDED VARIETIES/CROP LISTS from Department of Agriculture and Food Plant Health, Crop Production and Safety Division, Block B, Maynooth Business Campus, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. (or see under Publications on DAF Website at www.agriculture.gov.ie)

(B) THE TEAGASC TNET SITE - Tillage and Crops

(C) THE CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE (www.cso.ie) under crops/Farm Income.

(D) THE CEREALS ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND

(E) TEAGASC TILLAGE CROP REPORTS - 2008 and TILLAGE CONFERENCE REPORTS - OAKPARK 2006/2007/2008.

CASH CROPS — CEREALS (2008)

Winter Wheat (Feed Wheat)

Description	Production Levels			
Yield - Tonnes per Hectare (t/ac) Output at €170/tonne net, (excl. straw)*	7.4(3.0) €1,258	8.6(3.5) €1,462	10.0(4.05) €1,700	10.5(4.25) €1,785
Material Inputs (€)				
Seed (140 kg @ €565/tonne)-Blue Label	79	79	79	79
Fertilisers - 0:10:20 (370 kg/ha)	126	126	126	126
- Nitrogen (13.6 Bags CAN/Ha) 710 kg/ha	213	213	213	213
- Lime (1.0 tonnes/hectare)	18	18	18	18
Herbicides - Scutch Control (1 year in 3)	16	16	16	16
- Herbicides	52	52	52	52
Fungicides	160	160	160	160
Insecticides/Growth Regulators	50	50	50	50
Total Material Costs	714	714	714	714
Margin over Material Costs	544	748	986	1,071
Hire of drill and combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5/Tonne)	37	43	50	53
GrossMargin per hectare (Excl. Area Aid) **	€332	€530	€761	€843

NOTE: All figures exclude VAT

** = Gross Margin per Hectare (Excluding Area Aid) From 2005, Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment (Value of €383 per hectare - Less deductions)

Spring Wheat (Milling Wheat)

Description	Production Levels			
Yield - Tonnes per hectare (t/ac) Output at an average of €180 per tonne (net) (excl straw) one third unmillable	5.0(2.0) €900	6.2(2.5) €1,116	7.4(3.0) €1,332	8.6(3.5) €1,548
Material Inputs (€)				
Seed (165 kg at €565/tonne) - Blue Label	93	93	93	93
Fertilisers - 14:7:14 or 18.6.12 (370 kg/ha)	148	148	148	148
- Nitrogen (370 kg/ha CAN/Ha)	111	111	111	111
- Lime	18	18	18	18
Herbicides - Scutch Control (1 year in 3)	16	16	16	16
Post-emergence Herbicides	37	37	37	37
Fungicides	106	106	106	106
Insecticides and Growth Regulators	25	25	25	25
Total Material Costs	€554	€554	€554	€554
Margin over Material Costs	€346	€562	€778	€994
Hire of drill and combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5/Tonne)	25	31	37	43
Gross Margin per hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	€146	€356	€566	€776

*Wheat straw is worth approximately €60 to €75 per hectare.

NOTE: All figures exclude VAT
From 2005, The Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment.

NOTE: For all cash crops it is assumed that a contractor is hired for sowing, harvesting and transport. Ploughing, tilling, fertiliser spreading, spraying, etc. is assumed to be done by the farmer with his own machinery.

CASH CROPS - Cereals (2008)

Winter Oats (For Feeding)

Description	Production Levels			
Yield - tonnes/hectare (t/ac)	5.0(2.0)	6.2(2.5)	7.4(3.0)	8.6(3.5)
Output at €160 per tonne net, (excl. straw)	€800	€992	€1,184	€1,376
Material Inputs €				
Seed (155kg @ €565/Tonne) Blue Label	88	88	88	88
Sprays + Growth Regulator	171	171	171	171
Fertilisers	277	277	277	277
Total Material Costs	536	536	536	536
Margin over Material Costs	264	456	648	840
Hire of drill and combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5 per tonne)	25	31	37	43
Gross Margin per Hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	€64	€250	€436	€622

NOTE: All figures exclude VAT.

From 2005, The Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment.

(Value of €383 per hectare - Less deductions)

Spring Oats (For Feeding)

Description	Production Levels			
Yield - tonnes/hectare (t/ac)	4.5(1.8)	5.3(2.1)	6.2(2.5)	7.4(3.0)
Output at €160 per tonne (excl. straw)*	€720	€848	€992	€1,184
Material Inputs (€)				
Seed (155kg @ €565/tonne) - Blue Label	88	88	88	88
Sprays + Growth Regulators	171	171	171	171
Fertilisers	208	208	208	208
Total Material Costs	467	467	467	467
Margin over Material Costs	253	381	525	717
Hire of drill and combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5 per Tonne)	22	27	31	37
Gross Margin per Hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	€56	€179	€319	€505

* Higher prices may be available for oats sold for oatmeal market and for the specialist horse market.

* Straw is worth approximately €90 per hectare for oat straw.

Note: All figures exclude VAT

Note: For all cash crops it is assumed that a contractor is hired for sowing, harvesting and transport. Ploughing, tilling, fertiliser spreading, spraying, etc. is assumed to be done by the farmer with his own machinery.

Note: From 2005, The Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment (Value of €383 per hectare - less deductions).

CASH CROPS - Cereals (2008)

Winter Barley (For Feeding)

Description	Production Levels			
Yield (tonnes per hectare) (t/ac) Output at €160 per tonne (excl. straw)*	5.0 (2.0) €800	6.2 (2.5) €992	7.4 (3.0) €1,184	8.6 (3.5) €1,376
Material Inputs (€)				
Seed (155kg at €565 per tonne) - Blue Label	88	88	88	88
Fertilisers - 0:10:20 (370 kgs/ha)	126	126	126	126
- Nitrogen (630 kgs/ha CAN/Ha)	189	189	189	189
- Lime (1 Tonne/Ha)	18	18	18	18
Herbicides - Scutch Control (1 year in 3)	16	16	16	16
- Herbicides	52	52	52	52
-	-	-	-	-
Fungicides	96	96	96	96
Insecticides and Growth Regulators	49	49	49	49
Total Material Costs	634	634	634	634
Margin over Material Costs	166	358	550	742
Hire of drill and combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5 per tonne)	25	31	37	43
Gross Margin per Hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	(-€34)	€152	€338	€524

NOTE: All figures exclude VAT.

NOTE: From 2005, The Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment

(Value of €383 per hectare - Less deductions).

Spring Barley (For Feeding)

Description	Production Levels			
Yield (tonnes per hectare) (t/ac) (A) Output at €160 per tonne (excl. straw)*	4.5(1.8) €720	5.0(2.0) €800	6.00(2.4) €960	6.9(2.8) €1,104
Material Inputs (€)				
Seed (150kg at €565 per tonne) - Blue Label	85	85	85	85
Fertilisers - 14:7: 14 (370 kgs/ha)	148	148	148	148
- Nitrogen (200 kg CAN/Ha)	60	60	60	60
- Lime (1 tonne/Ha)	18	18	18	18
Herbicides - Scutch Control (1 year in 3)	16	16	16	16
- Herbicides	37	37	37	37
Fungicides	64	64	64	64
Insecticides	15	15	15	15
Total Material Costs	443	443	443	443
Margin over Material Costs	277	357	517	661
Hire of drill and combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5 per tonne)	22	25	30	35
Gross Margin per Hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	€80	€157	€312	€451

*Straw is worth approximately €100/hectare for Winter Barley and €90 per hectare for Spring Barley.

NOTE: All figures exclude VAT.

NOTE: From 2005, The Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment.

(Value of €383 per hectare - Less deductions).

NOTE: For all Cash Crops it is assumed that a contractor is hired for sowing, harvesting and transport.

It is assumed the farmer uses his own machinery for ploughing, tilling, fertiliser spreading and spraying.

Spring Barley - Malting (Contract) - (2008)

Description	Production Levels			
Yield - Tonnes per Hectare (t/ac) (A) Output at €180 per tonne (excl. straw)	4.5(1.8) €810	5.0(2.0) €900	6.00(2.4) €1,080	6.9(2.8) €1,242
Material Inputs (€)				
Seed (150kg at €565/tonne) - Blue Label	85	85	85	85
Fertilisers - 14:7:14 (370 kgs/ha)	148	148	148	148
- Nitrogen (185 kg CAN/ha)	55	55	55	55
- Lime (1 Tonne/Ha)	18	18	18	18
Herbicides - Scutch Control	16	16	16	16
- Herbicides	37	37	37	37
Fungicides	64	64	64	64
Insecticides	15	15	15	15
Total Material Costs	438	438	438	438
Margin over Material Costs	372	462	642	804
Hire of drill and combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5 per tonne)	22	25	30	35
Gross Margin per Hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	€175	€262	€437	€594

- Notes:**
- (1) Malting Barley at 20% moisture when sold under the Main Malting Barley Contracts (e.g. Minch Norton Malt Ltd) Usually in the past received a premium of under €18 per tonne for malting varieties compared with average spring feeding Barley price. The above budget assumes a premium of €20/tonne over feed barley price.
 - (2) Price also is adjusted for Protein content, screenings and moisture.
 - (3) For more complete details refer to the Contract Agreements.
 - (4) The price for Non-contract Malting Barley is lower and varies with Market Demand from year to year. It may be up to €6/tonne over feed barley prices
 - (5) NOTE: All figures exclude VAT.
 - (6) From 2005, The Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment. (Value of €383 per hectare - Less deductions).

Sugar Beet for Animal Feeding (2008)

Description	Production Levels				
Yield tonnes per hectare (t/ac)	35 (14.2)	40 (16)	45 (18)	50 (20)	55 (22.3)
Value of Output @ 15% Sugar Content (and excluding the value of Beet Tops) @ €38/Tonne for Feeding	€1,330	€1,520	€1,710	€1,900	€2,090
Material Inputs (€)					
- Lime	23	23	23	23	23
Beet Seed	151	151	151	151	151
Fertiliser- Beet Compound + Nitrogen	341	341	341	341	341
Sprays - Herbicides	170	170	170	170	170
- Fungicides	32	32	32	32	32
Pesticides (Insecticides)	54	54	54	54	54
Total Material Costs	771	771	771	771	771
Margin over Material Costs	559	749	939	1,129	1,319
Hire of drill and Harvester	353	353	353	353	353
Transport (€5/tonne)	175	200	225	250	275
Gross Margin per Hectare	€31	€196	€361	€526	€691

Notes on Sugar Beet

- (1) The value of Beet Tops is not included above. These could have a grazing value of at least €60 per hectare.
- (2) NOTE: VAT is not included in the above figures.
- (3) The reform of the EU Sugar Regime was completed in late 2005/early 2006 and the sugar processing industry in Ireland, operated by Greencore (The Sugar Company) closed down completely at the end of the 2005 processing season.
- (4) A compensation package has been agreed with the EU in relation to the closure of the sugar industry in Ireland (see notes on the Sugar Farm Payment System, earlier).
- (5) For more information on feed values for sugar beet relative to Barley/Soya/Distillers Grains see Nutritional Tables later in this book.

CASH CROPS (2008)

Winter Oilseed Rape (O.S.R.)

Description	Production Levels			
Yield (tonnes per hectare off combine) (t/ac) * Value of output at €320/tonne, (9% M.C., 2% ad mix)	2.5 (1.0) €800	3.1 (1.25) €992	3.7 (1.5) €1,184	4.3 (1.75) €1,376
Material Inputs (€)				
Basic Fertiliser (370 kg/ha 10:10:20)	159	159	159	159
Nitrogen (500 kg urea + sulphur & boron) per hectare	200	200	200	200
Lime	23	23	23	23
Seed (7-8kg/ha = €75) + Slug Pellets (€13)	88	88	88	88
Herbicides	90	90	90	90
Fungicides & Insecticides	58	58	58	58
Dessicant or Swathing	54	54	54	54
Total Material Costs	672	672	672	672
Margin over Material Costs	128	320	512	704
Hire of Drill and Combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5 per tonne)	12	15	18	23
Bird Control)	6	6	6	6
Gross Margin per hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	(-€65)	€124	€313	€500

Notes on Winter Oilseed Rape * Estimates for O.S.R. – price and area aid.

- (1) The rate of Area Aid payment for Oilseeds will be subject to an adjustment depending on the trends in the “World Price” for Oilseeds and the MGA area. Actual payments may be higher or lower than shown in budget.
- (2) Certain varieties of oilseed rape (rapeseed) grown exclusively for fodder are excluded from Area Aid.
- (3) NOTE: All figures exclude VAT.
- (4) From 2005, The Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment.
(Value of €383 per hectare - Less deductions)
- (5) Rapeseed is an excellent break crop and will help in crop rotation
- (6) With increased demand for rapeseed oil for biofuel, forward contracts for 2008 are available. Companies offering contracts include Quinns of Baltinglass, Biogreen Energy Products, Southern Fuel and Farm Supplies Ltd. Glanbia and others.

Spring Oilseed Rape (O.S.R.)

Description	Production Levels			
Yield (tonnes per hectare off combine) (t/ac) * Value of output at €320/tonne, (9% M.C., 2% ad mix)	1.73 (0.7) €554	2.10 (0.85) €672	2.5 (1.0) €800	3.1 (1.25) €992
Material Inputs (€)				
Basic Fertiliser (370 kgs/ha of 10:10:20)	159	159	159	159
Nitrogen (500 kgs CAN per hectare)	150	150	150	150
Lime	23	23	23	23
Seed (7-8kg/ha)	70	70	70	70
Herbicides	15	15	15	15
Fungicides	0	0	0	0
Insecticides and Slug Pellets	7	7	7	7
Dessicant/swathing	0	0	0	0
Total Material Costs	424	424	424	424
Margin over Material Costs	130	248	376	568
Hire of Drill and Combine	185	185	185	185
Transport (€5 per tonne)	8	10	13	15
Bird Control)	0	0	0	0
Gross Margin per hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	(-€63)	€53	€178	€368

- (1) Low yields can be due to late sowing, pollen beetle attack, and shedding of seed in bad years.
- (2) Only approved ‘double low’ varieties of winter and spring oilseed rapes will qualify for EU Area Aid. These varieties have both low ERUCIC ACID AND LOW GLUCOSINOLATES CONTENT.
- (3) Irish national base area for oilseeds = approximately 4,500 hectares.
- (4) DRUMMONDS in the North-East are offering contracts for oilseed rape for non-food use in 2008 at 9% Moisture and 2% Admixture. Both Winter and Spring OSR are eligible.
This crop can be grown on set-aside land.
- (5) Spring oilseed rape is a good break crop before cereals.
- (6) NOTE: All figures exclude VAT.
- (7) From 2005, The Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment
(Value of €383 per hectare - Less Deductions).
- (8) With increased demand for rapeoil for biofuel, forward contracts for 2008 are available.
- (9) For extra information on the main aspects of growing oilseed rape:
(A) Spring oilseed Rape Fact Sheet - Tillage Number 1 - Teagasc (Spring 2006)
(B) Winter oilseed Rape Fact Sheet - Tillage Number 2 - Teagasc (Spring 2006)
- (10) NOTE: Where Winter or Spring Oilseed rape is grown in 2008 they qualify under the Energy Crops Scheme for extra aid of €45/ha plus National Top-Up of €80/ha (Total = €125/ha) subject to certain conditions.

CASH CROPS (2008)

Protein Peas (Harvested in Dry State)

Description	Production levels			
Yield - tonnes per hectare (t/ac)	3.1(1.25)	3.7 (1.5)	4.3 (1.75)	5.0 (2.0)
Value of Output at €240/tonne	€744	€888	€1,032	€1,200
Material Inputs (€)				
Seed	210	210	210	210
Fertiliser (370 kgs/ha 0:10;20)	126	126	126	126
Insecticides	6	6	6	6
Herbicides	120	120	120	120
Fungicides	65	65	65	65
Total Material Costs	527	527	527	527
Margin over Material Costs	217	361	505	673
Hire of Drill and Combine	170	170	170	170
Transport (€5 per tonne)	15	18	21	25
Bird Control Costs	11	11	11	11
Gross Margin per Hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	€21	€162	€303	€467

- Notes: (1) Vining peas are not eligible for EU Area Aid. Aid is only paid on peas harvested in a dry state.
- (2) The price of €240/Tonne is for peas grown for Batchelors Ltd. Protein peas grown for animal feed would achieve a lower price of €95 to €160/Tonne approximately. About 60 farmers supply about 1,000 tonnes peas from 500 acres to Bachelors Ltd.
- (3) NOTE: All figures Exclude VAT.
- (4) From 2005, Area Aid of €383/ha will be paid in the Single Farm Payment. The EU will also pay a protein crop premium of €55.57/ha on maximum of 1.4 million ha in the EU
- (5) For all Cash Crops it is assumed a contractor is hired for Sowing, Harvesting and Transport. It is assumed the farmer uses his own machinery for Ploughing, Tilling, Fertiliser Spreading and Spraying.

CASH CROPS (2008)

Winter Field Beans

Description	Production Levels			
Yield-tonnes per hectare - (t/ac) Value of output at €210/tonne	4.3 (1.75) €903	5.0 (2.0) €1,050	5.6 (2.25) €1,176	6.2 (2.5) €1,302
Material Inputs (€)				
Seed (170 to 200 kgs per hectare)	165	165	165	165
Fertiliser (370 kgs/ha 0:7:30)	126	126	126	126
Insecticides	6	6	6	6
Herbicides	50	50	50	50
Fungicides	80	80	80	80
Total Material Costs	427	427	427	427
Margin over Material Costs	476	623	749	875
Hire of Drill and Combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5 per tonne)	21	25	28	31
Bird Control	10	10	10	10
Gross Margin per hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	€270	€413	€536	€659

Notes:

- (1) Almost all winter beans are grown using spring varieties (e.g. Alfred).
- (2) Extra fungicide sprays may be needed in damp humid coastal areas to control Chocolate Spot.
- (3) Dessicant costing €32 to €36 per hectare may be required before harvesting in a weedy crop.
- (4) The higher seeding rate above is required when the 1,000 grain weight is high.
- (5) NOTE: All figures exclude VAT.
- (6) From 2005, Area Aid of €383/ha will be paid in the Single Farm Payment. The EU will also pay a protein crop premium of €55.57/ha on maximum of 1.4 million ha in the EU

Spring Field Beans

Description	Production Levels			
Yield-tonnes per hectare - (t/ac) Value of output at €210 per tonne	3.1 (1.25) €651	3.7 (1.5) €777	4.3 (1.75) €903	5.0 (2.0) €1,050
Material Inputs (€)				
Seed (180 to 200 kgs per hectare)	165	165	165	165
Fertiliser (370 kgs/ha 0:7:30)	126	126	126	126
Insecticides	6	6	6	6
Herbicides	50	50	50	50
Fungicides	65	65	65	65
Total Material Costs	412	412	412	412
Margin over Material Costs	239	365	491	638
Hire of Drill and Combine	175	175	175	175
Transport (€5 per tonne)	15	18	21	25
Bird Control	0	0	0	0
Gross Margin per hectare (Excl. Area Aid)	€49	€172	€295	€438

- Notes:
- (1) There is a market for winter and spring field beans for use in pig, poultry and ruminant rations. Companies processing beans include; Grennans, Rath, Offaly; HKM Milling Ltd., Granard, Longford; Dairygold Cooperative; Liffey Mills - North Tipperary and others.
 - (2) From 2005, Area Aid of €383/ha will be paid in the Single Farm Payment. The EU will also pay a protein crop premium of €55.57/ha on maximum of 1.4 million ha in the EU
 - (3) NOTE: All figures exclude VAT.
 - (4) NOTE: For all Cash Crops it is assumed a contractor is hired for Sowing, Harvesting and Transport. It is assumed the farmer uses his own machinery for Ploughing, Tilling, Fertiliser Spreading and Spraying.

FULL CONTRACTOR COSTS (2008)

The following charges for crops are based on competitively priced contractor charges for all machinery operations
- (Plough + Till + Sow + Roll + Fertiliser Spreading + Spraying + Harvesting + Transport)

CROP	FULL CONTRACTOR COSTS €/hectare (Excluding VAT)
Winter Wheat	419
Spring Wheat	401
Winter Barley	385
Spring Barley	365
Winter Oats	385
Spring Oats	385
Sugar Beet (For Animal Feed)	618
Oilseed Rape (Winter)	455
Protein Peas	375
Spring Beans	347
Maize for Silage	539

Note: See also Guide to Contractor Charges, Machinery Work Rates and New Machinery Prices for 2008 in this Book. The above contractor charges reflect the rates applicable in the more intensive tillage areas. In the less intensive tillage areas contractor charges may be higher than above.

Note: The above contractor costs exclude VAT (Value Added Tax). Contractors charge VAT at 13.5% on their charges from 1st January 2003 (12.5% previously) for services provided. Farmers registered for VAT can reclaim any VAT paid but farmers who are not registered for VAT (i.e. "Flat Rate Farmers" for VAT purposes) are compensated by the flat rate VAT addition of 4.8% which is added to their sales of farm products to VAT registered outlets. The flat rate VAT addition was increased to 4.8% from 1st January 2005 and to 5.2% from 1st January 2007 and remains at 5.2% for 2008 also.

SECTION III

Farm Fresh and Free Range Poultry Data & Alternative Enterprises (2008)

Poultry Costings

Guideline Gross Margins, Fixed Charges and Standard Labour Requirements of Poultry Enterprises

2008

FREE RANGE EGG PRODUCTION

Feed Conversion Rate (kg/doz. eggs.)	2.40
Gross Margin per 100 birds	€888
Fixed Charge per 100 birds	€440
Man Days Required per 100 birds	10

FARM FRESH TURKEYS

Feed Conversion Rate (kg/kg L.W.)	2.7
Gross Margin per 1000 birds	€8,460
Fixed Charge per 1000 birds	€1,380
Man Days Required per 1000 birds	5.0

Notes on the Poultry Sector

The Poultry Industry is market led and procurement of a market is essential before investing in a poultry enterprise.

The Poultry Industry is divided into two distinct production sectors - meat and eggs. The industry is heavily concentrated in the Cavan - Monaghan region. Most of the home produced chicken goes into the domestic retail sector as fresh product. Imports supply most of the catering and further processing sectors. About 6000 people are employed between production, processing and linked services.

The inclusion of Poultry in the 2006 Farm Waste Management Scheme is the first incentive to Poultry Farmers to assess and make adequate provision for organic waste and soiled water storage. The threat of Avian Influenza had resulted in a 10% decline in poultry meat consumption in 2005/2006.

FREE RANGE LAYERS (2008)
VARIABLE COSTS

	Per 5,000 birds		Per bird
	€		€
Pullets at €3.80 each	19,000		3.80
Feed 266 tonnes at €230/tonne	61,180	(53.3 kg ration per bird)	12.23
Electricity	3,135		0.63
Disinfectant, Misc & Clean out			
Flock Disposal and Biosecurity	2,000		0.40
Total	€85,315		€17.06

INCOME

	Sales Revenue Per 5,000 birds		Per bird
	€		€
115,833 dozen Eggs @ 1.12/doz	129,733	290 eggs per bird (Housed)	25.95
	—	(12 eggs/bird no value (rejects))	
		278 saleable eggs/bird	
Total	129,733		25.95
Gross margin: Output - Variable Costs			
€129,733 - €85,315	€44,418		€8.88

Where a new unit is envisaged, then new housing and equipment costs, capital and interest repayments and labour charges are as follows:

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

	Per 5,000 birds		Per bird
	€		€
House, Site Preparation, Base	105,000		22.00
Fencing, Electrics, Equipments,	120,000		25.00
Feeders, Nest Boxes, Perches			
	€225,000		€47.00

CAPITAL CHARGES

	<u>Capital Repayments & Interest</u>	<u>Annual Repayments</u>	<u>€/bird</u>
1	100% borrowed over 7 years at 6%	€40,500	8.10
2	70% borrowed over 7 years at 6%	€28,350	5.67
	<u>Labour Income</u>	<u>(Gross Margin - Capital Charges)</u>	<u>€</u>
1	100% borrowed over 7 years at 6%	€3,918	0.78
2	70% borrowed over 7 years at 6%	€16,068	3.21

Notes: (i) Prices as of April 2008.
(ii) Laying cycle 17 - 72 weeks.
(iii) Hen housed average = 290 eggs.
(iv) Above are producer costs only.

FARM FRESH TURKEY PRODUCTION (2008)

VARIABLE COSTS

	*1,000 turkeys	Per bird
	€	€
Poults 1,000 females (One Day Old)	4,500	4.5
Feed 21 tonnes at 390/tonne	8,190	8.2
Gas and Electricity	500	0.5
Litter	600	0.6
House Repairs and Preparation + Biosecurity	550	0.55
	14,340	14.34

INCOME

	Per 1,000 birds	Per bird (1,000 started)
	€	€
950 birds at 6.0 kg at €4.00/kg (Oven Ready) (Sales Revenue)	22,800	24.0
Gross Margin = (Output — Variable Costs)	€	€
(€22,800 - €14,340)	8,460	8.91

CAPITAL CHARGES

	€	€
Working Capital — €5,500 at 7% for 15 weeks	110	0.11
Gross Margin	8,460	8.91
Less Capital Charges	110	0.11
Labour Income	8,570	9.02
Less Processing Costs		
Delivery/Transport/Market Promotion Materials	3,500	3.7
Net Income/1000 Batch	€5,070	€5.34

Notes:

- (i) Prices and costs as at April 2008.
- (ii) Existing buildings used.
- (iii) Food Conversion Ratio (FCR) = 2.7 : 1
- (iv) 1000 females purchased as one day old Poults.
- (v) Turkeys sold at 15 weeks for slaughter.
- (vi) Seasonal production e.g. Christmas and/or Easter/Whit Markets
- (vii) 5.0% Mortality + Culls.

Note: Nutrition and light pattern and temperatures influence the weight gains achieved.

Information Sources:

- (1) Organic Poultry . No 56 - Teagasc - May 2006.
- (2) Free Range Egg Production - Fact Sheet. No 14 - Teagasc - May 2006.
- (3) Farm Fresh Turkey Production - Fact Sheet. No 13 - Teagasc - May 2006.
- (4) Free Range Goose Production - Fact Sheet. No 31 - Teagasc - May 2006.

SPORT HORSE PRODUCTION (2008)

FOAL PRODUCTION COSTS (1 Foal per Mare)

	€		€
Stud Fee	500	Sale of Foal	1,500 (Average)
Hay	120	Mare Depreciation	(254)
Concentrates	125	(Purchase price €2,540 spread over 10 yrs)	
Bedding	80		
Veterinary	225	Net Output	1,246
Medicine	120	Gross Margin/Mare (€1,246 - €1,400)	(-154)
Farrier	110		
Grazing	30	Sale of Foal	5,000 (V. Good)
Sales Expenses	35	Net Output	4,746
Registration	55		
	<u>€1,400</u>	Gross Margin/Mare (4,746 - 1,400)	<u>€3,346</u>

3 Mare Unit (66% foaling)

(a) Two Foals per year	€
Cost of keeping a barren mare	500
Total cost of keeping 3 mares	3,300
(1 barren and 2 with foals)	

(i) Gross Output 2 foals	
@ €1,500 each (Average)	3,000
Mare Depreciation	(762)
Output	2,238
Less Variable Costs	3,300
Gross Margin	(-1,062)
Gross Margin/Mare	(-354)

(ii) Gross Output 2 foals @ €5,000 each	10,000
Mare Depreciation	(762)
Output	9,238
Less Variable Costs	3,300
Gross Margin	5,938
Gross Margin/Mare	1,979

4 Mare Unit (75% foaling)

(b) Three Foals per year	€
Total cost of keeping 4 mares	4,700
(1 barren and 3 with foals)	

(i) Gross Output 3 foals	
@ €1,500 each	4,500
Mare Depreciation	(1,016)
Output	3,484
Less Variable Costs	4,700
Gross Margin	(-1,216)
Gross Margin/Mare	(-304)

(ii) Gross Output 3 foals @ €5,000 each	15,000
Mare Depreciation	(1,016)
Output	13,984
Less Variable Costs	4,700
Gross Margin	9,264
Gross Margin/Mare	2,316

SELLING THREE-YEAR-OLDS (Average per horse)

Assuming horses are sold in the autumn at three to three and a half years of age (3 foals per 4 mares)

	€		€
Cost of producing foal	1,400	(i) Average sale price of 3-year-olds	€3,500
Weanling- 1.5 years	400	Average per Mare	2,625
1.5 - 2.5 years	450	Mare Depreciation	(254)
2.5 - 3.5 years	450	Net Output	2,371
Sales Preparation	620	Less Variable Costs	2,490
Total Cost	<u>3,320</u>	Gross Margin/Mare	(-119)
(Cost 75% foaling)	2,490	(ii) Av. sale price of top 20% horses (€8,000)	6,000

Mare Depreciation	(254)
Output	5,746
Less Variable Costs	2,490
Gross Margin/Mare	<u>3,256</u>

Extra Information Sources from Teagasc (May 2006):

- (1) The Irish Sport Horse - Fact Sheet No. 4
- (2) Buying a Brood Mare - Fact Sheet No. 18
- (3) Horse Livery - Fact Sheet No. 36

MILKING GOATS (2008)

Performance	2.5 l./day Average	2.9 l./day Average	3.9 l./day High
Yield/annum Milk at €0.67//litre(€3.04/gal)	143 gals (650 ltrs) €435	175 gals (800 ltrs) €536	220 gals. (1,000 ltrs) €670
Less Replacement Cost	(50)	(50)	(55)
Gross Output/Goat	€385	€486	€615
Variable Costs	€	€	€
Conc meal	(300kg) (€75)	(400kg) 100	(500kg) 120
Forage	90	90	90
Misc. Vet. etc.	60	73	80
Total V. Costs	€225	€263	€290
Gross Margin/Goat	€160	€223	€325
S. Rate: Goats/hectare	12	18	20
Fixed Costs Per Goat	€70	75	80
Net Margin (Profit) per Goat	€90	148	245
Gross Margin Per Hectare	€1,920	€4,014	€6,500
Net Margin Per Hectare	€1,080	€2,664	€4,900

ESTIMATED INVESTMENT COSTS - GROSS

	€
200 Dairy Goats @ €300	60,000
4 Male Goats for breeding @ €400	1,600
Milking parlour and equipment	74,400
Fencing	8,500
Building conversion	30,000
Note: A complete new system/layout for 200 Dairy Goat Unit before grants cost = €267,402 or €1,337/Goat	
Note: At present (October 2006) there is a big scarcity of Goats Milk. The market for Goats Milk and Products from Goats Milk (Yoghurt and Cheese) is very good. The processors are looking for an all year round supply of fresh milk. The biggest constraint to the supply of milk is the difficulty in sourcing Dairy Goats of High Genetic Merit.	

Sensitivity	Gross Margin Per Goat		
Yield (Litres)	600 Ltrs	800 Ltrs	1000 Ltrs
Milk Price	€	€	€
€0.50/l	(-18)	114	184
€0.60/l	74	194	284

Goat Industry Statistics:

- (1) 200 Commercial Producers from 10 up to 750 milking goats; largest producers in Midlands.
- (2) 25 goat farmers made 110 tonnes goats cheese in 2005.
- (3) 6 goat farmers produce yoghurt in 2006 and 3 goat farms produce Ice Cream.

Information Sources:

Teagasc Fact Sheet No. 9 On Dairy Goats - May 2006.

RED DEER (2008)

30 Deer Unit on 6 Hectares (14.9 Acres), Good Management (60 Fallow Deer)

Selling all offspring as Venison

GROSS OUTPUT	€	€ per Hind
14 stags @ 60kg.d.wt. @ €4.50/kg	3,780	
11 hinds @ 50kg. d.wt. at €4.50/kg each	2,475	
2 cull hinds @ €150 each	300	
1 cull stag @ €250	250	
Less 1 purchased stag @ €760	(-760)	
Gross Output 30 deer unit	€6,045	201
Variable Costs:		
Concentrate	900	
Winter Forage	500	
Pasture	432	
Vet and Medicine	280	
Miscellaneous, (transport, fence maintenance, etc.)	450	
Total Variable Costs	€2,562	85
Gross Margin - 30 hinds	€3,483	116
Gross Margin per hectare (acre)	€580 (235)	

Investment Costs - (30 hinds on 6 hectares)

	€
Livestock	7,600
Fencing	15,000
Handling Unit	2,000
Conversion of housing	5,000
Total - Gross Investment Cost	29,600
VAT Refund	2,617
Net Investment	26,983
Net Investment per hectare (acre)	€4,497 (1,820)

- Note:**
- (1) There is no grant aid available at present (March 2008) as the Farm Management Scheme (F.I.S.) has been suspended by DAFF since Autumn 2007. This scheme has a grant rate of 40% for specified structures.
 - (2) A unit with 30 Deer on 6 hectares keeps within the organic nitrogen limit of 170kgs/ha in the Nitrates Directive.

BUDGET FOR CHRISTMAS TREE PRODUCTION (2008)
Production and Costing per hectare (acre)

	Noble Fir		Contorta Pine	
Age at Harvesting	8—10 years		6—8 years	
	€ per ha	€ per acre	€ per ha	€ per acre
Sales - Nobel Fir €13.00 each	61,100	24,726	-	-
Contorta Pine €8.00 each	-	-	37,600	15,216
Production Costs (over life of crop)				
Material				
Plants	2,035		1,270	
Replacements	320		190	
Weed Control	1,000		1,000	
Fertiliser	100		100	
Rabbit Control	160		160	
Total Material	€3,615	€1,463	€2,720	€1,100
Labour and Sales Costs				
Preparation of ground	255		255	
Planting and beating up	600		600	
Management of crop (weed control and shaping)	3,200		2,550	
Harvesting (70%) + cleaning ground after harvests	18,300		18,300	
Distribution Costs	9,700			
Sales commission (5%)	2,400		1,000	
Insurance	1,300		650	
Security	650		400	
Total Labour and Sales Costs	€36,405	€14,733	€23,755	€9,614
Overall Costs	€40,000	€16,196	€26,475	€10,714
Net return over life (excl. interest payments)	€21,080	€8,530	€11,125	€4,502

Risk Factors:

Home market very limited

Export market not yet developed, and increased production throughout EU and Eastern-bloc countries.

Noble Fir requires well drained quality land.

Theft.

Losses due to weather, disease, animals, fire etc.

(Market for Norway Spruce poor - price €2.60/tree)

Information Sources:

(1) Christmas Tree Production - Teagasc Fact Sheet No. 30 - May 2006.

Notes/s on other alternative enterprises:

In 2006, Teagasc has produced a range of about 50 factsheets giving a brief outline for a wide range of Alternative Enterprises/Work Areas. All are available in the Advisory Section of the Teagasc Website (www.teagasc.ie) and on the Teagasc TNET site for staff. A new Teagasc folder with the factsheets was made available in February 2007.

SECTION IV

HORTICULTURAL COSTINGS

Horticultural Guideline Budgets and Planning Margins (2008)

In this edition of “Management Data for Farm Planning” the budgets for the main horticultural crops are presented under the following headings:

- (A) Margin over material costs for inputs
- (B) Total Labour and Machinery Costs. The machinery costs are at contract rates.
- (C) The net margin takes into account the costs at (A + B) above and also “Other Fixed Costs” (See description below)

Where the farmer supplies the labour himself, the margins should be adjusted accordingly. Labour costs are assumed as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| (A) General Labour | = €12.50/hour |
| (B) Machine Operators/Drivers | = €15.50/hour |

These labour costings are inclusive of the actual wages paid, holiday time, paye related social insurance (PRSI) of 10.75% paid by the employer for the worker and insurance costs for the labour employed at 5%.

The margins are based on assumed average yields and prices with costings related to the production of such yields.

The data shown, while not definitive, are suitable for guidance purposes and as an aid to planning.

NOTE: In the following horticultural costings, the inputs are shown net of VAT.

Figures for standard Man Days (SMD's) are shown for each crop.

Notes on the Vegetable Crop Budgets (2008)

- (1) Many vegetable producers rent a sizeable proportion of their crop rotations, etc. and this is expensive. The budgets show a cost of €1,000/hectare for rented land and this is deducted from the net margin per hectare to give the net margin per hectare on rental land. Owned land will not have this cost but could command this level of return (opportunity cost) if it was rented out for vegetable production.
- (2) Vegetable farmers will also have various “other fixed (overhead) costs” which will reduce this net margin per hectare and these include some or all of the following, depending on the farm business:
 - (A) Depreciation and Interest charges on Capital Investment in Farm Buildings, Machinery and Equipment. Also Lease Payments on Machinery and Vehicles.
 - (B) Repair and Maintenance costs for Buildings and Machinery
 - (C) The Business Share of Motor Vehicle/ESB/Phone/Water Charge costs
 - (D) Insurance Costs (for farm, public liability, employer cover, etc)
 - (E) Supermarkets and consumers are setting higher standards for vegetable producing farmers and this is increasing the costs of compliance (eg more office labour and equipment, extra paperwork, records of crops grown and chemicals used, Bord Gais and quality programmes, etc)
 - (F) Accountant and other miscellaneous costs.
 - (G) An analysis of Farm Taxation Accounts for mixed horticultural farms with substantial enterprises and also tillage and livestock enterprises showed that these “Other fixed costs” ranged from approximately €850/hectare up to €2,100/hectare per year in the last 2-3 years.

In the budgets for all the main vegetable crops an estimated figure of €1,600 per hectare is used for the high value crops and €850/hectare for the lower value crops. A detailed examination of the Farm Accounts will establish the figure for fixed costs on individual farms.

- (3) Vegetable producers also face risks due to weather problems and market price fluctuations particularly for some crops. Sometimes, not all the area of a crop grown is actually sold, eg for iceberg lettuce, scallions and others. This will reduce the net margin overall on farms which have accounts available.
- (4) The net margin (profit) per hectare is available to the Farmer Owner for his labour, management and investment input to the Business and for any unpaid family labour. The farmer must pay his living expenses, tax/PRSI, and reinvest or save and make pension contributions out of this net margin for his farm.
- (5) A 5% or 10% crop loss or wastage can have a big negative impact on the net margin/hectare.

SECOND - EARLY POTATOES (Per Ha.) (2008)

Price/tonne	€330		
Saleable Yield (tonnes/hectare)	12	15	20
Gross Output	€3,960	€4,950	€6,600
Material Costs			
Seed 3 tonnes @ €375/tonne	1,125	1,125	1,125
Fertiliser 1.2 tonnes 10-10-20 at €430/Tonne	516	516	516
Weed Control	55	55	55
Blight Sprays	66	66	66
Bags	150	182	240
Total Material Costs	1,912	1,944	2,002
Margin over Material Costs	€2,048	€3,006	€4,598
Labour & Machinery			
Sprouting	135	135	135
Ploughing	60	60	60
Cultivations	85	85	85
Fertiliser application	16	16	16
Planting and handling	125	125	125
Spraying (x5) @ €6 each	30	30	30
Haulm removal	40	40	40
Harvesting using Bulker Machine	290	347	390
Grading	95	114	150
Delivery	160	195	265
Total	1,036	1,147	1,296
NET MARGIN/HECTARE (Euros)	€1,012	€1,859	€3,302

MAINCROP POTATOES (2008)

S.M.D. 30-40

Price/tonne	€250		
Saleable Yield (tonnes/hectare)	25	30	40
Gross Output	€6,250	€7,500	€10,000
Material Costs (€)			
Seed 3.2 Tonnes @ €375/tonne	1,200	1,200	1,200
Fertiliser 1.2 tonnes 10-10-20 @ €430/tonne	516	516	516
Herbicides Mixtures	151	151	151
Blight Sprays x 12 (Fungicides)	469	469	469
Dessicants	64	64	64
Bags & Ties (20kg Bags) - €11.5/Tonne	287	345	460
Misting-€213 per hectare	213	213	213
Total Material Costs	2,900	2,958	3,073
Margin over Material Costs	€3,350	€4,542	€6,927
Labour & Machinery			
Ploughing	60	60	60
Cultivations and Destoning	377	377	377
Fertiliser application	28	28	28
Planting	70	70	70
Spraying (x14) at €6 each	92	92	92
Harvesting €18/tonne	450	540	720
Transport €5/tonne (up to 6 miles)	125	150	200
Grading in and out of store = €25.4/tonne	635	762	1,016
Storage + boxes +Miscellaneous (€38/Tonne)	950	1,140	1,520
Total	2,787	3,219	4,083
NET MARGIN/HECTARE	€563	€1,323	€2,844

* *Maincrop = Roosters, Kerr Pinks, Records and similar varieties.*

S.M.D.35-45

NOTE: The margins from potatoes can vary substantially from year to year. The figures in the above tables show margins for the low to medium range of returns for potatoes. At moderate potato prices good yields are vital.

The ware potatoes price assumed is €250/tonne ex store in October/November. The value added by further grading and washing is up to individual growers. A lot of land is rented for growing potatoes - Average price €1250/Ha (Range = €870 to €1,980 per hectare).

GREEN BROCCOLI (2008)

Yield (tonnes/hectare)	6.0	6.5
Output/ha. at €1.40/kg = €1,400/tonne	€8,400	€9,100
Material Costs		
Fertiliser 24 x 50kgs. 8-5-18 + Boron at €404/Tonne	486	486
+1.75 Bags can at €290/Tonne	25	25
Spray - (A) Herbicides	85	85
- (B) Fungicides	64	64
- (C) Insecticides	78	78
Plants 42,000 plants @ €15/1,000	630	630
Seed Precision (€10 per 1,000)	420	420
Miscellaneous	150	150
Total Material Costs	1,938	1,938
Margin over Material Costs	6,462	7,162
Labour & Machinery		
Field Preparation	440	440
Planting	198	198
Spraying Programme x 4 at €32/hectare	128	128
Harvesting & Packing 240 man hours @ 6.0 tonnes (using rigs) at €12.50/hour	3,000	3,250
Delivery - Crate rental for Supermarket (6kg capacity) at €0.60 each	600	650
Gapping up + hand weeding	175	175
Delivery - 50 Crates per pallet at €15 per pallet	300	325
Total Labour and Machinery	4,841	5,166
Other fixed costs	850	850
Margin per hectare (Owned Land)	771	1,146
Land Rental Cost (Conacre) per hectare	1,000	1,000
NET MARGIN/HECTARE (Rented Land)	(-229)	146

Standard Man days (SMD) = 50 - 60

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €420 to €910 per hectare based on the above yields.

ICEBERG LETTUCE (2008)

	(65%)	(70%)	(75%)
Yield - Heads Per Hectare	46,579	50,162	53,745
Output @ 50 cent/head (Weighted average)	€ 23,290	€ 25,081	€ 26,872
Material Costs			
Fertiliser - 24 x 50 kg 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	486	486	486
4 x 50 kg CAN at €290/Tonne	58	58	58
Plants 71,660 (incl. Seeds)	1,637	1,637	1,637
Slug Pellets	55	55	55
Herbicides	203	203	203
Fungicides	326	326	326
Insecticides	88	88	88
Foliar Feed	125	125	125
Irrigation	200	200	200
Bags/tape at 4.5 cents per head	2,096	2,257	2,418
Crates @ 50 cent each rental (10 heads/crate) (Supermarkets sales 80%)	1,863	2,006	2,150
Boxes (cardboard) at 90 cent each (12 per box) wholesale 20% sales	698	752	806
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Cost	7,985	8,343	8,702
Margin over Material Costs	15,305	16,738	18,170
Labour and Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	495	495	495
Planting	375	375	375
Top Dressing	30	30	30
Spraying x 5 @ €32/Hec	160	160	160
Harvesting @ 6 cent/head	2,795	3,009	3,224
Transport from rig to cooling	513	513	513
Energy cost @ 16 cent/crate/box	745	802	860
Transport to market @ 30 cent/crate/box	1,397	1,504	1,612
Total Labour and Machinery	6,510	6,888	7,269
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	7,195	8,250	9,301
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€6,195	€7,250	€8,301

Standard Man Days (S.M.D.) = 50 - 55

NOTE:

* Crop loss can be high with Lettuce due to weather conditions leading to over maturity and crop skipping.

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €1,164 to €2,687 per hectare based on the above yields.

BRUSSELS SPROUTS - MACHINE HARVEST (2008)

Yield tonnes/hectare	12	14	18
	€	€	€
Output @ €850/Tonne	10,200	11,900	15,300
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 25 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	506	506	506
10 x 50g CAN €290/Tonne	145	145	145
Plant @ €15/1,000 (32,000)	480	480	480
Seed	742	742	742
Sprays			
- Herbicides	95	95	95
- Insecticides	93	93	93
- Fungicides	264	264	264
- Slug Pellets	158	158	158
- Foliar Feed	38	38	38
- Nets (30% of crop)	137	160	205
- Liners (70% of crop)	82	96	123
Pest Control (birds, etc)	165	165	165
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	3,055	3,112	3,184
Margin over Material Costs	7,145	8,788	12,116
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	440	440	440
Planting	196	196	196
Grubbing/Handweeding	100	100	100
Spraying Application x 8 x €32/spraying	256	256	256
Stopping	189	189	189
Machine Harvest @ €88/tonne	1,056	1,232	1,584
Grading and Packing @ €44/tonne	528	616	792
Delivery @ €13/tonne	156	182	234
Total Labour & Machinery	2,921	3,211	3,791
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	2,624	3,977	6,725
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€1,624	€2,977	€5,725

Standard Man Days (S.M.D) =. 75 - 83

NOTE:

- 1 A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €510 to €1,530 per hectare based on the above yields.
- 2 Dublin market price for brussels sprouts can be up to €1.10/Kg (€1,110 per tonne)

CABBAGE - SPRING YORK (2008)

Yield (Heads Per Hectare)	45,000	52,000	55,000
	€	€	€
Output (No crate charge) @ 40 cent/head	18,000	20,800	22,000
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 10 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	202	202	202
7 x 50g CAN at €290/Tonne	101	101	101
Seed 74,000 @ €13/1000	962	962	962
Plants 69,000 @ €15/1000	1,035	1,035	1,035
Sprays			
Herbicides	96	96	96
Insecticides	28	28	28
Fungicides	150	150	150
Slug Pellets	60	60	60
Bags @ 3 cent each	1,350	1,560	1,650
Pest Control (birds, etc)	150	150	150
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	4,284	4,494	4,584
Margin over Material Costs	13,716	16,306	17,416
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	440	440	440
Planting	227	227	227
Top Dressing	40	40	40
Spraying x 5 @ €32/hectare	160	160	160
Grubbing and Handweeding	100	100	100
harvesting @ 200 heads/man hour @ €12.50/hr	2,812	3,250	3,437
Transport to Packhouse 2,500 heads/man hour @ €12.50/hr	225	260	275
Delivery @ 22 cent/crate (to include 8)	1,237	1,430	1,512
Total Labour & Machinery	5,241	5,907	6,191
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	6,841	8,799	9,625
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€5,841	€7,799	€8,625

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 38 - 45

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €900 to €2,200 per hectare based on the above yields.

CABBAGE - SUMMER AND AUTUMN YORK (2008)

Yield (Heads Per Hectare)	40,000	45,000	50,000
	€	€	€
Output (No crate charge) @ 40 cent/head	16,000	18,000	20,000
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 25 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	506	506	506
7 x 50g CAN at €290/Tonne	101	101	101
Seed 66,700 @ €11.50/1000	767	767	767
Plants 60,000 @ €15/1000	900	900	900
Sprays			
Herbicides	95	95	95
Insecticides	33	33	33
Fungicides	146	146	146
Slug Pellets	52	52	52
Bags @ 3 cent each	1,200	1,350	1,500
Pest Control (birds, etc)	150	150	150
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	4,100	4,250	4,400
Margin over Material Costs	11,900	13,750	15,600
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	400	400	400
Planting	180	180	180
Top Dressing	30	30	30
Spraying x 6 @ €32/hectare	192	192	192
Grubbing and Handweeding	90	90	90
Harvesting @ 200 heads/man hour @ €12.50/hr	2,500	2,812	3,125
Transport to Packhouse 2,500 heads/man hour at €12.50/hr	200	225	250
Delivery @ 19 cent/crate (to include 6 heads)	1,267	1,425	1,583
Total Labour & Machinery	4,859	5,354	5,850
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	5,441	6,796	8,150
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€4,441	€5,796	€7,150

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 33 - 38

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €800 to €2,000 per hectare based on the above yields.

CABBAGE - WINTER (2008)

Yield (Heads Per Hectare)	27,000	32,000	34,000
	€	€	€
Output (No crate charge) @ 40 cent/head	10,800	12,800	13,600
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 25 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	506	506	506
7 x 50g CAN at €290/Tonne	101	101	101
Seed 45,000 @ €11.50/1000	518	518	518
Plants 42,000 @ €15/1000	630	630	630
Sprays			
Herbicides	98	98	98
Insecticides	27	27	27
Fungicides	146	146	146
Slug Pellets	60	60	60
Pest Control (birds, etc)	150	150	150
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	2,386	2,386	2,386
Margin over Material Costs	8,414	10,414	11,214
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	400	400	400
Planting	180	180	180
Top Dressing	30	30	30
Spraying x 6 @ €32/hectare	192	192	192
Grubbing and Handweeding	90	90	90
Harvesting @ 200 heads/man hour @ €12.50/hr	1,687	2,000	2,125
Transport to Packhouse (2,500 heads/man hour) at €12.50/hr	135	160	170
Delivery @ 19 cent/crate (to include 6 heads)	855	1,013	1,077
Total Labour & Machinery	3,569	4,065	4,264
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	3,245	4,749	5,350
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€2,245	€3,749	€4,350

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 30 - 35

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €540 to €1,360 per hectare based on the above yields.

SAVOY CABBAGE (2008)

Yield (Heads Per Hectare)	34,000	39,000	42,000
	€	€	€
Output (No crate charge) @ 40 cent/head	13,600	15,600	16,800
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 25 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	506	506	506
7 x 50g CAN at €290/Tonne	101	101	101
Seed 56,500 @ €11.50/1000	650	650	650
Plants 52,500 @ €15/1000	787	787	787
Sprays			
Herbicides	98	98	98
Insecticides	30	30	30
Fungicides	150	150	150
Slug Pellets	55	55	55
Pest Control (birds, etc)	150	150	150
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	2,677	2,677	2,677
Margin over Material Costs	10,923	12,923	14,123
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	440	440	440
Planting	247	247	247
Top Dressing	30	30	30
Spraying x 6 @ €32/hectare	192	192	192
Grubbing and Handweeding	90	90	90
Harvesting @ 200 heads/man hour @ €12.50/hr	2,125	2,437	2,625
Transport to Packhouse 2,500 heads/man hour at €12.50/hr	170	195	210
Delivery @ 22 cent/crate (to include 6 heads)	1,246	1,430	1,540
Total Labour & Machinery	4,540	5,061	5,374
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	4,783	6,262	7,149
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€3,783	€5,262	€6,149

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 33 - 38

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €680 to €1,680 per hectare based on the above yields.

STORAGE CABBAGE - PROCESSING (2008)

Yield (Tonnes Per Hectare)	37	50	62
	€	€	€
Output @ €230/tonne	8,510	11,500	14,260
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 25 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	506	506	506
5 x 50g CAN at €290/Tonne	72	72	72
Seed 42,000 @ €11.50/1000	483	483	483
Plants 35,800 @ €14/1000	501	501	501
Sprays			
Herbicides	97	97	97
Insecticides	53	53	35
Fungicides	230	230	230
Slug Pellets	52	52	52
Nets to 25kg	227	227	227
Pest Control (birds, etc)	165	165	165
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	2,536	2,536	2,536
Margin over Material Costs	5,974	8,964	11,724
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	400	400	400
Planting	180	180	180
Spraying x 7 @ €32/hectare	224	224	224
Harvesting including boxes @ €30/tonne	1,110	1,500	1,860
Preparation for sale @ €30/tonne	1,110	1,500	1,860
Delivery @ €19/tonne	703	950	1,178
Total Labour & Machinery	3,727	4,454	5,330
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	2,127	2,854	3,730
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€1,127	€1,854	€2,730

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 35 - 43

NOTE:

- 1 A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €425 to €1,426 per hectare based on the above yields.
- 2 Fridge Storage is no longer done in Ireland except for one or two producers.
The Dutch have this market. It is too expensive at around €100 per Tonne for 6 months storage using a 100 tonne store..
The price of the product from cold stores varies from €200 to €400 per tonne.

EARLY CARROTS UNDER PLASTIC MULCH (2008)

Yield (Tonnes Per Hectare)	25	30	35
	€	€	€
Output @ €380/tonne	9,500	11,400	13,300
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 22 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	445	445	445
Seed 1.1 million @ €635/million	698	698	698
Sprays			
Herbicides	49	49	49
Insecticides	209	209	209
Slug Pellets	66	66	66
Bags, wrapping and pallets @ €18/tonne	450	540	630
Plastic Mulch	698	698	698
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	2,765	2,855	2,945
Margin over Material Costs	6,735	8,545	10,355
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	500	500	500
Sowing	94	94	94
Planting	225	225	225
Spraying x 5 @ €32/hectare	160	160	160
Harvesting, Washing and Haulage @ €85/tonne	2,125	2,550	2,975
Marketing and Delivery @ €33/tonne	825	990	1,155
Total Labour & Machinery	2,806	4,026	5,246
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	1,206	2,426	3,646
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€206	€1,426	€2,646

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 75 - 85

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €475 to €1,330 per hectare based on the above yields.

MAINCROP CARROTS - FRESH MARKET (2008)

Yield Tonnes per Hectare	50	55	60
	€	€	€
Output @ €300/tonne	15,000	16,500	18,000
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 22 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	445	445	445
Seed 1.5 million @ €635/million	952	952	952
Sprays			
Herbicides	154	154	154
Insecticides	440	440	440
Fungicides	28	28	28
Foliar Feed	38	38	38
Packaging, Bags, Labels (50% prepack sales)	635	698	762
Box liner for loose @ 7.6 cent each (50% loose sales)	158	174	190
Crates @ 30 cent rental each	1,250	1,375	1,500
Miscellaneous	120	120	120
Total Material Costs	4,220	4,424	4,629
Margin over Material Costs	10,780	12,076	13,371
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	500	500	500
Sowing	94	94	94
Spraying x 7 @ €32/hectare	224	224	224
Harvesting, Washing and Haulage @ €85/tonne	4,250	4,675	5,100
Hydro-cooling @ €45/tonne	2,250	2,475	2,700
Marketing and Delivery @ €33/tonne	1,650	1,815	1,980
Total Labour & Machinery	8,968	9,783	10,598
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	212	693	1,173
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	(-€788)	(-€307)	€173

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 45 - 53

Footnote:

An added cost of €1,250 per hectare could be incurred by growers who have to use straw for frost protection when overwintering carrots.

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €750 to €1,800 per hectare based on the above yields.

WINTER CAULIFLOWER (2008)

Yield (Heads Per Hectare)	15,000	16,250	17,500
	€	€	€
Output/hectare @ 60 cent/head (to include crate)	9,000	9,750	10,500
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 10 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	202	202	202
7 x 50 kg CAN at €290/Tonne	101	101	101
Seed 27,000 @ €30/1000	810	810	810
Plants 25,000 @ €14 per 1000	350	350	350
Sprays			
Herbicides	96	96	96
Fungicides	146	146	146
Insecticides	27	27	27
Slug Pellets	60	60	60
Pest Control (Birds, etc)	150	150	150
Bags @ 3 cent each	450	487	525
Cardboard Boxes (33% of Crop) @ €1.27/10 heads	635	688	740
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	3,177	3,267	3,357
Margin over Material Costs	5,823	6,483	7,143
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	400	400	400
Planting	470	470	470
Spraying x 5 @ €32/hectare	160	160	160
Harvesting @ 112 heads/Man hour @ €12.50/hour (i.e. 14 Crates)	1,674	1,814	1,953
Delivery @ 19 cent per crate	335	365	390
Total Labour & Machinery	3,039	3,209	3,373
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	1,184	1,674	2,170
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€184	€674	€1,170

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 33 - 38

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €450 to €1,050 per hectare based on the above yields.

SUMMER AND AUTUMN CAULIFLOWER (2008)

Yield (Heads per Hectare)	15,000	20,000	25,000
	€	€	€
Output/hectare @ €6.50/crate (10 heads/crate)	9,750	13,000	16,250
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 25 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	506	506	506
5 x 50 kg CAN at €290/Tonne	73	73	73
Sprays			
Herbicides	96	96	96
Insecticides	28	28	28
Pest Control (Birds, etc)	165	165	165
Plants 35,000 @ €15 per 1000	525	525	525
Seed @ €27/1000	945	945	945
Packaging at 9 cent per head	1,350	1,800	2,250
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	3,838	4,288	4,738
Margin over Material Costs	5,912	8,712	11,512
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	400	400	400
Planting	229	229	229
Grubbing and Hand Weeding	90	90	90
Top Dressing	30	30	30
Casual Labour - Harvesting and Packaging (14 dozen per man hour + tractor @ €15.5/hour)	1,877	2,190	2,505
Total Labour & Machinery	2,626	2,939	3,254
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	1,686	4,173	6,658
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€686	€3,173	€5,658

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 40 - 45

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €487 to €1,625 per hectare based on the above yields.

CELERY (FRESH MARKET) (2008)

Yield (Heads Per Hectare)	62,500	71,500	80,000
	€	€	€
Output @ 50 cent/head	31,250	37,750	40,000
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 35 x 50kg. 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	708	708	708
11 x 50 kg CAN at €290/Tonne	160	160	160
Calcium Nitrate 33kg	25	25	25
Plants 89,000 @ €50 per 1000 (seed included)	4,450	4,450	4,450
Slug Pellets	45	45	45
Sprays			
Herbicides	98	98	98
Fungicides	346	346	346
Insecticides	233	233	233
Sleeves @ 2.54 cent each	1,588	1,816	2,032
Crates @ 38 cent rental (Supermarket 70% sales)	924	1,057	1,182
Cardboard Boxes @ 89 cent each (wholesale 30% sales)	927	1,061	1,186
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	9,654	10,149	10,615
Margin over Material Costs	21,596	27,601	29,385
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	370	370	370
Planting @ €12.50 per hour	2,161	2,161	2,161
Top Dressing	224	224	224
Spraying x 7 @ €32/hectare	224	224	224
Irrigation	785	785	785
Harvesting, trim and pack (618 man hours) at €12.50 per hour	7,725	7,725	7,725
Delivery @ 65 cent/box/crate	2,256	2,473	2,888
Total Labour & Machinery	13,745	13,962	14,377
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	6,251	12,039	13,408
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€2,251	€11,039	€12,408

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 105 - 125

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €1,562 to €4,000 per hectare based on the above yields.

SALAD ONIONS (2008)

Yield Crates/Hectare (Crate holds 24 bunches)	6,250	7,500	8,750
	€	€	€
Output/hectare @ €10/crate	62,500	75,000	87,500
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 25 x 50kg. 7-6-17 at €435/Tonne	544	544	544
4 x 50 kg CAN at €290/Tonnes	58	58	58
Seed 2.5 million @ €780/million	1,950	1,950	1,950
Sprays			
Herbicides	283	283	283
Fungicides	148	148	148
Foliar Feed	118	118	118
Rubber Bands and Labels	3,500	3,920	4,490
Crate rental @ 60 cent/crate	3,750	4,500	5,250
Pallet Wrap	88	88	88
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	10,589	11,759	13,079
Margin over Material Costs	51,911	63,241	74,421
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	450	450	450
Sowing	190	190	190
Spraying x 6 @ €32/hectare	192	192	192
Top Dressing	25	25	25
Irrigation	863	863	863
Harvesting - 2 cent per bunch	3,000	3,600	4,200
Bunching, Washing and Packing - 20 cent/bunch	30,000	36,000	42,000
Delivery @ 30 cent/crate	1,874	2,250	2,624
Total Labour & Machinery	36,594	43,570	50,544
other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	13,717	18,071	22,277
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€12,717	€17,071	€21,277

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 88 - 100

NOTE:

- 1 A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €3,125 to €8,750 per hectare based on the above yields.
- 2 Delivery = €15 per pallet which holds 50 crates = 30 cent/crate

ONIONS (GROWN FROM SEED) (2008)

Yield Tonnes Per Hectare	40	45	50
	€	€	€
Output/hectare @ €350/tonne (Average of retail and industrial)	14,000	15,750	17,500
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 12 x 50kg. 10-10-20 at €430/Tonne	258	258	258
5 Bags of CAN at €290/Tonne	73	73	73
Seed (550,000) at €190 per 250,000 seeds	418	418	418
Sprays			
Herbicides	238	238	238
Fungicides	350	350	350
Sprout Inhibitor	64	64	64
Labelling, netting, bagging @ €63/tonne	2,205	2,520	2,835
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	3,756	4,071	4,386
Margin over Material Costs	10,244	11,679	13,114
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation (inc. destoning)	440	440	440
Sowing	88	88	88
Spraying x 15	282	282	282
Harvesting, windrowing and topping	392	392	392
Transport field to store @ €5/tonne	200	225	250
Grade and Box into Store	320	360	400
Initial drying @ €15/tonne	600	675	750
Store running cost @ €10/tonne	400	450	500
Grading @ €18/tonne	720	810	900
Labelling, netting and bagging (labour) @ €60/tonne (6 Cent/kg)	2,400	2,700	3,000
Delivery @ €15/tonne	600	675	750
Total Labour & Machinery	6,442	7,097	7,752
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	2,202	2,982	3,762
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€1,202	€1,982	€2,762

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 48 - 53

NOTE:

- 1 A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €700 to €1,750 per hectare based on the above yields.
- 2 Dutch 60 - 80's in Dublin Market = €300/Tonne (Approx).

PARSNIPS - FRESH MARKET (2008)

Yield Tonnes/Hectare	20	25	30
	€	€	€
Output @ €1,000/tonne	20,000	25,000	30,000
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 25 x 50kg. 7-6-17 at €435/Tonne	544	544	544
Seed (408,000)	663	663	663
Sprays			
Herbicides	100	100	100
Insecticides + Fungicides	210	210	210
Foliar Feed	40	40	40
Pre Pack Trays (1/3 crop)	930	1,163	1,397
Wholesale Outlet (Nets)	187	234	275
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	2,824	3,104	3,379
Margin over Material Costs	17,176	21,896	26,621
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	533	533	533
Sowing	40	40	40
Handweeding	70	70	70
Spraying x 9 @ €32/hectare	288	288	288
Harvesting	1,232	1,540	1,848
Washing and Packing	1,848	2,310	2,772
Hydro Cooling @ €50/tonne	1,000	1,250	1,500
Delivery @ €1.26/crate	504	630	756
Total Labour & Machinery	5,515	6,661	7,807
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	10,061	13,635	17,214
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€9,061	€12,635	€16,214

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 65 - 75

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €1,000 to €3,000 per hectare based on the above yields.

DRIED PEAS (For Human Consumption) (2008)

Yield Tonnes Per Hectare	3.7	4.3	5.0
	€	€	€
Output/ha. €240/Tonne @ 20% moisture	888	1,032	1,200
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 8 bags. 0:10:20 at €340/tonne	136	136	136
Seed (187 kg)	210	210	210
Sprays			
Herbicides	120	120	120
Fungicides - Compass x 2	65	65	65
Insecticide	6	6	6
Total Material Costs	537	537	537
Margin over Material Costs	351	495	663
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation & Seeding	146	146	146
Rolling	14	14	14
Fertiliser application and (Spraying x 4)	170	170	170
Bird Control	11	11	11
Transport Cost = €5 per tonne	18	21	25
Combining & Transport	160	160	160
Total Labour & Machinery	515	522	526
Net Margin/Hectare (Before Single Farm Payment) (Euros)	(-164)	(-27)	137

Standard Man Days (SMD) 5

* The price of €240/Tonne is for peas grown for BATCHELORS Ltd.

** A lower price of about €95 to €160/tonne would apply to Protein Peas grown for animal feed.

Note:

- A From 2005, Area Aid of €383/hectare will be paid in the Single Farm Payment.
The EU will also pay a protein crop premium of €55.57/hectare on a maximum of 1.4 Million hectares in the EU.
- B About 60 Farmers supply about 1,000 tonnes of Peas from 500 acres to Bachelors Ltd., each year.

SWEDES (2008)

Yield Tonnes/Hectare	30	35	45
	€	€	€
Output @ €410/tonne	12,300	14,350	18,450
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 15 x 50 kg 8-5-18 + Boron at €405/Tonne	303	303	303
Seed (about 0.6 kg seed per hectare).	105	105	105
Sprays			
Herbicides	95	95	95
Netting	750	750	750
Fungicides	64	64	64
Boron Spray	66	66	66
Slug Pellets	52	52	52
Pest Control (Birds, etc)	150	150	150
Bags @ €125/1000 (to take 16 kg)	312	364	468
Total Material Costs	1,897	1,949	2,053
Margin over Material Costs	10,403	12,401	16,397
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	440	440	440
Sowing	56	56	56
Spraying x 6 @ €32/hectare	192	192	192
Grubbing and handweeding	100	100	100
Harvesting, bagging and washing @ €88/tonne	2,640	3,080	3,960
Marketing and delivery @ €36/tonne	1,080	1,260	1,620
Total Labour & Machinery	4,508	5,128	6,368
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	4,295	5,673	8,429
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€3,295	€4,673	€7,429

Standard Man Days (SMD) = 28 - 38

NOTE:

- A A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €615 to €1,845 per hectare based on the above yields.
- B 1,000 to 1,200 crates/acre (2,470 to 2,965 crates/hectare).
- C 12 Swedes in a crate = 12 to 13 kgs weight.
- D €6/crate is a typical price.
- E 1 kg of seed for 4 to 5 acres.
- F Bag or Net = 12.5 cents (Holds 10 to 12 Swedes = 12kgs)

RHUBARB (2008)

Yield - Boxes per hectare	2,500	2,750	3,000
	€	€	€
Output per hectare @ €6.0 per box (50 cent/bunch)	15,000	16,500	18,000
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 20 bags x 50 kg of 10-10-20 at €430/Tonne	430	430	430
14 bags x 50 kg of CAN at €290/Tonne	203	203	203
Sprays			
Herbicides	99	99	99
Strawbales x 37 @ €9 each	370	370	370
Boxes @ 70 cent each	1,750	1,925	2,100
Labels, Rubber bands @ 3 cent/bunch	900	990	1,080
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	3,902	4,167	4,432
Margin over Material Costs	11,098	12,333	13,568
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Fertiliser Spreading	133	133	133
Straw application	360	360	360
Irrigation	200	200	200
Herbicide application	38	38	38
Harvesting = €2.40 per box	6,000	6,600	7,200
Transport = 50 cent per box	1,250	1,375	1,500
Total Labour & Machinery	7,981	8,706	9,431
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per hectare (Owned Land)	€1,517	€2,027	€2,537
Margin Per Hectare for Rented Land (Rental = €1,000/ha)	€517	€1,027	€1,537

Note: The cost of stools for establishment (7,500 stools/hectare) = €2,250

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €750 to €1,800 per hectare based on the above yields.

TRANSPLANTED LEEKS (2008)

Yield Tonnes per - Hectare	20	25	30
	€	€	€
Output @ €1,000/tonne (€1.00 per kg). (20 Leeks = 6 kg)	20,000	25,000	30,000
Material Costs			
Fertiliser 25 bags of 7-6-17 at €435/Tonne	544	544	544
3 bags CAN at €290/Tonne	44	44	44
Seed - 150,000 @ €150 per 10,000	2,250	2,250	2,250
Plant - 140,000 @ €15 per 1,000	2,100	2,100	2,100
Sprays			
Herbicides	147	147	147
Fungicides	292	292	292
Bags @ €150 per 1,000 (to hold 5 kg)	660	825	990
Miscellaneous	150	150	150
Total Material Costs	6,187	6,352	6,517
Margin over Material Costs	13,823	18,648	23,483
Labour & Machinery Costs			
Field Preparation	528	528	528
Planting	528	528	528
Top Dressing	30	30	30
Irrigation	660	660	660
Spraying x 5 @ €32 each per hectare	160	160	160
Harvesting	1,408	1,760	2,112
Trim, Wash and Pack	3,379	4,224	5,068
Delivery	1,980	2,475	2,970
Total Labour & Machinery	8,673	10,365	12,056
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
Margin per Hectare (Owned Land)	3,550	6,683	9,827
Conacre (Land Rental Cost/ha)	1,000	1,000	1,000
Net Margin/Hectare (Rented Land)	€2,550	€5,683	€8,827

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €1,000 to €3,000 per hectare based on the above yields.

Module Costs:

€16 per 1,000 (Early)

€13.50 per 1,000 (Main Crop)

€13 to 14 per 1,000 for Seed)

PARSLEY COSTINGS PER HA - (2008)

Yield (kgs per hectare)	7500	10,000	12,500
Output at €2.50/kg	€18,750	€25,000	€31,250
MATERIAL COSTS	€	€	€
Fertiliser 20 x 50 kg 8-5-18 at €405/Tonne	405	405	405
12 x 50 kg CAN at €290/Tonne	174	174	174
Seed - 2.5 kg @ €124/kg	310	310	310
Sprays			
Herbicide	511	511	511
Insecticide	260	260	260
Chips (30 cent each)	3,000	4,000	5,000
Miscellaneous	220	220	220
TOTAL MATERIAL COSTS	4,880	5,880	6,880
Margin over material costs	13,870	19,120	24,370
LABOUR & MACHINERY			
Field Preparation	550	550	550
Sowing	103	103	103
Top Dressing	20	20	20
Spraying x 7 @ €32/ha	224	224	224
Irrigation	286	286	286
Grubbing	110	110	110
Harvesting & Packing (0.75 kg/chip)	3,000	4,000	5,000
Refrigeration	121	121	121
Delivery @ 3.5 cent a Chip	350	466	583
TOTAL LABOUR & MACHINERY	4,764	5,880	6,997
Other fixed costs	1,600	1,600	1,600
MARGIN PER HA (Owned Land)	7,506	11,640	15,773
Less Land Rental	1,000	1,000	1,000
NET MARGIN (Rented Land) per hectare	€6,506	€10,640	€14,773

NOTE: A 5% to 10% change in crop yields/sales will change the value of output by €937 to €3,125 per hectare based on the above yields.

MAINCROP TOMATOES (HEATED) - (2008)

Yield tonnes/hectare	365	380
Value at €1,260/tonne	€ 459,900	€ 478,800
Material Costs		
Returnable Crates	12,629	13,148
Fertilisers	63,000	63,000
Plants	34,000	34,000
Rockwool	18,665	18,665
Twine	1,800	1,800
Pollination and Biological Control	12,000	12,000
Polythene	5,500	5,500
Heat Energy/Fuel	129,000	129,000
Electricity	16,600	16,600
Miscellaneous	6,500	6,500
Water - Mains Supply (Approx. €1.50 per cubic metre)	2,000	2,000
Total Materials	301,694	302,213
Margin Over Materials per crop	€158,206	€176,587
Other Crop Costs		
Insurance	3,500	3,500
Maintenance	8,350	8,350
Interest on Working Capital	8,000	8,000
Labour Permanent	137,800	137,800
Labour Casual	16,900	19,000
Transport	15,400	17,600
Total	189,950	194,250
Net Margin	(-€31,744)	(-€17,663)

S.M.D. 1500-1600/Ha.

Note: In both Budgets above, insurance costs have been reduced compared with previous years because growers have dropped taking out cover for “Crop Losses” as it has become too expensive.

LETTUCE COLDHOUSE CROP (2008)

Yield dozen/hectare	15,000	16,250	17,150
Value output/hectare at €3.70/Dozen	€55,500	€60,125	€63,445
Material Costs	€	€	€
F.Y.M. and Fertilisers	1,500	1,500	1,500
Seed	4,250	4,250	4,250
Compost	1,000	1,000	1,000
Pesticides	4,000	4,000	4,000
Returnable Containers	5,250	5,687	6,002
Miscellaneous	3,000	3,000	3,000
Total Materials	19,000	19,437	19,752
Margin Over Materials per crop	€36,500	€40,688	€43,693
Other Crop Costs			
Maintenance	2000	2000	2000
Labour	18,700	18,700	18,700
Transport to Market	3,500	4,000	4,500
Total	24,200	24,700	25,200
Net Margin per crop (Euros)	€12,300	€15,988	€18,493

S.M.D. 280-310/Ha.

LETTUCE - WINTER PERIOD HEATED CROP (2008)

Yield dozen/hectare	15,000	16,250	17,150
Value output/hectare at €4.00/Dozen	€60,000	€65,000	€68,600
Material Costs	€	€	€
F.Y.M. and Fertilisers	800	800	800
Seed	4,250	4,250	4,250
Compost	1,000	1,000	1,000
Pesticides	1,500	1,500	1,500
Fuel & CO ² (Carbon Dioxide)	13,230	13,230	13,230
Returnable Containers	5,250	5,687	6,002
Miscellaneous	2,500	2,500	2,500
Total Materials	28,530	28,967	29,282
Margin Over Materials per crop	€31,470	€36,033	€39,318
Other Crop Costs			
Maintenance	2,000	2,000	2,000
Labour	18,700	18,700	18,700
Transport to Market	2,500	3,000	3,500
Total	23,200	23,700	24,200
Net Margin per Crop (Euro)	€8,270	€12,333	€15,118

S.M.D. 280-310/Ha

EARLY - HEATED CUCUMBER CROP (2008) - (2 Crop System)

Yield (boxes/hectare)	75,000	80,000
Value output/hectare at €6.00/box	€472,500	504,000
Materials	€	€
Fertiliser	79,200	79,200
Seed	11,290	11,290
Rockwool	24,264	24,264
Twine	2,000	2,000
Pesticides and Biological Control	16,000	16,000
Fuel & CO ₂ (Carbon Dioxide)	132,000	132,000
Electricity	11,000	11,000
Polythene	6,000	6,000
Returnable Containers	22,500	24,000
Miscellaneous	6,000	6,000
Total Materials	310,254	311,754
Margins Over Materials	162,246	192,246
Other Costs		
Insurance	3,500	3,500
Maintenance	8,000	8,000
Interest on Working Capital	15,000	15,000
Labour	130,000	130,000
Transport	18,700	19,800
Total	175,200	176,300
Net Margin (Euros)	(-€12,594)	€15,946

S.M.D. 1,375-1,500/Ha.

Note: In above Budgets, insurance costs have been reduced compared with previous years because growers have dropped taking out cover for "Crop Losses" as it has become too expensive.

UN - HEATED CUCUMBER CROP (2008)

Yield boxes/hectare	30,000	34,000
Value output/hectare at €5.25/box	157,500	178,500
Materials	€	€
Fertiliser	14,960	14,960
Seed	6,350	6,350
Peat Modules	11,000	11,000
Twine	1,200	1,200
Pesticides and Biological Control	6,000	6,000
Electricity + Fuel	18,500	18,500
Containers	18,000	20,400
Miscellaneous	2,540	2,540
Total Materials	78,550	80,950
Margins Over Materials per crop	€78,950	€97,550
Other Costs		
Insurance	3,500	3,500
Maintenance	4,000	4,000
Labour	65,000	65,000
Transport	6,500	7,000
Total	79,000	79,500
Net Margin (Euros)	(-€50)	€18,050

S.M.D. 1,375-1,500/Ha.

(Table 1) MUSHROOMS - CATEGORY 1 GROWER (2008)
5 Mushroom Houses - 26 Crops/year - Yield = 470 lb/tonne of compost (Phase 2)
Costs and returns for mushroom growing (per crop)

	Mushroom Yield (lb/tonne of compost) - Phase 2	470
1	Compost (tonnes) per fill	20
2	Compost cost per tonne (€142) x 20 Tonnes (Phase 2)	€2,840
3	Volume of Mushrooms produced (lb)	9,400
4	Mushroom average price - cent/lb (€)	€0.84
5	Total Value of mushrooms sold (€)	€7,896
	Direct (variable) costs (€)	
6	Compost (20 tonnes x €142/tonnes)	€2,840
7	Casing (materials) (€)	€440
8	Oil (€)	€329
9	Electricity (€)	€275
10	Chemical (€)	€165
11	Packaging per lb (€0.075)	€658
12	Casual Labour (€)	
	a) Filling and Stacking (€)	€55
	b) Casing (labour) (€)	€55
	c) Compost emptying (€)	€55
	d) Washing out/labour (€)	0
13	Picking costs per lb (€0.21/lb)	€1,974
14	Total direct (variable) costs (€)	€6,846
15	Overhead (fixed) costs (€)	
	a) Administration (phone + insurance) (€)	€137
	b) Maintenance	€110
	c) Transport per lb (€0.03)	€282
	d) Miscellaneous (car + tractor + accountant) (€)	€220
	e) Labour (Permanent) (€)	0
	f) Bank/loan, interest + charges (not capital) (€)	0
	g) Lease payments (€)	0
	h) Depreciation on farm building/equipment/vehicles (€)	0
16	Total overhead (fixed) costs (€)	€749
17	Total overhead (fixed) costs per lb (€)	€0.08
18	Total direct (variable) costs per lb (14 ÷ 3) (€)	€0.73
19	Total production costs (14 + 16) (€)	€7,595
20	Total production costs per lb (€) (19 ÷ 3)	€0.81
21	Net margin per crop per year (€) (5 minus 19)	€301
22	Number of crops per year	26
23	Total net margin per year (€) (Profit)	€7,826

- Notes: (1) This example relates to traditional long established growers (for example - in Monaghan, Cavan, West of Ireland, etc)
- (2) Total production per year = 244,400 lbs of Mushrooms (each 1 cent in price/costs is = €2,444 per year).
- (3) Standard man days per crop = 23 SMD's
- (4) Production and Net Margins can be increased by increasing the compost per fill up to 32 tonnes and there is also potential to increase the yield of mushrooms above 470 lbs/tonne compost.

(Table 2) MUSHROOMS - CATEGORY 2 GROWER (2008)
6 Mushroom Houses - 39Crops/year - Yield = 550 lb/tonne of compost
Costs and returns for mushroom growing (per crop)

2 (A)

	Mushroom Yield (lb/tonne of compost) - Phase 2	550
1	Compost (tonnes) per fill	26
2	Compost cost per tonne (€142) x 26 Tonnes (Phase 2)	€3,692
3	Volume of Mushrooms produced (lb)	14,300
4	Mushroom average price - cent/lb (€)	€0.84
5	Total Value of mushrooms sold (€)	€12,012
	Direct (variable) costs (€)	
6	Compost (26 tonnes x €142/tonne)	€3,692
7	Casing (materials) (€)	€570
8	Oil (€)	€427
9	Electricity (€)	€231
10	Chemical (€)	€214
11	Packaging per lb (€0.07)	€1,001
12	Casual Labour (€)	
	a) Filling and Stacking (€)	€176
	b) Casing (labour) (€)	€187
	c) Compost emptying (€)	€270
	d) Washing out/labour (€)	0
13	Picking costs per lb (€0.21/lb)	€3,003
14	Total direct (variable) costs (€)	€9,771
15	Overhead (fixed) costs (€)	
	a) Administration (phone + insurance) (€)	€137
	b) Maintenance	€110
	c) Transport per lb (€0.03)	€429
	d) Miscellaneous (car + tractor + accountant) (€)	€154
	e) Labour (Permanent) (€)	€400
	f) Bank/loan, interest + charges (not capital) (€)	€33
	g) Lease payments (€)	0
	h) Depreciation on farm building/equipment/vehicles (€)	€513
16	Total overhead (fixed) costs (€)	€1,776
17	Total overhead (fixed) costs per lb (€)	€0.12
18	Total direct (variable) costs per lb (14 ÷ 3) (€)	€0.68
19	Total production costs (14 + 16) (€)	€11,547
20	Total production costs per lb (€) (19 ÷ 3)	€0.80
21	Net margin per crop per year (€)	€465
22	Number of crops per year	39
23	Total net margin per year (€) (Profit)	€18,135

- Notes: (1) This example relates to typical progressive growers (for example - in Cavan/Monaghan area)
(2) Total production per year (at 550 lbs/tonne = 557,700 lbs Mushrooms/year) - 1 cent change per year = €5,577
(3) Standard man days per crop = 55 to 57.5 SMD's
(4) To increase margins, yields need to be increased above 550 lbs mushrooms per tonne compost or higher. The tonnage of compost can also be increased.

(Table 3) MUSHROOMS - CATEGORY 2 GROWER (2008)
5 Mushroom Houses - 26 Crops/year - Yield = 600 lb/tonne of compost
Costs and returns for mushroom growing (per crop)

2 (B)

Mushroom Yield (lb/tonne of compost) - Phase 2	600
1 Compost (tonnes) per fill	35
2 Compost cost per tonne (€142) x 35 Tonnes (Phase 2)	€4,970
3 Volume of Mushrooms produced (lb)	21,000
4 Mushroom average price - cent/lb (€)	€0.84
5 Total Value of mushrooms sold (€)	€17,640
Direct (variable) costs (€)	
6 Compost (35 tonnes x €142/tonne)	€4,970
7 Casing (materials) (€)	€610
8 Oil (€)	€533
9 Electricity (€)	€470
10 Chemical (€)	€214
11 Packaging per lb (€0.07)	€1,344
12 Casual Labour (€)	
a) Casing + Picking Supervision (€)	€340
b) Fill / Case (€)	€400
c) Compost emptying (€)	400
d) Washing out/labour (€)	€65
13 Picking costs per lb (€0.21/lb)	€4,410
14 Total direct (variable) costs (€)	€13,756
15 Overhead (fixed) costs (€)	
a) Administration (phone + insurance) (€)	€160
b) Maintenance	€198
c) Transport per lb (€0.03)	€630
d) Miscellaneous (car + tractor + accountant) (€)	€264
e) Labour (Permanent) (€)	0
f) Bank/loan, interest + charges (not capital) (€)	€160
g) Lease payments (€)	0
h) Depreciation on farm building/equipment/vehicles (€)	€615
16 Total overhead (fixed) costs (€)	€2,027
17 Total overhead (fixed) costs per lb (€)	€0.10
18 Total direct (variable) costs per lb (14 ÷ 3) (€)	€0.65
19 Total production costs (14 + 16) (€)	€15,783
20 Total production costs per lb (€)	€0.75
21 Net margin per crop per year (€)	€1,857
22 Number of crops per year	26
23 Total net margin per year (€) (Profit)	€48,282

- Notes: (1) This example relates to typical new progressive grower who is a recent entry to the industry, with modern technology and a high level of loans/repayments (for example - the Tipperary area)
- (2) Total production per year = 546,000 lbs Mushrooms
- (3) Standard man days per crop = 72 SMD's
- (4) Each 1 cent change in price or production costs is worth €5,460 per year

(Table 4) MUSHROOMS - CATEGORY 3 GROWER (2008)
6 Mushroom Houses - 52 Crops/year - 670 lbs/tonne compost - Dutch shelving + phase 3.
Costs and returns for mushroom growing (per crop)

Mushroom Yield (lb/tonne of compost) - Phase 3		670
1	Compost (tonnes) per fill	35
2	Compost cost per tonne (€201) x 35 Tonnes (Phase 3)	€7,035
3	Volume of Mushrooms produced (lb)	23,450
4	Mushroom average price - cent/lb (€)	€0.84
5	Total Value of mushrooms sold (€)	€19,698
Direct (variable) costs (€)		
6	Compost (35 tonnes x €201/tonnes)	€7,035
7	Casing (materials) (€)	€660
8	Oil (€)	€320
9	Electricity (€)	€247
10	Chemical (€)	€220
11	Packaging per lb (€0.07)	€1,641
12	Casual Labour (€)	
	a) Filling and stacking (€) Casing, Emptying, fill machinery	€340
	b) Casing labour (€)	400
	c) Compost emptying (€)	400
	d) Washing out/labour (€)	€65
13	Picking costs per lb (€0.21/lb)	€4,924
14	Total direct (variable) costs (€)	€16,252
15	Overhead (fixed) costs (€)	
	a) Administration (phone + insurance) (€)	€240
	b) Maintenance	€254
	c) Transport per lb (€0.03)	€703
	d) Miscellaneous (car + tractor + accountant) (€)	€258
	e) Labour (Permanent) (€)	0
	f) Bank/loan, interest + charges (not capital) (€)	€133
	g) Lease payments (€)	0
	h) Depreciation on farm building/equipment/vehicles (€)	€577
16	Total overhead (fixed) costs (€)	€2,165
17	Total overhead (fixed) costs per lb (€)	€0.09
18	Total direct (variable) costs per lb (14 ÷ 3) (€)	€0.69
19	Total production costs (14 + 16) (€)	€18,417
20	Total production costs per lb (€)	€0.78
21	Net margin per crop per year (€)	€1,281
22	Number of crops per year (€)	52
23	Total net margin per year (€)	€66,612

- Notes: (1) This example relates to a big intensive producer with Dutch shelving and Phase 3 compost.
Fully mechanised + high borrowings/high repayments
(2) Total production per year = 1,219,400 lbs Mushrooms (each 1 cent/lb change in price/costs = €12,194/year
(3) Standard man days per crop = 88.5 SMD's
(4) There is potential to increase yields up to 700 lbs mushrooms per tonne of compost.
(5) Raising Tunnel Heights by 1 metre allows the compost fill per week to increase from 30 tonnes up to 50 tonnes,
and substantially increase production and margins.

SOFT FRUIT SECTION (2008)

Field Grown Strawberries to be harvested as:

- (a) Fresh Market - Open Ground (S.F.C. €533/ha/annum)
or
- (b) Fresh Market - Mobile (Spanish) Tunnels €4,961/ha/annum
or
- (c) Fresh Market - Low tunnels (Cloches) (S.F.C. €3,048/ha/annum)

Establishment Costs Materials

Plants (45,000)
Fertilizer
Herbicides/plastic ground cover
Insecticides

€
14,323
180
524
168

Labour

€
Ground preparation 190
Planting 666
Spot spraying
Hand weeding
Laying Polythene 190
Crop Spraying 76

€15,195 + €1,122

Annual maintenance

Materials:

€1,250

Labour (Spraying & Handweeding)

€496

€1,746

Establishment Maintenance

€16,317

Harvesting & Packing

€1,746 per ha/annum (for 2 years) = €3,492
€1,372/tonne

Net Margin Per Hectare (€ = Euro)

Price		Total yield tonnes/ha (Two Crops)*			
Price €/kg	(Punnets 250g)	15	20	25	30
€5.08	€1.27	€35,811	€54,351	€72,891	€91,431
€3.8	€0.95	€16,611	€28,751	€40,891	€53,031
€3.05	€0.76	€5,361	€13,751	€22,141	€30,531
€2.54	€0.63	(-€2,289)	€3,551	€9,391	€15,231

* The crop is in the ground for 3 years giving two full crops.

Notes

- (1) All strawberries are sold on the fresh market and in recent years the value of output has grown by about 12% per year.
- (2) Teagasc factsheet No. 6 on Strawberry Production - May 2006.
- (3) Teagasc factsheet No. 16 - Small Scale Production of Fruit Preserves - May 2006

SOFT FRUIT SECTION - (2008)

Strawberries: fresh market-grown in peat modules (S.F.C. €8,787 ha/annum).

Establishment + Year 1

€

Growing Costs

Materials

Plants 100,000	40,000
Peat Modules x 10,000	15,367
Feed	5,335
Fungicides	400
Insecticides	200
Pollination	700

62,002

Complete total

67,752

Growing Costs Year 2

Materials

Feed	3,810
Fungicides	381
Insecticides	190
Pollination	635

Sub Total = 5,016

Complete total

9,486

Labour

Planting labour	1,335
Spraying labour	400
Module Lifting (IN)	1,345
Plant Management	2,670

5,750

Labour

Spraying labour	400
Module Lifting (out)	1,400
Plant Management	2,670

Sub Total = 4,470

Net Margin Per Hectare (EUROS)	(First Crop = Autumn Crop (Excluding Establishment Costs))		
Yield per plant (g)	150	200	250
Yield of 100,000 plants (Tonnes)	15	20	25
Harvesting/Marketing €1,400/tonne	21,000	28,000	35,000
Total Costs (€)	21,000	28,000	35,000
Total Returns (Net Margin/Hectare)			
Returns in (euros) per Kg (227g punnet)			
€4.44 (€1.02)	45,600	60,800	76,000
€5.59 (€1.27)	62,850	83,800	104,750
€6.73 (€1.52)	79,950	106,600	133,250

Net Margin Per Hectare (EUROS)	(Second Crop = Autumn/Summer Crop (Including Initial Establishment Costs))			
Yield per plant (g)	400	500	600	700
Yield of 100,000 plants (Tonnes)	40	50	60	70
Establishment costs (from year 1)	67,752	67,752	67,752	67,752
Growing costs (year 2)	9,486	9,486	9,486	9,486
Harvesting/Marketing €1,400/tonne	56,000	70,000	84,000	98,000
Total Costs (€)	133,238	147,238	161,238	175,238
Returns per € per kg(227g)				
€2.79 (€0.63)	(-21,728)	(-7,738)	6,162	20,062
€3.36 (€0.76)	1,072	20,762	40,362	59,962
€3.94 (€0.89)	24,272	49,762	75,162	100,562
€4.44 (€1.02)	44,272	74,762	105,162	135,562

Notes

- (1) All strawberries are sold on the fresh market and in recent years the value of output has grown by about 12% per year.
- (2) There will also be interest charges on the Capital Investment to establish the crop in year 1 from time the investment is made up until the first crop is sold and cashflow is available to repay the borrowings

SOFT FRUIT SECTION (2008)

BLACKCURRANT PRODUCTION (PROCESSING) PER HECTARE (2008)

Establishment Costs

Material	€	Land, Machinery and Labour	€
Planting Material	762	Preparation of ground	250
Fertiliser	150	Planting incl shelter	340
Herbicides	165	Spraying	80
Shelter	250		
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	€1,327		€670

Total establishment costs: €1,997

ANNUAL PRODUCTION COSTS

Materials	€	Labour & Machinery	€
Fungicides & Insecticides	655	Spraying	450
Herbicides	200	Fertiliser application	138
Fertiliser	300	Pruning	470
		Spot Treatment	190
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	€1,155		€1,248

Total: € 2,403

Note: Standard Fixed Charges (SFC) = €714 per hectare per annum

***YEARLY BALANCE AFTER BREAK-EVEN IN FOURTH SEASON FROM PLANTING**

Yield tonnes/hectare	5	7.5	10	12.5
Output at €700 per tonne*	€3,500	€5,250	€7,000	€8,750
Net Margin per hectare (Euros)	€302	€1,655	€3,007	€4,450
S.M.D. (Hand Picking)	64	79	94	109
S.M.D. (Machine Harvest)	32	40	47	55

- ▶ Expected average yield 7.5 tonnes/hectare
- ▶ Harvest by machine - €159 per tonne
- * Average price €700/tonne - (Price range €500 - €720/tonne)
- ▶ Blackcurrants are sold for processing into Ribena (High Vitamin C Drink) by SmithKline Company
- ▶ See Teagasc Fact Sheet No 26 on Blackcurrent Production - May 2006

BEEKEEPING €/20 HIVES (HONEY PRODUCTION) 2008

Honey	Price/kg	16kg/hive	18kg/hive	20.5kg/hive	23kg/hive	25kg/hive
	€2.51	€211	€292	€373	€457	€541
	€3.1	€381	€495	€597	€711	€813
	€3.63	€559	€696	€825	€968	€1,092

- ▶ Standard Fixed Charges for Beekeeping = €165 per 20 hives
- ▶ More information in Teagasc Factsheet No 22 on Honey Production - May 2006

SOFT FRUIT SECTION (2008)

RASPBERRY PRODUCTION (PROCESSING) PER HECTARE (2008)

(€ = Euro)

Establishment Costs

Plants (5,000)	2,600
Fertiliser	185
Herbicides	130
Stakes	1,372
Wire	635
	€4,922

Labour

Ground Preparation	150
Planting	170
Spraying	80
Erection of Supports	735
	€1,135

Total establishment costs:	€6,057
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ANNUAL PRODUCTION COSTS

	€
Materials , herbicides, Pesticides and fertilisers	845
Labour (excluding picking)	960
Annual production costs	€1,805
Harvesting, packaging and delivery	€1,700/tonne

*YEARLY BALANCE FROM COMMENCEMENT OF CROPPING (YEAR 3) (Net Margin Per Hectare)

Price per punnet (500g)	Tonnes Per HA	5 Tonnes	7.5 Tonnes	10 Tonnes	12.5 Tonnes
€2.54		€15,095	€23,545	€31,995	€40,445
€1.90		€8,695	€13,945	€19,195	€24,445
€1.27.		€2,395	€4,495	€6,595	€8,695
€0.95		(-€805)	(-€305)	(-€195)	€695

Standard fixed charge (SFC) €714 per hectare per annum.

Notes

- (1) All raspberries are sold on the fresh market and in recent years the value of output has grown by about 12% per year.

TOP FRUIT SECTION

DESSERT APPLE ESTABLISHMENT (1,235 TREES/HA) (2008)

ESTABLISHMENT COSTS

Materials	€	Machinery and Labour	€
Apple Trees 1,235 @ €6.50 each	8,027	Marking out (10 hrs)	66
Poles 1,235 @ €2.54	3,137	Distributing poles (15m. hrs. + tractor)	160
*Shelter trees 1,000 @ €0.51	600	Driving poles (50m. hrs.)	320
Fertiliser 3 x 50kg 0-10-20	45	Heeling in trees (10 hrs.)	66
	€11,809	Digging holes (50m. hrs.)	450
* Year 3 - Purchase of Bulk Bins = € 4,700/hectare		Planting apple trees (75m. hrs.)	675
CULINARY APPLES		Digging holes for shelter (30m. hrs.)	270
• Use 1,000 trees/hectare @ €6.50 each		Planting shelter (25m. hrs.)	225
• Total cost of materials and labour	€10,200	Pruning apple trees (15m. hrs.)	135
		Tying in (15m. hrs.)	135
			€2,502
CIDER APPLES			
• Use 500 trees/hectare @ €6.50 each			
• Total cost of materials and labour	€8,350		

Overall total costs of establishment per hectare (Culinary = €12,702. Dessert = €14,311, Cider Apples = €10,852).

APPLE PRODUCTION COSTS

Materials		Labour	
Pesticides	700	Pruning	840
Herbicides	135	Spraying	420
Fertilisers	55	Grass mowing	210
		Canker Control	200
	€890		€1,670
Annual Production Costs	€2,560		
Picking and transport to store	€17 per bin		
Yearly Balance (Euros)			

YIELD OF APPLES (NO. OF BINS - 330KG EACH) PER HECTARE

PRICE PER BIN	40	60	80	100
€55	-€1,040	-€280	€480	€1,240
€66	-€940	€380	€1,360	€2,340
€88.9	€316	€1,754	€3,192	€4,630
€127	€1,840	€4,040	€6,240	€3,791

* Cider Apples Sale Price = €165 Per Tonne Delivered

* Standard fixed charge €2,331 (made up from cost of apple trees, poles, shelter trees, bins, machinery, storage and offices, all divided by 10 (Life of plantation) + €210 (Cereal S.F.C))

Notes:

Approximately 600 hectares of apples are grown in the 26 counties divided evenly between desert, culinary and cider apples, selected Irish apples were marketed successfully in 2005 under the logo "Celtic Orchards" to give Irish Apples an identity. There is potential for expansion in cider production for Bulmers Ltd. of Clonmel and present prices are attractive but adequate contracts are required.

Additional Information:

(1) Teagasc Factsheet No 38 - Apple Production - May 2006

(2) Teagasc Factsheet No 60 - Apple Growing for Cider Production - May 2006.

NURSERY STOCK SECTION

LINER PRODUCTION (12 month cycle) (2008)

	8 CM. Pots @ 70 cents	9 CM. Pots @ 80 cents	9 CM. Pots @ 1.20 cents	Equipment/Labour 1,000 plants
Gross output/1,000 plants 90% yield (sale of 900 plants)	€630	€720	€1,080	
Variable costs/1,000 plants	€	€	€	
Cutting @ 10 cents	100	100	100	Potting € 40
Pots €/1,000	25	28	28	Spraying 12
Compost including Wetting agent and Suscon Green	48	53	53	Trimming 15
Chemicals	30	30	30	Transport and Marketing 80
Labels & Packaging	48	54	54	
Material Costs (Total)	251	265	265	Total Labour Costs €147
Gross Margin/1,000 Plants	€379	€455	€815	

750,000 Plants per hectare

4, S.M.D. per 1,000 plants

Standard Fixed Charge €733/ha

NURSERY STOCK SECTION

GENERAL SHRUB PRODUCTION (Containerised) (2008)

	2 Litre Pots @ €2.50	2 Litre Pots @ €3.00	5 Litre Pots @ €5.40	Equipment/Labour (per 1000 Plants)
Gross output/1,000 plants (Assume sale of 900)	€2,250	€2,700	€4,860	Grading + Liner Preparation € 60
Material costs/1,000 plants	€	€	€	Potting Machine 45
Liners	800	800	800	Spraying 90
Potting Medium (suscon)				Handweeding 15
Green and Wetting Agent)	160	240	400	Training + Trimming 55
Pots	85	90	250	Spacing 25
Fungicides/Pesticides } Herbicides }	110	110	110	Caning + Tying 15
Water	25	25	30	Transport + Marketing 380
Labels (900)	100	100	100	(For 2 litre and 3 litre pots)
Material Costs (Total)	1,280	1,365	2,390	Transport and Marketing for 5 litre pots = €800
Margin over Material Costs	970	1,335	2,470	Total Labour Costs for:
Net Margin per 1,000 plants	€285	€650	€1,365	(A) 2 and 3 litre pots = €685 (B) 5 litre pots = €1,105

ESTABLISHMENT COSTS

(A) Potting Shed	= €50,000
(B) Capillary Bed/1,000 Plants at 28 Plants per M ²	= €892
(C) Gravel Roads/1,000 Plants	= €210

Notes: (A) Some shrubs will benefit if grown - on in polythene tunnels, not all shrubs require polythene tunnels
 (B) Not all shrubs need caning
 (C) Assume sale of 900 plants per 1000 grown
 (D) Labour is charged at €9.00/hour and €13.50/hour for Machine Operator/Driver.

NURSERIES - GROSS MARGINS

Container Shrubs

12 Month Cycle			
Price per plant	€2.50	€3.00	€3.75
G.M. /1,000 (Euros)	€970	€1,335	€2,470
S.M.D./1,000 plants	25.5	25.5	25.5

140,000 plants/ha
 Standard fixed charge €2,095/ha

Forest Trees & Hedging

3 Year Cycle		
Plant Production/ha	75,000	75,000 +
G.M./hectare (Euros)	€6,500	€7,880

Ornamental Trees Field Grown

4 Year Cycle			
Price per plant	€10.0	€12.00	€15.00
G.M. per hectare	€74,680	€95,480	€126,680
S.M.D./ha (Euros)	660	660	660

Standard Fixed Charges (S.F.C.) €1,587/ha

Note

(1) Teagasc Factsheet No. 5 on Hardy Nursery Stock (May 2006)

NURSERY STOCK SECTION

TREE PRODUCTION—OPEN GROUND (2008)

(4 year production cycle i.e. takes 4 years to reach saleable output from start up situation)

Planting density per hectare	13,000
Marketable output per hectare (80%)	10,400
Gross Output/ha. @ €12.00 per tree	€124,800

Material Costs

Pre-Planting Year

Herbicides	€ 90
F.Y.M.	330

420

YEAR 1

Fertiliser	275
Rootstocks	8,125
Herbicides	750
Pesticides	220
Fungicides	230
Buds	500
Tape	220

€10,320

YEAR 2

Fertiliser	€ 250
Herbicides	700
Pesticides	350
Fungicides	380
Canes	13,000
Ties	350

€15,030

YEAR 3

Fertiliser	€ 250
Herbicides	700
Pesticides	350
Fungicides	380
Ties	260

€1,940

YEAR 4

Fertiliser	€ 250
Herbicides	700
Pesticides	350
Fungicides	380
Ties	350

2,030

Total Material Costs

€29,740

MARGIN OVER MATERIAL COSTS PER HECTARE €95,060

Labour (All) & Equipment Costs

PRE-PLANTING YEAR

Ploughing and Rotovating	170	
Spraying (17.5 m.hrs.)	158	
Spreading FYM (10 m.hrs.)	90	418

YEAR 1

Fertiliser Spreading (7.5 m.hrs.)	68	
Planting Rootstocks (147 m.hrs.)	1,323	
Heading Back	360	
Spraying (150m.hrs.)	1,350	
Budding & Tying (132m.hrs.)	1,188	
Handweeding (42m.hrs.)	378	
Knife & Secateurs	250	
Sprayer	2,500	
4 Spades	300	7,717

YEAR 2

Head Back Rootstocks (50m.hrs.)	450	
Fertiliser Spreading (10m.hrs.)	90	
Spraying (212m.hrs.)	1,908	
Inserting Canes (75 m.hrs.)	675	
Tying-in (250 m.hrs.)	2,250	
Handweeding (42 m.hrs.)	378	
Taping Machine and Tapes	250	6,001

YEAR 3

Fertiliser Spreading 20 m.hrs.	180	
Spraying 425 m.hrs.	3,825	
Tying-in & Training 250 m.hrs.	2,250	
Undercutting (Tractor) 30 m.hrs.	270	
Handweeding 42 m.hrs.	378	6,903

YEAR 4

Fertiliser Spreading 20m.hrs.	180	
Spraying 425 m.hrs.	3,825	
Tying & Training 125 m.hrs.	1,250	
Lifting 550 m.hrs.	4,950	
Handweeding 42 m.hrs.	378	
Transport and Marketing	1,512	12,095
168 SMD		
32 SMD/1,000 Plants		

Total €33,134

Net Margin/Hectare

€61,926

Establishment Cost/Hectare

Supply and Plant Shelter Belt	€ 3,000
Fencing Materials & Erection	6,500

9,500

Note: Given the long period (4 years) before output is sold growers will need to take into account the cost of interest on borrowed money during the 4 year production period.

ORGANIC VEGETABLE AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION (2006/2007/2008)

Economics

- Current E.U. Schemes favour organic production - i.e. REPS. Currently there is a price premium of 15% to 25% for Organic Livestock but the market is not guaranteed. Crops e.g., cereals, carrots, and potatoes require a substantial premium. This is readily obtained for carrots and potatoes at present. Crops such as organic potatoes are best sold prepacked as they are generally purchased in small quantities.
- On drystock farms the bulk of profits are from direct payments - budgets are therefore reasonably accurate.
- Organic production should have good potential on dry stock farms from 2006 onwards provided that quality is good and marketing is effective. However, market development is needed
- Organic vegetables are not subject to the same price fluctuations as conventional vegetables, particularly in mid season.
- The price premium is often obtained by selling direct to the customer. This means that organic producers must put a greater effort into marketing.
- Polytunnels are essential both for plant propagation and out-of-season production. Crops such as herbs, early strawberries, beans, lettuce, etc., can be produced in polytunnels. Marketing is critical.
- A niche market exists for products such as organic milk, yogurt and cheese.
- For new entrants into Organic Production there is no guarantee of premium prices.
- REPS offers substantial extra payments during the transition period into Organic Production - See the REPS Section for more information.

Budgets

Three budgets for organically grown crops are included viz. maincrop potatoes, summer calabrese and maincrop carrots. The yields and prices assumed are regarded as good and prospective growers should ensure that they have identified markets for the produce, particularly calabrese. (Prices quoted at the lower end of the market).

Two budgets for livestock breeding systems are included viz., - production of single suckled weanlings and mid season lamb. Budgets are also presented for Organic Beef and for Milk Production.

With tillage and horticultural crops the net margin is largely dependent on yield and price and small changes to either can have a major effect on profits.

MAINCROP POTATOES - ORGANIC (2006/2007) - (2008 Update being prepared)

YIELD: 29 TONNES PER HECTARE LESS 15% REDUCTION FOR PREPACKS PRICE: €0.86 PER 51b. BAG (2.25 KG) - €355/TONNE		
GROSS OUTPUT - PREPACKED 25 tonnes @ €350	€	€
MATERIAL COSTS		8,750
Seed - 2.5 tonne	890	
F.Y.M. - 75 tonne	190	
Copper Sulphate	66	
Washing Soda	49	
Bags and ties	255	
Total		1,450
MARGIN OVER MATERIAL COSTS		€7,300
LABOUR AND MACHINERY		
Spreading F.Y.M.	153	
Field Preparation, incl destoning	477	
Sowing	85	
Steerage Hoe x 2	58	
Spraying	255	
Haulm Destruction	40	
Harvesting	230	
Storage at €25 per tonne	650	
Packing and grading	650	
Transport and marketing	650	
Total		3,248
*NET MARGIN PER HECTARE		€4,052
(*After all hired and family labour costs of about €770 are deducted)		
Sensitivity: +- 10c/kg; Effect on Net Margin +- €2,500		

SUMMER CALABRESE - ORGANIC (2006/2007) - (2008 Update being prepared)

YIELD: 3.75 TONNES/HECTARE (1,827 X 2KG CHIPS); PRICE: €4.45/2KG CHIP		
GROSS OUTPUT 3.75 t	€	€
MATERIAL COSTS		8,344
Seed	252	
Compost	45	
Trays	130	
Boxes	750	
B.T. (Spray)	58	
Total		1,235
MARGIN OVER MATERIAL COSTS		€7,109
LABOUR AND MACHINERY COSTS	€	€
Field Preparation	114	
Planting	320	
Spraying	45	
Steerage Hoe x 2	57	
Harvesting & Packing	1,200	
Transport/Marketing	320	
Plant Raising	190	
Total		2,246
*NET MARGIN/HEC TARE		€4,863

(*After all hired and family labour costs of about €1,590 are deducted)

Sensitivity: Price +- 50c/chip; Effect on Net Margin +- €913/hectare.

MAINCROP CARROTS - ORGANIC (2006/2007) - (2008 Update being prepared)

Organic carrots would be best sown in late May - early June to lessen risk of carrot fly.

YIELD/HECTARE: 36 TONNE; PRICE: 56c/kg. €560 PER TONNE		
GROSS OUTPUT 36 tonne	€	€
MATERIAL COSTS		20,160
Seed	765	
Bags	320	
Fly Netting	2,450	
Seaweed dust	610	
		4,145
MARGIN OVER MATERIAL COSTS		€16,015
LABOUR AND MACHINERY COSTS		
Field Preparation	205	
Sowing	50	
Hand Weeding	510	
Steerage Hoe x 4	165	
•• Harvesting - €26/t (mechanical)	936	
Washing/Packing/Grading	2,550	
Transport & Marketing	650	
Flame Weeding	155	
Straw and laying	1,525	
		6,746
*NET MARGIN/HECTARE		€9,269

(*After all hired and family labour costs of about €3,200 are deducted). Sensitivity: Price +- 5c/kg; Effect on Margin/hectare +- €1,800.

•• - Harvesting by hand costs €102/tonne

THE ORGANIC FARMING SCHEME (2008)

Objective of the Organic Farming Scheme

The objective of this Scheme is to deliver enhanced environmental and animal welfare benefits and to encourage producers to respond to the market demand for organically produced food.

Eligibility

- ◆ Participants in this Scheme must be engaged in the production of crops or animals intended for food or feed and may be required to demonstrate that these products are marketed as organic.
Participants who wish to avail of the Scheme must:
 - ◆ Register with and be approved as an organic operator by one of the Organic Certification Bodies (OCBs). The participant must hold a licence for the full duration of their Scheme contract.
 - ◆ Register with the Organic Unit of the Department of Agriculture and Food.
- ◆ Where livestock production is undertaken, payment shall be computed based on a minimum stocking level of 0.5 livestock units per hectare of the forage area.
- ◆ Participants must be aged eighteen years or over on date of application.
- ◆ Only areas declared on Single Payment Scheme (SPS) application forms(s) will be considered for payment. For areas obtained after the relevant closing date for receipt of SPS applications, a copy of the relevant SPS amendment form must be submitted with the application for the Organic Farming Scheme.
- ◆ Participants are also required to comply with the Single Payment Scheme statutory management requirements (SMR) and the good agricultural and environmental condition (GAEC) requirements on all of the holding.
- ◆ Participants must include their Personal Public Service Number (PPSN) on the application form.

Payments rates are as follows:

- ◆ **Horticulture Only Holdings**
 - ◆ Organic horticulture only producers, with one hectare or more, are eligible for the following payments provided that at least 50% of the area eligible for organic payment is cropped¹ each year:

	Horticulture Area ≤ 6 hectares (ha)	Horticulture Area > 6ha and up to 55ha	Horticulture Area > 55 ha
In conversion	€283/ha	€212/ha	€30/ha
Full organic status	€142/ha	€106/ha	€15/ha

When calculating the % of the area cropped, any area under green manures cannot be included in the calculation

◆ **All Other Holdings**

Applicants with 3 hectares or more of utilisable agricultural area are eligible for the following payments:

	Farmed Area of ≥ 3ha up to 55ha	Farmed Area > 55ha
In conversion	€212/ha	€30/ha
Full organic status	€106/ha	€15/ha

◆ **Additional Option**

Stockless non-REPS farmers applying green cover during the conversion period may qualify for an additional payment of €240/ha per year up to a maximum of 40 ha.

◆ **Livestock Production Payments**

Payment will be computed on the basis of a minimum stocking level of 0.5LU per hectare of the forage area qualifying for payment. Farmers not reaching this level will receive payment on a pro rata basis to their level of production.
(See Annex 2)

◆ **Crop Production Payments**

In the case of stockless organic crop producers, at least 50% of the eligible area for organic payment must be cropped each year.

For farmers engaged in both arable crop and livestock production, payment for arable crop production will be based on the actual area cropped by the farmer.

GRANT AID FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ORGANIC SECTOR

There are now two grant schemes available for to help the development of the organic sector.

The On Farm Scheme of Grant Aid for the Development of the Organic Sector

The Off Farm Scheme of Grant Aid for the Development of the Organic Sector.

The Schemes aim to promote the development of the organic sector. These schemes provide 40% funding for on-farm and off farm facilities and equipment for production, grading and storage of organic products. The scheme also funds the modification of existing livestock housing on the farm. For further information contact your local Teagasc Adviser.

Organic Winter Wheat (Feed) (2008)

Description	Production Levels				
Yield - tonnes/hectare (t/ac)	4.5(1.8)	5(2)	5.5(2.2)	6(2.4)	6.5(2.6)
Output at €350 per tonne net,(excl straw)	1575	1750	1925	2100	2275
Material Inputs €					
Seed (187kg @ €1000/tonne)	187	187	187	187	187
Lime	20	20	20	20	20
Machinery hire					
Plough, Till and Sow	150	150	150	150	150
In crop cultivation	88	88	88	88	88
Harvesting	125	125	125	125	125
Transport (€5 per tonne)	22.5	25	27.5	30	32.5
Organic Scheme payment up to 55 ha *	106	106	106	106	106
Gross Margin per ha (excl SFP)	1088.5	1261	1433.5	1606	1778.5

Note: All figures exclude VAT

For all crops it is assumed that all work is carried out by a contractor

From 2005, the Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment

*The Organic Scheme Payment is a supplement to support Organic production, for payment rates

Straw is worth an additional €75 per ha, but ideally should be ploughed in or recycled as farmyard manure in a mixed farming system

Sensitivity analysis - Effect on gross margin € per Hectare

Selling price + or - €50 per ton	225	250	275	300	325
Seed costs + or - €100 per ton	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7

Spring Wheat / Winter & Spring Triticale (organic) (2008)

Description	Production Levels				
Yield - tonnes/hectare (t/ac)	3(1.2)	4(1.6)	5(2)	5.5(2.2)	6(2.4)
Output at €350 per tonne net,(excl straw)	1050	1400	1750	1925	2100
Material Inputs €					
Seed (187kg @ €1000/tonne)	187	187	187	187	187
Lime	20	20	20	20	20
Machinery hire					
Plough, Till and Sow	150	150	150	150	150
In crop cultivation	88	88	88	88	88
Harvesting	125	125	125	125	125
Transport (€5 per tonne)	15	20	25	27.5	30
Organic Scheme payment up to 55 ha *	106	106	106	106	106
Gross Margin per ha (excl SFP)	571	916	1261	1433.5	1606

Note: All figures exclude VAT For all crops it is assumed that all work is carried out by a contractor

From 2005, the Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment

*The Organic Scheme Payment is a supplement to support Organic production, for payment rates

Straw is worth an additional ?65 per ha, but ideally should be ploughed in or recycled as farmyard manure in a mixed farming system

Sensitivity analysis - Effect on gross margin € per Hectare

Selling price + or - €50 per ton	150	200	250	275	300
Seed costs + or - €100 per ton	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7

Spring & Winter Oats (organic) (2008)

Description	Production Levels				
Yield - tonnes/hectare (t/ac)	3(1.2)	4(1.6)	5(2)	5.5(2.2)	6(2.4)
Output at €350 per tonne net,(excl straw)	1050	1400	1750	1925	2100
Material Inputs €					
Seed (187kg @ €1000/tonne)	187	187	187	187	187
Lime	20	20	20	20	20
Machinery hire					
Plough, Till and Sow	150	150	150	150	150
In crop cultivation	88	88	88	88	88
Harvesting	125	125	125	125	125
Transport (€5 per tonne)	15	20	25	27.5	30
Organic Scheme payment up to 55 ha *	106	106	106	106	106
Gross Margin per ha (excl SFP)	571	916	1261	1433.5	1606

Notes: All figures exclude VAT

For all crops it is assumed that all work is carried out by a contractor

From 2005, the Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment

*The Organic Scheme Payment is a supplement to support Organic production, for payment rates

Straw is worth an additional €80 per ha, but ideally should be ploughed in or recycled as farmyard manure in a mixed farming system

Sensitivity analysis - Effect on gross margin € per Hectare

Selling price + or - €50 per ton	150	200	250	275	300
Seed costs + or - €100 per ton	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7

RED CLOVER FERTILITY BUILD-UP (2008)

Description	Year 1	Year 2
Material Inputs €		
Seed (32kg /ha)	200	0
Lime	20	20
Machinery hire		
Plough, Till and Sow	150	
Mulching	172	172
Organic Scheme payment up to 55 ha *	106	106
Gross Margin per ha (excl SFP)	-436	-86

Notes: All figures exclude VAT For all crops it is assumed that all work is carried out by a contractor

From 2005, the Area Aid is decoupled from production and is part of the Single Farm Payment

*The Organic Scheme Payment is a supplement to support Organic production, for payment rates

Straw is worth an additional €80 per ha, but ideally should be ploughed in or recycled as farmyard manure in a mixed farming system

A Green manure payment is available for new entrants to organic tillage to partially convert a holding who are not in REPS

Crops, Yields and Rotations (2008)

Farmer experience has found considerable variation in how easy different crops are to grow organically in Ireland. This has primarily been due to difficulties with weed management, which the advent of computer-guided hoes may well significantly improve. However, crops that are poor weed competitors, such as spring barley and many legume crops, e.g., peas and lupins, are avoided by experienced farmers unless fields are particularly weed free. Crops that are good weed competitors, e.g., triticale, winter wheat and winter oats, can be kept as weed free as non organic crops.

Yields of organic arable crops, particularly cereals are generally lower than non-organic production, primarily due to using legumes to supply N rather than synthetic N fertilisers. However, as for non-organic agriculture, yields are quite variable, both from year to year and farm to farm. At present there is only limited data on organic cereal yields. Generally yields are 50% of conventional crops but it depends on crop, position in rotation, land type etc. Predicting yields in Organic crops is an area that should be discussed with a specialist Teagasc organic adviser due to all the different variables that can impact on yield of an organic crop.

Organic farming is a system of farming that must be sustainable. In order to maintain yields, nutrients need to be put back into the soil. This is achieved by a Grass/Red Cover break for two years.

It should then be possible to grow four or five cereal crops successfully. It is important to factor in this fertility building phase in designing a rotation and when looking at financial returns.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION - ORGANIC (2006/2007) - (2008 Update being prepared)
Single Suckling - Selling Weanlings

(a) Single Suckling selling weanlings from March/April Born calves Stocking Rate Calving Rate Silage/Cow Units N/ha	1.0 ha/unit (2.47ac/LU) 91% 6.2 tonnes 0
Output Weanlings-Steer weight Price/100 kgs Heifer weight Price/100 kg	280 kg €180 255 kg €150
Sales/cow <i>Less</i> Mortality Cow Replacement	€403 -€ 18 -€ 95
Gross Output/Suckling Unit	€290
Variable Costs Winter Forage Grazing Vet, Dosing, AI Meal Straw Transport and Marketing	€ 60 15 26 30 20 16
Total Variable Costs/Suckling Unit	€167
Gross Margin (excl. Premia) per cow	€123
REPS Payments per cow (including Organic Supplementary)	€246
Margin/Cow (Excluding Single Payment)	€369 (€149/acre)
The Single Farm Payment entitlement could add per cow (approx)	€290

A higher stocking rate, ie 1.4 L.U. per hectare can be achieved on good land.
REPS payments account for 67% of the margin. Weanings must be of good quality and free of parasites to obtain a good price.

The Single Farm Payment is now paid seperately and is decoupled from production.

Single Suckling - Selling Progeny as Organic Beef (2006/2007) - (2008 Update being prepared)

Level of Performance	Moderate	Good
Stocking Rate (Adj. Hectares per unit)	1.8 ha/unit	1.30 ha/unit
L.U.'s per hectare	1.0	(1.4)
Silage per Unit (tonnes)	13.2t	13.7t
Output		
Steers at 2 yrs (kg)	545kg	615kg
Price per 100kg	€170	€170
Heifer at 21 months (kg)	440	480
Price per 100kg	€160	€160
Sales per Cow -(92% Calves alive)	€750	€834
Less - Mortality	(€15)	(€13)
- Cow Replacement	(€95)	(€95)
Gross Output per Suckling Unit	€640	€726
Variable Costs €	€	
Winter Fodder	130	135
Grazing	30	26
Meal - Cow	11	11
- Weanling	64	53
- Fattening	120	125
Vet, Healthcare, Bull/A.I.	40	40
Transport, etc	22	24
Straw	60	75
Total variable Costs	€477	€489
Gross Margin/Cow (Excl. Premium/Entitlements)	€163	€237
Gross Margin/hectare (Excl. Premium/Entitlements)	€91	€182
REPS + Organic Premium/Hectare	€246	€246
Margin per hectare (including REPS Payment)	€337	€428

Note: The Single Farm Payment per hectare is extra. This payment is now decoupled from production.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION - ORGANIC (Continued) - (2008 Update being prepared)
MID - SEASON LAMB (2006/2007)

(b) Mid Season Lamb - Organic Production	€
Stocking Rate - ewes/acre	3 (7.4/ha)
No. sold/ewe to ram	1.1
Lamb sales price	€3.96/kg d.w.
Value - Lamb sales/ewe	€78.00
Wool + Cull Ewes less Ram Replacement	€6
Gross Output per ewe	€91.00
Variable Costs	€
Meals	20.00
Forage and pasture	9.00
Veterinary/Miscellaneous	6.00
Total Variable Costs	€35.00
Gross Margin/ewe (excl. premia/Entitlements)	€49.00
Total Margin/ha (7.4 ewes/ha at €49/ewe)	€363.00
REPS payments per hectare	€246/ha.
Margin per hectare (including REPS)	€609.00/ha
Margin per ewe (including REPS)	€82/ewe

Note: The Single Farm Payment per ewe of €21.10 to €27.10 is now decoupled from production and paid separately.

RETURNS FROM ORGANIC DAIRYING (2006/2007)

- (2008 Update being prepared)

(SPRING MANUFACTURING)

1,000 gallons (4,546 litres) per cow

	ORGANIC
<u>Gross Output</u>	€
Milk €1.36/gl (29.9 cents/litre)	1,360
Calf €130 @ .9	117
Replacement Cost	(150)
<u>Total Output</u>	1,327
S. Rate L.U./Hectare	1.5
Silage over 6 months	7.5t
<u>Variable Costs</u>	€
Meal 650kg at €300	195
Lime @ €18/ton	9
P.K. (Silage + Grazing)	22
Nitrogen	-
Cut Silage @ €220/ha	84
Polythene	8
Vet., AI, Miscell.	80
Reseeding	35
Straw	40
Total Variable Costs	€473

Gross margin / cow (excl. REPS/Organic supplement) €854

Gross margin / hectare €1,281

REPS plus Organic Supplement will add €266/hectare (€177/cow)

The milk single payment (Entitlement) will add approx. €160 per cow from 2006.

Extra price (over conventional) required for organic milk incl. REPS and Organic Supplement), to equate with efficient conventional production on a gross margin per hectare basis is about 11c/litre (+47%)

The demand for organic milk is year round and therefore those considering organic milk production should be prepared to calve a substantial proportion of their herd in the Autumn.

(In the absence of on farm recording, the above figures are tentative. A tillage enterprise reduces costs and adds flexibility to the system. Products such as organic cheese or yogurt increase profitability through added value.

ORGANIC FARMING IN IRELAND

Organic farming can be a profitable alternative to conventional farming. In Ireland the organic sector is growing steadily but remains relatively underdeveloped with less than 1% of the total farming area now farmed organically. At the end of 2005 there were 1090 organic operators registered with the Department of Agriculture and Food and the area farmed organically was approximately 35,000 hectare. This is a 15% increase in land area over 2004.

In the Bord Bia Channel Study carried out in 2005, the total Irish Organic Market is estimated to be worth about €66 million per year and growing. However, approximately 70% of the organic food sold on the Irish market is imported. Therefore, there is considerable scope for Irish organic producers to expand their market share in the future. There are generous supports for organic farmers through a special supplementary measure of the Rural Environment Protection Scheme. (REPS) and also the 40% Investment Grants for both on-farm and off-farm investment (see section on grants).

WHAT IS ORGANIC FARMING?

Organic farming is a system of farming which avoids the use of soluble fertilisers, pesticides, growth regulators, feed additives and other chemicals. The organic farmer relies on the use of crop rotations, animal manure, clover, low stocking rates and good animal husbandry. The natural immunity of plants and animals is used to combat disease whenever possible.

The rules of organic farming are set out in the standards for Organic Food and Farming in Ireland. These standards have been agreed between the Department of Agriculture and Food and the Organic Certifying Bodies.

A two-year conversion period is required before a farm is given organic status. Organic farming complies with the highest environmental standards and for this reason organic farmers are paid additional money in REPS.

REPS 3 and ORGANIC FARMING

This scheme provides basic payments to all farmers entering it as well as a substantial top-up for organic producers. The basic payments in REPS 3 are:

- First 20 ha €200/ha
- 20 - 40 ha €175/ha
- 40 - 55 ha €70/ha
- > 55 ha €10/ha

Total Payments on Organic Farms in REPS (Euros)

Area	Basic Payment	Max Payment In Conversion	Max Payment Full Organic
20 ha	4,000	7,620	5,820
40 ha	7,500	14,740	11,140
55 ha	8,550	18,505	13,555

Organic Production from Grassland

Ireland is well suited to producing organic meat and milk from grass/clover swards. The important issues when considering conversion to organic drystock or dairying are:

- CLOVER -** No chemical nitrogen can be used, so clover is the main source of nitrogen (manure/slurry and soil microbes will also supply nitrogen). Clover establishment is a priority when converting to organic.
- HOUSING -** At least 50% of the floor area must be bedded and space requirement per animal is much larger than for slatted sheds e.g. a suckler cow will need about six square metres.
- ANIMAL HEALTH -** A well-designed disease control plan that doesn't rely on pharmaceuticals must be put in place. Prevention rather than cure is the key. Of course animals must not be allowed to suffer and sick animals must be treated.
- MARKETING -** Before converting, farmers must satisfy themselves that they have a market for their produce.

SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE	Organic farming demands a high level of management. Farmers considering conversion should visit existing farms and attend courses/meetings as well as getting expert advice from Teagasc.
HORTICULTURE	70% of organic vegetables consumed in this country are imported so there is a major opportunity for Irish growers to convert to organic production. Organic vegetable production requires a high level of skill, as 'quick-fix' chemical solutions are not an option. The organic grower relies on rotations, farmyard manure, mechanical weed control, stale seedbeds, plant propagation and transplanting, biological pest control and a whole range of other techniques. Good management and marketing are critical.

There are two types of producer:

- Small-scale intensive producers selling to local markets, restaurants and box deliveries.
- Field scale producers supplying supermarkets and other retail outlets.

Grant aid of 40% is available for specialised equipment.

TILLAGE	A tillage break is a major bonus as it provides grain and straw and allows grassland renewal. Tillage presents a big challenge on organic farms. The high rainfall causes problems with nitrate leaching, soil cultivation and weeds. Organic cereals generally yield about half as well as conventional crops but a price premium of 100% is sometimes achieved. The reduction in the allowance of conventional feed creates a greater need for organic cereals.
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ORGANIC POULTRY	<p>There is a market for organic eggs and poultry meat but there are considerable challenges in producing these products.</p> <p>Poultry feed must have a minimum 65% cereals or cereals by-products and like feed for all organic stock must be GM-free and contain no artificial amino acids. The quantity of non-organic feed allowed has been reduced from 20% to 10%. This will result in rations being more expensive.</p> <p>Conventional strains of poultry don't suit organic production. Special suitable strains should be used.</p>
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SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON ORGANIC FARMING

- (1) Guidelines for Organic Farming - Teagasc Booklet - Updated September 2006.
- (2) Your guide to Organic Food and Farming - Leaflet from Department of Agriculture and Food 2005
- (3) Organic Cattle and Sheep Production - Fact Sheet No. 32, June 2006, from Teagasc.
- (4) Organic Poultry - Fact Sheet No. 56 - May 2006, from Teagasc.
- (5) The Department of Agriculture and Food, Organic Unit, Johnstown Castle Estate, Wexford.
LoCall 1890 200 509 or 053 43965.
Email: organics@agriculture.gov.ie (See The Organics Section)
Web: www.agriculture.gov.ie
- (6) Information on suppliers of Organic Food available from Department of Agriculture and Food and also from An Bord Bia (www.bordbia.ie)
- (7) The Organic and Green Guide to Ireland (2005-2006) Details from www.organicgreenguide.com
- (8) The various organic bodies:
 - (A) Irish Organic Farmers and Growers Association Limited (IOFGA) (043 42495)
 - (B) Organic Trust Ltd. (01 8530271)
 - (C) Demeter Standards Ltd.
- (9) Organic production - Teagasc advisory newsletters - 2008.

SECTION V

GROSS MARGIN AND OVERHEAD COSTS DATA – 2006

Gross margin and some other relevant data, based on actual farm results for the main farming enterprises from the National Farm Survey (NFS) 2006 are outlined on the following pages. The data refer to soils with a wide use range (Soil Group 1) except where otherwise stated.

The variation in returns within each enterprise can be seen from the different levels of performance presented of the farms in the NFS sample of farms. The basis for ranking excludes REPS payments, disadvantaged area compensatory allowances and Single Farm payments.

The information published here is an extract from the complete comparative analysis of all the systems and sizes represented in the National Farm Survey.

CREAMERY MILK - 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Average Number of Cows	42	57	65	55
Milk Yield per Cow (lit)	4455	5272	5901	5225
Milk price (c/litre)	26	27	27	27
€ PER COW				
Gross Output:				
Milk	1147	1368	1586	1367
Calves	139	155	162	153
Depr Etc.	-134	-108	-85	-109
Gross output	1151	1415	1662	1411
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	188	180	209	189
Pasture	73	73	74	73
Winter Forage	98	103	98	101
Other costs	162	170	178	170
Total variable costs	521	526	558	533
Gross margin per cow	630	889	1105	878
Gross margin per hectare	960	1695	2498	1712
Cows/forage ha.	1.6	1.9	2.3	1.9
Cows/feed ha.	1.2	1.4	1.5	1.4
N.on Grassland - Kg/Ha	141	191	228	188

Source: National Farm Survey - 2006

LIQUID MILK - ALL SOIL TYPES 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Average Number of Cows	94	92	80	89
Milk Yield per Cow (lit)	5585	6199	6667	6196
Milk price (c/litre)	30	30	30	30
€ PER COW				
Gross Output:				
Milk	1637	1796	1947	1804
Calves	148	138	178	152
Depr Etc.	-161	-153	-92	-137
Gross output	1624	1781	2034	1820
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	251	284	255	268
Pasture	70	67	60	66
Winter Forage	136	169	169	161
Other costs	165	218	233	210
Total variable costs	622	739	717	705
Gross margin per cow	1002	1042	1317	1115
Gross margin per hectare	1504	1926	3015	2155
Cows/forage ha.	1.5	1.9	2.3	1.9
Cows/feed ha.	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.2
N.on Grassland - Kg/Ha	143	186	228	189

SINGLE SUCKLING - CALVES TO WEANLINGS 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of Livestock Units	32	34	45	36
Average Number of Cows	23	25	31	26
€ PER LU				
Gross Output:				
Sales	411	525	597	515
Purchases	-71	-119	-162	-118
Inventory Etc	16	36	68	39
Gross output	356	442	503	436
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	41	45	62	48
Pasture	48	34	39	39
Winter Forage	107	89	82	92
Other costs	51	58	57	56
Total variable costs	248	226	240	234
Gross margin per livestock unit	108	216	263	202
Gross margin per hectare	117	270	489	286
N.on Grassland - Kg/Ha	71	62	99	73
Lus/forage ha	1.0	1.4	1.9	1.4
Lus/feed ha	1.0	1.2	1.7	1.3

Source: National Farm Survey - 2006

SINGLE SUCKLING - CALVES TO STORES 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of Livestock Units	29	42	57	42
Average Number of Cows	17	22	32	23
€ PER LU				
Gross Output:				
Sales	343	476	476	444
Purchases	-101	-83	-35	-76
Inventory Etc	87	4	-10	21
Gross output	329	397	431	389
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	88	45	58	59
Pasture	41	43	28	39
Winter Forage	125	86	61	89
Other costs	71	47	50	54
Total variable costs	325	221	197	240
Gross margin per livestock unit	4	176	234	149
Gross margin per hectare	8	225	455	228
N.on Grassland - Kg/Ha	76	85	77	81
Lus/forage ha	1.4	1.4	2.0	1.6
Lus/feed ha	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.4

SINGLE SUCKLING - CALVES TO FINISH 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of Livestock Units	49	57	91	64
Average Number of Cows	20	26	43	29
€ PER LU				
Gross Output:				
Sales	418	476	491	465
Purchases	-54	-93	-97	-84
Inventory Etc	-54	40	64	22
Gross output	309	423	458	403
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	76	76	47	69
Pasture	43	37	38	39
Winter Forage	71	82	62	74
Other costs	41	45	36	42
Total variable costs	230	240	183	224
Gross margin per livestock unit	79	183	274	180
Gross margin per hectare	101	254	486	274
N.on Grassland - Kg/Ha	57	68	104	75
Lus/forage ha	1.4	1.4	1.9	1.5
Lus/feed ha	1.2	1.2	1.7	1.3

Source: National Farm Survey - 2006

DOUBLE AND MULTIPLE SUCKLING 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of Livestock Units	59	44	71	58
Average Number of Cows	16	16	19	17
€ PER LU				
Gross Output:				
Sales	361	537	639	512
Purchases	-83	-119	-149	-117
Inventory Etc	37	-2	21	19
Gross output	315	416	511	414
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	58	65	76	66
Pasture	35	50	32	39
Winter Forage	83	93	81	86
Other costs	43	40	52	45
Total variable costs	218	249	241	236
Gross margin per livestock unit	97	167	270	178
Gross margin per hectare	153	251	470	291
N.on Grassland - Kg/Ha	48	92	97	79
Lus/forage ha	1.7	1.5	1.7	1.7
Lus/feed ha	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.4

WEANLINGS AND/OR STORES TO FINISH 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of Livestock Units	25	48	62	46
€ PER LU				
Gross Output:				
Sales	1063	1189	1341	1195
Purchases	-898	-727	-597	-737
Inventory Etc	95	-37	-169	-37
Gross output	260	425	575	421
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	103	93	104	98
Pasture	54	48	32	46
Winter Forage	69	82	80	78
Other costs	43	35	33	37
Total variable costs	269	258	249	259
Gross margin per livestock unit	-10	168	326	163
Gross margin per hectare	-24	217	553	241
N.on Grassland - Kg/Ha	53	84	94	79
Lus/forage ha	1.2	1.5	1.8	1.5
Lus/feed ha	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.2

Source : National Farm Survey – 2006

SHEEP - EARLY FAT LAMB 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of ewes let to ram	50	104	61	72
Weaning (%)	106	135	151	130
Ewes per ha	6.5	9.8	9.2	8.5
€ per ewe let to ram				
Gross Output:				
Sales	97	121	140	119
Purchases	-11	-5	-26	-14
Inventory etc.	-18	-12	8	-7
Wool	2	2	2	2
Gross output	70	107	125	101
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	16	37	18	24
Winter forage	2	4	3	3
Pasture	12	10	10	11
Other costs	7	9	13	10
Total variable costs	38	61	44	47
Gross margin	32	46	81	53
Gross margin per hectare	215	480	754	483
N.on Grassland Kg/Ha	79	84	114	93

SHEEP - MID SEASON FAT LAMB 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of ewes let to ram	133	109	174	131
Weaning (%)	115	131	143	130
Ewes per ha	7.7	8	11.4	8.7
€ per ewe let to ram				
Gross Output:				
Sales	107	113	127	115
Purchases	-24	-12	-10	-14
Inventory etc.	-23	-15	-16	-17
Wool	2	2	2	2
Gross output	62	88	103	85
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	21	14	12	15
Winter forage	3	4	2	3
Pasture	10	8	8	8
Other costs	11	10	8	10
Total variable costs	46	35	30	37
Gross margin	16	53	73	49
Gross margin per hectare	114	454	919	480
N.on Grassland Kg/Ha	88	81	117	91

Source: National Farm Survey - 2006

SHEEP - OTHER LOWLAND PRODUCTION SYSTEMS 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of ewes let to ram	179	181	168	177
Weaning (%)	101	123	136	121
Ewes per ha	6.4	7	10.5	7.7
€ per ewe let to ram				
Gross Output:				
Sales	93	115	134	114
Purchases	-10	-30	-22	-23
Inventory etc.	-28	-2	-5	-9
Wool	2	2	2	2
Gross output	58	85	108	84
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	26	17	21	20
Winter forage	3	5	3	4
Pasture	10	10	8	9
Other costs	16	12	11	12
Total variable costs	56	43	43	46
Gross margin	2	42	65	38
Gross margin per hectare	5	304	733	335
N.on Grassland Kg/Ha	68	76	104	81

HILL SHEEP - BASED ON SCOTTISH BLACKFACE - ALL SOIL TYPES 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of ewes let to ram	122	219	197	189
Weaning (%)	88	81	105	89
€ per ewe let to ram				
Gross Output:				
Sales	29	27	43	32
Purchases	0	-2	-4	-2
Inventory etc.	-8	-3	4	-2
Wool	1	1	1	1
Gross output	21	23	44	28
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	13	10	8	10
Winter forage	1	2	2	2
Pasture	10	4	2	5
Other costs	11	7	8	8
Total variable costs	35	23	20	25
Gross margin	-14	0	25	3

Source: National Farm Survey - 2006

HILL SHEEP - BASED ON CHEVIOT - ALL SOIL TYPES2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Number of ewes let to ram	176	258	191	211
Weaning (%)	79	96	125	100
€ per ewe let to ram				
Gross Output:				
Sales	52	47	88	61
Purchases	-2	-2	-4	-3
Inventory etc.	-26	-4	-15	-14
Wool	2	1	2	2
Gross output	27	43	71	47
Variable Costs:				
Concentrates	14	11	16	13
Winter forage	3	3	2	3
Pasture	6	7	7	7
Other costs	14	8	10	11
Total variable costs	38	29	34	33
Gross margin	-11	14	37	13

WINTER WHEAT - 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Average Area (ha)	35.9	25.1	31.2	29.3
Yield/ha (tonnes)	8.1	9.6	10.8	9.5
€ PER HECTARE				
Gross Output	974	1253	1573	1263
VARIABLE COSTS:				
Fertiliser	207	186	181	190
Seeds	73	68	64	68
Crop Protection	199	183	206	193
Hired Machinery	152	132	65	120
Other Costs	4	8	12	8
Total variable costs	635	578	529	580
Gross Margin	339	676	1043	684
Price per Tonne	120	135	146	134

Source: National Farm Survey - 2006

SPRING WHEAT - 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Average Area (ha)	6.5	10.9	10.6	9.7
Yield/ha (tonnes)	6.6	7.4	9	7.6
€ PER HECTARE				
Gross Output	750	991	1248	995
VARIABLE COSTS:				
Fertiliser	172	171	150	166
Seeds	80	79	83	80
Crop Protection	157	163	147	158
Hired Machinery	177	158	72	141
Other Costs	19	2	11	8
Total variable costs	605	572	463	553
Gross Margin	144	419	786	442
Price per Tonne	115	136	139	131

WINTER BARLEY - 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Average Area (ha)	16.3	12.1	18.6	15.6
Yield/ha (tonnes)	6.7	8.4	9.5	8.2
€ PER HECTARE				
Gross Output	833	1055	1341	1077
VARIABLE COSTS:				
Fertiliser	192	194	184	190
Seeds	69	62	62	64
Crop Protection	172	179	208	186
Hired Machinery	103	38	19	53
Other Costs	3	3	4	3
Total variable costs	540	477	477	498
Gross Margin	293	578	865	579
Price per Tonne	124	126	142	131

SPRING BARLEY - 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Average Area (ha)	12.2	14	18	14.6
Yield/ha (tonnes)	4.6	6.3	7.5	6.2
€ PER HECTARE				
Gross Output	524	761	991	759
VARIABLE COSTS:				
Fertiliser	142	148	147	146
Seeds	68	73	69	71
Crop Protection	119	119	138	124
Hired Machinery	146	147	103	135
Other Costs	10	8	8	9
Total variable costs	485	495	464	484
Gross Margin	39	266	527	275
Price per Tonne	117	122	132	123

Source: National Farm Survey - 2006

MALTING BARLEY - 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Average Area (ha)	10.6	14.8	16.9	14.3
Yield/ha (tonnes)	5.2	6.3	6.8	6.2
€ PER HECTARE				
Gross Output	678	831	923	817
VARIABLE COSTS:				
Fertiliser	143	144	132	141
Seeds	73	67	61	67
Crop Protection	139	145	137	142
Hired Machinery	123	143	161	142
Other Costs	2	8	5	6
Total variable costs	480	506	495	498
Gross Margin	198	325	428	319
Price per Tonne	130	132	136	132

SPRING OATS - 2006

	BOTTOM 25%	MIDDLE 50%	TOP 25%	ALL
Average Area (ha)	4.9	7.5	8.5	7.2
Yield/ha (tonnes)	4.8	6.2	7.1	6.1
€ PER HECTARE				
Gross Output	571	806	1029	803
VARIABLE COSTS:				
Fertiliser	157	123	105	127
Seeds	59	78	76	73
Crop Protection	175	121	115	132
Hired Machinery	35	165	66	113
Other Costs	2	5	0	4
Total variable costs	429	492	362	449
Gross Margin	142	314	667	355
Price per Tonne	119	135	148	135

Source: National Farm Survey - 2006

OVERHEAD COSTS DATA - 2005

The following tables show the overhead costs per farm for the different farming sizes and farming systems in 2006. The data is from the 2006 National Farm Survey (NFS) and the systems shown are those shown in the main NFS report.

By showing the components of the NFS overheads, the user is in a position to select the components considered most appropriate if he/she considers that the full list is not suitable for the use intended.

MAINLY DAIRYING - 2006 - SOIL GROUPS 1 AND 2

(Best to Medium Soil Groups)

Size of farm (unadj.ha.)	< 20	< 30	< 50	< 100	=>100	All Sizes
Land farmed adj.(ha)	15	23	37	59	109	44
Land farmed unadj.(ha)	16	24	40	65	123	48
OVERHEAD COSTS (€)						
Rent of conacre	105	376	1540	4199	6744	2396
Car,electricity,phone	2094	3122	3722	4473	6491	3885
Current hired labour	59	89	1308	4304	16970	2709
Interest charges	539	608	1762	3141	7313	2203
Machinery operating	1330	3019	5162	8078	18062	6093
Buildings maintenance	252	781	1422	1661	2059	1348
Land impr. maintenance	538	716	1335	1555	2241	1296
Other	1145	1873	3270	4598	8638	3582
Total O/H costs (excl.depr.)	6061	10584	19521	32010	68519	23511
Depr.(repl.) machinery	910	1747	3641	5793	13653	4308
Depr.(repl.) buildings	2371	2965	4919	7383	13221	5631
Depr.(repl.) land impr.	313	281	562	1055	2750	762
Depr.(repl.) total	3594	4993	9123	14231	29624	10700
Total O/H costs (incl.depr.)	9655	15577	28644	46241	98143	34211
ASSETS (€)						
Machinery (repl.)	7443	14381	30609	48464	110174	35887
Buildings (repl.)	26591	28876	48775	72259	140885	56043
Labour units - unpaid	1.13	1.36	1.33	1.42	1.78	1.37
Livestock units dairying	21	29	46	65	121	51
Livestock units drystock	9	13	27	47	92	33

Source : National Farm Survey - 2006

DAIRYING + OTHER - 2006 - SOIL GROUPS 1 AND 2

(Best to Medium Soil Groups)

Size of farm (unadj.ha.)	< 20	< 30	< 50	< 100	=>100	All Sizes
Land farmed adj.(ha)	14	25	35	64	123	55
Land farmed unadj.(ha)	15	26	39	69	133	60
OVERHEAD COSTS (€)						
Rent of conacre	687	680	1211	3610	13039	3606
Car,electricity,phone	1272	1663	2159	3674	4510	2927
Current hired labour	0	352	368	1973	9976	2220
Interest charges	6	155	504	2269	5840	1816
Machinery operating	1859	2415	3697	7351	17940	6699
Buildings maintenance	396	407	1095	1338	3254	1340
Land impr. maintenance	404	1262	942	1534	2204	1312
Other	1160	2444	2178	4161	6316	3418
Total O/H costs (excl.depr.)	5785	9378	12155	25910	63079	23338
Depr.(repl.) machinery	535	1534	2293	5631	11599	4577
Depr.(repl.) buildings	1204	3026	2440	6742	10003	5047
Depr.(repl.) land impr.	0	264	363	813	938	569
Depr.(repl.) total	1739	4823	5097	13187	22540	10193
Total O/H costs (incl.depr.)	7524	14202	17251	39097	85619	33532
ASSETS (€)						
Machinery (repl.)	4593	12932	19506	51118	94399	39636
Buildings (repl.)	12004	31295	25058	68580	103797	51695
Labour units - unpaid	0.85	1.11	1.31	1.46	1.58	1.34
Livestock units dairying	3	2	12	35	59	25
Livestock units drystock	22	34	38	77	127	63

CATTLE REARING - 2006 - SOIL GROUPS 1 AND 2

(Best to Medium Soil Groups)

Size of farm (unadj.ha.)	< 20	< 30	< 50	< 100	=>100	All Sizes
Land farmed adj.(ha)	14	22	32	51	92	25
Land farmed unadj.(ha)	15	24	38	63	123	29
OVERHEAD COSTS (€)						
Rent of conacre	324	464	933	1387	3817	662
Car,electricity,phone	722	1315	1687	1937	2820	1280
Current hired labour	10	112	1182	772	2792	450
Interest charges	28	176	504	655	2003	276
Machinery operating	733	1491	3716	4697	5499	2142
Buildings maintenance	91	485	295	1044	1329	357
Land impr. maintenance	261	618	690	1241	1527	578
Other	500	1068	1597	2567	4281	1181
Total O/H costs (excl.depr.)	2670	5730	10605	14301	24068	6927
Depr.(repl.) machinery	495	1261	2046	3055	7825	1441
Depr.(repl.) buildings	752	1236	1797	3977	5709	1510
Depr.(repl.) land impr.	102	176	254	551	807	211
Depr.(repl.) total	1349	2673	4097	7582	14341	3163
Total O/H costs (incl.depr.)	4019	8404	14701	21884	38409	10090
ASSETS (€)						
Machinery (repl.)	3805	10993	16329	25163	53789	11674
Buildings (repl.)	7061	13160	19007	38127	66531	15426
Labour units - unpaid	0.82	0.91	1.02	1.22	1.13	0.94
Livestock units drystock	18	26	36	64	113	30

Source : National Farm Survey - 2006

CATTLE OTHER - 2006 - SOIL GROUPS 1 AND 2
(Best to Medium Soil Groups)

Size of farm (unadj.ha.)	< 20	< 30	< 50	< 100	=>100	All Sizes
Land farmed adj.(ha)	13	21	35	60	103	31
Land farmed unadj.(ha)	14	24	38	66	114	34
OVERHEAD COSTS (€)						
Rent of conacre	168	464	1070	2691	1734	901
Car,electricity,phone	699	1348	1894	2070	2703	1435
Current hired labour	27	66	134	916	2198	261
Interest charges	127	179	879	1455	3741	631
Machinery operating	731	1678	2621	5462	6692	2346
Buildings maintenance	224	508	483	1038	1024	512
Land impr. maintenance	313	445	796	1178	1466	633
Other	780	1390	2186	3125	3833	1737
Total O/H costs (excl.depr.)	3069	6078	10063	17935	23392	8456
Depr.(repl.) machinery	803	902	2128	3589	3822	1668
Depr.(repl.) buildings	795	1368	2412	3801	6626	1973
Depr.(repl.) land impr.	76	209	250	515	570	236
Depr.(repl.) total	1674	2479	4791	7905	11017	3877
Total O/H costs (incl.depr.)	4743	8556	14854	25841	34409	12333
ASSETS (€)						
Machinery (repl.)	6636	7557	17645	32540	30513	14240
Buildings (repl.)	8843	13720	21170	34110	65450	18663
Labour units - unpaid	0.74	0.87	1.08	1.21	1.58	0.95
Livestock units drystock	16	28	49	89	124	41

MAINLY SHEEP - 2006 - SOIL GROUPS 1 AND 2
(Best to Medium Soil Groups)

Size of farm (unadj.ha.)	< 20	< 30	< 50	< 100	=>100	All Sizes
Land farmed adj.(ha)	15	22	38	58	119	32
Land farmed unadj.(ha)	16	25	40	67	162	36
OVERHEAD COSTS (€)						
Rent of conacre	47	89	1291	2590	6144	953
Car,electricity,phone	818	1513	1839	2042	2617	1499
Current hired labour	58	109	263	1591	2711	418
Interest charges	177	73	795	1458	3176	598
Machinery operating	1469	1529	2554	6313	8634	2663
Buildings maintenance	448	416	729	579	1108	561
Land impr. maintenance	646	495	979	1126	1963	813
Other	1373	1369	2342	3457	5955	2077
Total O/H costs (excl.depr.)	5037	5593	10793	19157	32308	9581
Depr.(repl.) machinery	1332	1034	1570	4642	6399	1927
Depr.(repl.) buildings	1221	1016	1816	3579	6071	1813
Depr.(repl.) land impr.	107	186	278	701	1030	283
Depr.(repl.) total	2660	2235	3665	8922	13500	4023
Total O/H costs (incl.depr.)	7698	7829	14457	28079	45808	13604
ASSETS (€)						
Machinery (repl.)	9643	10699	13344	39754	52501	16295
Buildings (repl.)	13328	9235	17288	35994	68559	18306
Labour units - unpaid	0.82	0.99	1.08	1.27	1.54	1.02
Livestock units drystock	24	36	61	93	229	54

Source : National Farm Survey - 2006

TILLAGE SYSTEMS - 2006 - SOIL GROUPS 1 AND 2
(Best to Medium Soil Groups)

Size of farm (unadj.ha.)	< 20	< 30	< 50	< 100	=>100	All Sizes
Land farmed adj.(ha)	11	26	36	68	154	60
Land farmed unadj.(ha)	12	27	39	73	161	64
OVERHEAD COSTS (€)						
Rent of conacre	2030	1280	2126	2152	13572	3780
Car,electricity,phone	1363	2042	1638	2304	2847	2056
Current hired labour	0	0	1406	3459	10603	3148
Interest charges	0	659	788	1154	2980	1115
Machinery operating	337	2272	4715	7413	21377	7252
Buildings maintenance	0	19	713	796	3786	1025
Land impr. maintenance	189	210	569	1367	1928	953
Other	323	1941	2390	3727	5790	3004
Total O/H costs (excl.depr.)	4242	8424	14346	22373	62884	22333
Depr.(repl.) machinery	110	3374	2427	4993	14028	4839
Depr.(repl.) buildings	0	511	1260	2516	5691	2094
Depr.(repl.) land impr.	0	23	86	195	765	207
Depr.(repl.) total	110	3909	3773	7704	20484	7140
Total O/H costs (incl.depr.)	4352	12334	18118	30076	83368	29473
ASSETS (€)						
Machinery (repl.)	663	28387	21280	45741	124418	43143
Buildings (repl.)	0	4449	12344	23562	55053	19969
Labour units - unpaid	0.64	0.63	0.88	0.9	1.22	0.88
Livestock units drystock	3	13	16	42	79	32

Source : National Farm Survey - 2006

SECTION VI

Miscellaneous Data

LIVESTOCK UNIT EQUIVALENTS

A. CATTLE (All breeds)

Category	L.U.Equivalent/(head)	For EU Livestock Schemes
Equines	1.0	1.0
Dairy Cow	1.0	1.0 (876 gals) = 1 LU
Suckled Cow	0.9	1.0
Stock Bull	1.0	1.0
Cattle: —2-3 years	1.0	1.0
Cattle —1-2 Years	0.7	0.6 (12 mths)
18-24 months	-0.4 ¹	
12-18 months	-0.3 ¹	
Cattle: -0-1 years	0.3	0.6 (6-12 mths)
6-12 months	-0.2 ¹	² for 6 month period
0- 6 months	-0 1 ¹	(0.15 Ewes)
(1 FOR SIX MONTH PERIOD)		

B. SHEEP (L.U. Equivalent per head)

Category	LOWLAND		HILL	MOUNTAIN
	Purebred (Heavy) e.g. Galway	Crossbred e.g. Greyface	e.g. Cheviots	e.g. Blackface
Breeding Ewes	0.25	0.20		0.14
Unweaned Lambs	—	—	Same as for	—
Lambs 6-12 months	0.16	0.16	Crossbred	0.14
Hoggets/Wethers	0.16	0.16	“Lowland”	0.14
Rams	0.25	0.25	Sheep	0.14

ROUGHAGE INTAKE OF VARIOUS CATEGORIES OF CATTLE FED AD LIB – DURING WINTER MONTHS

Animal Weight kg	Excellent Silage 20% DM: 73% DMD Tonnes/Month	Good Hay 85% DM: 60% DMD 18 kg Bales/Month
150	0.50	5.5
200	0.60	7.0
300	0.85	10.0
350	0.95	11.5
400	1.10	13.0
450	1.30	14.5
500	1.35	16.0
550	1.50	18.0

Notes:

- Silage—intake will be reduced by 1% for each percentage point drop in silage DMD. For example 350 kg cattle will consume only 0.94 tonnes of 67% DMD silage or 0.85 tonnes of 58% DMD silage per month.
- Meal supplementation will reduce monthly silage intake by 0.06 tonnes/month for each kilo of concentrates fed daily.
- The above figures refer to dairy breeds; beef breeds will consume about 10% less forage than dairy breeds.

GUIDE TO INPUT PRICES 2008

Fertilisers (0% VAT)

	€/tonne
7-6-17	€291/tonne
8-5-18+BORON	€286/tonne
6- 10- 18+BORON	€286/tonne
0-10-20	€340/tonne
0-7-30	€340/tonne
10-10-20	€430/tonne
14-7-14	€415/tonne
18-6-12	€415/tonne
Pasture Sward	€400/tonne
Cut Sward	€400/tonne
Net Nitrate (27.5%N)	€290/tonne
Super Net 27.5%+5%S	€300/tonne
Urea (46%) - Prilled	€400/tonne
—Granulated	€410/tonne
Lime (incl. spreading)	€18-€20/tonne

HERBICIDES (excl. of VAT at 21%)

Asulox	€108/5l
Ally	€56/2 ha
Afalon	€22/l
Arelon	€47/10l
Basta	€107/5l
Bethanal Progress	€122/3l
Bandock	€38/l
Casoran G	€20/kg
Cougar	€134/5l
Cameo	€59/50g
Commando	€103/5l
Dosaflo w	€179/5l
Duplosan	€44/5l
Devrinol	€278/5l
Fusilade	€72/l
Garlon	€44/l
Gramoxone	€69/5l
Goltix WG	€48/kg
Gallant Solo	€48/500ml
Goal Liq	€90/l
Gesagard 50WP	€44/kg
Kerb Flo	€77/l
Linuron	€83/5l
MCPA 50%	€44/10l
Nettleban	€40/l
Pride	€39/5l
Puma Extra	€63/l
Ramrod	€50/5l
Ronstar	€205/20kg

Roundup (Biactive)	€45/5l
Reglone	€76/5l
Scrub Killer	€39/l
Simazine Liquid	€15/l
Stomp 400	€63/5l
Stratos Ultra	€23/l
Totril	€46/l
Total	€70/5l
Treffan	€77/10l

FUNGICIDES (excl. VAT @ 21%)

Amistar	€55/l
Allegro/Landmark	€66/l
Baviston D.F.	€20/kg
Bealate	€42/kg
Bravo G. Chlorthalonil	€44/5l
Captan	€39/2.5kg
Corbel	€33/l
Curzate M	€49/4kg
Dithane WP	€85/25kg
Dithane DF	€14/kg
Elvaron	€42/kg
Flamenco Plus	€102/5l
Folicur	€33/l
Impact	€96/5l
Mildothane Turf	€220/5l
Opus	€44/l
Previcur N	€94/l
Punch C	€66/1.25l
Ringmaster	€142/1l
Ridomil Gold	€104/5l
Repulse	€108/5l
Ripost	€88/5kg
Rovral Flo	€197/5l
Sportak (450 EW)	€77/5l
Systane Flo	€42/l
Tern 750 EC	€36/l
Tilt 250 EC	€67/l
Tattoo	€62/5l

INSECTICIDES (excl. of VAT @ 21%)

Aphox	€91/kg
Bladafum Smokes	€14/unit
Cyperkill EC 10%	€19/l
Decis	€50/l
Dipterex 80	€40/kg
Draza	€22/2.25kg
Dursban	€33/l
Dimeothate (Peleton)	€27/5l
Malathion	€51/5l
Metasystox 250	€31/l
Perfekthion	€14/l
Slug Pellets (Tracker)	€55/10kg
Suscon Green	€277/10kg
Temik	€251/10kg
Yaltox	€114/20kg

OTHER PRODUCTS

Actipron	€24/5l
All Clear Extra	€17/5l
Bond	€30/l
Cerone	€37/l
Codacide Oil	€82/25l
Cycacel 75%	€35/10l
MXR	€24/2l
Terpal	€90/5l

(Note: 1 = fertiliser and chemical prices can vary considerably depending on various factors, such as scale of purchase, location and level of competition locally, type of chemical, imported or locally blended, in bulk or in bags (Small/Big)).

(Note: g = gram; kg = kilogram, Litre = l or L) - READ LABEL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE USING ANY CHEMICALS.

Additional Information:

“Approved Pesticides for use on vegetable crops 2006 - Edited by Stephen Alexander, Teagasc, Dublin County Office, Kinsealy Research Centre, Dublin 17. (June 2006)

Value of Feedstuffs - Relative to Barley and Soya (For dairying/sheep/weanling cattle) 2008

	UFL (Per kg DM)	PDIE (Per kg DM)	Value (€) (Per Tonne DM)	DM (%)	Value (€) (Per Tonne as FED)
Barley	1.16	103	289	86.6	250
Soya	1.18	269	423	86.4	365
Wheat	1.16	106	291	86.6	252
Oats	1.03	84	250	87.4	219
Maize	1.22	120	322	86.0	277
Unmolassed beet pulp	1.14	110	291	88.1	256
Molassed beet pulp	1.14	98	281	88.1	248
Molasses, beet	1.03	71	240	76.1	183
Molasses, cane	0.91	68	216	73.5	159
Citrus pulp	1.14	91	276	87.5	241
Soya hulls	1.01	107	265	87.9	233
Palm kernel,exp	0.96	143	284	89.0	253
Beans	1.18	102	291	86.0	251
Peas	1.2	102	295	85.6	253
Maize gluten feed	1.04	125	284	86.5	246
Maize distillers gains	1.16	134	313	89.0	279
Rapeseed meal	1.05	150	306	86.4	264
Cottonseed meal, exp	0.86	201	337	91.5	308
Sunflower	0.76	118	229	89.1	204
Silage*					
~very good quality (77 DMD)	0.87	102	215	19.8	43
~good quality (72 DMD)	0.81	73	199	20.0	40
~poor quality (65 DMD)	0.76	66	176	20.2	36
Hay ~ good quality	0.69	75	185	85.0	155
Hay ~ poor quality	0.58	64	154	85.0	131
Barley straw	0.44	46	88	88.0	101
Brewer's grains (20.5% DM)	0.92	189	279	20.5	57
Fodder beet	1.12	88	270	19.0	51
Sugar beet	1.15	89	276	23.2	64
Sugar beet - tops and leaves	0.87	87	224	13.0	29
Maize silage ~ 5 - 15% starch	0.75	67	187	27.8	52
Maize silage ~ > 15% starch	0.80	68	197	32.1	63
Whole crop cereal silage	0.70	68	179	33.1	59
Grass ~ 1st grazing	0.99	99	255	16.4	42
Grass ~ 2nd, 3rd, 4th rotation	1.01	96	256	17.2	44
Grass ~ Late season	0.93	98	244	18.6	45

* All silage are 20% DM ** No account is taken of field or pit losses or the labour/storage facilities required for these feeds.

	Value (Per t as f)	Per square bale	Per 4*4 round bale	Per 5*4 round bale
	€	€	€	€
Hay ~ good quality	155	3.1	37.2	55.8
Hay ~ poor quality	131	2.62	31.4	47.1
Barley straw	101	1.26	15.7	23.5

Note: Small square bale of hay = 20 kg; of straw = 12.5 kg

Note: 12 square bales per 4*4 round bale and 5*4 round bale 50% bigger than 4*4 round bale.

**All values shown for feeds on this sheet are calculated relative to Barley @ €250 per tonne
Soya @ €365 per tonne**

**Values as at
7th March 2008**

- Notes**
- (1) PDIE = Protein value of feed when energy is limiting
 - (2) UFL = Energy content of feed for dairy cows, weanling cattle and sheep
 - (3) DM = Dry Matter
 - (4) Relative values for 2007/2008 can be calculated using the Teagasc relative Value of Feeds Programme.

Value of Feedstuffs - Relative to Barley and Soya (For Finishing Cattle) 2008

	UFV (per kg DM)	CP (per kg DM)	Value (€ per t DM)	DM (%)	Value (€ per t as fed)
Barley	1.15	113	289	86.6	250
Distillers grains	1.13	299	338	89	301
Wheat	1.15	112	288	86.6	250
Oats	0.98	111	250	87.4	219
Maize	1.21	101	312	86.0	268
Unmolassed beet pulp	1.04	100	260	88.1	229
Molassed beet pulp	1.04	112	264	88.1	333
Molasses, cane	0.99	61	238	73.5	175
Citrus pulp	1.04	69	251	87.5	220
Soya hulls	0.93	119	241	87.9	212
Palm kernel,exp	0.85	164	237	89.0	211
Beans	1.18	286	346	86.0	297
Peas	1.2	246	338	85.6	290
Maize gluten feed	0.98	235	286	86.5	248
Soya	1.17	557	422	86.4	365
Rapeseed meal	0.98	391	332	86.4	287
Cottonseed meal, exp	0.77	388	356	91.5	326
Sunflower	0.56	278	205	89.1	183
Silage*					
~very good quality (77 DMD)	0.83	102	225	19.8	45
~good quality (72 DMD)	0.77	73	206	20.0	42
~poor quality (68 DMD)	0.71	66	198	20.2	40
Hay ~ good quality	0.6	75	155	85.0	132
Hay ~ poor quality	0.55	64	141	85.0	120
Barley straw	0.33	46	85	88.0	76
Bewer's grains (20.5% DM)	0.84	189	261	22.0	57
Fodder Beet	1.14	88	277	19.0	53
Sugar Beet	1.17	89	287	23.2	66
Sugar Beet - Tops and Leaves	0.85	87	210	13.0	28
Maize silage ~ 5 - 15% starch	0.7	67	181	27.8	50
Maize silage ~ > 15% starch	0.75	68	188	32.1	61
Whole crop cereal silage	0.75	68	189	33.1	63
Grass ~ 1st grazing	1.03	99	284	16.4	47
Grass ~ 2nd, 3rd, 4th rotation	0.98	96	270	17.2	47
Grass ~ Late season	0.95	98	268	18.6	50

* All silage are 20% DM ** No account is taken of field or pit losses or the labour/storage facilities required for these feeds.

	Value (Per t as fed)	Per square bale	Per 4*4 round bale	Per 5*4 round bale
	€	€	€	€
Hay ~ good quality	132.0	2.64	31.7	47.5
Hay ~ poor quality	119.8	2.40	28.8	43.1
Barley straw	76.4	0.95	11.5	17.2

Note: Small square bale of hay = 20 kg; of straw = 12.5 kg

Note: 12 square bales per 4*4 round bale and 5*4 round bale 50% bigger than 4*4 round bale.

All values shown for feeds on this sheet are calculated relative to Barley @ €250 per tonne and Soya @ €365 per tonne (Values as at 7th March 2008)

- Notes**
- (1) UFV = Energy content of the feed for Finishing Cattle
 - (2) CP = Crude Protein in the feed
 - (3) DM = Dry Matter
 - (4) Relative values for feeds in 2007/2008 can be calculated using the Teagasc relative Value of Feeds Programme.
 - (5) See also the Teagasc Nutrition Bulletin - Autumn 2007 - Feeding Beef Cattle/Ewes in Winter.

KEY DATES FOR NITRATES REGULATIONS

Zone	Counties	Rainfall mm / week	Slurry Storage	Non-Spreading Dates		
				Chemical	Slurry	Farm Yard Manure
A	Carlow	24	16 Weeks	15th Sept. - 12th Jan	15th Oct. - 12th Jan	1st Nov - 12th Jan
	Cork	37				
	Dublin	17				
	Kildare	18				
	Kilkenny	23				
	Laois	22				
	Offaly	20				
	Tipperary	27				
	Waterford	31				
	Wexford	25				
	Wicklow	33				
B	Clare	32	18 Weeks	15th Sept. - 15th Jan	15th Oct. - 15th Jan	1st Nov - 15th Jan
	Galway	34				
	Kerry	45				
	Limerick	26				
	Longford	23				
	Louth	20				
	Mayo	40				
	Meath	19				
	Roscommon	26				
	Sligo	32				
	Westmeath	21				
C	Donegal	38	20 Weeks	15th Sept. - 31st Jan	15th Oct. - 31st Jan	1st Nov - 31st Jan
	Leitrim	33				
	Cavan	27	22 Weeks			
Monaghan	23					

See Page 9 of S.I. No 788 of 2005 where reduced storage capacity is permitted in certain circumstances. (10/01/2006)

For full information - Read the following documents:

1. European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2006 (S.I. No 378 of 2006) - 18th July 2006.
2. Explanatory Handbook for Good Agricultural Practice Regulations - Department of Agriculture and Food, and Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government - November 2006.
3. Fertiliser N and P - Meeting Grassland requirements. Teagasc 4 page brochure for Farmers - January 2007
4. More information is also available on the Environmental and Cross-Compliance sections of the Teagasc and DAF websites.
5. Guide to slurry and fertiliser use efficiency - Teagasc booklet for Farm Fest in Athenry - 20 June 2008.
6. Brochure by Teagasc + IFA, "Pig Manure can save you Money - A 1000 Gallon load can be worth €13" - 2008

Good Agricultural Practice Regulations

Ireland's National Action Programme under the Nitrates Directive was drawn up in 2005. This document was updated in 2006 and is called the *Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters Regulations 2006*.

Good farming practice means two main things for farmers using fertilisers. First of all, farmers may spread only as much fertiliser as their crops need. Secondly, fertilisers must not be spread at times of the year when the crops are not able to use them, and especially at times when they might find their way into water instead. All livestock manures and other organic fertilisers contain nitrogen and phosphorus. If too much of these get into water, it is bad for water quality. Even in areas where water quality is still good, EU law means that surplus nitrogen and phosphorus must not be allowed to get into it. The Regulations include rules for using chemical fertiliser as well as livestock manure and other organic fertilisers, and they cover phosphorus as well as nitrogen.

When do the Regulations come into effect?

Most of the Regulations are in force already. This means that: —

You must not spread livestock manure and slurry containing more than 170 kgs of nitrogen per hectare in a year.

There are times of the year when you must not spread any fertiliser at all on your land, either organic or chemical. These are called the **prohibited spreading periods**. If you already have adequate storage for the livestock manure produced on your holding, the prohibited spreading periods apply to you already. Even if you do not have adequate storage, you must not spread any of this manure during November and December.

Chemical fertiliser and organic fertiliser that you bring onto your holding must not be spread during the prohibited spreading periods.

You must not spread more fertiliser on your land than your crops need.

You must follow the new rules about ploughing and applying non-selective herbicides.

You must keep various records, including records of the fertilisers you bring onto your holding or send out of it. You have to keep records for each calendar year, which means 1 January to 31 December, and you must have them ready by 31 March of the following year. Your first records must be ready by 31 March 2007. They will be for the year from 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2006.

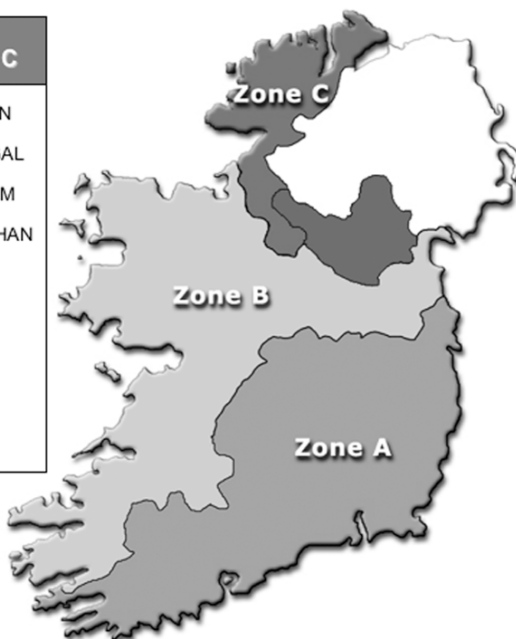
These are the other parts of the Regulations and the dates when they come into force: —

The different Zones

The Regulations divide the country into three zones. In each zone, there are different rules about the storage capacity that farmers need for organic fertiliser, and about the times of the year when organic and chemical fertilisers must not be spread on land.

The map on the next page shows how the country is divided into zones. Underneath the map, you will find the rules for each zone about storage capacity and the prohibited spreading periods (the times when you are not allowed to spread organic and chemical fertilisers). Zone C (the North-West) is divided into two parts and they have different storage requirements, but they have the same rules about the times when fertilisers must not be spread.

ZONE A	ZONE B	ZONE C
CARLOW	CLARE	CAVAN
CORK	GALWAY	DONEGAL
DUBLIN	KERRY	LEITRIM
KILDARE	LIMERICK	MONAGHAN
KILKENNY	LONGFORD	
LAOIS	LOUTH	
OFFALY	MAYO	
TIPPERARY	MEATH	
WATERFORD	ROSCOMMON	
WEXFORD	SLIGO	
WICKLOW	WESTMEATH	



The storage capacity you must have, and the Prohibited Periods for spreading fertiliser

ZONES	STORAGE CAPACITY REQUIRED	PROHIBITED APPLICATION PERIODS		
		CHEMICAL FERTILISERS	ORGANIC FERTILISERS	FARMYARD MANURE
A	16 WEEKS	15 SEPT–12 JAN	15 OCT–12 JAN	1 NOV–12 JAN
B	18 WEEKS	15 SEPT–15 JAN	15 OCT–15 JAN	1 NOV–15 JAN
C (Donegal and Leitrim)	20 WEEKS	15 SEPT–31 JAN	15 OCT–31 JAN	1 NOV–31 JAN
C* (Cavan and Monaghan)	22 WEEKS	15 SEPT–31 JAN	15 OCT–31 JAN	1 NOV–31 JAN

Link: ‘Download Regulations’

Fertilisers

Make sure that you understand the precise nature of the recommendation. Kilograms per hectare (kg/ha) are different from units per acre.

1 unit per acre = 1.23kg/ha

100 units per acre = 123kg/ha

Examples

1 bag of 27.5% N	=	27.5 units N = 13.7kg N
1 bag of 18-6-12	=	18.0 units N = 9.0kg N
	=	6.0 units P = 3.0kg P
	=	12.0 units K = 6.0kg K
1 hectare (ha)	=	2.47 acres
1 part per million (ppm)	=	1 milligram pr litre (1mg/l)

Summary

The steps which must be taken may be summarised as follows:

Apply the correct amounts of fertiliser at the right times and at the right rates in suitable conditions

Care must be taken at all stages in the collection, storage and application of animal manures. It must also be applied in the correct amounts at the right times, in the right places, and in suitable conditions.

Determine crop requirements by soil testing and cropping history. Correct Nutrient Management Planning means using organic manures efficiently and making up the balance with inorganic fertilisers to meet requirements.

Tables from the Nitrates Directive

Table 1 **Slurry storage capacity required for sows and pigs**

UNIT TYPE	m ³ /week ¹				
<i>Water: meal ratio changing for finishers only</i>	<i>2.0:1</i>	<i>2.5:1</i>	<i>3.0:1</i>	<i>3.5:1</i>	<i>4.0:1</i>
Breeding unit (per sow place)	-	-	-	-	0.174
Integrated unit (per sow place)	0.312	0.355	0.398	0.441	0.483
Finishing unit (per pig)	0.024	0.031	0.039	0.046	0.053
¹ An additional 200mm freeboard must be provided in all covered tanks and 300mm freeboard in all uncovered tanks Allowance must also be made for net rainfall during the specified storage period for uncovered tanks.					

Table 2 **Slurry storage capacity required for cattle, sheep and poultry**

Livestock type	m ³ /week ¹
Dairy cow	0.33
Suckler cow	0.29
Cattle > 2 years	0.26
Cattle (18-24 months old)	0.26
Cattle (12-18 months old)	0.15
Cattle (6-12 months old)	0.15
Cattle (0-6 months old)	0.08
Lowland ewe	0.03
Mountain ewe	0.02
Lamb-finishing	0.01
Poultry - layers per 1000 birds (30% DM)	0.81
¹ An additional 200mm freeboard must be provided in all covered tanks and 300mm freeboard in all uncovered tanks. Allowance must also be made for net rainfall during the specified storage period for uncovered tanks.	

Table 3 **Storage capacity required for dungstead manure**

Livestock type	Solid fraction (m ³ /week)	Seepage fraction (m ³ week) ¹
Dairy cow	0.28	0.04
Suckler cow	0.25	0.03
Cattle > 2 years	0.23	0.02
Cattle (18-24 months old)	0.23	0.02
Cattle (12-18 months old)	0.13	0.01
Cattle (6-12 months old)	0.13	0.01
Cattle (0-6 months old)	0.07	0.01
¹ Allowance must also be made for net rainfall during the specified storage period for uncovered tanks.		

Table 4 **Average net rainfall during the specified storage period.**

County	Millimetres per week
Carlow	24
Cavan	27
Clare	32
Cork	37
Donegal	38
Dublin	17
Galway	34
Kerry	45
Kildare	18
Kilkenny	23
Laois	22
Leitrim	33
Limerick	26
Longford	23
Louth	20
Mayo	40
Meath	19
Monaghan	23
Offaly	20
Roscommon	26
Sligo	32
Tipperary	27
Waterford	31
Westmeath	21
Wexford	25
Wicklow	33

Table 7 Amount of nutrient contained in 1m3 of slurry

Livestock type	Total N (kg)	Total P (kg)
Cattle	5.0	0.8
Pig	4.2	0.8
Sheep	10.2	1.5
Poultry – layers 30% DM	13.7	2.9
For the purposes of calculation, assume that 1m3 = 1000 litres = 1 tonne.		

Table 8 Amount of nutrients contained in 1 tonne of organic fertilisers other than slurry

Livestock type		Total Nitrogen (kg)	Total Phosphorus (kg)
Poultry manure	broilers/deep litter	11.0	6.0
	layers 55% dry matter	23.0	5.5
	Turkeys	28.0	13.8
Dungstead manure (cattle)		3.5	0.9
Farmyard manure		4.5	1.2
Spent mushroom compost		8.0	2.5
Sewage sludge		Total nitrogen & total phosphorus content per tonne shall be as declared by the supplier in accordance with the Waste Management (Use of Sewage Sludge in Agriculture) Regulations, 1998 to 2001 and any subsequent amendments thereto.	
Dairy processing residues and other products not listed above		Total nitrogen & total phosphorus content per tonne based on certified analysis shall be provided by the supplier	

Table 9

Nutrient availability in fertilisers

Fertiliser	Availability ¹ (%)			
	Nitrogen			Phosphorus
	From Jan 1 2007	From Jan 1 2008	From Jan 1 2010	From Jan 1 2007
Chemical	100	100	100	100
Pig and poultry manure	35	40	50	100
Farmyard manure	20	25	30	100
Spent mushroom compost	35	40	45	100
Cattle and other livestock manure (including that produced on the holding)	30	35	40	100
¹ Refers to year of application				

This table is not part of the nitrates Directive
How much is pig slurry worth €! €!

Pig slurry value in 2007 - App. Rate - 40.5m ³ /ha (170kg/ha Org N)					
	Total kg/m ³	Availability 2007	Nutrient Available kg/ha	Cost € / kg	Total Value /ha
N	4.2	35%	60	0.73	€43
P	0.8	100%	32	1.31	€42
K	2.6	100%	105	0.39	€41
				Total Slurry Value/ha	€126
				Cost of Slurry Application*	- €42
				Fertiliser Spreading	+ €15
				Overall Value / ha	€99
* Assumes slurry application cost €35/hr plus VAT – Application rate 33.5m ³ /hr					

NOTE: See new 2008 Brochure produced by Teagasc + IFA jointly. “Pig Manure can save you money”

A 1000 gallon load can be worth €13, or even higher as chemical fertiliser prices increase further

Nitrates Derogation 2008:

- The application date is now the same as the SPS deadline. The SPS application form will include a tick/shaded box to apply for the derogation in 2008.
- The Nitrates Derogation is available to grassland farms only
- Farmers must be farming a holding that is at least 80% grass *.
- Derogation applies only to grazing livestock on the holding
- Farms cannot apply more than 250kg N/ha from grazing livestock manure
- You must make an annual application to the Department in the format specified.
- Soil samples must be taken for at least every 5 ha on the farm every 4 years. A sampling programme should be put in place as soon as possible to meet this requirement. Where samples are unavailable assume Index 3.
- Samples taken since the 1st September 2004 can be used for the derogation application for 2008. These samples can only represent a maximum of 5ha.

* “Grass” means permanent grassland or temporary grassland (temporary implying leys of less than four years).

Derogation Holdings

Anyone who applied for a derogation in 2007 must submit the following to Environment Section, DAFF in Johnstown before 1st March 2008:

- Fertiliser Records for 2007 which includes a record of concentrates fed to bovines/ovines in 2007 and records of Organic Manure imports/exports for 2007 (signatures and herd numbers of both exporter and importer required). Use the 2008 form which is on DAFF website

Derogation Fertiliser Plan for 2008

- to be retained by the farmer – not to be sent to the DAFF
- Must be available for inspection on the farm at the latest of 1st March
For further information log on to the DAFF Nitrates website.
http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/index.jsp?file=ag_env/nitrates/index.xml

Non - Derogation Holdings

All farmers who do not apply for a derogation must keep the following records (where applicable); Records to be available for inspection on the farm after 31st March 2008:

- Fertiliser Records for 2007/2008 which includes a record of concentrates fed to bovines/ovines in 2007/2008 and records of Organic Manure imports/exports for 2007/2008 (signatures and herd numbers of both exporter and importer required)
- REPS farmers will have to provide fertiliser accounts for a calendar year (REPS records will suffice where concentrates fed are recorded as above and the REPS plan reflects the farming situation on the holding)
- Farmers who grazed cattle on farms where there were no other cattle and want “nitrates credit” for it should have submitted Record 4 to the local DVO or followed CMMS rules, prior to moving the cattle

The value of organic fertilisers

Stan Lalor

Teagasc, Johnstown Castle.

As fertiliser costs have been increasing in recent years, and particularly with the high costs anticipated for 2008, the economic value of organic fertilisers as a nutrient source has increased.

While cattle slurry is the primary source of organic fertiliser available in Ireland, other common organic fertilisers include farmyard manure (FYM), pig slurry, poultry manures and spent mushroom compost. The majority of cattle slurry and FYM are applied on the farm on which they are produced, whereas other organic fertilisers are normally transported and applied on other farms.

Value of nutrients

The value of various organic fertilisers can be calculated by multiplying the content of valuable nutrients, particularly nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and potassium (K), by the chemical fertiliser cost of each element respectively. The chemical fertiliser cost on N, P and K will depend on the price of individual fertilisers, and has increased substantially in recent years.

Based on initial fertiliser price lists for 2008, the cost per kg of N, P and K has been estimated at approximately €1.03 per kg N, €2.46 per kg P, and €0.74 per kg K. The relative value of organic fertilisers can be calculated based on their available nutrient content.

Available nutrients vs. total nutrients

Any organic fertiliser will contain an amount of total N P and K per tonne. However, the amount of total nutrient cannot be assumed to be equivalent to the fertiliser value. Since the nutrients will be present in many different forms, the fertiliser value will depend on the amount of nutrient that is actually available for plant uptake.

In general, the nutrient availability of any organic fertiliser will depend on the proportion of the total nutrients that are in a form that can be readily taken up by plants.

Nitrogen availability

The N content in organic fertilisers is normally present in two forms: (i) ammonia, which is readily available for plant uptake; and (ii) N in organic compounds, which are less available to plants. Therefore the amount of ammonia relative to the total N content will determine the N availability in the organic fertiliser in the year of application. In general, slurries and poultry manures will contain more ammonia (approximately 40 – 60 % of the total N content) compared with solid manures such FYM or spent mushroom compost (normally less than 25% of the total N content).

Phosphorus and potassium availability

For nutrient planning purposes, P and K from organic fertilisers can generally be considered as being 100% available (i.e. each kg of P or K applied in organic fertiliser can replace 1kg of P or K from chemical fertiliser).

Value of organic fertilisers

Table 1 shows indicative monetary values of some common organic fertilisers based on current estimates of chemical fertiliser prices. The values shown are estimates of the value of 1 tonne of each organic fertiliser type, assuming that the availabilities of N are achieved, and that there is a requirement for all the nutrients being supplied. For example, if cattle slurry was being applied to a field with no K requirement, then the proportion of the value attributable to available K content would need to be excluded, since there would be no chemical fertiliser saving. The values shown in the table need to be adjusted for any costs associated with transport or spreading or storage of the organic fertiliser.

Table 1. Potential value per tonne of common organic fertilisers.

Organic fertiliser type	Total nutrient content (kg / t) *			Available nutrient content (kg / t) *			Value of nutrient content (€ / t)			Total value (€ / t)
	N	P	K	N (100%)*	P (100%)*	K (100%)*	N (€1.03 /kg)	P (€2.46 /kg)	K (€0.74 /kg)	
Cattle Slurry	5.0	0.8	5.0	1.75 (35%)*	0.8	5.0	1.80	1.97	3.70	7.47
Pig Slurry	4.2	0.8	2.2	1.68 (40%)	0.8	2.2	1.73	1.97	1.63	5.33
FYM	4.5	1.2	6.0	1.13 (25%)	1.2	6.0	1.16	2.95	4.44	8.55
Poultry (Broiler litter)	11.0	6.0	12.0	4.4 (40%)	6.0	12.0	4.53	14.76	8.88	28.17
Spent Mushroom Compost	8.0	2.5	8.8	3.2 (40%)	2.5	8.8	3.30	6.15	6.51	15.96

*Total N and P contents, and the % availability used here are those specified in SI 378 of 2006
These calculated values are based on the potential savings in chemical fertiliser only.
Spreading and/ or transport costs are not included.

Potential fertiliser savings at typical application rates

The potential cost savings with typical application rates of organic fertilisers are shown in table 2.

Table 2. Potential fertiliser costs savings with typical application rates of common organic fertilisers.

Organic fertiliser type	Application Rate		Value of nutrient content (kg/ha) *			Potential fertiliser cost saving	
	t/ha	(gallons /acre)	N	P	K	(€/ha)	(€/acre)
Cattle Slurry	11	(1000)	20	21	41	82	33
Pig Slurry	11	(1000)	19	21	18	58	24
FYM	10		12	30	44	86	35
Poultry (Broiler litter)	5		23	74	44	141	57
Spent Mushroom Compost	5		16	31	33	80	32

Total N and P contents, and the % availability used here are those specified in SI 378 of 2006
These calculated values are based on the potential savings in chemical fertiliser only.
Spreading and/ or transport costs are not included.

Maximising potential for fertiliser savings

Potential savings from using organic fertilisers will be maximised by following two principles. Firstly, plan the applications of all fertilisers in such a way that nutrients are not being applied in excess of crop demands. Balancing organic and chemical fertiliser applications so that the N, P and K are supplied on the correct proportions is crucial in order to ensure maximum value for money from fertiliser. Nutrients supplied that are not required by the crop or the soil is an additional cost on the farmer.

The second principle is to apply the organic fertiliser at a time, and in a manner that maximises the nutrient availability. This is of particular significance to N recovery from organic fertilisers with high ammonia contents, such as slurries and poultry manure. Ammonia losses to the air are highest when soil and air conditions are dry and warm. As a guide, spring application is most desirable, as crop demands are higher than in autumn, and the weather is normally cooler than in summer.

Conclusions

- Rising fertiliser prices has increased the relative value of alternative nutrient sources such as organic fertilisers
- Significant costs savings can be made by using organic fertilisers to replace or complement chemical fertiliser
- Potential savings need to be adjusted for transport, storage and spreading costs
- Savings are highest when organic fertilisers are applied in accordance with crop needs, and in a manner that maximises the plant availability of nutrients, particularly N

Area Based Compensatory Allowances Scheme - Headage - (Disadvantaged Areas Scheme) (2008)

From 2001 a new area based "Headage" scheme replaces the old headage system. This is the Compensatory Allowance Scheme (C.A.S.) It is also known as the DISADVANTAGED AREAS SCHEME (DAS)

PAYMENTS AVAILABLE

Payment is based on eligible forage areas which are designated as More Severely Handicapped, Less Severely Handicapped, A coastal area with specific handicaps, or Mountain type grazings. The land must be used for grazing of cattle, sheep, horses and ponies, goats or deer and a minimum stocking level of 0.15 L.U./forage hectare applies. In some cases a REPS Plan may specify a lower stocking rate than 0.15 l.u./forage hectare and this is acceptable.

Payments

1	More Severely Handicapped (Lowland)	-	€95.99 Euros per hectare Up to 45 ha. (maximum payment = €4,319.55)
2.	Less Severely Handicapped and coastal areas with specific handicap (lowland)	-	€82.87 Euros per hectare Up to 45 ha. (maximum payment = €3,702.15)
3.	Mountain Type Grazings	-	€109.70/ha on 1st 10 ha. €95.99/ha on next 35 ha. Max. payment €4,456.65 on 45 hectares.

Eligibility

- Be a person aged 18 years or over
 - Must have herd/flock number issued by Dept. of Agriculture and Food.
 - Occupy and farm a minimum of 3 ha. of forage land in a disadvantaged area.
 - Reside within 70 miles of the holding by road. Forage parcels beyond 70 miles of the applicants principal residence do not qualify (This rule was removed for 2007 and future years).
 - Undertake to remain in farming for 5 years from the first payment of compensatory allowance
 - Comply with code of Good Farming Practice and E.U. Hormones Directives 96/22 and 96/23
 - Meet a minimum stocking level of 0.15 L.U./ha based on the relevant forage area claimed on your 2008 SFP Application.
- You must possess, hold and maintain for at least 3 continuous months of the year, the livestock required to maintain the minimum stocking levels.

Where farmers farm a combination of Severely Handicapped Land (Above) she/he will be paid on Severely Handicapped first, Less Severely Handicapped next and Mountain Grazing last.

To avoid undue impact on participating farmers in the early years they were paid C.A. as calculated above plus a % of the difference between that sum and the average headage paid in 1998, 1999, and 2000 as follows.

2001	-	90% of difference
2002	-	80% of difference
2003	-	50% of difference
2004	-	0%

- In 2008, farmers applying for the Disadvantaged Areas Scheme are required to fill out the application form for the EU Single Payment Scheme. Closing date for applications is 15th May 2008.
- The Scheme is co funded by the European Union.
- Total payments to farmers are about €250 million/year under the scheme. In 2007, €254 million was paid out. Included in the 2006 payments as a once off measure are funds from the Modulation Process worth about €18 million. These Modulation Payments add the following extra to the above payments:
 - (A) More severely handicapped areas = €7.02 per hectare
 - (B) Less severely handicapped areas = €6.02 per hectare
 - (C) Mountain type grazing areas = €8.02 per hectare.
- About 100,000 farmers benefit from the C.A.S. Scheme (and 75% of the country is designated disadvantaged).
- Under the Rural Development Programme (2007 to 2013) C.A.S. Payments are in place until 2013.
- C.A.S. payments are part of Farm Income and are subject to income tax, PRSI and Health Levy.
- Use the DAF SPS Application Form to apply for the CAS payment in 2008. Closing date for Applications is 15th May 2008.
- Payments for 2008 are expected around mid September 2008.
- You can have up to 10 hectares of the eligible land under energy crops and also get paid CAS payment. (Various conditions)

CAP reform - Agenda 2000 Premiums

A. Beef

The maximum beef intervention price will be cut by 20% in 3 equal steps from 2000 to 2002. The national quota of S.B.P. will be increased by 75,000 to 1,077,458 for 2001 but reduced to 1,028,153 for 2002 and 2003 while suckler cow premiums will be reduced by about 12,000 to 1,102,620.

B. Milk

- (i) The intervention price of butter and S.M.P. to be cut by 15% in 3 equal steps from 2005 - 2007. This is equivalent to a price cut of 4.69 cents/litre in intervention prices.
- (ii) Compensation - based on quota held by producer and will amount to approx. 2.57 cents/l phased in from 2005 -2007.
- (iii) Quota Increase - An increase of 2.86% (32 million gallons) will be phased in over two years - 2000 (20.48m gals) and 2001 (11.52m gallons)

The quota regime is to be continued to 31 March 2008 with a mid-term review in 2003.

SUCKLER COW AND SPECIAL BEEF PREMIUMS - STOCKING DENSITY LIMIT

Suckler cow and S.B.P. are limited by the application of a 2 livestock unit per forage hectare stocking limit. The stocking rate limit is reduced to 1.9lu/ha in 2002 and 1.8lu/ha in 2003.

Stocking density is calculated on the number of:

- (i) Ewes and hogget ewes applied on for ewe premium scheme
- (ii) Dairy cows needed to produce any milk quota held on 31 March of year in question. (If milk recording using approved scheme the certified average milk yield per cow is used, otherwise the quota is divided by the national average milk yield of 876 gls. per cow)
- (iii) Suckler cows/heifers applied on for suckler cow premium scheme
- (iv) Male animals entered for S.B.P. scheme

Forage Area

It must be available and accessible for rearing animals for a minimum period of seven (7) consecutive months starting from any date between 1 January and 31 March. If rented/leased it must be available for use by the applicant for at least four (4) months between 1 April and 30 September, it includes:

- all grasslands
- rough grazing
- share in commonage
- certain grazing rights
- tillage crops such as fodder beet, turnips, mangolds, kale
- cereal, oilseed and protein crops on which aid for arable crops is **not** claimed.

It does **not** include:

areas under roads, paths, buildings, farmyards, woods, scrub, ponds, lakes, sand or areas of bare rock, etc.

- areas used for turf-cutting
- areas used for quarrying
- areas fenced off to exclude livestock under a REPS plan, etc.
- areas used for permanent crops or horticultural crops
- areas used for the aid scheme for dried fodder (grassmeal production)
- areas under cereal, oilseed and protein crops which are declared for arable aid
- areas in a national or Community set-aside scheme
- areas used as sportsfields, golf courses, pitch and putt courses, etc.
- commonage areas which are required to be totally de-stocked under a Common Framework Plan.

Calculation of Stocking Density for Extensification Premiums

Livestock numbers are calculated on

- (i) number of bovine animals over 6 months of age present on the holding during the year
- (ii) number of ewes/hogget ewes applied on for the Ewe Premium Scheme

Forage area is similar to areas used for 1.9 lu per forage area limit **EXCEPT**

- (i) cereal, oilseed and protein crops on which arable aid is **NOT** claimed is **NOT** included
- (ii) at least 50% of the area to be taken as forage area must be pasture land (grassland for grazing, inc. rough grazing) hay/silage area)

Livestock Units for Extensification Premiums

- Suckler cows and dairy cows irrespective of age	1.0 l.u
- Male bovines and heifers over 24 months	1.0 l.u for 12 months
- Male bovines and heifers 6 months - 24 months	0.6 l.u for 12 months
- Ewes and Hogget ewes	0.15 l.u

Calculation of Livestock Units for extensification Premiums

Farmers may opt for (i) Simplified or (ii) Census system.

- (i) Simplified System - Farmers who are confident that they can remain below either 1.8 or 1.4 livestock units per hectare on Each and Every Day of the Year can simply declare that they will remain below the chosen stocking density for each day of the year.

- (ii) Census System - This is the most suitable system for farmers whose livestock numbers fluctuate throughout the year but whose average stock density is below 1.8 or 1.4 lu/ha level.

The Department will choose 5 census dates at random and farmers will be notified approximately two weeks after the date has passed. the number of animals on the holding must be recorded in the census on each of the 5 census dates. The average of the 5 census counts is taken as the livestock units for the year.

The animals to be counted are

- Cows and other bovines over 2 years of age
- Heifers/male bovines 6-24 months

The livestock units of ewes and hoggets applied on for ewe premiums will be added to the average l.u. calculated above.

Livestock Premiums (2000 - 2004)

Premiums		2000	2001	2002-2004	Conditions
i	Suckler Cow Premium (incl Objective I top up of €24. also applies to Obj. I in transition to 2000. The application period in 2003 is from January 2nd to June 27th Subject to - Quota held - Stock density, limit of 1.8 l.u./ha for 2003	€187.15	€206.15	€224.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cows must be of pure beef breed or progeny of a cross with a beef breed herd (incl Kerry cow)- must be maintained on farm for 6 months after date of application- small scale milk producers qualify if their quota is less than 39,594 gls for 2003- to maintain suckler quota 90% must be filled annually- When 14 or more suckler premiums are applied for, at least 15% must be dry- All applications, regardless of size may contain up to a maximum of 40% heifers.
ii	Special Beef Premium 9 months 21 Months Bull Premium (9 months) up to 8 applications between 1 Jan - 31 Dec National Quota 1, 028,153	2000 €122 €122 €160	2001 €136 €136 €185	2002-2004 €150 €150 €210	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- A maximum of 180 animals in each age category up to a stocking rate of 1.9 lu/ha (9 month category includes Bull Premium no's)- Steers and bulls must be 7 months of age on first and steers must be 20 months on second application- animals must be retained for 2 months
iii	De-seasonalisation Slaughter Premiums Week 1-15 16-17 18-21 22-23	Full €72.40 €54.35 €36.23 €18.11	60% Rate €43.48 €32.60 €21.74 €10.87	<p>The Full Rate is paid if 35% + steers are slaughtered between 1 Sept - 30 Nov. during second year proceeding the year in question. The 60% Rate is paid if 30 - 35% of steers are slaughtered between 1 Sept - 30 Nov.</p> <p>NOTE: For year 2004 Ireland does not qualify for any D.S.P. as the % of steers slaughtered during the period 1 Sept - 30 Nov. 2002 was less than 30%.</p>	
iv	New Slaughter Premium on Adult cattle (bulls, steers, cows, heifers) over 8 months (Slaughtered or exported live to 3rd countries) National Quota 1,776,668 for 2003	2000 €27	2001 €53	2002 - 2004 €80	Payment will be made automatically for all animals slaughtered in Ireland or exported live to 3rd countries. Animals exported to another E.U. country for slaughter within one month must be applied for within 6 months of slaughter
v	Extensification Premiums All animals on farm including Heifers are counted from 2000 but extensification paid only on suckler cows and S.B.P. males	2000 and 2001 LU/ha /head 1.6-2.0 €33 >1.6 €66	2002 - 2004 LU/ha /head 1.4 - 1.8 €40 >1.4 €80		
vi	National Envelope 2002 - 2004 (To be paid at discretion of Government (a) Top up to slaughter premium in respect of beef breed heifers of 8 - 30 months (b) Top up to Suckler Cow premium for heifer who calve for first time in 2003 Top up to Suckler cow premium for heifer	€31.4 Million/annum €22.85 €80.00 who do not calve in 2003			 Paid automatically Max of 20% paid automatically €80.00 Max of 15% paid automatically
Sheep					
- Ewe Premium		€21 per ewe - Retention Period 100 days (25/12/2003 - 2 April 2004) Application Date 24th November 2003 - 24 December 2003*			
- Rural World Premium		€7.00 per ewe - 50% of area farmed must be in Disadvantaged Area			
- National Sheep Envelope		€1.26 per ewe top-up			

Agenda 2000 - Mid Term Review (1 January 2005 - 2012/2013) **(Also known as “The Fischler Agreement” or “The Luxembourg Agreement”)**

From 1 January 2005 to 2012/13 all livestock premiums and arable aid schemes are fully decoupled from production. The new entitlements will be based on the average number of cattle/sheep paid premiums in the reference period of 2000, 2001 and 2002 multiplied by the premium rate for 2002. Arable entitlements will be based on the average hectares applied for in 2000 - 2002 multiplied by €383.04 per hectare. In addition, decoupled milk entitlements based on the quota held at 31 March 2005 will be added. The single entitlement will be the sum of the livestock and arable aid payments and milk premium less any linear deductions and deductions for national reserve and modulation divided by the average hectares declared over the three reference years (2000, 2001, 2002).

National Entitlements

A financial limit of €1260 Million in 2005 and €1322 million/year for period 2006 to 2012 (incl. dairy entitlements) applies in Ireland. If the sum of all the individual entitlements exceed this ceiling a linear % reduction applies. No linear reduction was applied in 2005. New Single Farm Payments were introduced for sugar beet growers in 2006 (See details in Tillage Section).

Modulation

Individual entitlements will be reduced by 3% in 2005, 4% in 2006 and 5% in 2007 to fund new rural development schemes. The first €5000 of each farmer's entitlement will be exempt from modulation. This exemption will be returned to the farmer by means of a refund before 30th September 2006 for deductions in 2005.

National Reserve

3% of entitlements were deducted to create a national reserve. This reserve will be used for,

- Dairy farmers who would not otherwise qualify for the decoupled dairy premium in 2005 due to force-majeure in 2004/05 (Form SPS/2/FMD).
- If exceptional circumstances (force-majeure) prevailed in one or more of the reference years, the amount of entitlement can be determined on the basis of one or two years. If all years (2000 -2002) were affected the period 1997 - 1999 can be taken.
- For new farmers who only commenced farming during the reference period the entitlement amount can be determined on the basis of one or two years.
- New farmers who commenced farming after 31 December 2002.
- Farmers who inherit, lease etc. a holding that was leased to a third party during the reference period and has no entitlements (Category A).
- Certain farmers who made investments in production capacity or purchased/ leased land (1st January 2000 to 19th October 2003) = (Category B).
- Farmers who participated in a national programme of conversion of production during the period 1st January 2000 to 19th October 2003. (Category C).
- Farmers who entered farming for the first time after 31 December 2002 or who, while farming in 2002, did not receive any premiums. (Category D).
- Other specific categories as may be defined by member states.

Establishing Entitlements and Consolidation (Stacking) of Entitlements

- Farmers must apply before 16th May 2005 (Application form for the EU Single Payment Scheme).
- In general, a farmer must have one eligible hectare for each payment entitlement - however, a Member State may make use of its National Reserve to consolidate entitlements for certain farmers on the basis of their actual hectares farmed in 2005 provided: -
 - The farmer declares all the hectares available in 2005 and
 - The total area declared is at least 50% of the average number of hectares declared during

the reference period (2000 + 2001 + 2002).

The consolidation provision can be applied to the following categories of farmers,

- farmers who have afforested some of their land since the beginning of the reference period and in subsequent years
- farmers who disposed of some land for non-agricultural use to a public authority (E.G. CPO (Compulsory Purchase Order) for Roads)
- farmers who had rented land taken during the reference period but the agreement has since expired
- farmers who declared land situated in Northern Ireland during the reference period.

Where a farmer benefits from this concession all his/her consolidated payment entitlement will be deemed to have come from the National Reserve and so cannot be sold or leased out for 5 years. Consolidated (Stacked) Entitlements can be transferred by gift or inheritance (but not by lease).

Entitlements may not be modified (increased) except by adding the decoupled dairy premium and by way of additional amounts which might be allocated from the National Reserve.

- Land must be available to the applicant for a 10 month period beginning on a date to be determined (but not earlier than 1st September of previous year) (ie 1st September 2004 to 30th April 2005).
- Set-aside entitlements must be claimed before other entitlements.
- Except in the case of force majeure, if a farmer does not apply in the first year, the entitlements will revert to the National Reserve. A valid Area Aid application in 2005 will secure the entitlements. All the entitlements, however, must be used in at least one of the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 to avoid forfeiture to National Reserve.
- Any entitlement not used for 3 years reverts to the National Reserve.

Farmers Participating in the Early Retirement Scheme (E.R.S.)

Entitlements can only be established for farmers who were actively farming and in receipt of premiums for one or more years during the reference period (2000, 2001, 2002).

- Farmers who entered the E.R.S. after the reference period can apply (in 2005) to establish their entitlement only, they are then free to lease out the entitlements with the land. The existing lease must be revised to include clause stipulating that any entitlements established will also be leased with the land. This is the Private Contract Clause.
- Where the transferee inherits (by transfer) the holding he/she can also inherit any entitlements established for the retired farmer (use Form SPS/3/NE - Form A/Form B).
- Farmers (including offspring of farmers who retired before the reference period) who take over the holding at some date in the future will be able to apply to the National Reserve for entitlements.
- Where the transferee (family or non-family) took over the holding during the reference period and started farming for the first time, his/her entitlements will be based on the one or 2 year average.

Sale or Lease of Land before 16 th May 2005

Where a farmer sells or leases out land before the closing date for lodging 2005 area aid application and the sale or lease contract stipulates that the entitlements are also to be sold/leased, the seller/lessor can apply in 2005 to establish the entitlements in question. (A special form accompanied the A.A. application for these cases). The purchaser or leasee applies for payment of the entitlements on their own SFP Form.

Sale and Lease of Entitlements

- Entitlements may be sold (only to a farmer within the Member State) with or without land but may only be sold without land if 80% have been activated for one year.
- Entitlements may only be leased if accompanied by land (1 Hectare per entitlement). A farmer can lease out more land (hectares) than entitlements but cannot lease out more entitlements than land.

Cross Compliance (18 EU Directives)

- Must maintain the land in "good agricultural and environmental conditions".
- Must respect statutory management requirements in,
 - Environment and identification and registration of animals (from 1st January 2005)
 - Public, animal and plant health (from 1st January 2006)
 - Animal welfare (1 January 2007).

On-Farm Checks

5% of applicants will be subject to on-farm checks to establish eligibility. 1% of applicants will be subject to cross compliance checks under 18 statutory management and good agricultural and environmental conditions.

The Dairy Premium

General

- Milk quota regime will continue until 2014/15
- Reduction in support price. The intervention price for skimmed milk powder (SMD) and butter will be cut by 15% and 25% respectively for 2004 onwards as follows:

	Butter	SMD
2004	-7%	-5%
2005	-7%	-5%
2006	-7%	-5%
2007	-4%	-

- Restriction on intervention for butter
 - Limited to period 1 March - 31 August
 - 70,000 Tonnes ceiling for 2004/5 reducing by 10,000 Tonnes per year to 30,000 Tonnes in 2008/9

The Compensation (premium and national envelope) based on Irelands 1999/2000 quota.

Total Compensation

2004	€62.1m	(coupled)	5.5 c/gl or 1.22 c/I	(This compensation continues each year up to 2012/13 (Quota Year))
2005	€124.1m	decoupled	11.0 c/gl or 2.44 c/I	
2006	€186.3m	decoupled	16.6 c/gl or 3.66 c/I	

Because the overall premium amount was based on the national quota held in 1999/2000 there will be slight adjustment downwards of around 2.9%. The individual coupled premium will be based on the quota (incl. leased in) on 31 March 2004 and the decoupled premium is based on quota held on 31 March 2005. Once entitlement is established for decoupled premium on 31 March 2005 the producer can continue to produce milk or sell/lease the quota. The entitlement can be sold outright or leased with land in the normal way.

Payment of Entitlements

Payment to be made in full between 1 December of year of application and 30 June of following year. There is provision for advances in payment in certain circumstances to be decided by the Commission. In the first year 2005, the Single Farm Payment is expected to be paid in December 2005 if all application paperwork is in order. Problem cases could be delayed.

More Information

A lot more detailed information is contained in various Department of Agriculture & Food Publications.

- (1) The Single Payment Scheme - An explanatory Guide - DAF - May 2004
- (2) Programme for consolidation of entitlements - DAF - April 2005
- (3) Dept of Agriculture Guidelines Booklet on cross compliance - April 2005
- (4) EU Single Payment Scheme Application Form + Helpsheet + Terms & Conditions - DAF - April 2005
- (5) Booklet on Good Farming Practice - DAF (2001)
- (6) Taxation and Single Farm Payments -

See Taxation Section Later (Stamp Duty, C.A.T., V.A.T. and C.G.T.)

The Single Farm Payment (SFP) 2006/2007

- 1 The closing date for the 2006 EU Single Farm Payment Scheme (SPS) Application was the 24th April 2006 but this was extended to Monday 15th May 2006 due to problems in getting the new Sugar Beet Entitlements System and rules set up. (See the 28 page booklet for full details)
- 2 Penalties apply to late applications
- 3 The SFP Application is also required for the 2006 Disadvantaged Areas Scheme and a range of other 2006 EU Area Based Schemes.
- 4 Farmers Consolidating (Stacking) their entitlements must complete DAF Form (SPS/Cons/2006)
- 5 All transfers of SFS Entitlements must be sent to DAF for approval using (Form NRTE 2006) and signed by both parties to the transaction. transactions may be by sale, gift, inheritance or lease and either with or without land. (Note - Entitlements can only be leased with land - Entitlement/hectare).
- 6 Application Forms and details for the 2006 National Reserve were announced in mid September 2006 with a closing date for applications of Friday 20th October 2006.
- 7 The DAF Form (SPS/TE 2007) is available to farmers wishing to transfer entitlements for the 2007 scheme year.
- 8 The clawback on the sale of entitlements without land has been halved from 30% to 15% for the 2007 year.
- 9 Payments of first 50% of SFP for 2006 began on 16th October 2006 for all applications that were fully passed. The final 50% of SFP was paid out from 1st December 2006.
10. The proposed closing date for the SFP (Single Farm Payment) application to DAF for 2007 was 16th April 2007, this has been extended to Friday 4th May 2007.
11. The closing date for the transfer of Entitlements Application to DAF using Form (SPS/TE 2007), completed by both parties to the transaction and with full supporting documentation, is the 4th May 2007. This form must be sent in separately to the Transfer of Entitlements Section in Portlaoise.
12. A new on-line SPS Application System is being set up by DAF for the 2007 Application year, on a pilot basis.
13. For full details and all forms for the 2007 Scheme, look at the Single Farm Payment Section on the DAF and Teagasc websites.

The Single Farm Payment (SFP) 2008

The main changes to the SFP for 2008 are indicated in the Crops/Tillage Section of this book where the various Single Payment Rules are further discussed.

For full details on the SFP 2008 see the following:

1. Helpsheet/Terms and Conditions for 2008 - DAFF
2. Overview Summary of SFP Scheme Changes for 2008 - DAFF
3. Guidelines for Completing the SFP Form 2008 - DAFF
4. The DAFF and Teagasc websites have full details under the Single Farm Payment Sections.

NEW MACHINERY PRICES € (2008)

The following prices are indicative of the recommended retail prices (incl. of VAT @ 21% but exclusive of discounts).

1. TRACTORS

(a) Two-Wheel Drive	Price Range €
34-39 kW (45-52 HP)	21000-31500
43-49 kW (57-66 HP)	21500-34000
50-56 kW (67-75 HP)	25750-36000
57-66 kW (76-89 HP)	30500-47500
67-76 kW (90-100 HP)	37500-54600
76-90 kW (101-120 HP)	42000-71400

(b) Four-Wheel Drive	Price Range €
43-49 kW (57-66 HP)	29000-44900
56-64 kW (75-87 HP)	32000-59000
67-75 kW (90-100 HP)	39000-69300
76-90 kW (101-120 HP)	51000-76600
95-100 kW (127-134 HP)	60000-121000
103-148 kW (140-200 HP)	75000-163000

2. CULTIVATING EQUIPMENT

(a) Ploughs	€
Mounted 2 furrow (fixed beam)	3500-4100
3 furrow (fixed beam)	4000-7100
4 furrow (auto reset)	6250-11550
Semi mounted 5 furrow (auto reset)	13400-17600
6 furrow (auto reset)	16250-20200
Reversible 2 furrow (auto reset)	9800-11550
3 furrow (auto reset)	10250-16800
4 furrow (auto reset)	16750-23400
(b) Furrow Presses	
Conventional plough 3 furrow	2850-4400
4 furrow	3400-5000
Reversible plough 3 furrow	3800-7300
(c) Other Tillage Equipment	
Power harrow 2.5-3.0m	6300-9300
3.5-4.0m	12200-20500
Combination Harrow 2.5-3.0m	3800-7900
Spring Tine Harrow 2.5-3.6m	2370-5000
3.6-5.3m	4850-7900
Disc Harrow 2.0-2.8m (mounted)	3600-5700
3.0-4.0m (trailed)	6750-11200
Zig Zag 3.6-6.4m	2100-3700
Roller (triple gang) 4.5-5.0m	3925-5300
Subsoiler —Single leg	1300-2000
—Twin Leg	3300-5600

3. FERTILISER SPREADERS, CORN DRILLS AND SPRAYERS

(a) Mounted single spinner (0.3-0.5T)	800-1530
Twin spinner (0.5-1.0 T)	2000-4900
Pendulum (0.5-1.0 T)	1800-3700
Trailed spinner (1.25—2.0 T)	6200-3150
pendulum (1.25-2.00 T)	5950-9800
pneumatic (1.6-2.0 T)	12950-21210
(b) Corn Drills (seed and fertiliser)	
Mounted 3m	7150-9100
4m	7625-13200
Trailed 3m	11500-16800
4m	14000-21000
Pneumatic (grain only) 3m	12400-15500
4m	12650-17500
Direct Drills (seed and fertiliser) 3m	13800-22600
Precision Seeder 4 row	6500-12285
Potato Planter—2 row mounted	
(Fertiliser attachment extra)	6500-10600
(c) Sprayers	
Mounted 200 litre	1080-2100
300 litre	1600-2800
400 litre	2200-3400
600 litre	4010-8300
Trailed 1,000-1,500 litres	9500-20600

4. FORAGE CONSERVATION

(a) Silage	
Self-loading forage wagon (medium)	25000-47800
Forage harvesters flail type (1.10m)	5150-8900
(1.35m)	6500-10600
—double chop 1.5m	11100-21000
—fine chop (medium output)	13200-19600
—precision chop (small side mounted)	12450-18000
—trailed—medium output	22200-45700
—self propelled	121000-309000
Buckrake—push off	1620-2800
(b) Hay	
Mowers—cutter bar	1620-2200

FORAGE CONSERVATION CONTD.

Mowers: drum/disc 1.65m	2100-3900
1.85	3850-6900
2.10m	6450-7800
Mower Conditioners—€1700-€3000 extra on above prices	
Tedders-	
Side delivery/transverse	1500-2300
Rotary— 2 row	2100-4200
3 row	3250-6100
Pick up Balers (rectangular)— small	10600-16000
— medium	15200-17600
— large	16950-22900
Big round baler (silage and hay)	16450-44310
Big bale wrappers (silage and hay)	8100-19400
Big rectangular (high density)	73800-149600
Bale sled	670-1100
Bale accumulator (flat 8)	4000-6300
Big bale spike	460-950
Big bale unroller	1600-4600
Big Bale Splitter	1080-1500
Bale elevator	1200-2400
(c) Grassland	
Pasture toppers 2-3m	2780-5700
Grassland, roller—solid fill 3-4 T	2270-3800
Post hole digger	2820-4200
Hedge cutter—flail head (medium duty)	10600-28500

5. GRAIN HARVESTING, HANDLING AND STORAGE

(a) Combines—selfpropelled—small	110000-146000
—medium	139000-234000
—large	223000-425000
(b) Straw Chopper—	
trailed	8750-14200
attachment for combine	6750-11500
(c) Grain Drying and Storage	
(i) Grain for feed (18%) (50-100 tonne)	
System	Capital Cost/Tonne
Converted floor store (cold air drying/aeration)	84
Outdoor bin (cold air drying/aeration)	126
Acid treatment	32
Sealed store	220
(ii) Grain for sale 15% M.C.—500 tonnes	
Converted floor store (low temperature drying)	98
Converted floor store (High temperature drying)	98
New floor store (low temperature drying)	168
Price Range €:	
(d) Grain augers 100 mm 3.3-7.3 m	770-1000
150mm 3.3-7.3m	1250-2100
(e) Feed Processing Equipment	
Corn roller 1.5 T/hour (PTO driven)	2150-3500
Hammer mill/mixer 3.75-5.5 KW	5850-7600
PTO driven hammer mill 1.25 T/Hour	2900-4000
Mixer—one ton	3500-5000
Cuber 5.5-7.5KW	9400-12400

6. ROOT HARVESTING

(a) Potatoes	
Elevator digger —one row	3775-7000
—two row	4650-7800
Harvesters—tractor mounted—one row	19750-29800
—trailed—one row—manned	29000-47300
—trailed—two row—manned	48600-74500
—trailed—one row—unmanned	32700-49700
—trailed—two row—unmanned	53300-77000
Elevator (rubber belt)	8500-11500

NEW MACHINERY PRICES € (2008) (Continued)

€

(b) Sugar beet—Single row harvester	37250-41700
Twin row harvester	46500-62900
Three row harvester	58000-68800
Cleaner Loader	24200-29900
(c) Turnip Harvester	8250-10700

Front end power trip	3400-7600
Rear end manual trip	900-1200
Rear silage grab (tined)	2000-4300
Rear silage grab (shear)	3250-4600
Transport box	420-750

7. FYM AND SLURRY EQUIPMENT

(a) FYM Spreader	
Moving floor spreader 2-3m ³	5875-10000
Rotary type 3.0-6.0m ³	5150-8200
(b) Slurry Spreader	
Vacuum tanker —3,800 litres	5800-9000
—5,000 litres	9000-10500
—6,800 litres	8900-11900
Slurry Wagons —5,000 litres	6200-8800
—6,800 litres	8200-10900
(c) Slurry Agitators	
Pump agitator	3100-5000
Propeller agitator	2100-3900
(d) Other Equipment	
Power washer	2000-4100
Yard Scraper	400-500

Accessories to front end power loader:

*Silage grab tined	1340-1800
*Silage grab shear	2050-3600
*Grain Bucket 2m ³	1590-2200
*Pallet fork 1.5T	1150-1700
*Silage bale spike with push off	1050-1400

(b) Self Propelled loaders	
Rough terrain fork lifts	34700-58600
Industrial loaders	56500-77200
(c) Forage root feeders	
Forage wagons	11200-21000
Mixer wagons	14500-34000
Mounted root feeder	2700-6300
(d) Trailers— Basic Grain/Silage	
4 tonne 2,400 Sides included	5000
6 tonne 3,650 Sides included	5600
8 tonne 4,800 Sides included	8600

8. MATERIALS HANDLING/TRANSPORT

(a) Tractor Loaders	
Front end manual trip	2300-3600

MACHINERY WORK RATES (hectares per 8 hour day)

Operation	Rate of work hectares/8 hour day	
	Average	High Output
Ploughing (Ave. 3-4 furrows) (High output 5-6 furrows)	3-4 (ha)	4-5 (ha)
Cultivating (heavy)	8	15
Disc (heavy)	8	14
Disc (medium)	11	16
Spring tine	12	18
Light harrowing	15	25
Power harrowing	6	8
Rolling	6	10
Steerage hoeing (sugar beet)	5	8
Fertilising (including loading and carting)		
Mounted 0.4-0.6t capacity	15	25
Trailed 1.2-2.0t capacity	22	32
Lime spreading 2.3t capacity + loader	28	35
Drilling—		
Cereals (direct)	8	10
Grain only	12	16
Combine (seed and fertiliser)	10	13
Roots—precision sowing	3 ^{1/2} (4 row)	5 (6 row)
Potato planting manual	1 ^{1/2} (2 row)	2 ^{1/4} (3 row)
Potato planting automatic	2 ^{1/2} (2 row)	3 ^{1/4}
Spraying—		
Low volume (175 litre/ha)	17	25
Medium volume (200-300 litre/ha)	14	20
Harvesting—		
Potatoes including carting	0.75	1.0
Sugar beet— one row	1.0	1.5
Cereals (depending on conditions)	6-10	10-16

GUIDE TO CONTRACTOR CHARGES (INCL. 13.5% VAT) (2008)

NOTE: There can be variation in contractor charges depending on (A) Part of Country, Level of Competition (B) Size of job (C) Scale of machinery, etc.

1. CULTIVATING / SOWING / FERTILISING / HARVESTING

	€
Ploughing (Lea Ground = €69 - €100/HA and Stubble Ground (€62 - €82/HA)	62-100/hectare
Ploughing & furrow press	88-110/hectare
Discing (per run) and minimum cultivation per pass	34-48/hectare
Levelling harrow (per run)	32-40/hectare
Power harrowing	64-79/hectare
Rotary Cultivating	46-94/hectare
Destoning	400-500/hectare
Rolling	17-25/hectare
Ridging	35-41/hectare
Drilling (grain & fert.)	40-51/hectare
Broadcasting (grain only)	32-37/hectare
Direct drilling	80-87/hectare
One pass system (grain only)	75-100/hectare
One pass system (grain & fert.) - Combine Drill	115-125/hectare
Potato planting	70-80/hectare
Sugar beet drilling	55-60/hectare
Sugar beet steerage hoeing	30-36/hectare
Plough, till & sow grain	165-200/hectare
Plough, till and sow potatoes	360-410/hectare
Fertiliser spreading (bags)	28-35/tonne
Fertiliser spreading (bulk)	20-28/tonne
Lime spreading	5.0-7.0/tonne
Crop spraying (low vol.)	23-28/hectare
Band spraying	27-36/hectare
Cereal harvesting	100-135/hectare
Sugar beet harvesting	290-310/hectare
Bean harvesting	125-140/hectare
Oilseed rape harvesting	105-140/hectare
Sub - Soiling	95-125/Hectare
Reseeding (Ploughing/Tilling/Levelling/Sowing	196-280/Hectare

2. SILAGE / HAYMAKING

MOWING	- mounted	45-60/hectare
	- trailed	55/hectare
	- auto swather	60/hectare
Hay Cutting		45-60/Hectare
Hay tedding (turning)		25-32/hectare
Silage harvesting		
	- double chop (in pit)	216-255/hectare
	- precision chop (in pit)	210-296/hectare
Maize harvesting (in pit)		290-310/hectare
Buckraking (Tractor)		32-36/hour
Buckraking (industrial loader)		34-39/hour
Baling	- small square	€0.30-€0.40/bale
	- round bales (4x4)	3.5-4.00/bale
	- round bales (5x4)	4.22/bale
	- large square	3.60-4.00/bale
Bale wrapping		6.0-7.50/bale

3. SLURRY HANDLING

Muck loading (Tractor loader)	40-46/hour
Muck loading (Industrial loader)	40-48/hour
Muck spreading (8-10 tonne shredder)	40-46/hour
Slurry agitation	45-55/hour
Slurry spreading (1200-1500 gal)	43-51/hour
Slurry spreading (umbilical system)	130-150/hour
Slurry Spreading (with Trailing Shoe System)	52-58/hour

4. HEDGE CUTTING		€
Hedgecutter	- flail type	35-50/hour
	- saw type	45-70/hour
Verge mowing		28-45/hour
5. MECHANICAL DIGGING		
Wheeled digger and Driver		36-38/hour
Tracked Excavator and Driver		50-55/hour
Tractor and Dumper and Driver (14 Tonne)		35-40/hour
Loader and Driver (10 Tonne)		45-50/hour
Mini Digger and Driver		25-35/hour
Road Sweeper		35-45/hour
Tractor Hire (90 - 140 HP)		35-38/hour
6. TURF CUTTING		
Sausage Machine		2.70/metre/10 sods
Hopper type machine		4.40/metre/10 sods

GUIDE TO FARM BUILDINGS COSTS (GROSS) (EXCLUDING VAT) - (2008)

The following figures are intended only as a guide to the type of average contractor costs currently available

1. Cows (incl. Site Preparations, Water, ESB). (30-50 cow units)

Slatted Dairy Unit	Gross Cost per cow	€2300-€2900	<u>EURO/COW</u>
Component Breakdown: Tank with slats laid			600-800
Shed	€100/m ²		575-780
Cubicle + bed			210-245
Solid External wall 225mm, (1.8m to 2.4m high)		190-240 per linear metre	
(Electricity = €5-€6 per m ²) Water trough fitted			270-660
Mats (each)			45-90
Concrete Passage (Internal)	€33/m ² (external concrete)		65-108
Sliding Doors	€30/m ²		100-120/metre ²
Slurry Scrapers (per passageway)			€3000-3200
Total - Euro per cow			<u>€2300-€2900</u>
Roof Area/Cow varies from 6.0 to 8.0m ² /Cow. Approx. cost €100/m ²			

Steel tank 5.0 to 10.0 cent/litre; Slurry pump €2700-€4750; Reception pit €130-€200 per m³

Single Slatted tank-2.4ft deep x 3.5m with slats laid €1200-€1325/linear metre

Double tank-2.4m deep x two 3.5m slats laid €2050-€2270/linear metre

Effluent pump, pipe and sprinklers €3500, to €8000 (plus wiring to pump extra)

Bull pen €7000, calving box/isolation box €6000

Slatted Unit for Cattle = €1300-1400 + VAT per Fattening Steer

Slatted Tank per M³ of total storage

- Single = €125 - €175

- Double = €110 - €147

- Treble = €104 - €135

NOTE: 1 cubic metre (m³) = 1000 litres = 220 gallons)

2. Earth Lined Slurry Stores (2008)

These stores cost €12-€20/M³ depending on size and type of agitation access points. Completed with fencing and agitation points

3. Geo Membrane Lined Slurry Store (2008)

Approximate Costs	(A) 454 m ³ = €63/m ³ total - €100/m ³ net slurry storage
	(B) 900 m ³ = €31/m ³ total - €56/m ³ net slurry storage
	(C) 1360 m ³ = €28/m ³ total - €41/m ³ net slurry storage

NOTE: These costs include: Excavation, Surface Preparation, Concrete, Fencing .

Agitation access points and slurry channels to get slurry to tank are not included.

4. Silage Pit Costings - Excluding VAT (2008)

(A) Silo wall of 2.4 metres high (complete) = €400 per linear metre

(B) Silage base and apron including 75mm x 75mm channel = €42 per square metre.

(C) Large Effluent Channel per linear metre = €63 (in new silage base) per linear metre

(D) Guide rails on top of Silo Walls = €23 per linear metre

(5) Milking Machine Equipment - Range in Costs (Excluding VAT) - (2008)

- (A) Air Operated Gates (Back or Front Gates) Each at €1,500 - €2,600
- (B) Augers for Feed Each at €2,500 - €3,500
- (C) Automatic Cow Identification Installed €6,000 - €8,900
- (D) Automatic Washers Each at €4,000 - €6,300
- (E) Automatic Cow Cluster Removers Per Unit Milking €500 - €800
- (F) Drafting System €5,000 - €11,500
- (G) Milk Diversion Line (Milk to Calves or exclude Milk) Each €450 - €630
- (H) Electronic Milk Metres Each Unit €800 - €1,500
- (I) Mangers - All Galvanised Each €200 - €300
- (J) Mangers - Stainless Steel Pan Each €350 - €450
- (K) Concentrate Meal Bin Each €2,500 - €3,200
- (L) Meal Feeders - Per Unit €600 - €1,200
- (M) Milk Pump - Variable Speed Centrifugal Each €1,500 - €3,000
- (N) Plate Cooler for Milk Each €1,500 - €2,600
- (O) Milk Recording Per Unit €500 - €630
- (P) Sequential Bailing Per Unit €750 - €1,000
- (Q) Teat Spraying - Automatic - In Pit Each €1,400 - €1,700
- (R) Teat Sprayer - In Pit Each €500 - €1,600
- (S) Wash Through in Dairy Each €400 - €840

(6) Costings for Milking Facilities - Excluding VAT (2008)

(A) 8 milking units - 16 stalls = €64,000 to €100,000 (Range = €8,000 to €12,500 per milking unit).
(B) 14 milking units - 28 stalls = €112,000 to €220,000 (Range = €8,000 to €15,700 per milking unit).

7. Dairy Equipment

Plate Coolers: €1,500 to €2,500

Refrigerated Bulk Tank - eg 5,000L, €15,000 - €22,500 depending on size and design. (At €3.00 to €4.50 per litre capacity).

Milk Meters, electronic meters €1,025-€1,500; cluster removers €500-800/unit; Bailing €165/unit (manual) to €1,000/unit sequential

Recording Jars—Manual Release €300.

— Vacuum Release €410-€520; Swing over arms €130/unit

Automatic scrapers €3,000-€3,200/per passage up to 20m (approx). Bulk meal Bin 6-12 tonne €2,500-€3,200; Auger €2,200-€3,500

Water Heater 150 litres €700-€1,200

8. Concrete Yards

€30/sq. metre

9. Haybarn

€100/square metre

Lean To Off Shed

€100/square metre

10. Cattle Housing

Slatted Tanks (incl Slats laid)

Single 2.4m deep €850/m length

Dbl 2.4m deep €1,100-€1,325/m

Slats	3.2m	-	€210	gang	slat	} Cattle Slats
	3.5m	-	€230	"	"	
	3.8m	-	€260	"	"	
	4.4m	-	€320	"	"	
	5.0m	-	€400	"	"	

HEAVY SAFETY MANHOLE SLAT €500 + Add slat costs

NOTE: Heavy Duty Gang Slats cost €50 to €150 extra each

Cattle Crush - Single Side €300/linear m.

Cattle Crush - Double Sided = €450/linear metre

11. Suckler Cows

Straw plus slatted feeding passage

€1,300-€1,600/cow

Specialised slatted unit and calf creep/calving facilities

€2,200-€2,500/cow

12. Sheep

— 'A' roof/hay shed type €150 per ewe space—(straw bedding)

— Slatted house • Timber slats - €260 per ewe space (1.2m deep tank)

— Cost of slats • plastic - €52 per ewe space

• concrete - €30 per ewe space

• expanded metal - €40 per ewe space

• Timber (Larch /Douglas Fir) €23 per ewe space

— Space boarding 100 mm x 25mm - €8 per sq. metre

Sheep Bedding

Straw Bales/100 Day Winter

Silage Feeding

5 - 7

Hay Feeding

2 - 3

13. Pigs

Sows—(Rearing to 32 kg) €2200/sow

(Excl. site preparation, and provision of services—E.S.B., water)

Dry Sow Place—€1000

Farrowing Place—€3,500

Boar pen—€1,750

Weaner place—€175 (3 ^{1/2} per sow)

Slurry Storage—€87/sow

Gilt accommodation €400 per place

Finishing (32 kg—95 kg)

€284 per pig place

(incl. mechanical feeding, mechanical ventilation, Manure storage).

Integrated Unit —€3350/Sow

14. Fencing

—Paddock electric single wire €1.10/metre length, 2 wire €2.20/metre length

—sheep—electric 5 wire €4.0-€6.0 + VAT/metre length

—netting €4.00-€5.00/metre length

Roadways €5.0-€6.0/m²

15. Concrete—Readymix

35N-€82/m³ + 13.5% VAT

40N-€85/m³ + 13.5% VAT

Concrete Blocks 150mm - €90/100

16. Establishment Cost of 5 House (33.5m x 8.8m) Mushroom Unit

Groundwork, concrete, tanks, services.

€ 55,000

5 Tunnels

€ 116,000

Pack House

€ 23,000

Cold Room

€ 10,200

Equipment

€ 11,500

TOTAL

€215,700

Automation

Dutch Shelving € 10,000 per tunnel

Generator € 19,000

Humidification € 8,000

Steam Boiler € 19,000

Fork Lift € 28,500

FAMILY LIVING EXPENSES—2005

The experience of developing farmers having difficulty meeting commitments in recent years has demonstrated the need for farm families to improve technical performance and manage farm finances efficiently. In addition, the proper planning and budgeting of household expenditure is equally important. Accurate information on the level of living expenses necessary to enable each family achieve its objectives to the fullest extent possible is also essential for the preparation of farm development plans.

Analysis of the 1999/2000 C.S.O. household survey indicates that approximately €9600 per consumption unit* per annum is required to provide an acceptable standard of living in 2005. At this level of expenditure approx. 25% is spent on food. These rates can vary between 25%-50% depending on size of farm, system of farming, etc.

* 1 Consumption unit = each person over 13 years of age in the household.

1/2 Consumption unit = each person under 13 years of age in the household.

Average Household Expenditure (C.S.O. Survey 1994/95 and 1999/2000)

	Farm Households		Urban	
Household Size	1994/95	1999/2000	1994/95	1999/2000
– Ave. Persons	3.69	3.56	3.24	3.00
– Ave. Consumption Units	3.20	3.20	2.81	2.67
Weekly Household Expenditure	€	€	€	€
Food	102.79	133.78	89.05	117.63
Drink & Tobacco	25.04	33.36	33.88	48.85
Clothing & Footwear	28.12	28.18	26.78	37.69
Fuel & Light	21.51	24.85	18.88	21.09
Housing	17.10	20.54	46.10	65.39
Household - Non durables	8.90	13.40	9.55	14.98
– Durables	13.50	21.12	15.08	29.23
Miscellaneous	13.34	15.08	16.43	21.55
Services & other expenses	81.34	129.75	106.63	164.30
Transport	66.84	116.94	54.42	92.64
TOTAL Expenditure/week	€378.48	€536.55	€416.80	€613.35

COMPOSITION OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME (C.S.O. SURVEY 1994/95 AND 1999/2000)

Average Farm Household Income per week		
	1994/95	1999/2000
	€	€
Wages Etc.	127	246
Non-farm Self Employed	13	29
State Transfers	53	67
Farm Income	232	248
Other - Pensions, Rent, Interest	28	44
Total Gross Income	453	634
Less Direct Taxes	47	66
Total Disposable Income	€406	€568

TOTAL FARM HOUSEHOLD INCOME STUDY BY CSO

The 2004 EU Survey of Income and Living Conditions (EU - SILC) provides very good data on total household income for both farm and non farm households. During 2004, the CSO sampled 520 farm households and 4957 non-farm households. The CSO Household Budget Survey used a narrower approach to define farm households. When this definition is applied to the EU - SILC data, the results are presented in Table 1 below.

Total persons per farm household are 3.05 and total farm household income is €39,847 and disposable income is €33,792 or €11,073 per household member. Disposable income is 87% of the state average.

Based on the different components that make up total income:

<input type="checkbox"/> Farming	= 46%
<input type="checkbox"/> Non - Farm Employment	= 36%
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfers	= 16%
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Direct Income	= 2%
Total	<u>= 100%</u>

TABLE 1

Household Income and its Composition for Farm, Non-Farm Rural and Urban Households based on a narrow definition of Farm Households, 2004

	Farm Households ¹	Rural Non-Farm Households	Urban Non-Farm Households	State
% of population represented	5%	35%	61%	100%
Persons per household	3.05	2.78	2.97	2.91
	€	€	€	€
Farm Income	18,320	809	33	1,138
Non-farm employment	14,369	29,616	44,231	37,819
Other direct income	930	722	1,412	1,152
State transfers	6,228	9,033	9,534	9,210
Gross Income	39,847	40,180	55,210	49,318
Less tax and social contributions	6,055	7,662	12,752	10,689
Disposable Income	33,792	32,518	42,458	38,629
Gross income per household member	13,057	14,468	18,609	16,975
Disposable income per household member	11,073	11,709	14,310	13,296
Gross income as % of state average	81%	81%	112%	100%
Disposable income as % of state average	87%	84%	110%	100%

1 Narrowing the definition of farm households impacts on the results for urban and rural household as some households that were classified as farm households using the broad definition becomes either urban or rural households. (Source: EU SILC 2004)

Source: Annual review and outlook for Agriculture and Food 2005/2006 - DAF - May 2006.

CREDIT FACILITIES AND RATES FOR FARMERS (2008)

(Quoted Matrix Rates)

LOAN FACILITIES FROM ACC BANK/RABO BANK		APRIL 2008	
	Term	Rate (Ranges) %	
Seasonal loans — Working capital for fertiliser, feed, stock, etc.	Up to 18 months	Matrix Range 6.0% to 9.5%	
Agri Investor Package — All purpose, incl. farm development, land purchase, Milk Quota available in Range = 6.0% to 7.5% — For Commercial and young farmers - new business — First year discount for farmer involved in technical and financial monitoring eg Teagasc Cost Control Planner and Dairy Herd Monitor.	Up to 25 year incl. moratorium early years	* Euribor + 2.00%	
Agri & Rural Development Finance Scheme — Dairy Hygiene, Farm Waste management, Alternative Enterprises, Grain & Potato Storage, REPS Funding, Horticultural and organic Sector Investment, Agri Tourism Finance	Up to 15 Years	6.0% to 10.0%	
Other Farm development Term Loans — Medium to long term projects, including land purchase and reclamation, other farm buildings	5 - 15 Years	9.5% to 10.0%	
Plant and Machinery Finance — To purchase farm machinery and equipment, incl. car loans. Available on lease, hire purchase and personal loans. New and second hand	1 - 5 Years	Supplied through ACC Bank Asset Management	
Milk Quota Loans — With repayments every month or quarterly by Bank Direct Debit.	1 - 7 Years	Euribor + 2.0% See Agri - Investor Package above	
Forestry Loans — Afforestation Grant Bridging, Lump Sum advances on plantations, forestry land purchase	Up to 20 Years	6.0% to 10.0%	
Current Account Overdraft	Up to 12 Months	Matrix 9.5%	
Home Loans	Up to 25 Years	5.4% (variable) 5.49% (one year fixed)	

* (1 Month EURIBOR = 4.426% on 15th April 2008)

For more information contact Local ACC branch or www.accbank.ie (1850 272222)

* Lending terms and conditions apply. Minimum loan sizes apply.

* Banks are regulated by the Financial Regulator.

(2) LOAN FACILITIES FROM THE ASSOCIATED BANKS - 2008
(BANK MATRIX RATES)

		ARIL 2008	
1. Overdraft –the overdraft is the ideal way to finance the fluctuating element of seasonal financial requirements A minimum period of 30 days in credit (not necessarily consecutive) must be achieved each year. –Usually negotiated annually and if exceeded the excess can be penalised by a surcharge of between 0.75-1.5% per month over the overdraft rate for the duration thereof. – Interest is only charged on the day to day outstanding balance.		Business Overdrafts = 9.35% to 10.95%	
		Personal Individual Overdrafts 11.50% to 13.10%	
2. Seasonal, Bridging and Stocking Loans –For specific purposes usually over a period of up to 1 year –Linked to a specific purchase and repaid on receipt of specific income—e.g. seasonal feed and fertiliser bills, seasonal cattle systems or building contractor payments pending receipt of State Grants		9.35% to 10.95%	
3 Term Loans –Granted for specific purposes e.g. stock, buildings, equipment and reclamation over a specified period. – Repayment arranged to suit farm sales Moratorium on principal payments where necessary (up to 4 years as justified)	1-3 years	8.65% - 9.80%	
	3-5 years	9.35% - 10.0%	
	Over 5 years	9.35% - 10.45%	
	(Loan Account)	9.35% - 10.9%	

Note: Individual Bank Lending Terms and Conditions apply. Bank Matrix Rates are indicative only.
Market linked interest rates can be availed of depending on the individuals circumstances and these market linked interest rates are lower and more competitive than the quoted Matrix Bank Rates.

Special AGRI - Loans

(1) Bank of Ireland (April 2008)

(a) Milk Quota Purchase - Prime Rate + 1.25%
Total 6.2%

(b) Farm Finance Package (April 2008)
(All New Business)

€0-€25,000 8.75% variable
€25,001-65,000 7.75% variable
€65,001-200,000 6.75% variable
negotiable term and payment, can be used for all farm needs, incl. seasonal and stocking loans.

(c) Land purchase for agri-loan available over 15 years, 3 years fixed at 7.0% with option to refix after 3 years.
Minimum loan €25,400
Variable Rate (Prime + 2%) = 6.95%

(d) Home Loans 5.44% variable

- For more information contact local Bank of Ireland Branch (www.bankofireland.ie)

(3) A.I.B. (May 2008)

Farmer credit line - The Evergreen Credit Line (working capital facility) - Flexible repayment options.
(Rates available on request)

Account must revert to credit for 30 days each year.

Milk Quota Loans (Rates available on request) - Repayments structured to suit individual requirements.

Milk Quota restructuring loans with Terms up to 10 years considered. (Prime + 1.125% = 6.125% variable at 12 May 2008)

Long term farm development loans - Terms up to 20 years considered (Rates available on request). Flexible repayment options.

Home Mortgage Loans - Standard Variable Rate = 5.25% (5.36% variable) - at 6th May 2008

Buy to let mortgages - Standard Variable Rate = 5.45% (5.57% APR) at 6th May 2008

Forestry Finance Packages = Flexible/Competitive Short term and Long Term packages available.

Contact local AIB Branch or Log onto (www.aib.ie/farming)

SIX MONTHLY REPAYMENTS (INCLUSIVE OF INTEREST) PER €1000 BORROWED (€)

Terms in Years	Interest Rate												
	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%	15%
2	259	263	266	269	272	275	279	282	285	289	292	295	299
3	175	179	182	185	187	190	193	197	200	203	207	210	213
4	134	137	140	143	145	148	151	155	158	161	164	167	171
5	108	111	114	117	120	123	126	130	133	136	139	142	146
6	92	95	98	101	103	106	110	113	116	119	123	126	129
7	80	83	86	89	92	95	98	101	104	108	111	114	118
8	71	74	77	80	82	86	89	92	96	99	102	106	109
9	64	67	70	73	76	80	83	86	89	92	96	99	103
10	58	61	64	67	70	74	77	80	84	87	91	94	98
11	54	57	60	63	66	70	73	76	79	83	87	90	94
12	50	53	56	59	62	65	69	72	76	80	83	87	91
13	47	50	53	56	60	63	67	70	73	77	81	85	88
14	44	47	50	53	57	60	64	67	71	75	78	82	86
15	41	45	48	51	55	59	62	65	69	73	77	81	85
16	39	43	46	49	53	56	60	63	67	71	75	79	83
20	33	37	40	43	46	50	54	58	62	66	71	75	79

Note: The following example illustrates how the above table may be used:

EXAMPLE: Calculate the annual repayments (nearest €) on a 10-year term loan of €5,000 if the interest rate charged is 10% p.a.

Half-yearly repayments per €1,000 (10 years @ 10%) = €80

Annual repayments for €5,000 (10 years @ 10%) = €80 x 5 x 2 = €800

Annual repayments = €800

ANNUAL REPAYMENTS (INCLUSIVE OF INTEREST) PER €1000 BORROWED (€)

Terms in Years	Interest Rate												
	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%	15%
2	523	531	538	546	555	563	570	578	586	594	603	611	620
3	354	361	368	375	382	389	396	404	411	419	427	434	442
4	269	276	283	289	296	303	310	317	324	332	339	347	354
5	219	225	232	238	243	251	258	265	273	280	287	295	302
6	185	191	198	204	208	216	223	231	238	246	253	261	268
7	161	167	173	180	184	192	199	207	214	222	229	237	244
8	143	149	155	162	166	174	181	189	196	204	211	219	227
9	129	135	141	148	152	160	167	175	183	190	198	206	214
10	117	124	130	137	141	149	156	164	172	180	187	195	204
11	108	114	121	128	133	140	148	156	163	171	179	187	195
12	101	107	113	120	125	133	141	149	156	164	172	180	189
13	94	101	107	114	120	127	135	143	150	158	167	175	185
14	89	95	101	108	113	121	129	138	145	154	162	171	179
15	84	90	97	104	111	117	125	133	141	150	158	167	176
16	80	86	93	100	106	114	122	130	138	146	155	164	173
20	67	74	81	88	94	102	110	119	128	137	146	155	165

**CAPITAL OUTSTANDING EACH YEAR PER €1,000 BORROWED FOR LOANS
OF 5, 7, 10 & 15 YEARS AT VARYING INTEREST RATES**

At Start of Year	Interest Rate											
	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	11%	12%	13%	14%
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
5 YEAR LOAN												
1	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
2	812	816	819	823	826	830	833	836	839	843	846	849
3	618	624	630	635	640	645	651	656	661	666	671	676
4	418	424	430	436	441	447	452	458	463	469	474	480
5	212	216	220	224	228	232	236	240	244	248	252	256
7 YEAR LOAN												
1	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
2	870	874	878	881	884	888	891	895	898	901	904	907
3	735	742	749	756	761	767	773	779	784	790	795	806
4	597	605	614	622	629	636	644	651	658	666	673	679
5	454	463	472	480	487	495	503	511	519	526	534	541
6	307	315	322	330	336	343	350	357	363	370	377	384
7	156	161	165	170	173	178	182	187	192	196	200	205
10 YEAR LOAN												
1	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
2	913	917	921	925	928	931	934	937	940	943	944	948
3	823	831	838	845	850	856	862	868	874	879	884	889
4	731	741	750	760	767	776	784	792	800	808	815	822
5	636	647	659	670*	679	689	699	709	718	728	737	746
6	537	550	562	574	584	595	606	617	628	638	648	658
7	436	448	461	473	482	494	505	516	527	538	548	559
8	332	343	354	365	374	384	395	405	415	425	435	445
9	225	233	242	250	257	266	274	283	291	299	307	316
10	114	119	124	129	133	138	143	148	153	158	163	168
15 YEAR LOAN												
1	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
2	946	950	954	958	960	963	966	969	971	973	975	977
3	891	899	906	913	918	923	929	934	939	943	947	951
4	834	845	855	865	872	880	888	896	903	909	916	922
5	776	789	802	814	823	834	844	854	863	872	880	888
6	715	731	746	760	771	784	796	808	819	830	840	849
7	653	670	687	703	715	730	744	757	770	782	794	805
8	589	607	625	642	656	671	687	701	716	729	743	755
9	523	541	560	578	592	608	625	640	655	670	684	698
10	455	473	491	509	523	540	557	573	588	604	619	633
11	384	402	419	436	450	467	483	498	514	529	544	559
12	312	328	343	359	372	387	402	417	432	446	460	475
13	237	251	264	277	288	301	314	327	340	353	365	378
14	161	170	180	190	199	209	218	228	238	248	258	268
15	82	87	92	98	103	108	114	120	125	131	137	143

Example:

The Capital outstanding at the start of the fifth year on a 10 year loan of €5,000 borrowed at 6 per cent per annum
= €5 x 670 = €3,350.

Term Loan Repayment

Monthly Repayments €1000

YEARS	3.50%	4.00%	4.50%	5.00%	5.50%	6.00%	6.50%
1	84.92	85.14	85.37	85.60	85.82	86.05	86.28
2	43.20	43.42	43.64	43.86	44.08	44.31	44.53
3	29.30	29.52	29.74	29.96	30.18	30.41	30.63
4	22.35	22.57	22.80	23.02	23.24	23.47	23.70
5	18.19	18.41	18.64	18.86	19.09	19.32	19.55
6	15.41	15.64	15.87	16.10	16.33	16.56	16.79
7	13.44	13.66	13.89	14.12	14.36	14.59	14.83
8	11.95	12.18	12.42	12.65	12.89	13.13	13.37
9	10.80	11.03	11.27	11.51	11.75	11.99	12.24
10	9.88	10.12	10.36	10.60	10.84	11.09	11.34
11	9.13	9.37	9.61	9.85	10.10	10.35	10.61
12	8.51	8.75	8.99	9.24	9.49	9.74	10.00
13	7.98	8.22	8.47	8.72	8.97	9.23	9.49
14	7.53	7.78	8.03	8.28	8.54	8.80	9.06
15	7.14	7.39	7.64	7.90	8.16	8.42	8.69
16	6.80	7.05	7.31	7.57	7.83	8.10	8.37
17	6.51	6.76	7.01	7.28	7.54	7.81	8.09
18	6.24	6.50	6.75	7.02	7.29	7.56	7.85
19	6.01	6.26	6.52	6.79	7.06	7.31	7.63
20	5.79	6.05	6.32	6.59	6.86	7.15	7.44
21	5.60	5.86	6.13	6.41	6.69	6.97	7.26
22	5.43	5.69	5.96	6.24	6.52	6.81	7.11
23	5.27	5.54	5.81	6.09	6.38	6.67	6.97
24	5.13	5.40	5.67	5.96	6.25	6.54	6.84
25	5.00	5.27	5.55	5.83	6.13	6.42	6.73
Equivalent APR Rate	3.5%	4.0%	4.5%	5.0%	5.6%	6.1%	6.6%

Quarterly Repayments €1000

YEARS	3.50%	4.00%	4.50%	5.00%	5.50%	6.00%	6.50%
1	255.49	256.28	257.07	257.86	258.65	259.44	260.24
2	129.97	130.69	131.41	132.13	132.86	133.58	134.31
3	88.15	88.85	89.55	90.26	90.97	91.68	92.40
4	67.25	67.94	68.64	69.35	70.05	70.77	71.48
5	54.72	55.42	56.12	56.82	57.53	58.25	58.97
6	46.38	47.07	47.78	48.49	49.20	49.92	50.65
7	40.42	41.12	41.83	42.55	43.27	44.00	44.74
8	35.96	36.67	37.39	38.11	38.84	39.58	40.32
9	32.50	33.21	33.94	34.67	35.40	36.15	36.91
10	29.74	30.46	31.18	31.92	32.67	33.43	34.19
11	27.48	28.20	28.94	29.69	30.44	31.21	31.99
12	25.60	26.33	27.08	27.83	28.60	29.37	30.16
13	24.02	24.76	25.51	26.27	27.04	27.83	28.63
14	22.66	23.41	24.17	24.94	25.72	26.52	27.33
15	21.49	22.24	23.01	23.79	24.58	25.39	26.22
16	20.47	21.23	22.00	22.79	23.60	24.42	25.25
17	19.57	20.34	21.12	21.92	22.73	23.56	24.41
18	18.78	19.55	20.34	21.15	21.97	22.81	23.66
19	18.07	18.85	19.64	20.46	21.29	22.14	23.01
20	17.43	18.22	19.02	19.85	20.69	21.55	22.43
21	16.86	17.65	18.46	19.30	20.15	21.02	21.91
22	16.34	17.14	17.96	18.80	19.66	20.54	21.44
23	15.87	16.68	17.50	18.35	19.22	20.11	21.02
24	15.44	16.25	17.09	17.95	18.82	19.72	20.64
25	15.05	15.87	16.71	17.57	18.46	19.37	20.30

TERM LOAN REPAYMENTS PER €1000

MONTHLY REPAYMENTS

YEARS	7.00%	7.50%	8.00%	8.50%	9.00%	9.50%	10.00%
1	86.51	86.73	86.96	87.19	87.42	87.65	87.87
2	44.75	4.98	45.20	45.43	45.65	45.88	46.10
3	30.86	31.08	31.31	31.54	31.77	32.00	32.23
4	23.93	24.16	24.39	24.62	24.85	25.09	25.32
5	19.78	20.02	20.25	20.49	20.73	20.96	21.21
6	17.03	17.27	17.51	17.75	17.99	18.24	18.48
7	15.07	15.31	15.56	15.81	16.05	16.31	16.56
8	13.61	13.86	14.11	14.36	14.62	14.87	15.13
9	12.49	12.74	12.99	13.25	13.51	13.77	14.03
10	11.59	11.85	12.10	12.37	12.63	12.90	13.17
11	10.86	11.12	11.39	11.65	11.92	12.20	12.47
12	10.26	10.53	10.80	11.07	11.34	11.62	11.90
13	9.76	10.03	10.30	10.58	10.86	11.14	11.43
14	9.33	9.61	9.88	10.16	10.45	10.74	11.03
15	8.97	9.24	9.53	9.81	10.10	10.40	10.70
16	8.65	8.93	9.22	9.51	9.80	10.10	10.41
17	8.37	8.66	8.95	9.25	9.55	9.85	10.16
18	8.13	8.42	8.72	9.02	9.32	9.63	9.95
19	7.92	8.21	8.51	8.82	9.13	9.44	9.76
20	7.73	8.03	8.33	8.64	8.95	9.27	9.60
21	7.56	7.86	8.17	8.48	8.80	9.12	9.45
22	7.41	7.72	8.03	8.35	8.67	8.99	9.33
23	7.27	7.58	7.90	8.22	8.55	8.88	9.21
24	7.15	7.47	7.79	8.11	8.44	8.78	9.12
25	7.04	7.36	7.68	8.01	8.35	8.69	9.03
Equivalent APR rate	7.1%	7.7%	8.2%	8.7%	9.3%	9.8%	10.3%

QUARTERLY REPAYMENTS €1000

YEARS	7.00%	7.50%	8.00%	8.50%	9.00%	9.50%	10.00%
1	261.03	261.83	262.62	263.42	264.22	265.02	265.82
2	135.04	135.78	136.51	137.25	137.98	138.72	139.47
3	93.11	93.84	94.56	95.29	96.02	96.75	97.49
4	72.20	72.92	3.65	74.38	75.12	75.86	76.60
5	59.69	60.42	61.16	61.90	62.64	63.39	64.15
6	51.39	52.13	52.87	53.62	54.38	55.14	55.91
7	45.48	46.23	46.99	47.75	48.53	49.30	50.09
8	41.08	41.84	42.61	43.39	44.17	44.97	45.77
9	37.68	38.45	39.23	40.02	40.83	41.63	42.45
10	34.97	35.76	36.56	37.36	38.18	39.00	39.84
11	32.78	33.58	34.39	35.21	36.04	36.88	37.73
12	30.97	31.78	32.60	33.44	34.28	35.14	36.01
13	29.45	30.27	31.11	31.96	32.82	33.69	34.57
14	28.16	29.00	29.85	30.71	31.59	32.47	33.37
15	27.05	27.90	28.77	29.65	30.54	31.44	32.35
16	26.10	26.96	27.84	28.73	29.63	30.55	31.48
17	25.27	26.14	27.03	27.94	28.85	29.79	30.73
18	24.54	25.42	26.33	27.24	28.18	29.12	30.08
19	23.89	24.79	25.71	26.64	27.58	28.55	29.52
20	23.32	24.23	25.16	26.10	27.06	28.04	29.03
21	22.81	23.74	24.68	25.63	26.06	27.59	28.59
22	22.36	23.29	24.24	25.21	26.20	27.20	28.21
23	21.95	22.89	23.86	24.84	25.84	26.85	27.87
24	21.58	22.54	23.51	24.51	25.51	26.54	27.58
25	21.25	22.22	23.20	24.21	25.23	26.26	27.31

TERM LOAN REPAYMENTS PER €1000

MONTHLY REPAYMENTS

YEARS	10.50%	11.00%	11.50%	12.00%	12.50%	13.00%	13.50%
1	88.10	88.33	88.56	88.79	89.02	89.25	89.47
2	46.33	46.56	46.79	47.02	47.24	47.47	47.70
3	32.46	32.69	32.92	33.16	33.39	33.62	33.86
4	25.56	25.80	26.03	26.27	26.51	26.76	27.00
5	21.45	21.69	21.94	22.18	22.43	22.68	22.93
6	18.73	18.98	19.23	19.49	19.74	20.00	20.26
7	16.81	17.07	17.33	17.59	17.85	18.12	18.38
8	15.39	15.65	15.92	16.19	16.46	16.73	17.00
9	14.30	14.57	14.84	15.12	15.39	15.67	15.95
10	13.44	13.72	14.00	14.28	14.56	14.85	15.14
11	12.75	13.03	13.32	13.61	13.90	14.19	14.49
12	12.19	12.48	12.77	13.06	13.36	13.66	13.96
13	11.72	12.01	12.31	12.61	12.92	13.22	13.53
14	11.33	11.63	11.93	12.24	12.55	12.86	13.18
15	11.00	11.30	11.61	11.93	12.24	12.56	12.88
16	10.71	11.03	11.34	11.66	11.98	12.31	12.63
17	10.47	10.79	11.11	11.43	11.76	12.09	12.43
18	10.26	10.58	10.91	11.24	11.57	11.91	12.25
19	10.08	10.41	10.74	11.07	11.41	11.75	12.10
20	9.92	10.25	10.59	10.93	11.27	11.62	11.97
21	9.78	10.12	10.46	10.80	11.15	11.50	11.85
22	9.66	10.00	10.35	10.69	11.05	11.40	11.76
23	9.56	9.90	10.25	10.60	10.96	11.31	11.68
24	9.46	9.81	10.16	10.52	10.88	11.24	11.60
25	9.38	9.73	10.08	10.44	10.81	11.17	11.54
Equivalent APR rate	10.9%	11.4%	12.0%	12.5%	13.0%	13.6%	14.1%

QUARTERLY REPAYMENTS €1000

YEARS	10.50%	11.00%	11.50%	12.00%	12.50%	13.00%	13.50%
1	266.62	267.42	268.22	269.83	269.83	270.64	271.44
2	140.21	140.96	141.71	142.46	143.21	143.96	144.72
3	98.23	98.97	99.71	100.46	101.21	101.97	102.72
4	77.35	78.10	78.85	79.61	80.37	81.14	81.91
5	64.91	65.67	66.44	67.22	67.99	68.78	69.57
6	56.69	57.47	58.26	59.05	59.85	60.65	61.46
7	50.88	51.68	52.48	53.29	54.11	54.94	55.77
8	46.58	47.39	48.22	49.05	49.88	50.73	51.58
9	43.28	44.11	44.95	45.80	46.66	47.53	48.40
10	40.68	41.53	42.39	43.26	44.14	45.03	45.92
11	38.59	39.46	40.34	41.33	42.13	43.04	43.95
12	36.88	37.77	38.67	39.58	40.50	41.42	42.36
13	35.47	36.37	37.29	38.22	39.15	40.10	41.06
14	34.28	35.21	36.14	37.08	38.04	39.01	39.98
15	33.28	34.22	35.17	36.13	37.11	38.09	39.08
16	32.43	33.38	34.35	35.33	36.32	37.32	38.33
17	31.69	32.66	33.65	34.64	35.65	36.67	37.69
18	31.06	32.04	33.04	34.05	35.08	36.11	37.15
19	30.51	31.51	32.52	33.55	34.59	35.63	36.69
20	30.03	31.04	32.07	33.11	34.16	35.23	36.30
21	29.61	30.64	31.68	32.73	33.80	34.88	35.96
22	29.24	30.28	31.34	32.40	33.48	34.57	35.67
23	28.92	29.97	31.04	32.12	33.21	34.31	35.42
24	28.63	29.70	30.78	31.87	32.97	34.08	35.20
25	28.38	29.45	30.54	31.65	32.76	33.88	35.02

ANNUITY TABLES

Discount factors for calculating the present Value of future cash flows where cash flows are regular.

Years	Percentage														
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	0.99	0.98	0.97	0.96	0.95	0.94	0.93	0.93	0.92	0.91	0.90	0.89	0.88	0.87	0.86
2	1.97	1.97	1.91	1.89	1.86	1.83	1.81	1.78	1.76	1.74	1.71	1.69	1.67	1.65	1.63
3	2.94	2.88	2.83	2.78	2.72	2.67	2.62	2.58	2.53	2.49	2.44	2.40	2.37	2.34	2.31
4	3.90	3.81	3.72	3.63	3.55	3.47	3.39	3.31	3.24	3.17	3.10	3.04	2.99	2.94	2.89
5	4.85	4.71	4.58	4.45	4.33	4.21	4.10	3.99	3.89	3.79	3.70	3.60	3.53	3.47	3.41
6	5.80	5.60	5.42	5.24	5.08	4.92	4.77	4.62	4.49	4.36	4.23	4.11	4.02	3.94	3.86
7	6.73	6.47	6.23	6.00	5.79	5.58	5.39	5.21	5.03	4.87	4.71	4.56	4.44	4.34	4.24
8	7.65	7.33	7.02	6.73	6.46	6.21	5.97	5.75	5.53	5.33	5.15	4.97	4.82	4.70	4.58
9	8.57	8.16	7.79	7.44	7.11	6.80	6.52	6.25	6.00	5.76	5.54	5.33	5.15	5.00	4.86
10	9.47	8.98	8.53	8.11	7.72	7.36	7.02	6.71	6.42	6.14	5.89	5.65	5.42	5.24	5.08
11	10.37	9.79	9.25	8.76	8.31	7.89	7.50	7.14	6.81	6.50	6.21	5.94	5.67	5.46	5.27
12	11.26	10.58	9.95	9.39	8.86	8.38	7.94	7.54	7.16	6.81	6.49	6.19	5.89	5.64	5.41
13	12.13	11.35	10.64	9.99	9.39	8.85	8.36	7.90	7.49	7.10	6.75	6.42	6.11	5.84	5.59
14	13.00	12.11	11.30	10.56	9.90	9.30	8.75	8.24	7.79	7.37	6.98	6.63	6.30	5.99	5.71
15	13.87	12.85	11.94	11.12	10.38	9.71	9.11	8.56	8.06	7.61	7.19	6.81	6.46	6.12	5.82

DISCOUNT TABLES

Discount factors for calculating the present Value of future cash flows where cash flows are irregular.

Years	Percentage														
	1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	0.990	0.962	0.952	0.943	0.935	0.926	0.917	0.909	0.901	0.893	0.885	0.877	0.869	0.861	0.853
2	0.980	0.925	0.907	0.890	0.873	0.857	0.842	0.826	0.812	0.797	0.783	0.769	0.755	0.741	0.727
3	0.971	0.889	0.863	0.840	0.816	0.794	0.772	0.751	0.731	0.712	0.693	0.675	0.657	0.639	0.621
4	0.961	0.855	0.823	0.792	0.763	0.735	0.708	0.683	0.659	0.636	0.613	0.591	0.569	0.547	0.525
5	0.951	0.822	0.784	0.747	0.713	0.681	0.650	0.621	0.593	0.567	0.543	0.519	0.495	0.471	0.447
6	0.942	0.790	0.746	0.705	0.666	0.630	0.596	0.564	0.535	0.507	0.480	0.455	0.430	0.405	0.380
7	0.933	0.760	0.711	0.665	0.623	0.583	0.547	0.513	0.482	0.452	0.425	0.400	0.375	0.350	0.325
8	0.923	0.731	0.677	0.627	0.582	0.540	0.502	0.467	0.434	0.404	0.376	0.351	0.326	0.301	0.276
9	0.914	0.703	0.645	0.592	0.544	0.500	0.460	0.424	0.391	0.361	0.333	0.308	0.283	0.258	0.233
10	0.905	0.676	0.614	0.558	0.508	0.463	0.422	0.386	0.352	0.322	0.295	0.270	0.245	0.220	0.195
11	0.896	0.650	0.585	0.527	0.475	0.429	0.388	0.350	0.317	0.287	0.261	0.236	0.211	0.186	0.161
12	0.887	0.625	0.557	0.497	0.444	0.397	0.356	0.319	0.286	0.257	0.231	0.206	0.181	0.156	0.131
13	0.879	0.601	0.530	0.469	0.415	0.368	0.326	0.290	0.258	0.229	0.204	0.179	0.154	0.129	0.104
14	0.870	0.577	0.505	0.442	0.388	0.340	0.299	0.263	0.232	0.205	0.181	0.156	0.131	0.106	0.081
15	0.861	0.555	0.481	0.417	0.362	0.315	0.275	0.239	0.209	0.183	0.160	0.135	0.110	0.085	0.060

Years	Percentage														
	1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1	0.877	0.870	0.862	0.855	0.847	0.840	0.833	0.800	0.769	0.741	0.714	0.687	0.660	0.633	0.606
2	0.769	0.756	0.743	0.731	0.718	0.706	0.694	0.640	0.592	0.549	0.510	0.483	0.456	0.429	0.402
3	0.675	0.658	0.641	0.624	0.609	0.593	0.579	0.512	0.455	0.406	0.364	0.337	0.310	0.283	0.256
4	0.592	0.572	0.552	0.534	0.516	0.499	0.482	0.410	0.350	0.301	0.260	0.233	0.206	0.179	0.152
5	0.519	0.497	0.476	0.456	0.437	0.419	0.402	0.328	0.269	0.223	0.186	0.159	0.132	0.105	0.078
6	0.456	0.432	0.410	0.390	0.370	0.352	0.335	0.262	0.207	0.165	0.133	0.106	0.079	0.052	0.025
7	0.400	0.376	0.354	0.333	0.314	0.296	0.279	0.210	0.159	0.122	0.095	0.068	0.041	0.014	0.007
8	0.351	0.327	0.305	0.285	0.266	0.249	0.233	0.168	0.123	0.091	0.068	0.041	0.014	0.007	0.004
9	0.308	0.284	0.263	0.243	0.225	0.209	0.194	0.134	0.094	0.067	0.048	0.021	0.004	0.007	0.004
10	0.270	0.247	0.227	0.208	0.191	0.176	0.162	0.107	0.073	0.050	0.035	0.008	0.001	0.004	0.001
11	0.237	0.215	0.195	0.178	0.162	0.148	0.135	0.086	0.056	0.037	0.025	0.001	0.004	0.001	0.001
12	0.208	0.187	0.168	0.152	0.137	0.124	0.112	0.069	0.043	0.027	0.018	0.001	0.004	0.001	0.001
13	0.182	0.163	0.145	0.130	0.116	0.104	0.093	0.055	0.033	0.020	0.013	0.001	0.004	0.001	0.001
14	0.160	0.141	0.125	0.111	0.099	0.088	0.078	0.044	0.025	0.015	0.009	0.001	0.004	0.001	0.001
15	0.140	0.123	0.108	0.095	0.084	0.074	0.065	0.035	0.020	0.011	0.006	0.001	0.004	0.001	0.001

Example:

To find the Present Value of the following cash flows at 10 per cent discount of interest:

The Present Value of €100 received for 4 years at 10 per cent discount rate is €100 x 3.17 = €317

Year	Cash flow €	Discount Rate	Present Value €
1	150	0.909	136
2	200	0.526	165
3	200	0.751	150
4	250	0.683	171

The Present Value of this series of cash flows is: €622.

STATUTORY MINIMUM AGRICULTURAL WAGES—SUMMARY

(A) STATUTORY MINIMUM REMUNERATION OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS (2008)

	Rates from 23/08/2005		From 23/08/2006		From 01/07/2007	
Worker	Per Week	Per Hour	Per Week	Per Hour	Per Week	Per Hour
	€	€	€	€	€	€
Experienced Adult	304.20	7.80	316.68	8.12	337.35	8.65
Under Age 18	212.94	5.46	221.52	5.68	236.34	6.06
Job Entrant						
First Year (18+)	243.36	6.24	253.50	6.50	269.88	6.92
2nd Year	273.78	7.02	285.09	7.31	303.81	7.79
Worker in Structured Training						
First 1/3 (not over 1yr)	228.15	5.85	237.51	6.09	253.11	6.49
Second 1/3 (not over 1yr)	243.36	6.24	253.50	6.50	269.88	6.92
Third 1/3 (not over 1yr)	273.78	7.02	285.31	7.31	303.81	7.79

NOTE: The National Minimum Wage for experienced adult workers:

(A) From 1st January 2007 = €8.30 per hour.

(B) From 1st July 2007 = €8.65 per hour

(C) There are proposals to increase the minimum agricultural wage again in 2008/2009 but these are not agreed yet.

NOTE: Training is formal structured as defined in accordance with Section 16 of the national Minimum Wage, Act 2000

NOTE: MONTHLY rates shall be applicable only to contract of employment for a definite period of 5 months or more.

(B) NORMAL WORKING HOURS

	Normal Hours	Maximum Hours
Workers 15-16 years of age	37.5	40
Workers over 16 year of age	39	

(C) OVERTIME RATES (APPLIES AFTER NORMAL HOURS HAVE BEEN WORKED)

The maximum rates for overtime shall be as follows:-

- (i) For all time worked on any day other than Sunday in excess of the normal number of hours of work and for all time worked after 1:00 pm on the short day the minimum overtime rate shall be **Time-and-one-third** ($1^{1/3}$)
- (ii) For normal hours worked on Public Holidays, Time x 2 applies. For hours over normal hours, the rate is **Time-and-one-third by 2**
- (iii) For all time worked on Sunday the minimum overtime rate shall be **Time-and-two-thirds** ($1^{2/3}$)
- (iv) For all time worked in any week (Monday - Saturday) in excess of declared normal working hours the minimum overtime rate shall be **Time-and-a-third** ($1^{1/3}$)

(D) BENEFITS OR ADVANTAGES

- (i) Where any agricultural employer provides any agricultural worker in his employment with all of the benefits or advantages specified at (ii) below, such benefits or advantages shall for the purpose of computing the remuneration paid to such agricultural workers, be reckoned as payment of wages in lieu of payment in cash and the value at which any such benefit or advantage so provided is to be so reckoned shall be defined at (ii) below.
- (ii) Benefits or advantages and value at which they are to be reckoned as payment of wages in lieu of payment in cash

Value of Benefits etc. from April 1st 2000 to date (2008)

	Per Week	Per Day
Full Board and Lodgings	€54.13	€7.73
Full Board Only	€32.14	€4.60
Lodgings Only	€21.85	€3.14

* Per week means a 7 day week

Leave Year 1st April, 1999 to 31st March, 2000 and thereafter

From 1st April, 1999, depending on time worked, workers in relation to whom the Committee operates shall be entitled to holidays calculated by one of the following methods:-

- (a) 4 working weeks in the leave year in which the worker works at least 1,365 hours (unless it is a leave year in which the worker changed employment);
- (b) 1/3 of a working week per calendar month that the worker works at least 117 hours;
- (c) 8% of the hours worked in a leave year, but subject to a maximum of 4 working weeks.

3. Entitlement to Public Holidays

Workers in relation to whom the Committee operates are entitled to public holiday benefit in accordance with the provisions of the Organisation of Working Time Act, 1997. Part-time and short-time workers must have worked for at least 40 hours in the 5 weeks before the public holiday to qualify for public holiday benefit.

Full details from - Agricultural Workers Joint Labour Committee
The Labour Court,
Tom Johnson House,
Haddington Road,
Dublin 4.
(01) 613 6666 Ext. 6639, 6640
Lo-Call 1890 220 228
Fax (01) 660 8437
Website www.labourcourt.ie

(See details under Joint Labour Committee (JLC) Rates of Pay and List of JLC's
- Select Agricultural Workers

FARM RETIREMENT SCHEME - 2000

(Co-funded under N.D.P. 2000 - 2006 and E.U.)

The Scheme came into operation on 27 November 2000 and will cease on 31 December 2006.

Objectives of Scheme

- to provide an income for older farmers who retire
- to replace older farmers by farmers who are able to improve, where necessary, the economic viability of the holding
- to reassign agricultural land to non-agricultural uses where it cannot be farmed under satisfactory conditions of economic viability.

Retirement Pension

Flat Rate of 5403 Euros PLUS 338 Euros per hectare of UAA transferred up to a maximum of 13,515 Euros per annum. (Max pension payable on 24ha).

The pension is paid on the last working day of each month, less appropriate income tax (under PAYE system).

The pension will be paid for a maximum of 10 years but not beyond the age of 66 for those entering scheme in the year 2004 and subsequent years.

Lands Eligible for Payment of Pension

- (i) From 27th April 2001 only lands owned/leased which were included on an Area Aid/IACS declaration by applicant/family member/partner at the time of signing the transfer/lease documents are eligible.

Applicants who retired before 27th April 2001 who did not previously make an Area Aid application must have available for inspection, other evidence of scale of farming.
- (ii) Lands transferred/leased to eligible transferees or reassigned to non-agricultural use on or after 1 January 2000 are eligible for the scheme.
- (iii) Pensions lands which are currently in the previous E.R.S. (1994-1999) are ineligible for inclusion in the new scheme until after the expiry date of that pension.
- (iv) Lands leased in on a long-term basis prior to 1 January 2000 are eligible for the ERS provided the lease (or a renewed lease) covers the full term of the pension and includes a clause allowing the transferor to sub-lease.
- (v) Holdings to be transferred/leased must be a minimum of 5 ha. U.A.A.
- (vi) Applicant may retain dwelling house and associated buildings and amenity grounds and a maximum of 10% (max 1 ha) of U.A.A. Retained land or farm buildings may not be used for commercial farming.
- (vii) Once an applicant has been approved, subject to the agreement of the transferee, he/she may dispose of up to 2 ha of pension land.

Eligible Transferors

- (i) Have ceased commercial farming and divested themselves of all U.A.A. land
- (ii) Have herd numbers (etc) cancelled/transferred or made dormant.
- (iii) Be between 55th and 66th birthday.
- (iv) Provide a Personal Public Service Number (PPSN) for self and any partner in a joint management application.
- (v) Have practiced farming for 10 calendar years prior to transfer and derived not less than 25% of total income units from **farming at the time** of transfer.
- (vi) Have total income units of 200 or less at time of transfer (except in the case of a free and definitive transfer of all lands to eligible family members, where no income limit will apply.) Note: This 200 income unit income limit is being removed for transferors who transfer land and join the scheme after 1st September 2006
- (vii) Joint Holding, Tenancy-in-common
 - (a) Where lands are jointly owned only one party may apply on the total area.
 - (b) Tenancy-in-common lands must be divided (Deed of Partition) for either party to apply solely for pension based on their own area unless - the lands are declared as commonage on Area Aid - All the lands in the tenancy are transferred/leased to transferee - they are not required to meet the minimum 20 I.U. threshold.
 - (c) In the case of joint owners or joint leaseholders each party must cease all farming definitively but only the non farm income and national pension of the applicant is counted.
- (viii) If during the pension period applicant comes into possession of additional U.A.A. they must divest themselves of it within 4 months by sale or lease to transferee or 3rd party.

- (ix) Once an applicant has been approved, subject to the agreement of the transferee, he/she may dispose of up to 2ha of pension land (likewise for the transferee)

Eligible Transferees

- (i) be between 18th and 41st birthday for applications in 2005. The upper age limit will be reduced to 40 years old in 2006
- (ii) Educational/Experience Requirements
- If born before 1st January 1975, have been engaged in farming for a least 5 years.
 - If born on or after 1st January 1975 have a minimum of 3 years farming experience and attended a course in agriculture/horticulture of at least 180 hours.
- (iii) Have an upper Non Farm income of not more than 100 income units (€25,400) in the tax year prior to application. Note: This income limit of €25,400 is being increased to €40,000 for transferees who take over land in the retirement scheme from 1st September 2006.
- meet a minimum viability threshold of at least 50 income units of which at least 20 I.U. must be derived from farming owned or leased land (for period of pension). Rented lands (for less than period of pension) cannot be used for the calculation of the 20 I.U. minimum threshold from farming.
 - transferee must show that his/her system is capable of earning 20 I.U.
- (iv) Have a herd number (etc) + P.P.S.N.
- (v) Have at least 5ha of U.A.A.
- (vi) For 5 years or period of pension, if greater
- practice farming/forestry/agri-tourism on all the pension lands.
 - practice farming on an area sufficient to generate at least 20 I.U.
- (vii) Undertake to follow Code of Good farming Practice.
- (viii) Spouse is acceptable as transferee under usual conditions as set out above (i-vii).

Early Retirement Pensions and National Retirement Pensions

All applicants under the Scheme will be required to complete a Pensions Declaration Form every year on the anniversary of their entry into the E.R.S. When a transferor (and spouse involved in joint management) reaches the normal retirement age of 66, they must apply for a contributory old age pension.

The total amount of the national pension (includes adult dependant allowance, child dependent and living alone allowance) will be deducted from the E.R.S. pension. If the rate of national retirement pension increases during the period in the E.R.S., the retirement pension will be reduced accordingly.

The following pensions are National Retirement Pensions, Old Age Contributory, Old Age Non-Contributory, Survivors Contributory and Non-Contributory from age 66 onwards, Retirement, Invalidity and Blind Person's Pension.

Increased Payments for Retired Farmers

The Minister for Agriculture and Food on 13th November 2006 announced the following increases to retired farmers in the two existing schemes. The increases are totally funded by the Irish Government and will apply from 1st November 2006:

- (A) The maximum payment increases by €2000 (from €12,075 to €14,075 per year) for about 3000 farmers still in the first EU Retirement Scheme (1994 - 1999).
- (B) The maximum payment increases by €1,485 (from €13,515 to €15,000 per year) for about 2000 farmers in the second EU Retirement Scheme (2000 - 2006)
- (C) Total payments under the Farm Retirement Schemes in 2006 are approximately €72 million.
- (D) The Farm Retirement Pension income is subject to income tax.

New Retirement Scheme for 2007 - 2013 Period

The Minister for Agriculture and Food on 19th October 2006 announced proposals for a new Retirement Scheme with a maximum annual payment of €15,000 in the new Draft Rural Development Plan (More details later).

This new scheme is expected to be launch in approximately April - May of 2007, following final approval by the E.U.

The Early Retirement Scheme (ERS 3) (2007-2013)

1. Introduction

- New scheme launched 13th June 2007
- Part of Ireland's Rural Development Programme co-funded under the National Development Plan and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development for the 7 years (2007-2013).
- Total funding of €418 million available. This will provide for existing retired farmers under two previous schemes and will also provide payment for about 4,000 new retired farmers who are expected to join the scheme at about 500 – 600 per year.

2. Pension payment rates

- Flat rate payment of €9,300/year for first 5 hectares or 5 production units plus €300 per hectare of agricultural land or production unit transferred. The maximum pension is €15,000 per year achieved on 24 hectares or 24 production units.

Example Pension Payments

Area (hectares) transferred	OR Production units	Pension (€) per year
5	5	€9,300
10	10	€10,800
15	15	€12,300
20	20	€13,800
24	24	€15,000

Note: Pension payments for maximum of 10 years or up to the age of 66

3. Retiring from farming is a big step – check the following before you commence the retirement process:

- Transferor/transferee(s) read scheme documents
- Personal/financial implications of retiring
- What alternatives to farming after retirement
- Penalties/clawbacks if rules broken
- Implications for national retirement pensions paid by Department of Social and Family Affairs
- Need to continue voluntary P.R.S.I. contributions up to age 66 to qualify for the State pension (contributory).
- Regularise existing REPS commitments before joining ERS3
- Get legal/financial/other advice before joining ERS3
- Check that transferee(s) will meet the scheme conditions
- Know implications for single payment scheme (SPS)

4. Main scheme objectives

- To support farmers who wish to retire
- To support farm workers who retire
- To complement young farmers installation scheme

5. Eligible lands for payment of pension

- Agricultural land owned/leased by applicant/partner
- On SPS/area aid at date of signing transfer/lease documents or during year prior to this.
- Lands transferred to eligible transferees on/after 1st January, 2005.
- Various types of land excluded: (dwelling/buildings/forestry/water/quarries/sand and gravel pits/grazing rights/turbary rights)
- Land ownership at 31 December in year prior to transfer/lease of pension lands to the transferee determines the type of application:
 - Joint management
 - Joint ownership
 - Sole application
- At least 5 hectares of agricultural lands or 5 production units for intensive enterprises must be transferred.
- Transferor may retain dwelling house and maximum of 10% but not more than 1 hectare of agricultural land. This cannot be used for agriculture by transferor but can be farmed by other parties (formal agreement required).
- Up to 20% of area owned at 1st January 2007 or after 1st January of year prior to retirement can be disposed of to a person outside of the Scheme, but not to a spouse/partner, subject to certain conditions.
- Once in Scheme, transferor/transferee can dispose of up to 2 hectares but pension reduced by €300/ha/year from date of sale if pension lands reduced below 24 ha.

6. Person eligible to apply for a pension (the transferor)

On the date the completed application is received in the Department:

- Have ceased all agricultural activity for life. However, they can work as an insured employee in a farm related business (e.g. for farm relief service, agricultural contractors etc.)

- Have divested of all agricultural lands (excluding lands retained)
- Be between 55th and 66th birthday (pension is paid for maximum of 10 years or up to the age of 66).
- Have personal public services number (PPSN)
- Have farmed solely or with family member/partner for each of the 10 years prior to signing transfer/lease. (The 10-year farming rule)
- All Department identifiers (herd/flock/cereal numbers) must be cancelled/transferred/made dormant).
- Have farmed minimum of 5 hectares or 5 production units for intensive enterprises up to time of transfer.
- Have derived at least 25% of total income from farming in tax year prior to the transfer/lease. (The 25% farm income rule)
- Disposed of lands/relevant farm buildings to eligible transferee.

7. The person who takes over the pension lands (the transferee)

- The minimum agricultural area required by each transferee is:
- 15 hectares in less favoured areas (L.F.A.)
- 20 hectares in non-less favoured areas
- A minimum of 20 production units applies for intensive enterprises.

The Transferee (category A)

- These transferees' must meet all the conditions of and qualify for payment under the young farmer's installation scheme (YFIS 2007-2013), having been set up in farming on pension lands received from transferor.
- The ERS3 application will not be approved until the YFIS application is approved for payment.

The Transferee (category B)

The transferee shall fulfil the following conditions on date a completed ERS3 application is received in the Department:

- Be between 18th and 45th birthday.
- Be farming minimum of 5 ha of enlargement land in addition to pension lands received from the transferor (or 5 production units for intensive enterprises).
- Be farming after the transfer an enlarged holding of at least 15 ha (LFA's) or 20 ha (non-LFA's) or 20 production units (intensive).
- Have a non-farm income not exceeding €50,000
 - In tax year prior to signing last transfer or lease to transferee
 - Or in tax year prior to application
- Training and experience as follows:
 - If born after 01/01/1975 have 3 years experience and 180 hours formal training.
 - If born before 01/01/1975 have at least 5 years farming experience.

The Transferee (category C)

The transferee shall fulfil the following conditions on date a completed ERS3 application is received in the Department:

- Have been approved as a transferee under a previous early retirement scheme:
 - (a) ERS1 = 1994 to 1999
 - (b) or ERS2 = 2000 to 2006
- Be between 45th and 50th birthday.
- Be farming minimum 5 ha of enlargement land or 5 production units (intensive enterprises) in addition to pension lands from transferor.
- After transfer be farming enlarged holding of at least 20 ha agricultural land (non LFA) or 15 ha (LFA) or 20 production units (intensive)
- Income/educational requirements were met under ERS1 or ERS2.

Transferees (other points to note)

- Have herd number or other Department identifier
- Provide PPSN
- Transferees may enter partnerships with other farmers. Notify Department and certain conditions apply.
- Farm all pension lands for period of pension and put on area aid each year.
- Enlargement land – minimum of 5 ha required for minimum 5 years after valid application. Can be owned, leased or rented. Put on SPS form.

8. ERS3 – other points

- Completed applications should be sent to Early Retirement Section, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Johnstown Castle, Wexford.

For more information contact your Teagasc Adviser, Education Officer or the local Teagasc Office.

John Norris
Advisory Services Office
Teagasc
Kildalton
Tel: 051-644528
Mobile: 087-6184289
24th September, 2007

RURAL ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION SCHEME (REPS 3 from 5th February 2004)

(Co-funded under NDP 2000-2006 and EU)

The objectives of REP are to:

- Establish farming practices and production methods which reflect the need for environmental conservation and protection,
- Protect and enhance wildlife habitats and endangered species of flora and fauna,
- Produce quality food in an extensive and environmentally friendly manner.

Eligibility

- Be farming at least 3 hectare (7.42 acres) of owned or leased (5 yrs) land, excluding commonage and grazing rights, or 1 hectare in the case of small scale organic fruit or vegetable producers.
- Be aged 18 years or over.
- Undertake to implement, for 5 years, a series of eleven measures and at least two further enhancement measures.
- All land, farmed, owned or leased, must be included in the plan; however, the following does not qualify for payment.
 - Dwelling house and associated buildings and grounds not used for farming, public roads and lakes, setaside, rented or leased land where the unexpired lease period is less than 5 years, commonage shares and grazing rights that do not meet certain eligibility conditions, all land on which forestry premia is being paid, and commercial forestry, land held in fee simple, subject to turbary rights, land not declared annually on IACS and/or not under the control and management of the applicant for the duration of the REP plan, dealers premises.

Measures to be undertaken

- (i) Follow a farm nutrient management plan prepared for the total area of the farm,

Plan will include the storage and management of farm waste and a nutrient and fertiliser plan which limits the application of N and P.

N limits

- 170 kg organic N per hectare
- 260 kg overall limit of organic N and chemical N per hectare

- (ii) Adopt an appropriate grassland management plan for the total area of the farm,

- (iii) Protect and maintain all watercourses, waterbodies and wells,

- (iv) Retain wildlife habitats,

- (v) Maintain farm and field boundaries,

- (vi) Restrict the use of pesticides and fertilisers in and around hedgerows, lakes, ponds, rivers and streams,

- (vi) Protect features of historical and/or archaeological interest,

- (viii) Maintain and improve the visual appearance of the farm and farmyard,

- (xi) Produce tillage crops respecting environmental principles.

- (x) Undertake training in environmentally friendly farming practices,

- (xi) Prepare, monitor and update agri-environmental plan in consultation with the Planner and keep such farm and environmental records as may be prescribed by the Minister.

In addition to the basic measures, the participant must choose two of the following undertakings at least one of which is from Category 1.

Biodiversity Undertakings

Category 1 Options	Category 2 Options
4A Creation of a New Habitat	2A Traditional Hay Meadows
5A Hedgerow Rejuvenation	2B Species Rich Grassland
5B New Hedgerow Establishment	3A Increased Watercourse Margin
5C Additional Stonewall Maintenance	3B Exclude all Bovine Access to Watercourses
9A Green Cover Establishment	4B Broadleaved Tree Planting
9B Environmental Management of Set-aside	4C Nature Corridors
9C Increased Arable Margins	7A Increase in Archaeological Buffer Zones
	7B Management of Publicly Accessible Archaeological Sites
	8A Provide Landscaping Around the Farmyard

Supplementary Measure A (S.M.A.)

This additional measure is mandatory where all or part of the lands are in one or more of the following **TARGET AREAS**:

- Natural Heritage Areas (NHA's).
- Farmland based Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's) or Special Protection Areas (SPA's) on Protection of Wild Birds.
- Commonage

These areas must be farmed:-

In accordance with the framework plan or environment report.

- Reduce stock numbers.
- Carry out remedial works.
- Without the prior approval of the Department there must be:
 - No increase in stocking
 - No new introduction of stock to previously ungrazed areas
 - No change in stock type
- Restricted used of fertilisers and pesticides.

Other Non Compulsory Supplementary Measures

GROUP 1

LINNET Habitats (Land Invested in Nature Natural Eco-Tillage)

This measure is to encourage grassland farmers to create an area of cereal production to provide an overwintering food source of seeds and small insects for finches or other birds.

Traditional Orchards

This measure is to create and preserve apple orchards with specific varieties traditional to Ireland - min. size 0.05 ha.

Riparian Zones

This measure is to provide shade to overly exposed designated rivers, to stabilise riverbanks and to provide a suitable habitat for flora and fauna.

GROUP 2

Corncrake Habitats	Objectives are to enhance the habitat structure and availability of breeding sites for the corncrake.
Conservation of Rare Breeds	Objective is to encourage farmers to rear animals of specific breeds traditional to Ireland. Eligible Breeds Cattle - Kerry, Dexter, Irish Maol Equines - Connemara, Irish Draught Sheep - Galway
Organic Farming	Objective is to deliver enhanced environmental and animal welfare benefits and to encourage REPS participants to produce organic food. Requirements: Must be registered and approved and have the operation inspected and approved annually. Must register with Department of Agriculture and Food as an organic producer. Producers are encouraged to convert their entire holdings, however new organic producers registered from 1st June 2004 may avail of partial conversion under specific criteria.

Farmers may undertake as many supplementary measures as they wish, however, they will only be paid for one measure or paid on two where one is undertaken from Group 1 and one from Group 2.

REPS Payment - General Programme

Initial payment will be made following the approval of a valid application. In subsequent years the annual payments will be made subject to the farmer making an application and providing evidence of compliance with the agri-environment plan.

Closing Date for New Applications for REPS 3

The final application date for new applicants wishing to join the present REPS 3 (2000 - 2006) was 13th October 2006.

REPS Payments and Tax

Annual payments under the REPS Scheme are a part of normal trading income on the farm and are subject to Income Tax, PRSI and Health Levy under the normal taxation rules.

Rates of Payment (REPS 3)

General Scheme		
Target Areas		Non Target Areas
Area (ha)	Rate (€/ha)	Rate (€/ha)
0-20	242	200
20-40	242	175
40-55	24	70
55-80	24	10 (over 55)
80-120	18	
Over 120	5	

Supplementary Measures

- 1) LINNET Habitats
 - First hectare €700
 - From 1 to 2.5 ha €400/ha
- 2) Traditional Orchards
 - €150 per orchard established (min. size 500 M2 with 16 standard or 24 half standard trees)

- 3) Riparian Zone
 - €724.50/ha to max of 2.5 ha.
- 4) Corncrake Habitats
 - €100 per designated hectare
- 5) Conservation of Rare Breeds
 - €200 per livestock unit of breed registered with the breed society
- 6) Organic Farming
 - >3 ha
 - ✧ in conversion €181 /ha to 55 ha, €30/ha for over 55 ha.
 - ✧ full organic status €91 /ha to 55 ha, €15/ha for over 55 ha.
 - ≤3 ha
 - ✧ in conversion €242/ha
 - ✧ full organic status €121/ha

Statistics on the REPS Scheme (30th April 2005)

- (1) From 1994 to 30th April 2005, a total of €1,665 million has been paid out to farmers under the various REPS Schemes (1, 2 and 3). The total budget allocated for REPS in 2006 is €323 million.
- (2) The number of farmers participating in the REPS Scheme at 30th April 2005 were as follows:

(A) REPS 2 Scheme = 24, 946 Farmers	}	Total = 45,017
(B) REPS 3 Scheme = 20,161 Farmers		
- (C) A record 54,300 farmers are in REPS in November 2006
- (3) Source of Data = DAF Website. (www.agriculture.gov.ie) - see Environment/REPS

The new REPS 4 Scheme (2007 - 2013)

The Minister for Agriculture and Food announced on 19th October 2006 that a new REPS 4 Scheme will apply for the period 2007 - 2013 under the new Rural Development Plan. It is proposed to increase payments by 17% and this will increase the standard annual payment to €10,000 for 55 hectares, more details will be available in early 2007.

The new FEPS Scheme (Forest Environment Protection Scheme)

This new scheme will run on a PILOT BASIS from January 2007. The scheme is to encourage the establishment of high nature value forestry on farms which participate in REPS. Grants and premiums are payable at the full Afforestation Rates on the new forestry planted, and there is an extra payment of up to €200/hectare for the first five years to compensate for the land taken out of REPS.

FEPS is only available to farmers who are currently in REPS or who intend to join the new REPS 4 Scheme within the next 12 months. Farmers must plant a minimum area of 8 Hectares to forestry (Various rules apply with regard to the type of forestry, etc.). Both the FEPS and Forestry Payments are tax free. The Forest Section and REPS Division of DAF must be informed and the REPS Plan amended. For more details see the Forestry/REPS Section of the Teagasc and DAF Websites. (Some changes apply from 2008 forward)

INSTALLATION AID SCHEME (IAS) - 2000 (Co-funded under N.D.P. 2000 - 2006)

The objective of the scheme is to encourage young people to establish themselves in farming on a viable holding. The scheme applies to farmers who have been deemed to be set up in farming for the first time on or after 1 January 2000 and not later than 31st December 2006.

Payment of Premium

A premium of €9523 will be paid following approval of a valid application.

Conditions

To qualify for Installation Aid a farmer must

- (i) never have previously qualified for installation aid
- (ii) be first set up on or after 1st January 2000 on at least 5 ha. U.A.A.
- (iii) Be between 18th and under 35th birthday at date of set up
- (iv) Have incurred setting up costs and provide proof that some or all of these costs remain to be discharged
- (v) Be first registered as a sole user of a herd, flock, equine, cereal number after the date of setting up.
- (vi) Have a P.P.S. number
- (vii) Lodge an application form (IASI) with accompanying documentation within 6 months of setting up.

Established in Farming

To be deemed established in farming a farmer must

- (i) have submitted application form IASI for Installation Aid
- (ii) meet the following requirements of skill and competence at the date of setting up or within two years of that date
 - (a) If born before 1st January 1975 - have a minimum of 3 years experience in farming and have completed a minimum of 180 hours training in farming
 - (b) If born on or after 1st January 1975 must have one of the following at the date of setting up or within two years of that date
 - Teagasc Cert. In Farming, Diploma in Pig/Poultry production
 - Farm Apprenticeship Board Certificate
 - Degree in Agriculture/Horticulture
 - Degree in Veterinary Science, Degree/Diploma in Dairy Science, National Cert. In Agric. Science /Agric. Business Studies PLUS 80 hours farm management training.
 - Two years post secondary full time training (Inst. of Technology/University) plus 180 hours training in agriculture/horticulture

NOTE: See details for 25 courses which meet the Scheme Requirements and are listed in the Scheme Document.

- (iii) Fulfill the requirement to generate a minimum of 20 income units (IUs) from farming owned/leased land at the date of set up, or at the latest, within 2 years from that date.
- (iv) Submit documentary evidence of ownership/leasehold title.
- (v) For period of 5 years from date of set-up undertake to
 - practice farming/forestry/agri-tourism on all the lands on which he/she is set up.
 - practice farming on an area sufficient to generate at least 20 I.U.'s
- (vi) farm in accordance with Code of Good Farming Practice
- (vii) lodge application form (IAS2) for payment within 30 months of setting up
- (viii) reside within 112 km (70 miles) of holding on a permanent basis for at least 5 years from set up

Application Procedure

- (A) Lodge Application to join scheme (form IAS 1), within 6 months of setting up
- (B) Apply for payment within 30 months of setting up (form IAS 2)

Set Up means that the applicant has obtained possession of more than 5 ha of eligible lands and has applied to register as the sole or joint user of a herd/flock, etc., number.

Date of Set Up means the later of the following dates

- Date transfer documents were signed or
- Operative date or lease or
- date the applicant has obtained vacant possession of over 5 ha of eligible lands or
- date of application for registering as a sole/joint user of a herd/flock, etc., number.

Installation Aid and Taxation

The Installation Aid Payment of €9,523 is a capital grant. It is not an income payment and therefore it is tax free and not subject to Income Tax, PRSI and health levy.

New Installation Aid Scheme (2007 - 2013)

The Minister for Agriculture and Food announced on 19th October 2006 that a new Installation Aid Scheme will operate in the period 2007 - 2013 as part of the Rural Development Plan. The maximum payment is being increased by 55% to €15,000. The new IAS Scheme is expected to be launched in April/May 2007 following approval by the E.U.

The Young Farmer's Installation Scheme (YFIS)

(2007 to 2013)

1. Introduction

- New scheme launched 13th June, 2007
- Part of Ireland's Rural Development Programme co-funded under the National Development Plan and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development for the 7 years (2007-2013).
- Scheme objective is to encourage young people to establish themselves in farming.
- Scheme applies to farmers' deemed set-up on eligible lands for first time on/after 1st January 2007 up to 31st December 2013.

2. Funding for YFIS

- Young farmers grant is increased by 57% from €9,523 in previous scheme to €15,000 in new scheme.
- Higher grant will also be paid to farmers set-up in farming between 1st May 2006 and 31st December 2006 under the previous IAS scheme provided certain conditions are met.
- This capital grant is tax-free and is not treated as income which would be subject to income tax and PRSI.
- Total funding over 7 years = €63 million. Approximately 600 young farmers/year or 4,200 farmers in total can benefit from this fund. The Minister reserves the right to suspend applications when financial ceiling reached.

3. Date of "set-up" in YFIS

- (a) Means the latest of following dates;
- (b) Date lease/transfer signed to achieve at least 15 ha (LFA) or 20 ha (non-LFA) or 20 production units (intensive enterprise facilities)
- (c) Operative date of lease, if later than date of signing
- (d) Date of vacant possession for lands/facilities
- (e) Date of receipt of application by DAF for registration as a sole or joint user of a herd number/other DAF identifier.

Note: Lesser 15 ha threshold applies where 50% or more of eligible lands in LFA's

4. Eligibility to enter YFIS

The farmer must:

- (a) never fulfilled requirements of set-up under a previous Installation Aid Scheme
- (b) Have date of set-up on/after 1st January 2007
- (c) Be between 18th and 35th birthday on date of set-up
- (d) Have a PPS number
- (e) Provide all documents required

5. Application to enter the Scheme (form YFIS 1)

- (a) Applications must be received by DAFF not later than 12 months after date of set-up. (If late, penalty is 1% reduction of aid for each working day received late).
- (b) However, applicants set-up (1 January 2007 to 30 June 2007) have up to 30 June 2008 to lodge application
- (c) Send applications to DAFF, On-Farm Investment Schemes Division, Johnstown Castle, Wexford.

6. Eligibility/application for payment (YFIS 2)

To be eligible for payment, a farmer must:

- (a) Have submitted form YFIS 1 fully correct
- (b) Meet requirements for skills/competence/education and training (see forms) at date of set-up or at latest within two years from that date.
- (c) Within 12 months period following date of set-up:
 - For non-intensive farming generate a minimum of 5 units from farming or
 - For intensive enterprises, generate a minimum of 20 production units from farming.
- (d) Undertake to practice farming/forestry/agri-tourism on all set-up lands for 5 years from date of set-up.
- (e) Be registered with DAFF herd number/identifier
- (f) Provide bank account details to enable payments by electronic fund transfer by DAFF from 1st January 2009.
- (g) Provide written evidence of not more than €50,000 non-farm income in one of the three tax years as follows:
 - Tax year prior to set-up
 - Tax year of set-up
 - Tax year following year of set-up
- (h) Submit documentation to verify that non-farm income is not above €50,000.
- (i) Submit YFIS 2 form for payment to DAFF when all requirements and documentation are satisfactorily completed.
- (j) The YFIS 2 application must be received by DAFF not later than 36 months from date of set-up. (If late, penalty is 10% per month or part-month received late).
- (k) However, applicants set-up 1st January to 30th June, 2007 have up to 30 June 2010 to lodge application.

7. The Business Plan (YFIS Business Plan)

- (a) A fully complete Business Plan must be submitted in the required format with the YFIS 1 Form.
- (b) Applicants must choose 3 options (one option from each of three different categories).
- (c) Two of the options must be completed within 2 years of set-up date.
- (d) Third option must be completed within 4 years of set-up date.

8. Agriculture Experience/Training required

- (a) Person born on/after 1st January 1975 must have at date of set-up or within two years of that date at latest, one of the qualifications listed in Appendix 2.
- (b) Person born before 1st January 1975 must either have one of the Appendix 2 qualifications or a minimum of three years experience in farming and satisfactorily completed courses of training in farming of minimum duration of 180 hours, at date of set-up or at latest within two years of that date.

9. YFIS – Other points

- (a) A range of penalties apply to various offences and non-compliance.
- (b) Applicants must submit an original current tax clearance certificate from Revenue with YFIS 2 form.
- (c) Where farmers set up on leased land, the lease must be for at least 7 years running from date of set-up.
- (d) Applicants should carefully read the Scheme's Terms/Conditions/Application forms.

For more information contact your Teagasc Adviser, Education Officer or the local Teagasc Office.

The Rural Environment Protection Scheme (REPS 4) and the Natura 2000 Scheme (Announced on 8th August 2007)

Introduction

The new REPS 4 scheme was approved at the EU's Rural Development Committee meeting on 24th July, 2007 as part of Ireland's Rural Development Programme and was launched by the Minister of Agriculture and Food on 8th August, 2007.

The latest version of the Rural Environment Protection Scheme, REPS 4, runs until 2013 and encourages farmers to enhance the environment through a range of actions including reduced use of fertilisers and pesticides contributing to lower greenhouse gas emissions as well as improved water quality. The scheme also assists in maintaining existing hedgerows and planting new ones, growing crops to provide food for wild birds and preserving traditional breeds of animals.

The measures are included in the CAP Rural Development Plan 2007-2013 and are co-funded under the National Development Plan and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) of the European Union.

The REPS/NATURA Schemes have funding of ?2.98 Billion over the seven years 2007-2013 (more than ?400 Million on average per year). The Irish Government is providing ?1.6 Billion and the EU ?1.38 Billion over the period.

In line with the social partnership agreement, Towards 2016, all payment rates, including those for NATURA 2000 designated land, are increased by 17% compared to REPS 3. This means that the average REPS farmer will get ?7,220 per year in REPS 4, while a farmer with 55 Hectares will qualify for over ?10,000 per year. When REPS 3, the last version of the scheme, closed to new entrants in December 2006 there were over 59,000 farms taking part and this is expected to increase towards 70,000 as new farmers join REPS 4.

Objectives of Schemes

1. To promote:
 - ▲ Ways of using agricultural land which are compatible with the protection and improvement of the environment, biodiversity, the landscape and its features, climate change, natural resources, water quality, the soil and genetic diversity.
 - ▲ Environmentally-favourable farming systems.
 - ▲ The conservation of high nature-value farmed environments which are under threat.
 - ▲ The upkeep of historical features on agricultural land.
 - ▲ The use of environmental planning in farming practice.
2. To protect against land abandonment.
3. To sustain the social fabric in rural communities
4. To contribute to positive environmental management of farmed NATURA 2000 sites.

Eligibility

1. To be eligible to participate a farmer shall:
 - ▲ Be farming at least 3 Hectares of owned or leased land (a minimum lease of 5 yrs required) excluding commonage and grazing rights, or 1 Hectare in the case of small scale fruit or vegetable producers (excluding areas under associated tourism and craft activities).
 - ▲ Have a minimum stocking rate of 0.15 LU per forage hectare of animals owned by applicant, subject to paragraph 7, where the enterprise is dairy farming and/or livestock production. A lower stocking density may be acceptable where it is certified by an environmentalist that a lower stocking density is more appropriate for environmental sustainability.
 - ▲ Be aged eighteen years or over on date of application.
 - ▲ Undertake to implement, for a minimum period of 5 years, the measures outlined.
 - ▲ Include all of the land farmed (owned, leased, rented or used) by him/her in the agri-environmental farm plan.
 - ▲ Have all lands farmed declared on the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) and include all IACS / Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS) numbers and areas in the agri-environmental plan.
 - ▲ Include his/her Personal Public Service Number (PPSN) on the application form.
 - ▲ Include his/her herd/flock/cereal/SPS number on the application form.
 - ▲ Have a farm unit which has not, in the opinion of the Minister or his/her officials, been created for the purpose of claiming or increasing payments under the Schemes.
2. An applicant who is not the owner/leaseholder/beneficial occupier of land involved shall only be admitted to the scheme if she/he is a family member who is managing the land and such an application can only be made with the written permission of the landowner(s). Such permission (Letter of Consent) must include all of the lands owned by the landowner(s) in question and must be submitted with the initial REPS application for support. The land must be declared on IACS in the REPS applicant's name.
3. Land Beneficially Owned or Occupied: An applicant who is not the owner/leaseholder of land involved shall only have these lands included for payment in the scheme if she/he is managing and farming the land. The participant must be in undisputed occupation and possession of the land and be declared in the applicant's name on IACS.
4. All of the land farmed by an eligible applicant that meets the conditions set out is eligible for payment with the exception of the following:

- (A) On land excluding commonage:
- ▲ Rented or leased land where the unexpired lease period is less than five years from the commencement date of the agri-environmental plan under the scheme.
 - ▲ Setaside as declared on his/her annual single payment application.
 - ▲ Dwelling house including associated buildings and grounds not used for farming.
 - ▲ Public roads and lakes, if any.
 - ▲ All land on which forestry premia is being paid under Regulations (EEC) No. 2080/92, 2328/91, 1257/1999, 1783/2003, 1698/2005, state aided forestry and commercial forestry.
 - ▲ Land in public ownership.
 - ▲ Land held in fee simple, subject to turbary rights other than where these rights are held by the Department (Lands Division) or by the National Parks and Wildlife Service or under certain circumstances as described in Annex 3.
 - ▲ Lands not declared annually on IACS and/or not under the control and management of the applicant for the duration of the REPS contract.
 - ▲ Dealers premises as defined under SI 79/2001.
- (B) On commonage land:
Ineligible areas as set out in the relevant CFP pro-rata with the applicants share. (CFP = Commonage Framework Plan).
5. Additional eligibility conditions for Commonage Shares/Grazing Rights.
Commonage/grazing rights areas recorded in the name of the applicant on the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) in accordance with article 8(2)(a) of Commission Regulation 796/2004 shall be considered for eligibility provided that the area on which payment is sought has been declared by the REPS applicant on IACS in the five years preceding the date of the REPS application.
6. The requirement for the five year declaration on IACS may be dispensed with where:
- ▲ An existing holding (including all commonage shares/grazing rights) is transferred by way of inheritance the holding must have been declared on IACS in the five years preceding the date of the REPS application by the applicant and/or the previous owner.
 - ▲ A young farmer is approved for setting up aid under article 22 of Regulation 1698/2005 the five year IACS declaration requirement will not apply.
 - ▲ A holding is transferred under the Early Retirement Scheme.
7. Grazing of animals owned by others.
- ▲ Where a plan provides for the grazing of livestock owned by others the livestock taken in must be managed by the REPS participant, such grazing shall be restricted to a maximum period of four consecutive months between the period April 1st to October 31st in any calendar year.
 - ▲ For stable owners or horse breeders who own a minimum of 4 equine LU's on average throughout the year and
 - ▲ maintain a minimum stocking rate of 1 equine LU per 4 Hectares, the grazing of livestock is permitted throughout the period April 1st to October 31st.
 - ▲ The grazing of sheep is permitted at any time throughout the year subject at all times to a maximum period of 4 consecutive months.
 - ▲ Livery businesses may take in horses throughout the year.
 - ▲ The movement of livestock between holdings must comply with the Department's Animal Health and Welfare requirements.

Measures to be Undertaken

Participants in the scheme shall undertake the following basic measures as appropriate:

1. Follow a farm nutrient management plan prepared for the total area of the farm.
2. Adopt an appropriate grassland and soil management plan for the total area of the farm.
3. Protect and maintain all watercourses, waterbodies and wells.
4. Retain wildlife habitats.
5. Maintain farm and field boundaries.
6. Restrict the use of pesticides and fertilisers in and around hedgerows, lakes, ponds, rivers and streams.
7. Establish biodiversity strips surrounding features of historical and/or archaeological interest.
8. Maintain and improve visual appearance of the farm and farmyard.
9. Produce tillage crops respecting environmental principles.
10. Undertake training in environmentally friendly farming practices.
11. Prepare, monitor and update agri-environmental plan in consultation with the Planner and keep such farm and environmental records as may be prescribed by the Minister.
12. In addition to the basic measures participants farming at or below 170kg organic nitrogen per hectare must choose a minimum of two of the biodiversity undertakings set out, at least one of which is from Category 1.
Participants farming above 170kg organic nitrogen per hectare must have a valid nitrates derogation and must choose a minimum of three of the biodiversity undertakings set out, at least two of which from Category 1. The derogation must be renewed annually.
13. Participants in REPS farming NATURA 2000 sites must comply with the farming conditions for these specific areas.
The specific areas include:
 - ▲ Farmland – based Specific Areas of Conservation (SACs)
 - ▲ Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for protection of wild birds.
 - ▲ Area designated under the Water Framework Directive.

14. Non designated commonages and NHAs.
15. Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) are those areas formally designated by the Minister for Environment, Heritage, and Local Government.
16. Additional requirements are mandatory in the General REPS Programme where all or part of the lands farmed are in these sites.
17. Farming conditions for certain specific habitat types referred to at 13, 14 and 15 above are set out in the Specification for REPS Planners and the Farmer's Handbook.
18. For other habitat types, appropriate environment conditions shall be set down in the plan.
19. REPS plans which include commonage/grazing rights must comply with the Commonage Framework Plan (CFP) prepared for each commonage/grazing rights area as approved by both the Department and the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.
20. Each shareholder must comply with the provisions of the CFP in proportion to his/her share of the commonage/grazing rights. Each applicant to the Scheme will be required to submit a detailed REPS plan for all land farmed.
21. The planner shall incorporate any further requirements as set out in the Specification for Planners.

Mandatory Biodiversity Options

In addition, participants in REPS must select a minimum of two options, one of which must be from Category 1 from the list of Mandatory Biodiversity Options in the table below. Participants in REPS with nitrate derogations must select a minimum of three options, two of which must be from Category 1.

Summary of Mandatory Biodiversity Options

Biodiversity Option	Description	Category
2A	Traditional hay meadows	Category 1 and/or Category 2
2B	Species rich grassland	Category 1 and/or Category 2
2C	Use of clover in grassland swards	Category 1
2D	Use of trailing shoe technology	Category 2
2E	Control of invasive species	Category 2
3A	Increased watercourse margin	Category 2
3B	Exclude all bovine access to watercourses	Category 2
3C	Use of planted buffer zones	Category 2
4A	Creation of a new habitat	Category 1
4B	Broad leaved tree planting	Category 2
4C	Nature corridors	Category 2
4D	Farm woodland establishment	Category 1
5A	Hedgerow coppicing	Category 1
5B	Hedgerow laying	Category 1
5C	New hedgerow establishment	Category 1
5D	Additional stonewall maintenance	Category 1
7A	Increase in archaeological buffer margins	Category 2
8A	Traditional Irish orchards	Category 1 or Category 2
8B	Bird and bat boxes	Category 1 or Category 2
9A	Green cover establishment	Category 1 and/or Category 2
9B	Environment management of setaside	Category 1
9C	Increased arable margins	Category 1 and/or Category 2
9D	Low input spring cereals	Category 1
9E	Minimum-tillage	Category 1 and/or Category 2

Measure 2 – Grassland and Soil Management

Under Measure 2 – Grassland and Soil Management, the participant must also address the Mandatory Environmental Undertakings. This involves, in the case of grassland area of the farm, the identification and selection of the single most suitable environmental undertaking from the following list:

- ▲ Use of Clover in Grassland Swards. Farmers choosing this option must incorporate clover in 25% of the grassland swards by the end of the second year of their REPS contract subject to a maximum requirement of 10 hectares.
- ▲ Creation of New Habitat. Farmers must maintain a minimum of 0.2 hectares or 4% of their contract area whichever is greater subject to a maximum area of 1.6 hectares as new habitat land. Where a farm has more than 4% of the contract area identified as habitat area under Measure 4; it is taken that the above requirement is fulfilled.
- ▲ Farm Woodland Establishment. Farmers must establish a minimum of 0.1 hectares or 2% of their contract area whichever is the greater subject to a maximum area of 0.8 hectares as Farm Woodland consisting of suitable native species of local provenance where available. No individual woodland plot can be greater than 0.5 hectares.
- ▲ Hedgerow Coppicing. Farmers must coppice a minimum of 3 metres of hedgerow per hectare annually on a maximum of 40 hectares.
- ▲ Hedgerow Laying. Farmers must lay a minimum of 2 metres of hedgerow per hectare annually on a maximum of 40 hectares.
- ▲ Hedgerow Establishment. Farmers must establish a minimum of 3 metres of hedgerow per hectare annually on a maximum of 40 hectares.
- ▲ Additional Hedgerow/Stonewall Maintenance. Farmers must maintain an additional 40 metres of hedgerow or 20 metres of stonewall per hectare in excess of the basic requirement of Measure 5 on a maximum of 40 hectares (or a pro rata mix).
- ▲ LINNET on 3% of grassland area subject to a maximum requirement of 1.2 hectares.

Note: Specification details for these environmental undertakings are outlined under the Biodiversity Options/Supplementary measure of the same title.

Supplementary Measures

1. Wild Bird Habitat

The objective is to adapt farming conditions for the conservation of Corncrake, Chough and Hen Harrier in the designated area.

2. Traditional Irish Orchards

Objective – To support our plant genetic resource by recreating orchards containing traditional varieties of native Irish fruit trees.

This will increase the biodiversity of the local landscape and provide a habitat for wildlife on the farm. Maximum size 0.05ha.

3. Conservation of Animal Genetic Resources

The purpose of this measure is to assist farmers participating in REPS who rear animals of the following native breeds:

Cattle	Equines	Sheep
Kerry	Connemara Pony	Galway
Dexter	Irish Draught	
Irish Maol (or Moiled)	Kerry Bog Pony	

4. Riparian Zones

The objective of this supplementary measure is to protect stretches of designated rivers by creating linear buffer zones where no agricultural activity takes place. This will stabilise riverbanks and intercept nutrients transported in overland flow. The development of these zones will also provide suitable habitat for flora and fauna that sustain food webs important in the river ecosystem.

5. LINNET (Land Invested in Nature, Natural Eco-Tillage) Habitats

Farmers who avail of this supplementary measure must grow a specific LINNET crop mix in a designated plot(s) that encourages a diverse range of flora with the desired effect of increasing wild bird populations.

6. Low Input Spring Cereals

Objective – To encourage the production of low input spring cereals in grassland dominated farms by allowing stubble regeneration over the winter after harvest providing winter feed for birds and wildlife. Minimum plot size is 0.5ha.

7. Minimum-Tillage

The objective of this supplementary measure is to encourage the use of minimum-tillage practices, thereby improving soil structure and increasing soil organic matter content.

8. Traditional Sustainable Grazing

The objective of this supplementary measure is to maintain farming activity on specific habitats in danger of abandonment. The planner must identify Measure 4 grassland habitats that will benefit most from grazing with traditional breeds. The following breeds qualify:

Cattle	Kerry or their cross Dexter or their cross Irish Maol (or Moiled) or their cross Aberdeen Angus or their cross (min AAX on animal passport) Shorthorn or their cross (min SHX on animal passport) Hereford or their cross (min HEX on animal passport) Galloway or their cross (min GYX on animal passport)
Equines	Connemara Pony Kerry Bog Pong
Ovines	Galway Ewe Blackface Mountain and other local mountain breeds

9. Incorporation of Clover into Grassland Swards

The objective of this supplementary measure is to contribute to the delivery of water quality by promoting the incorporation of clover into grassland swards thus reducing the dependency on nitrogenous fertilisers. Clover must be incorporated in 80% of the grassland sward to a maximum of 40 hectares.

10. Mixed Grazing

The objective of this measure is to maintain and increase biodiversity on grassland by encouraging mixed grazing. The measure is available to farmers who graze both bovines and sheep in a structured way that is targeted to deliver a diverse sward.

11. Lakes and Catchments

This supplementary measure will be available on a limited and voluntary basis and will initially be introduced on a pilot basis in the Corrib catchment in the west of Ireland.

12. Heritage Buildings

Grant for the restoration of heritage farm buildings. Application forms and an explanatory leaflet are available from the Heritage Council, Rothe House, Parliament Street, Kilkenny.

Supplementary Measures – Payments

Farmers may undertake as many supplementary measures as they wish. However, they will only be paid for one measure, or paid on two supplementary measures in certain circumstances as set out in the REPS specifications.

Rural Environment Protection Scheme (REPS 4)

Payment Rates (per annum)

Amounts of Support	
Description General REPS Programme (Core measures plus options)	Amount €234/ha up to 20ha €205/ha for next 20ha up to 40ha €82/ha for the next 15ha up to 55ha €10/ha thereafter
Non-Natura 2000 Commonage and NHA Land	€282/ha up to 40ha €29/ha for the next 40ha up to 80ha €22/ha for the next 40ha up to 120ha €5/ha thereafter
Supplementary Measures Amount Rare Breeds	€234 per livestock unit of the breed registered with the breed society
Riparian Zones	€850/ha up to a maximum of - 4ha in respect of salmonid and crayfish sites and - 4ha in respect of Pearl Mussel sites
Participation in LINNET Project	First hectare €700 From 1 to 2.5 ha €400 per hectare
Low-input Tillage Crops	€370/ha up to maximum of 2.5ha
Minimum Tillage	€25/ha up to maximum of 40ha
Traditional Orchards	€300 per holding
Traditional Sustainable Grazing	€50/ha up to a maximum area of 20ha
Mixed Grazing	€50/ha up to a maximum area of 20ha
Lake Catchments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▲ Whole farm reduction in organic N by reduction in stock numbers. ▲ Traditional hay meadows. ▲ Species rich grasslands. ▲ Increase water course margin. ▲ Alternative drinking points. ▲ Buffer zones. 	€80/ha €120/ha up to 2.5ha €120/ha up to 2.5ha €3 per 100m €5 per ha/per drinking unit €200/ha up to a maximum of 2.5ha
Clover Swards	€30/ha up to a maximum of 40ha
Conservation of Wild Birds – Participation in Corncrake Project	€100/ha

Island farmers face additional costs because of their location. It is therefore also proposed that land farmed on off-shore islands will receive an additional 15% to take account of increased costs for carrying out the agri-environment undertakings.

REPS and Organic Farming

Since 1994, organic farmers have been supported by way of the REPS scheme. In REPS 3 scheme, organic farming was supported under Supplementary Measure 6. Under the new Rural Development Programme for the period 2007 to 2013, it is now possible for organic farmers to obtain organic support payments under the new Organic Farming Scheme announced on 11th August 2007 by DAFF. They are also free to join or stay out of REPS 4. An organic farmer with 55 hectares who is in REPS 4 will qualify for payment of €21,650 per year during the conversion period and €15,860 per year with full organic status. (REPS Scheme and Organic Scheme payments).

An organic producer with 55 hectares who chooses not to join REPS 4 will qualify for €11,660 per year during the conversion period and €5,830 per year when full organic status is achieved under the new Organic Farming Scheme.

A breakdown of the organic payments (excluding REPS 4) on a per hectare basis are as follows:

	≥ 3ha and up to 55ha	> 55ha
In Conversion	€212/ha	€30/ha
Full Organic Status	€106/ha	€15/ha

Horticulture Holdings Only	Horticulture Area ≤ 6ha	Horticultural Area > 6ha up to 55ha	Horticultural Area > 55ha
In Conversion	€283/ha	€212/ha	€30/ha
Full Organic Status	€142/ha	€106/ha	€15/ha

These organic payments are up by 17% compared to the previous levels paid in REPS 3.

(For further information, refer to the Organic Farming Section in this book.)

REPS and the New Forest Environment Protection Scheme (FEPS)

FEPS was launched in January 2007 as a pilot scheme and provides an opportunity to create woodlands that can contribute more to landscape, biodiversity, the retention of local habitats, promotion of native species as well as further protection of water resources and our archaeological heritage. Under the scheme, the planted area is taken out of REPS but is compensated for by a new FEPS payment in addition to the Afforestation premium payment.

(Details for the Pilot Scheme are in the REPS 3 and Forestry Sections.)

Following a review of the 2007 Pilot FEPS Scheme, the DAFF announced a number of significant changes to the FEPS scheme on 13th February, 2008. There are improved incentives to plant forestry for both smaller and larger REPS farms.

Under the new terms, a landowner will receive a FEPS premium of €200 for each hectare of woodland planted, regardless of farm size, subject to a minimum of eight hectares being planted. For owners of farms of 30 hectares or less, the minimum plantation size has been reduced to five hectares, attracting a corresponding FEPS premium of €150 per hectare for plantations between five and eight hectares in size. The FEPS premium is payable in addition to the existing Afforestation Scheme grants and premium, meaning that a farmer planting eight hectares could, for the duration of FEPS, earn an annual tax-free forestry premium of up to €6,000 without affecting his/her Single Payment.

Some of the main points to note are:

- ▲ Farmers must be in REPS to avail of FEPS.
- ▲ REPS farmers who plant land can avail of up to €200/ha over and above the ordinary forestry premium for a five year period on joining FEPS. This payment compensates farmers for the REPS payments they would normally forfeit when transferring REPS land into forestry.
- ▲ Under FEPS, forests will be established with environmental objectives that go beyond those of the regular Afforestation Scheme.
- ▲ There are 12 Mandatory Measures to follow.
- ▲ There are also 19 Optional Measures of which the farmer must select and implement 6.
- ▲ Farmers should consult further on details/benefits with their REPS Planner/Forestry Adviser/Agricultural Adviser.
- ▲ Full details from the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food (DAFF), Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford (Telephone 053-9160200 or Lo-call 1890 200 223).
- ▲ Details also on the Forestry/REPS sections of the Teagasc and DAFF websites.

Additional Information on REPS 4

The following publications contain very detailed information on all aspects of the REPS 4 scheme.

1. Specification for REPS Planners in the Preparation of REPS 4 Plans.
2. Farmers Handbook for REPS 4.

These publications and further information are available from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF), Environment Section, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford. Telephone: 053-9163400/9143965. Website: www.agriculture.gov.ie

PRIVATE FORESTRY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS AND PREMIUM PAYMENTS (2008)

(Funded under N.D.P. 2007 - 2013 by the Irish Government)

Afforestation and Maintenance Grants

The new forestry programme is fully funded by the Irish Government with no EU Funding.

The Department of Agriculture and Food announced increased Forestry Planting Grants in late December 2006. The afforestation programme for Ireland for the 2007 - 2013 period under the NDP was approved by the EU commission on 14th September 2007.

Total grants range from €3,414 per hectare for planting conifers on poorer limited soils classed as unenclosed and unimproved, to €7,604 per hectare for planting Oak and Beech on fertile soils. The maintenance grant, which is 25% of total grant, is payable four years after the date of payment of the afforestation grant. (First instalment grant) If plantations are properly maintained the new approved grant rates announced by DAF in late 2006 are as follows:

Maximum Grants/ha Grant/Premium Category (GPC)	Afforestation Grants/ha (The first Main Instalment)	Maintenance Grants/HA (second Instalment Grant)	Total Grant per hectare
Unenclosed land (GPC 1)	€2540.65/ha	€873.35/ha	€3414.0
Enclosed/Improved Land			
*Conifers - Non-diverse (GPC 2)	€2540.65	€873.35	€3414.00
*Conifers Diverse 20% (GPC 3)	€2699.60	€873.40	€3573.00
*Diverse Conifer (GPC 4)	€2984.52	€942.48	€3927.00
Broadleaf			
*Approved Species other than oak/beech (100%) (GPC 5)	€3999.67	€1199.90	€5199.57
*Oak (75%-100%) (GPC 6)	€5259.25	€1660.82	€6920.07
*Beech (80%-100%) (GPC 7)	€5738.87	€1865.13	€7604.00

NOTE: The initial portion of the grant is cost based (ie applicants can only claim for documented expenses) but costs can include a provision for the land holders own labour.

- See details of Forestry Tree categories later.
- In late December 2006 the Minister announced the above Planting Grants for new

Planting completed after 1th September 2006.

Afforestation Grants Cover:

- 1st Instalment Grant - species selection, ground preparation, drainage, plants, planting, fencing, fertilisation, plant protection and grant application costs.
- Maintenance Grant (2nd Instalment Grant) Vegetation control, replacing failures, pest control, shaping broadleaves and preparation of Management Plan.

Other Grants:

- Native woodland scheme, woodland improvement scheme, neighbour wood scheme and other forestry-related grant aid schemes are also available to landowners, eg Forest Roadways
- Grants are also available for shaping young broadleaves and for the high pruning of conifer plantations with quality timber potential.

Premium Payments (Farmers - payable for 20 years (per hectare))

Unenclosed land	€240.94				
Enclosed/ Improved Land	Conifers			Broadleaves	
	Non-Diverse	20% Diverse	Diverse.	Ash, Syc. etc	Oak and Beech
All Areas	€386.95	€449.74	€478.94	€508.15	€544.65
In addition a supplement of €14.61 per ha is payable on sites greater than 6 hectares and €29.2 per ha on site greater than 12 hectares planted by farmers on enclosed land.					

Annual Premium Payments for Non-Farmers and Companies

- Premiums payable for 15 years
- Enclosed land (Conifers) €197.12/HA
- Enclosed land (Broadleaves) €211.73/Hectare

NOTE: All forest premium payments both to farmers and non farmers are tax free.

The farmer rate is payable to persons earning at least 25% of their total income from farming and who live within 70 miles of the forest and owns, leases or is involved in joint management of, at least 3 hectares of land. Applicants for the farmer rate may use the Teagasc Certification System (Form T.F.I.) to have these conditions confirmed before work commences.

Either a notice of tax assessment or Teagasc Form TFI should be sent to the Forest Service. Further details are available on the **Teagasc Website at www.client.teagasc.ie/forestry**

The Farmer Rate of Forest Premium

An application for the farmer rate of premium must supply evidence of farming activity in one of the following forms:

- 1) An active REPS registration number, Herd number or registration under the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme or another Department of Agriculture and Food Scheme. An "ACTIVE" registration means an applicant has been a beneficiary under the particular scheme in the year of the forestry plantations completion or in one of the three preceding years.
OR
- 2) Documentary evidence that at least 25% of an applicant's income was derived from farming in the State in the year of the Forestry plantations completion or in one of the three preceding years

The Single Payment Concession for Forestry (Stacking of Entitlements)

The concession applies to farmers who afforested some of their land since January 2000. Farmers may plant an area of up to 50% of the number of their Entitlements and still draw down their Full Single Payment. Entitlements may be consolidated (stacked) in more than one year as long as the farmer continues to farm an area equivalent to at least 50% of the number of entitlements. A farmer must have 1 hectare of eligible land for each entitlement or stacked entitlement. (For more information see the notes on the Single Farm Payment Scheme)

Who can do the work?

Regardless of the option chosen, landowners considering afforestation must engage the services of an approved forester to prepare the grant and premium applications. Lists of approved foresters are available from your local Teagasc or Forest Service office. Applications are processed by the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture and Food, Johnstown Castle estate, Wexford.

Option 1: The farmer can do all the work himself/herself.

Option 2: The farmer may hire an approved forester or forestry contracting company to organise and carry out some or all of the work.

Option 3: The farmer can hire a Self-Assessment Company to establish and manage the plantation.

Option 4: The farmer may enter a partnership with a Forest Management Company such as Coillte.

Statistics

Over 10% of Ireland is under trees.

The European average is 30%

The Irish target is to have 17% of Ireland under trees by 2030.

Area Planted at the end of 2004 in Ireland

- (1) Total land area of country = 6,889,456 Hectare
- (2) Total area planted = 699,166 Hectares (10.15% of total land area) - At end of 2006, 10.4% of total land was planted.
of which: (A) Public (State) Planting = 397,610 Hectares (56.9% of total planting)
(B) Private Planting = 301,556 Hectares (43.1% of total planting). (about 15,000 farmers have forestry)
- (3) Detailed Statistics of Forestry by county are available from:
The Forestry Service
Department of Agriculture and Food
Johnstown Castle Estate
Co. Wexford
Phone: 053 - 60200 (LoCall = 1890 200 223)
Email: forestservice@agriculture.gov.ie

Forestry Felling Licences

Under the 1946 Forestry Act, it is illegal to fell any tree or uproot any tree over 10 years of age without a felling licence, unless the trees are excluded from the licencing requirements, as in the following examples:

- (A) Trees are felled to facilitate local authority road construction or improvement or other local authority construction work.
- (B) A local authority certifies the tree to be dangerous to road traffic.
- (C) The trees are within a Town, City or Borough Council area.
- (D) The trees are within 100 feet of any building other than a wall or temporary structure.

All cases where felling without a licence is reported to the forestry service are investigated.

Felling or Uprooting Trees

A LIMITED FELLING LICENCE application form must be completed and submitted to the Garda Station nearest the felling site. The trees to be felled or removed must be listed on the Application. A 6 inch OS map must accompany the application as otherwise it will not be processed.

A prohibition notice is subsequently served on the owner prohibiting them from felling the trees until a licence is issued. The licence lasts for 2 years. It may be a condition of granting the license that the area felled (or similar area) must be replanted with similar species. Owners have up to one year following the expiry date of the licence in which to replant the trees.

General Forest Operations

A general felling licence is required for the removal of trees from a forest as part of normal forest management operations, i.e. thinning or clearfell (A replanting obligation attaches to clearfells under a general felling licence). The application form is submitted directly to the forest service and should be accompanied by a 6 inch OS map and a copy of the management plan for the forest. A general felling licence can be granted for 1 to 5 years.

Definitions for Planting - Tree Categories

1. **Conifers (Non - Diverse)**
e.g. Sitka Spruce and Lodgepole Pine
2. **Conifers (with 20% Diverse)**
e.g. Sitka Spruce with 20% Japanese Larch
3. **Diverse Conifers**
e.g. Norway Spruce, Douglas Fir, Scots Pine
4. **Broadleaves**
 - (A) Approved species other than Oak / beech
e.g. Ash, Sycamore, Alder, Cherry.
 - (B) Oak (in mixture with Scots Pine)
 - (C) Beech (in mixture with European Larch)

The New FEPS Scheme (Forest Environment Protection Scheme)

This scheme was announced in early January 2007 and will allow farmers in REPS to plant more Forestry and get the equivalent payment of Forestry Premium + Compensation to replace the lost REPS payment on the area planted. Following a review of the 2007 PILOT FEPS scheme, the DAFF announced a number of significant changes to the FEPS scheme on 13th February 2008. There are improved incentives to plant forestry for both smaller and larger REPFS farms. (For more details - see the section on the Rural Environment Protection Scheme (REPS 4) - See Page 216.

CAPITAL GRANTS SCHEMES

(A) FARM WASTE MANAGEMENT (F.W.M) (Co-funded under N.D.P. 2000 - 2006 and the E.U.)

Revised Scheme 1 January 2004 (See details for revised 2006 scheme later)

Objective - To facilitate the Management of Farm Wastes by providing Grant Aid for investment in storage facilities for silage and agricultural wastes, animal housing and equipment for the application of farm waste. The revised scheme will run from 1st January 2004 to 31st December 2006 (Please note that the Minister for Agriculture announced on 29th July 2005 that further improvements will be made to this scheme to help farmers meet new requirements under the Nitrates directive. Full details should be available in late 2005/early 2006 when the EU gives approval to the proposals from Ireland.(See details later)

Eligible Persons

The scheme is open to farmers:

- (i) who have a minimum of 30 Income Units (I.U.'s) of which at least 20 I.U.'s must come from farming and a maximum of 450 I.U.'s in total. (Farmers with at least 20 I.U.'s from farming but less than 30 I.U.'s in total may be considered)
- (ii) who are land owners or have leasehold title to the site it is proposed to carry out the development on.
- (iii) have adequate experience and training
 - if born before 1st January 1975 must be engaged in farming for at least 5 years or have other acceptable experience/ability
 - if born on or after 1st January 1975 must have the Teagasc Certificate of Farming or equivalent or have completed approved courses in agriculture/horticulture of at least 180 hours and have 3 years farming experience.
- (iv) have the lands declared for Area Aid/IACS
- (v) Eligible persons must also follow the Code of Good Farming Practice.

Rate of Grant	Investment	Applicants with 450 I.U. or less	Eligible for additional aid (Young Qualified Farmers)
	Waste Storage Housing etc	40%	15% in less favoured areas 5% in other areas
	Mobile equipment for spreading wastes	20% max investment €11,000 for duration of scheme	No

The maximum amount of investment eligible for grant aid per holding is €75,000. However, investment grant aided under the F.W.M. Scheme which commenced on 1 February 2001 will be taken into account.

Additional Aid for Young Farmers

The rate of grant for all investment (except mobile equipment) will be increased by 15% in less favoured areas and by 5% in other areas for young trained farmers under 35 years on the date of application, who meet the agricultural experience and training requirements as set out earlier, and who have been farming for less than five years.

Other Conditions

Planning Permission - It is the responsibility of the farmer to ascertain whether planning permission is necessary. This will be ascertained by completing Form FWM3, in consultation with his agricultural adviser/planner.

Use of Buildings/Facilities - The applicant is required to use the buildings, etc, for the purpose for which grant aid was paid for a minimum of 5 years after the date of application.

Tax Affairs must be in order - For grant payments of less than €6500, applicants must give their tax district and declare that their tax affairs are in order. For grant aid of €6500 or more a tax clearance certificate must be furnished.

Investments eligible for grant aid

Grant Aid will not be approved for investments which will increase the level of production on a holding

(i) New Structures/Investments

Waste Storage Facilities	Effluent Tank Effluent Tank cover Slurry tank under slatted/cubicle house Slurry storage tank with protective fencing Dungstead, manure pit Geo membrane lined lagoon/tanks with protective fencing
Cattle Housing	Loose House Cubicle House Slatted House Roofing of Livestock feed yards Isolation Box/Calving Box Unroofed slatted feed areas as an extension to an animal house
Sheep Housing	Sheep Accommodation unroofed Sheep Housing
Silage Storage Facilities	Concrete silo unroofed (walled), or resurfacing of same Silo walls to existing silo base Concrete storage base for silage, or resurfacing of same

Associated farmyard
Facilities

Fixed slurry pumps/agitators/simple aeration systems
Protective fencing for slurry or effluent tank
Yard drains
Automatic Slurry Scrapers
Fixed cattle crushes/races
Enclosures/collecting yards
Concrete yard/silo apron
Sheep dipping tank/sheep handling facilities

Mobile equipment for
the application of farm
wastes

Mobile slurry agitators
Mobile slurry tank with low trajectory splash plate, band
spreader, slurry injection systems, rotary spreader, moving floor
dual spreader, soiled water pumps, sprinklers

Safety Elements on existing Farm Structures

- Safety fencing around external slurry and effluent stores
- Safety covers on external agitation points or manholes
- Safety rails on silo walls
- Replacement of single slats by gang slats
- Removal of existing internal agitation point and its replacement by a gang slat
- Replacement of a hinged door/sheeted gate with a sliding door on animal housing

Additional Storage capacity for the installation of waste processing facilities

- Holding tanks to contain feedstocks, digested material or other products prior to separation into solid and liquid fractions
- Tanks to retain the treated (separated) liquid.
- Building to store separated solids and permit composting to take place.

(ii) Conversions and extensions of existing structures

Conversion of existing structures may be eligible for grant aid provided the estimated costs of conversion does not exceed 70% of the cost of an equivalent new structure.

B. Scheme of Investment Aid for Improvement of Dairy Hygiene Standards (D.H.S.)

(Co-funded under N.D.P. 2000 - 2006 and the E.U.)

Revised Scheme 1st January 2004

The objective of the scheme is to help dairy farmers upgrade the dairying facilities on their farms to meet E.U. standards and consumer hygiene demands.

Eligible persons - as for Farm Waste Management Scheme.

Financial Aids Payable under the Scheme

The rates of Grant aid payable under the Scheme as a percentage of approved costs are as follows:

Type of Investment	Applicants with not more than 450 IUs	Additional Aid for Qualified Young Farmers
Dairy/Milking premises (new or upgraded) Milk cooling equipment (Based on Approved Standard Costs or Receipts, whichever is the lesser)	40%	15% in less favoured areas 5% in other areas
Milking Machines (new or upgraded) (Based solely on Receipts)	40% subject to a maximum investment of €16,000 (From 1 February 2001)	15% in less favoured areas 5% in other areas
Milk Cooling, Refrigeration, Storage, etc (Based solely on Receipts)	40% subject to maximum investment of €16,000 (from 1st February 2001)	NIL

The maximum amount of investment eligible for grant aid under the Scheme is €50,000 per holding. Investment grant aided from 1st February 2001 will be taken into account.

Qualified young farmers qualify for additional aid for investments as shown above i.e. 15% extra in less favoured areas and 5% in other areas (conditions as for Farm Waste Management Scheme)

Investment items eligible for grant aid

Dairy

- (i) Construction of new dairy
- (ii) Up-grading, as follows:-

Construction of, replacement of or repairs of walls, floors, and overhead surface
Installation of ceilings, door, windows and fly screens
Provision of ventilation and lighting
Provision of adequate concrete apron outside main dairy door (not exceeding 20 square metres)
Provision of a plumbed-in supply of cold water,
Electrical Installation

- (ii) The Installation of new dairy equipment including

Double wash-up trough
Worktop
Racks or shelves
Dairy chemical storage cabinet
Provision of hand washing facilities, water heater.
Power washer
Water Treatment
Water Heater

Milking Premises

- (i) Construction of new milking premises
- (ii) Up-grading, as follows:-

Construction of, replacement of or repair of walls, floors and overhead surfaces
Installation of doors, windows and ceilings
Provision of ventilation and lighting
Surfacing of yards, passageways and surrounds
Installation of a plumbed-in supply of cold water, and water treatment and heating equipment, where necessary.
Submersible pump, auto washers

- (iii) Facilities for the storage and disposal of dairy washing and effluents from parlour and assembly yards shall be provided in all situations. Construction of a storage facility to a maximum capacity of 50 cubic meters can be included as a grant aided item under this scheme

Milking Machine Equipment

- (i) New milking machine where necessary, in a new premises, or where upgrading of an existing premises is being approved under this Scheme.
- (ii) Upgrading of milking machines where necessary

The following new components are eligible:

Vacuum pump, complete with exhaust, chassis and belt guard
Pulsation system, including pulsators, relays and control unit
Regulators
Milk pump, milk receiving jar and teat spraying unit
Pipe line alterations, where necessary, cluster removers, recording jars, milk meters and teat washing equipment.

Milk Cooling, Refrigeration, Storage and other equipment

Milk silo, refrigerated bulk tank, cooling equipment for existing tank, ice builder, plate cooler

Conversions and extensions of existing structure

Conversion of existing structures may be eligible for grant aid provided the estimated costs of conversion do not exceed 70% of the cost of an equivalent new structure.

Planning permission - It is the responsibility of the farmer in consultation with his agricultural adviser/consultant to ascertain whether planning permission is necessary. This will be done by completing Form DHS 3.

C. Scheme of Investment Aid in Alternative Enterprise (A.E.S.) (Funded under N.D.P. 2000-2006)

The objective of the scheme is to promote and maintain agricultural enterprises not in surplus - horses, deer, rabbits, goats and other acceptable non-quota species.

The scheme operates from 1st February 2001 to 31 December 2006.

Eligible Persons must have at least 30 IU's and not more than 200 IU's. In addition the farmer must have completed a minimum of 20 hours recognised training in the enterprise engaged in. A business plan will be required as a basis for assessment of the economic viability of the project.

Financial aids Payable under the Scheme

Applicants with not more than 150 I.U.s	Applicants over 150 to 200 I.U.s
40%	20%

The maximum amount of investment eligible for grant aid is €31,743 per holding for horses and deer, and €6,349 for other species.

The minimum investment eligible for aid is €635

Investment items eligible for grant aid:

Sport Horses	(i)	Housing, associated concrete, feed storage facilities and waste storage facilities
	(ii)	Lunging/exercise areas (suitable all weather surfaces) including gates and fencing
	(iii)	Water supply
	(iv)	Fencing (perimeter and internal)
	(v)	Horse stock, Horse exercise walker, all weather gallop, meal bin
Deer Farming	(i)	Housing, associated concrete, feed storage facilities and waste storage facilities
	(ii)	Handling facilities (including gates and fencing)
	(iii)	Fencing (perimeter and internal)
	(iv)	Water supply
Goats	(i)	Housing associated concrete, milking facilities, feed storage facilities and waste storage facilities
	(ii)	Water supply for milking facilities
	(iii)	Fencing (perimeter and internal)
Rabbits		Housing, cages and fittings
Other species		Housing and handling facilities as appropriate

D. Scheme for Development of Grain Storage on Farms - N.D.P. (Funded Under National Development Plan)

Objectives of scheme - to improve farm storage and holding facilities and improve quality and safety of grain. The scheme operates from 13th February 2001 to 31st December 2006.

Eligibility

The scheme is open to farmers who applied for at least 30 hectares of cereal aid in the 3 previous years. Land under set-aside and other arable crops eligible for area aid can be counted.

Eligible farmers must:

- Have necessary expertise in grain handling and storage
- Follow code of Good Farming Practice
- Comply with code of practice laid down in the grain assurance scheme as operated by the Cereals Association of Ireland

Rates of Investment Aid

- 40% of Approved Expenditure for storage facilities and aeration equipment.
- Max of 30% for dryers

Minimum Investment	€32,000
Maximum Investment	€238,000

Eligible Investments

- Installation of new storage or upgrading existing facilities
- At completion of project, the store must have a minimum capacity of 200 tonnes with adequate aeration/drying and a suitable concrete apron for holding grain prior to storage.
- Only an investment in new equipment eligible for aid.
- Aid for drying equipment only for stores with a minimum capacity of 500 tonnes.
- Apply to: DAF Maynooth Business Park (See address at bottom of page)

(E) Scheme of Investment Aid for the Development of the Commercial Horticulture Sector

(Funded by Irish Government under N.D.P.)

Objective of Scheme is to assist the development of the horticulture sector, (Fruit, vegetables, beekeeping, etc) The scheme aims to promote the diversification of on-farm activities, improve the quality of products, facilitate environmentally friendly practices and improve working conditions.

Funding, etc,

The scheme was launched on 13th February 2001 and runs to 31 December 2006. Funding of €19.05m is available and is funded by the Irish Government under the N.D.P. For round 2 of the Scheme (2003) €1.4m has been provided.

Round 3 of the scheme will last up to 31 December 2004.

Further information can be obtained from: The Crop Production and Safety Division
Department of Agriculture and Food
Block B, Maynooth Business Campus
Maynooth, Co Kildare
Phone: 01 505 3337. (www.agriculture.gov.ie)

Eligibility

- Applicants must have a minimum of 30 I.U.'s (at least 20 I.U.'s must be from farming/horticulture)
There is no upper income units level
- Applicants must have the necessary skill and competence for running the business
- Applicants must farm according to the code of Good Farming Practice; must participate in appropriate Bord Glas quality programmes or equivalent schemes; may be required to make extra investment in hygiene or pollution control and avoid damage to the environment and structures of historical or archaeological importance.
- The horticulture enterprise must be viable. A business plan for at least 2 years and the most recent accounts must be submitted.

Grant Aid - 35% on accepted net cost of investment. The minimum investment for aid is €10,000 and €2000 for beekeeping.

The maximum investment for grant aid is €1.27m on a cumulative basis over the period of the scheme.

(F) Scheme of Investment Aid for the Potato Sector

(Funded by Irish Government under N.D.P.)

The objective of the scheme is to improve the marketing infrastructure of the potato sector by providing grant aid for the storage and marketing of seed and ware potatoes. The scheme was launched on 15th December 2000 and runs to 31st December 2006. The total funding available is €5.5m.

Grant Aid - Up to 35% of approved costs.

Investment eligible for aid €10,000 - €150,000

New buildings for potato storage must have a capacity of at least 100 tonnes.

Investment Items eligible for aid

- New storage and handling facilities and refurbishment of existing facilities
- Storage related equipment (e.g. refrigeration, machinery, electrical equipment, fans and insulation.
- Marketing equipment (e.g. for grading, brushing, washing, packing, weighing, labelling and handling)

Seed Potatoes

In 2005, a new tranche of aid under the above scheme was launched. It will provide grant aid to seed potato producers towards the capital costs of equipment and facilities for the production, storage, and marketing of seed potatoes. Closing date for applications is 29th August 2005.

Application Forms and Information from:

Crop Production and safety Division

Department of Agriculture and Food

Maynooth Business Park, Maynooth, Co Kildare

Tel: 01 505 4015 or 01 505 3328 or on line from the Departments website (www.agriculture.gov.ie)

(G) Scheme of Grant Aid for improvements in Animal Welfare Standards for Sow Housing

This new scheme came into operation on 1st June 2005. The objective of the scheme is to facilitate compliance with new animal welfare standards for pigs. Grant Aid is available in the following areas:

- New Dry Sow Housing
- Conversion of existing housing to dry sow housing
- environmental Impact Assessment or Statement

The maximum grant payable under the scheme is €120,000 per holding. (This is a 40% grant on €300,000 of Eligible Investment).

More details from:

Department of Agriculture and Food

Pig Welfare Scheme

Johnstown Castle Estate

Co Wexford

Phone: 053 63400

Scheme of Grant Aid for the Development of the Organic Sector

(This scheme is funded by the Irish Government under N.D.P.)

The objective of the scheme is to facilitate the development of the organic sector so as to ensure a regular supply of high quality organic produce.

Applicants must

- be licensed organic operators registered with an approved inspection body and also with D.A.F.R.D.
- be the landowner or have leasehold title to the land
- possess necessary occupational skill and competence for the running of the business

Financial Aid

The scheme will provide grant aid for approved investments/development projects as follows:

- ON-FARM INVESTMENT in equipment and facilities for production, preparation, grading, packing and storage of organic products (minimum investment €2,540)
- OFF-FARM INVESTMENT in facilities for preparation, grading, packing and storage of organic products. For off-farm investment economic viability must be demonstrated in a business plan covering a minimum period of two years. Audited account for the past two years should also be included with the business plan.

On-Farm Investment

Farmers must have a minimum of 30 I.U.'s of which at least 20 I.U.'s must come from farming. Where income from farming exceeds 200 I.U.'s the farmer is ineligible under the scheme.

Rate of Grant

40% of eligible cost, maximum investment that is grant aided is €50,790 for on-farm investments and €508,000 for off-farm investment. Only expenditure on new specialised equipment is eligible for grant aid. In general primary cultivation equipment will not be eligible.

REPS

There is separate support to organic farmers in REPS under Supplementary Measure 6 (SM6) - See REPS Section.

Further information on Organic Farming - Contact: The Organic Unit, Department of Agriculture and Food, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford. (Phone 053 63400 or LoCall 1890 200 509)

(G) Other Grant Schemes

(i) Water Supplies N.D.P. Group Water Schemes

Improved grants for new group schemes and upgrading works on existing schemes were announced on 27/3/2001.

- The maximum grant for each affiliated dwelling goes up from €2032 per house to 85% of the approved cost, subject to a cost limit of €7620 per house - available for pump houses, reservoirs and distribution systems.
- Up to 100% grant is available for disinfection and filtration equipment for substandard group schemes
- In addition to the new grants for treatment equipment, groups with such facilities will also get a subsidy of €196.85 per house per annum where they participate in the Quality Assurance Scheme.
- Contact the Local County Council for more details/application form.

Improvement or Provision of Individual Water Supplies to Houses

Grants of 75% of approved costs up to €2032 are payable for the provision or improvement of an individual water supply to a single house, provided no alternative public or group supply is available and which have not received grant aid in the previous 7 years.

- Contact the Local County Council for more details/application form.

(ii) Farm Electrification Grants for disadvantaged Areas

Rate of Grant

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| • New and increased supply | - | 80% of cost of supply, maximum grant €2032 |
| • 3 Phase Supply | - | 80% of costs of supply, maximum grant €4,064 |

Eligibility

- | | | |
|------------------|---|--|
| Application must | • | practice farming on land owned or under long term lease |
| | • | occupy and farm at least 3 hectares in disadvantaged areas |
| | • | farming must be main (50%+) income and occupation |
| | • | Off-farm income must be under €24,800 for 2004. |

Apply at local E.S.B. Office.

The New revised Farm Waste Management (FWM) Scheme for 2006

- (1) The new revised Farm Waste Management Scheme came into effect from 23rd March 2006 and all applications for grant aid under the scheme must be completed and lodged with DAF before 31st December 2006.
- (2) The new improved scheme is designed to help farmers meet the requirements of the EU Nitrates Directive. It is a demand led scheme with a projection of up to €250 million for the scheme over the years (2006-2008). A total of €42 million is provided for 2006. The EU Co-funding of this expenditure will be up to 40%.
- (3) All work/facilities approved under the scheme must be in place/completed before 31st December 2008.
- (4) The scheme recognises the higher slurry storage requirements of the four Zone C counties (Cavan, Donegal, Leitrim and Monaghan) where a 70% standard grant rate is applied to both animal housing and slurry storage as compared with the 60% grant rate in other areas. These increases are significant when compared with the 40% grant rate in the earlier scheme.
- (5) The maximum income unit ceiling per farm has been raised from 450 to 650 income units. No income limit applies in the case of pig and poultry farmers.
- (6) The maximum eligible investment ceiling is increased from €75,000 to €120,000 per holding.
- (7) Top-up grants are available to young farmers as follows:
 - (A) An extra 10% grant on top of the normal 60% grant in Zones A and B, where the site is in a less favoured area (Maximum grant = 70%)
 - (B) An extra 5% grant on top of the normal 70% grant in Zone C counties (See above), where the site is in a less favoured area (Maximum grant = 75%)
 - (C) Young trained farmers must meet the following conditions:
 - be under 35 years old when an application is lodged
 - have commenced farming within the previous 5 years
 - meet the training requirements as defined
- (8) The scheme is being extended for the first time to include horses, deer, goats, pigs, poultry and mushroom compost.
- (9) Grant aid is now available for the construction of earth lined slurry/effluent stores with protective fencing which are built in accordance with DAF specifications
- (10) The scheme includes a new 40% grant rate for specialised equipment with specific environmental advantages such as decanter centrifuge systems, dry feeding systems for pigs and specialised slurry spreading tankers.
- (11) The maximum eligible investment for standard mobile equipment is being increased from €11,000 to €15,000 with a grant of 20%.
- (12) Full details are available in the Schemes booklet on Terms/Conditions/Application Form which is available from Teagasc and DAF offices.
- (13) A new Farm Improvement Scheme will be available for the period of the new Rural Development Programme (2007 to 2013) - The new Scheme came into operation from 12th July 2007.
- (14) Grants under these schemes are Capital Payments and are not subject to any taxes as they are not income.

The New Farm Improvement Scheme (FIS) - 2007 to 2013

This new scheme came into operation from 12 July 2007 and is closed to new applications since Autumn 2007 due to the allocation of €85 million in the 2007 - 2013 Rural Development Programme for the modernisation of Agricultural holdings being used up.

It is not clear if any further funding will be made available. This scheme has replaced the Farm Waste Management Scheme, The Dairy Hygiene Scheme and the Alternative Enterprises Scheme.

Main Details of the New Scheme

- 1) The scheme is applicable to cattle, deer, goats, horses, pigs, poultry, sheep and mushroom compost.
- 2) Grant Rate = 40%
- 3) Maximum investment limit = €120,000 (Maximum Grant at 40% = €48,000).
- 4) Additional aid (10%) to give 50% grant to young farmers under 35 years with relevant qualifications.
- 5) Milking parlour and dairy structures have a separate investment limit of €120,000.
- 6) Eligible items includes the following:

▲ Slatted Houses	▲ Concrete Yard/Silo/Apron
▲ Loose Houses	▲ Sheep - Dipping Tanks/Handling Facilities
▲ Cubicle Houses	▲ Replacing Single Slats by Gang Slats
▲ Waste Storage Facilities	▲ Earthen Bank Tanks
▲ Dungstead	▲ Stand - Off Pads
▲ Roof for Livestock Feeding Area	▲ Sheep Fencing
▲ Isolation House	▲ Water Retention Structures
▲ Sheep Housing Roofed/Un Roofed	▲ Digesters
▲ Lagoons Lined	▲ Trailing Shoe Slurry Tankers
▲ Silage Slabs and Walls	▲ Rubber Mats
▲ Pumps/Agitators (fixed)	▲ Pig Animal Welfare Measures
▲ Protective Fencing/Yard Drains	
▲ Automatic Scrapers	
▲ Collection Yard and Crushes (fixed)	

7) Dairy Hygiene Element of New Grant Scheme

- ▲ Dairy Premises (new or upgraded)
- ▲ Bulk Milk Tank (Investment limit of €25,000)
- ▲ New Milking Machines (Investment Limit of €40,000)
- ▲ Dairy Washings Collection Tank
- ▲ Plate Coolers
- ▲ Pumped in Cold Water Supply
- ▲ Water Heater and Feeders in Parlour
- ▲ Grant Aid of 40% (or 50% for Young Farmers) on an Investment Limit of €120,000.
- ▲ Farmers Grant Aided under a previous Farm Waste Management or Dairy Hygiene Scheme where applications were made before December 2006 are eligible for the new investment limits for both dairy Hygiene and Farm Improvement Scheme.

Calculation of Income Units (IUs)

The table below sets out how income units on the farm are calculated: (Source - Department of Agriculture and Food)

Income Units			
Cattle 6 months to 12 months	0.3 of a unit	Pig Production	0.8 unit
12 months to 18 months	0.3 of a unit	Sow Breeding Only	
18 months to 24 months	0.3 of a unit		
Cattle over 24 months (for 12 months), excl. Dairy cows required for permanent milk quota at 4,205 litres (925 gls) per cow	1.0 unit	Sow Breeding and Finishing Pigs Finishing Only	1.1 units 6.0units/100pig places
Milk Quota	1.0 unit per 1818 Litres (400 gls)	Ewe	0.15 unit
Horse	1.0 unit	Hoggets	0.1 unit
Tillage Crops:			
Cereals/peas/beans/set aside	1.0 unit per hectare		
Potatoes	2.0 units per hectare	Deer (red)	0.30 unit
Sugar beet	2.0 units per hectare	Deer (fallow & sika)	0.15 unit
Strawberries	2.0 units per hectare		
Raspberries	2.0 units per hectare		
Apples	2.0 units per hectare	Broilers	3.0 units/1000bird places
Other Intensive Crops:	2.0 units per hectare	Broiler Breeders	8.0 units/1000 bird places
Mushrooms	20 units per tunnel	Layers	3.0 units/1000 birds
Glasshouse crops	125 units per hectare	Turkeys/(fattening)	3.0 units/1000 birds
Nursery stock:			
Liner production	75 units per hectare	Free Range Egg	1.5 units/100 birds
Shrub production (containers)	50 units per hectare		
Ornamental trees, field grown	25 units per hectare	Rabbits	1.0 unit/100does
Forest trees and hedging	15 units per hectare		
Hay/silage for sale	1.0 unit per hectare	Goats (milking)	0.25 unit/goat
		€254 gross off-farm income	1.0 unit

NOTE: Income units as outlined in this table are used in the calculation of Farmer Eligibility for the Farm Investment Grant Schemes, the Installation Aid Scheme and for transferors and transferees in the EU Farm Retirement Scheme. They may also be used for calculating eligibility for various other schemes/quota allocations, etc.

(See relevant Scheme Application Forms + Terms and Conditions for more details)

TAXES (2007 AND 2008)

(1) Income Tax

In his Budget Statement on December 5th 2007, the Minister for Finance announced a number of changes to the personal tax system for the 2008 Tax Year as outlined below..

Tax Credits

The table below outlines the main tax credits for 2008 with changes, if any, indicated compared with 2007.

Tax Credit	2007 €	2008 €
Single Person	1,760	1,830
Married Person	3,520	3,660
PAYE Credit	1,760	1,830
Widowed Person (Without dependant children)	2,310	2,430
One Parent Family Credit	1,760	1,830
Incapacitated Child Credit Max	3,000	3,660
Blind Tax Credit		
Single Person	1,760	1,830
One Spouse Blind	1,760	1,830
Both Spouses Blind	3,520	3,660
Widowed Parent (Bereaved in 2007)	-	4,000
Bereaved in 2006	3,750	3,500
2005	3,250	3,000
2004	2,750	2,500
2003	2,250	2,000
2002	1,750	-
	-	-
Age Tax Credit		
Single/Widowed	275	325
Married	550	650
Dependent Relative	80	80

The following relief has not changed:

Relief	2007 € Max	2008 € Max
Employing a Carer	50,000	50,000

Changing to Standard rated reliefs are as follows:

Relief	2007 € Max	2008 € Max
Rent Tax Relief		
Single - Under 55	1,800	2,000
Married/Widowed - Under 55	3,600	4,000
Single - 55 & Over	3,600	4,000
Married/Widowed - 55 & Over	7,200	8,000
Trade Union Subscriptions	300	350

(2) Tax Rates and Tax Bands

The tax rates and tax bands have been changed as follows:

The standard rate tax band (20%) has been widened and the higher rate of tax remains at 41%. The table below sets out the rates and bands.

Personal Circumstances	2007 €	2008 €
Single Widowed - Without Dependant Children	34,000 @ 20% Balance @ 41%	35,400 @ 20% Balance @ 41%
Single/Widowed - Qualifying for One Parent Family Tax Credit	38,000 @ 20% Balance @ 41%	39,400 @ 20% Balance @ 41%
Married Couple (one Spouse with income)	43,000 @ 20% Balance @ 41%	44,400 @ 20% Balance @ 41%
Married Couple (both Spouses with income) (i.e. Individualisation)	43,000 @ 20% with increase of 25,000 max. Balance @ 41%	44,400 @ 20% with increase of 26,400 max. Balance @ 41%

(3) Exemption Limits

The exemption limits for persons aged 65 years and over have been increased as indicated in the table below.

Personal Circumstances	2007 €	2008 €
Single / Widowed - 65 years of age & over	19,000	20,000
Married Couple - 65 years of age & over	38,000	40,000

(4) Mortgage Interest Relief - Tax relief at Source

The ceiling on interest allowed on a mortgage is being doubled for first time buyers in 2007 and increases again for 2008:

(A) It increases from €4,000 to €8,000 for a Single Person. (increases to €10,000 in 2008).

(B) It increases from €8,000 to €16,000 for a Married Couple. (increases to €20,000 in 2008).

The tax relief applies to all first time buyers who are in the first seven years of their mortgage.

For non first time buyers the ceiling increases:

(C) From €2,540 to €3,000 for a Single Person. (Remains at €3,000 in 2008).

(D) From €5,080 to €6,000 for a Married Person. (Remains at €6,000 in 2008).

The tax relief in all cases is 20% applied at source by the Financial Institution with whom the mortgage is with.

(5) PRSI & Health Contributions (2007 and 2008)

from 1st January 2007 the contribution ceiling for employees' PRSI is increased from €46,600 to €48,800.

It increases to €50,700 from 1st January 2008

Class A (Normal rate at which contributions are made)

Income (€)	Employer	Employee
Up to 48,000 in 2007 (€50,700 in 2008)	10.75%	6% (includes 2% Health Contribution)
From 48,000 to 100,100 From 50,700 to 100,100 in 2008	10.75%	2% (Health Contribution)
Over 100,100	10.75%	2.5% (Health Contribution)

Employees earning €339 p.w. or less, will be exempt from PRSI and those earning €480 p.w. or less, will be exempt from the Health Contribution of 2%. Employees earning €352 p.w. or less, will be exempt from PRSI in 2008 and those earning €500 p.w. or less will be exempt from the 2% Health Contribution in 2008.

For employees earning in excess of €339 p.w. the first €127 p.w. will continue to be free of PRSI. The weekly rate of €26 for employees on a modified PRSI rate also remains unchanged. Employees earning in excess of €352 p.w. in 2008 will have the first €127 p.w. exempt from PRSI.

Class (Self-Employed) = Class S. (2007 and 2008)

Income (€)	Rate
All Income up to 100,100	5% (Includes 2% Health Contribution)
Over 100,100	5.5% (Includes 2.5% Health Contribution)

Self-Employed persons are exempt from the Health Contribution of 2% where the annual income is €24,960 or less. Minimum annual PRSI contribution remains at €253. Self Employed persons are exempt from the 2% Health Contribution where the Annual Income is less than €26,000 in 2008.

(6) The Farmer's Flat Rate Addition for VAT

The flat rate addition payable by VAT registered traders on purchases from Non-VAT registered farmers increases from 4.8% to 5.2% from 1st January 2007 and remains at 5.2% for 2008.

(7) Leased Farmland Exemption Improved

From 1st January 2007, new leases of 10 years or more will qualify for income tax exemption on lease income up to €20,000 per year, subject to approval by the EU Commission. These limits also apply for 2008.

(8) Capital Allowance for Milk Quota

Tax relief in the form of Capital Allowances over 7 years (6 years x 15%/year, 10% in year 7) will be made available for milk purchased under the new milk quota exchange trading system. (Section 25 of Finance Act 2007). Tax relief applies to market clearing price in each local co op area.

(9) Capital Gains Tax Retirement relief

The tax free threshold for disposals of farm land outside the family by eligible farmers over 55 years is being increased from €500,000 to €750,000 from 1st January 2007. Various rules will apply (See Finance Act - April 2nd 2007).

(10) Business Expansion Scheme (BES) and SEED capital Scheme (SCS)

Both BES and SCS Schemes are being renewed for 7 years to the end of December 2013. The company limit for both schemes rises from €1 million to €2 million. The investor annual limit is up from €31,750 to €150,000 for BES and from €31,750 to €100,000 for SCS. EU approval will be required. (E.U. gave approval with certain conditions on 29th August 2007).

Note: For additional information, contact the Local revenue Office or the Revenue website at www.revenue.ie

The Local Revenue Offices and the website have a large range of detailed information on:

- (A) The Main Taxes
- (B) Tax Credits and Allowances
- (C) Tax Reliefs
- (D) The Various Tax Return Forms and Tax Reclaim Forms.

(11) New Capital Allowances System for Motor Vehicles from 1 July 2008

The level and availability of Capital Allowances on new and used imported motor vehicles registered from 1st July 2008 will be linked to the emission rating (grams of carbon dioxide (co2) per kilometre driven = g/km). There are three bands as follows:

Category A + B + C = 0 to 155 g/km = Same Capital Allowances as previously.

Category D + E = 156 to 190 g/km = 50% of capital allownaces under old rules

Category F + G = 191 g/km = No capital allowances will be available

The above system will also apply to leasing costs for leased cars.

NOTE: Farmers should check with their Garage and Accountant before changing motor vehicles.

(1) INCOME TAX (2005 AND 2006)

Personal Allowances

From the tax year 2000/2001 all personal allowances are standard rated. The tax year was aligned with the calendar year from 1 January 2002. Tax Credits and Tax Allowances for 2005 and 2006 Tax Years are as follows:

	Credits/Allowances 2005 (1/1/2005 - 31/12/2005)		Credits/Allowances 2006 (1/1/2006 - 31/12/2006)	
	<u>Value</u> of Tax Credits at 20% (Standard Rate)	Tax Allowances at marginal tax rate of 20% or 42%	Value of Tax Credits at 20% (Standard Tax Rate)	Tax Allowance at Margin Tax Rate of 20% or 42%
	€	€	€	€
Single Persons	€1580	-	€1630	-
Married Couples	€3160	-	€3260	-
Widowed Persons (in year of Bereavement)	€3160	-	€3260	-
Widowed Persons - No dependents	€1980	-	€2130	-
Additional Allowances for One Parent Families				
• Widowed Person	€1580	-	€1630	-
• Other Person	€1580	-	€1630	-
Widowed Person with Dependent Children, Allowance in Tax years following year of Bereavement	Year 1 €2800 2 €2300 3 €1800 4 €1300 5 €800	- - - - -	€3100 €2600 €2100 €1600 €1100	- - - - -
PAYE Allowance (Maximum)	€1270	-	€1490	-
Blind Allowance Tax Credit				
One Person	€1000	-	€1500	-
Blind Allowance Tax Credit Both Spouses	€2000	-	€3000	-
Age Allowance Tax Credit				
Single/Widowed	€205	-	€250	-
Married	€410	-	€500	-
Dependent Relative (Max)	€60	-	€80	-
Incapacitated Child (Max)	€1000	-	€1500	-
Permanent Health Benefit Scheme	Limits	Limits	Limits	Limits
Health Insurance	Relief at source for 2005 premium (20%)	No Relief at 42%	Relief at source for 2005 Premium (20%)	No Relief at 42%
Medical Expenses	-	Yes - by refund	-	Yes - by Refund
Mortgage Interest (Certain Limits Apply)	Relief at source from (20%) 01/01/02	No Relief at 42%	Relief at source from 01/01/02 (20%)	No Relief at 42%
Expenses in Employment	-	Limits	-	Limits
Service Charges	Limits	-	Limits	-
Annuities/Pension Premiums	-	Limits	-	Limits
Home Carers Allowance (Maximum)	Up to €770	-	Up to €770	-

PERMANENT HEALTH BENEFIT SCHEMES

Premiums under PHBS are allowed as deductions for income tax at the marginal tax rate of 20% or 42%. The maximum amount of premium allowed is 10% of total income. Where an employer deducts the contribution from gross pay the tax relief is given at source.

Long Term Unemployed

On taking up a qualifying employment, a person unemployed for at least 12 months may claim extra tax relief at the marginal rate (20% or 42% for 3 years as follows):

	Personal Allowance	Each Qualifying Child
Year 1	€3,810	€1,270 per child
Year 2	€2,540	€847 (€850 in 2005 and 2006)
Year 3	€1,270	€423 (€425 in 2005 and 2006)

The employer may also claim a double deduction of Emoluments paid in the first 36 months of employment and the employers PRSI contribution on these emoluments.

(**Note:** From 1/1/1999 this relief is extended to disabled persons who have been in receipt of either Disability Allowance or Blind Persons payment for 12 months or more).

Service Charges

Relief at the standard rate, is available for local authority services charges and independent contractors for domestic refuse paid in full in the previous calendar year. From 2002 there is no restriction on the amount allowable except for the purchase of Tags from local authority or independent contractor where the limit is €195 per annum. A maximum of €400 tax relief is granted at 20% rate in 2007 for charges paid in the year 2006, and in 2008 can claim maximum of €400 charges at 20% for charges paid in 2007.

Medical Expenses

Medical expenses for non-routine health care may be offset against tax at the marginal rate (20% or 42%). The first €125 expenses for an individual and €250 for a family is not allowed. Routine health expenses such as eye tests, glasses, and routine dental treatment are not allowed. The €125 (Single) or €250 (Family) health expenses excluded from relief will not apply from 2007 tax year and following tax years.

Stock Relief

- 25% relief of any increase in stock values available to 31/12/2006
 - 100% relief for "young (under 35yrs) trained farmers" can apply for 4 years for those qualifying between 6/4/1995 and 31/12/2006 or any subsequent year of assessment
- Both stock reliefs are being extended to 31/12/2008 subject to E.U. approval.

Exemption of Income from Leasing of Farm Land

Relief from income tax is available in respect of income from the leasing of farm land.

For qualifying leases entered into from 23 January 1996 the following lease income is exempt

€7,618 for a lease of 7 or more years
€5,079 for a lease of between 5 and 7 years } to 31 December 2003

From 1st January 2004

€10,000 for a lease of 7 or more years
€7,500 for a lease of between 5 and 7 years

For New Leases from 1st January 2006

€15,000 for lease of 7 or more years
€12,000 for lease between 5 and 7 years

* For new leases of 10 years or longer from 1 January 2007 - Up to 20,000 of Annual Income is exempt from tax.

NOTE: The Tax Free Income can include Lease Payments for the land and Single Farm Payment.

Conditions

- (1) Income must arise from leasing of Farm Land (Lease income Single Farm Payment also qualifies).
- (2) The lease must be in writing and for a definite term of 5 years +
- (3) The land must be leased by an individual who is aged 55 years + (40 years + from 1 January 2004) or who is permanently incapacitated (Mentally or Physically)
- (4) The land must be leased to an individual who is not connected to the lessor and who uses the leased land for farming.

Tax Rates and Bands

Tax Rates/Bands	2005		2006	
	20%	42%	20%	42%
(A) Single/Widowed (no dependent Children)	€29,400	Balance	€32,000	Balance
(B) Single/Widowed + Dependent Children	€33,400	Balance	€36,000	Balance
(C) Married (one income)	€38,400	Balance	€41,000	Balance
(D) Married (2 incomes) ("Individualisation")	€38,400 + Max of up to €20,400*	Balance	€41,000 + Max of up to €23,000*	Balance

* The standard rate band for a married couple, both with income will be up to €41,000 with an increase of up to €23,000 or the amount of the lower income if less than €23,000. This increase is not transferable between spouses. (2006 figures)

Home Carers Allowance (See leaflet IT 66)

The Home Carers Allowance is a new tax allowance of up to €3,850 at the standard rate (20% for 2005 and 2006) = Maximum of €770. This increases to €4,500 at standard rate of 20% = €900 maximum in 2008

The allowance may be claimed by a married couple where one spouse cares for one or more dependent persons.

Conditions

- The married couple must be jointly assessed for tax
- The "dependent" is
 - (a) a child under 16 years and children in full time education under 19 years
 - (b) a person aged 65 years or over
 - (c) a person who is permanently incapacitated. (A "dependent" does not include a spouse)
 - (d) The dependent person must normally reside with the married couple for the tax year (relatives can reside within 2km of the claimant if there is a direct communication (telephone, etc) between the two residences.
 - (e) The home carer's income must not exceed €5,080 for the tax year. Where income is between €5,080 and €6,620 some relief applies, the home carer's allowance is reduced by €2 for every €1 income exceeds €5,080. (Income does **NOT** include the Carers Allowance payable by Dept. of Social, Community and Family Affairs or income disregarded for tax purposes).

It will not be possible to get this allowance if the couple are availing of the higher rate tax band for two income couples. To claim home carer's allowance return the application form or phone local tax office with details.

Low Income Exemptions from Income Tax:-	2005	2006
	Annual Limit	
Single or widowed person under 65 years	€5,210	€5,210
Married couple under 65 years	€10,420	€10,420
Single or widowed person 65 and over	€16,500	€17,000
Married couple where either spouse is 65 years and over	€33,000	€34,000
These exemptions limits are increased by	€575 per child for first two	€575
	€830 per child for third and subsequent children.	€830
Marginal relief rate for L.I.E. (Low Income Exemption)	40%	40%

Interest on main Residence Loans: Relief is available subject to the following restrictions.

	2005	2006
Single person	€2,540 Max	€2,540 Max
Widowed person	€5,080 Max	€5,080 Max
Married couple	€5,080 Max	€5,080 Max

First Time Buyers 2003 (First 7 years)
Single, €4,000; Married/Widowed, €8,000
Relief is given at the standard rate of 20%

NOTE: From 1/1/2002, tax relief for home mortgage interest is no longer given through the tax system but is instead granted at source, via the Financial Institution.

P.R.S.I. and Levies for Self Employed (Class S):

	2005	2006
All income	3%	All Income 3%
Minimum	€253	Minimum €253
Health Levy	2% on all income (charged if income is over €20,800).	2% on all income (charged if income is over €22,880).

PRSI - PAYE income

	2005	2006
(i) <u>Private Sector</u>	(i) First €127/week exempt (PRSI classes A,H, E) Balance up to €44,180 at 4%	(i) First €127/week exempt (PRSI classes A,H, E) Balance up to €46,600 at 4%
(ii) <u>Civil/Public Sector</u>	(ii) First €26/week exempt (PRSI classes B,C,D) Balance up to €44,180 at 0.9%	(ii) First €26/week exempt (PRSI classes B,C,D) Balance up to €46,600 at 0.9%

From 6/4/2000 employee's paying PAYE in classes A,H,E, who earn €287 or less per week are exempt from paying PRSI. Where the earnings exceed €287 per week the employee's first €127 per week is exempt from PRSI. (€26 for classes B,C,D). Health Levy of 2% applies on all income where income exceeds €20,800.

- **Retirement Annuity Relief (Pensions)**
- **Personal Retirement Savings Account (P.R.S.A.)**

Tax relief at the marginal rate (20% or 42% for 2006) is available on qualifying premiums paid to an approved scheme to provide a life annuity for the taxpayer (or pension fixed or flexible).

The maximum amount of premium on which relief may be claimed is as follows:

	AGE	% of Net relevant earnings
Self Employed	Under 30 years	15%
Employees in an occupational employment scheme or statutory scheme who use a P.R.S.A. as an A.V.C. vehicle	30 - 39 years	20%
	40 - 49 years	25%
	50 Years +	30%

(Changes for 2006 Tax Year = (A) 50 - 54 years = 30% (B) 55 - 59 years = 35% (C) Ages 60 or over = 40%) (Also applies 2007 + 2008)

Medical Insurance

Relief is given at the standard rate (20% for 2006) on premiums paid. From 6/4/2001 relief is allowed at source at the standard rate of 20% each tax year.

Capital Allowance Available To Farmers

Summary of Basic Rates

(A) Plant and Machinery

(i) Purchased pre 5/4/92 -

(a) For periods ending before 6/4/96

Mobile Power	-	25%	- Declining value
Other Machinery	-	12.5%	- Declining value
Car/Road Vehicles	-	20%	- Declining Value

(b)

For periods on or after 6/4/96
All machinery/plant - 15% straight line x 6 years, 10% in 7th year of written down values on 6/4/96.

(ii) Purchased 5/4/92 - 31/12/2000

Car/road vehicles - 20% - declining balance

All machinery/plant	-	15%	- Straight line x 6 years
	-	10%	- Straight line in 7th year
Cars/Road Vehicles	-	20%	- Declining Value

(iii) Purchased from 1st January 2001

All machinery/plant and car	20%	- Straight line x 5 years
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(iv) Purchased from 4 December 2002

All machinery/Plant and car	12.5%	- Straight line x 8 years
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(B) Building/land improvements

Purchased to 25th January 1994	- 10%	- Straight line x 10 years
Purchased from 26th January 1994	- 15%	- Straight line x 6 years
	- 10%	- Straight line in 7th year

Summary of additional or free depreciation available

	Farm Building	Land Recl. etc	Plant & Machinery	Mobile Power Machinery	Office Equipment
1) Purchased to 1/4/1988	+0-20%	+0-90%	+0-87.5%	+0-75%	+0-90%
2) Purchased 1/4/88-1/4/89	+0-20%	+0-90%	**Max. FREE over life of machine (including Basic Allowance)		
			75%	75%	75%
			Additional over life		
3) Purchased 1/4/89-1/4/91	* +40%	+40%	50%	50%	50%
4) Purchased 1/4/91-1/4/92	+15%	+15%	25%	25%	25%
5) Purchased from 1/4/92	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
6) Purchased from 6/4/97 - 31/12/06 Pollution Control Works (Subject to farm nutrient Management plan)	Pollution control works required to reduce pollution. 50% capital allowance subject to investment ceiling of €25,400 available in year 1. Balance of investment written off at 15% x 6 + 10%. Investment ceiling raised to €38,092 from 6/4/98. Under the P.P.F. agreement, from 6/4/2000 the investment limit is raised to €63,487, 50% of which can be taken as "free depreciation" as required over 7 years with the balance written off as normal over 7 years. The maximum allowance claimed, (basic + Free) in any year must not be greater than 50% of the investment cost or €31,744 whichever is lesser. To avail of the 50% "free allowance" a farmer must apply in the first year otherwise the normal allowances are given. From 1st January 2006, a person may claim the lesser of e50,000 (up from e31,750) or 50% of Qualifying Expenditure.				

* Note The additional 40% "free" over the life of the building was available on buildings erected between 1/4/89 and 31/3/93 under Department of Agriculture and Food Scheme for Pollution Control.

** Note For any year to count in arriving at the 75%, 50% or 25% free figure, both Basic Wear and Tear and Additional "Free" Depreciation must be claimed.

(C) Farm Pollution Control Scheme - New Allowance Options from 1st January 2005

- From 1st January 2005 for a four year period (1st January 2005 to 31st December 2008)
New expenditure incurred on pollution control works/facilities can be written off against Tax over a new 3 year cycle at 33.3% per year. The building works must be completed before 31st december 2008.
- The farmer/tax adviser must select the option they wish to use to claim capital allowances.
- This accelerated 3 year capital allowance scheme will help farmers to comply with the nitrates action programme and cross compliance requirements for Single Farm Payment by improving their facilities.
- Farmers must be in Reps or have a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) if they are availing of the three year option or the accelerated capital allowances available under the farm pollution control options. The NMP or REPS must be drawn up by an agency or planner approved by DAFF. A copy of the plan must be sent to Environment Section, DAFF, Johnstown Castle.
- Tax Relief applies to the net cost of a farm building investment (The net cost is the gross cost of the investment LESS the following:
(A) Any grant received from Department of Agriculture and Food
(B) Any Value Added Tax (VAT) refund received from Revenue.
- The Building must be in use before the Claim is allowable.

NOTE: Flat Rate Farmers for VAT can reclaim VAT on Capital Investment (Use claim form VAT 58).
Farmers registered for VAT use the VAT 3 form to reclaim VAT incurred on Capital Investment.
Flat Rate Farmers (Unregistered) should send form VAT 58 and supporting documentation to:
VAT (Unregistered) Repayments
Revenue Commissioners,
Government Offices,
Kilrush Road, Ennis, Co. Clare
Phone: 065 - 6849000 or LoCall 1890 20 20 33.

- Farmers should discuss the tax implications of proposed new investments with their accountants, before the work begins.

NOTE: With effect from 1st January 2007 claims by Unregistered Farmers for Refund of Value Added Tax (VAT) under the Value Added Tax (Refund of Tax) (No 25) Order 1993, should be sent to:

The Revenue Commissioners
River House,
3rd Floor,
Charlottes Quay,
Limerick,
LoCall: 1890 252449
Fax: 061 402125
Email: unregvat@revenue.ie

RESTRICTED CAPITAL ALLOWANCES ON MOTOR CARS

<u>Purchased</u>		<u>Limit (£)</u>	
30/1/1992	- 26/1/1994	10,000	
27/1/1994	- 31/12/2000	10,000	second hand cars
27/1/1994	- 8/2/1995	13,000	new cars
9/2/1995	- 22/1/1997	14,000	new cars
23/1/1997	- 2/12/1997	15,000	new cars
3/12/1997	- 1/12/1998	15,500	new cars
2/12/1998	- 30/11/1999	16,000	new cars
1/12/1999	- 31/12/2000	16,500	new cars
1/1/2001	- 31/12/2001	17,000 (€21,586)	all cars
1/1/2002	- 31/12/2005	€22,000	for new and second hand cars
1/1/2006	- 31/12/2006	€23,000	for new and second hand cars
1/1/2007	- onwards (including 2008)	€24,000	for new and second hand cars

For running expenses (Section 32 F.A. 1976, S. 376 T.C.A. 1997) the higher restricted value €21,586 applies to all cars. (Section 32 restriction)

From 1/1/2002 the restriction **on running costs** is abolished.

NOTE: A new system of capital allowances based on Carbon Dioxide emissions will apply to all motor vehicles registered from 1st July 2008) See 2008 Tax Section at front - Page 231).

Need for P.P.S. number:

Various Government Departments now require farmers to produce their Personal Public Service (P.P.S.) Number (i.e. Tax Number) to qualify for payment under different schemes. Generally speaking an R.S.I. number is required for payments over €635 and a Tax Clearance Certificate is required for payments of €6,350 and upwards. (R.S.I. no = Revenue and Social Insurance Number). The €6,350 limit will be increased to €10,000 from 1st January 2007.

Payments where an P.P.S. number is required at present

- (a)
- R.E.P.S
 - Compensatory Allowance Scheme (Headage)
 - Compensation payments for Animal Disease
 - Grants on Capital Investments
 - Forestry Planting Grants
 - Third Level Education Grants
 - Farmers receiving the Early Retirement Pension are taxable under P.A.Y.E. If they Have no P.P.S.N. or Tax Free Allowance, Emergency Tax rules apply.

CAP Related Payments

(b) **Livestock Related Payments:**

- The Suckler Cow Premium
- The Ewe Premium
- Rural World Premium on Ewes (Disadvantaged Areas)
- Special Male Beef Premium (9 to 21 Months)
- Special Male Beef Premium (21 Months plus stage)
- Slaughter (Deseasonalisation) Premium
- Extensification Premium

(c) **Crop Related Payments:**

- Area aid on Cereals, Oilseeds and Proteins
- Set aside aid on set aside land

(d) **From 2005 the payments at (b) and (c) are part of the Single Farm Payment to farmers**

(1) FILING RETURNS, AND PRELIMINARY TAX - 2005 / 2006 / 2007 / 2008.

The tax year runs from 1st January 2005 to 31st December 2005 for 2005 and 1/1/2006 to 31/12/2006 for 2006/2007 Tax Year

Filing returns for 2005

- Preliminary tax for 2005 was due on or before 31st October 2005
- Returns (Form 11 or 11 E) are due to be filed on or before 31st October 2006
 - **ROS Filers** - Where filing and payment is done on line the deadline is extended by 16 days to 16th November 2006
 - **Paper Filers (non ROS)** - date of filing and payment date is 31st October 2006

(Note: ROS = Revenue Online System).

Early Filers - Before 31st August 2006

For returns filed before 31st August 2006, revenue will issue a final notice of tax assessment for 2005 in time to pay the actual liability by 31st October 2006. Returns filed before 31st August may be sent to the local Inspector of Taxes.

If returns are made after 31st August 2006, Revenue cannot guarantee to send final assessments before 31st October so the onus will be on the tax adviser or client to calculate the tax liability and make the necessary payment on time.

Summary

Under Pay and File you must, by 31st October 2006:

- file your 2005 Income Tax Return (Form 11 or 11 E)
- pay any balance of income tax outstanding for 2005
- pay the preliminary tax for 2006
- pay any capital gains tax liability due on disposals in the period 1st January 2006 to 30th September 2006

By 31st October 2007

- File 2006 Return
- Pay balance of tax due for 2006
- Pay preliminary tax for 2007
- Pay any capital gains tax due on disposals/January 2007 to 30th September 2007

Surcharge for late returns and interest charged on overdue tax

- 5% of the tax due or €12,695, whichever is the lesser, where returns are submitted from 1st November to 31st December
- 10% of the tax due or €63,485, whichever is the lesser, where returns are submitted after 31st December
- Interest penalty on overdue tax = 10% per year = 0.0273% per day (from 01/04/2005)
- Interest payable by Revenue on tax refunds = 4% per year = 0.011% per day (from 01/11/2003)

Note: Prepare and submit tax returns in good time so as to avoid the last minute rush before the deadline of 31st October 2006 (or 16th November 2006 for ROS filers) and the consequent increased risk of making errors in the tax return and incurring penalties. This also applies for 2007 tax year (31st October and mid November 2007 for ROS).

Filing Tax returns for 2007

File Tax Returns by 31st October 2007 for paper returns and by the extended date of Mid November 2007 (Extra 2 weeks) for revenue on Line (ROS) returns.

Filing Tax returns for 2008

File tax returns by 31st October 2008 for paper returns and by the extended date of Monday 17th November 2008 (an extra 2 weeks) for revenue-on-line (ROS) returns. Customers using the extended ROS filing date must both **File** and **Pay** through ROS. (they are not eligible if they don't do both through ROS). The November 17th deadline for ROS also applies to payments to RACs, AVCs, PRSAs and Form RRI.

Additional Information

Much more detailed information on all aspects of taxation are available on the Revenue website (www.revenue.ie)

(2) CORPORATION TAX (COMPANY TAXATION)

All companies resident in the state are liable to corporation tax.

Corporation tax is charged on the profits of a company, ie, income and chargeable gains. Income is normally calculated under the different schedules and cases appropriate to income tax. Capital gains or losses are calculated in the normal way.

RETURNS

A company must submit a return of profits and chargeable gains to the Inspector of Taxes not later than 9 months from the end of the accounting period. Corporation tax is payable in one instalment six (6) months after the end of the accounting period. The same conditions apply for the payment of preliminary corporation tax. To avoid interest charges a company must pay at least 90% of its ultimate liability by the due date. Any balance outstanding must be paid within one month of the date of assessment.

Preliminary Tax Payment dates for Corporation Tax - 2005/2006

To 31/12/2001, Preliminary Tax for CT was payable 6 months after the end of the accounting period. The payment date is being brought forward to the 28th of the month before the end of the accounting period - an advance of 7 months. This change is being brought in over a transitional period of 5 years.

Accounting Period Ending	1st Instalment payable	2nd Instalment Payable	Balance
1 January 2003 - 1 July 2003	On a date 31 days before the end of the accounting period but not later than the 28th day of the month in which that day falls	On a date 6 months after accounting period ends but not later than the 28th day of the month	Together with Form CTI on a date 9 months after the accounting period but not later than 21st day of the month
2 July 2003 - 31 Dec 2005	On a date 31 days before the end of the accounting period but not later than the 21st day of the month	On a date 6 months after the accounting period but not later than the 21st day of the month	As above
1 January 2006 - onwards	As above	No Second Instalment	As above

Corporation Tax Rates -		Minimum 1st Instalment of Preliminary Corporation Tax		
Rates effective from 1 January 2002		AC Period ending in	Standard Company	Small Company Option
- Normal trading Income	12.5%	2002	18%	20%
- Non Trading Income	25%	2003	36%	40%
- Small - Medium size Enterprises where trading income does not exceed €253,948 (Provision for marginal relief up to €317,435)	12.5%	2004	54%	60%
- Manufacturing, I.F.S.C. and Shannon Companies	10%	2005	72%	80%
- A special rate of 20% applies to profits arising from dealing in or developing residential land.		2006+	90%	100%
		“Small” company - Where Corporation Tax liability for preceeding year does not exceed €50,000		

Capital gains does not qualify for the reduced rate.

(3) CAPITAL ACQUISITION TAX (C.A.T.)

Capital Acquisitions Tax

Capital Acquisitions Tax (CAT) is the broad term covering Gift Tax and Inheritance Tax.

Inheritance Tax arises on the value of property passing to somebody on the death of another person.

Gift Tax arises on the value of gifts received from another living person.

The use of land rent free or at reduced rates from another person is deemed to be a gift based on the difference with the commercial rental value of the land.

The application of both taxes is identical.

Inheritance Tax and Gift Tax are payable by the person receiving the inheritance or gift.

How the taxes arise

Tax is payable if the gifts or inheritances exceed certain thresholds. These thresholds can be reached by either a single gift or inheritance or by collection of gifts or inheritances over a number of years. There are different thresholds depending on the relationship between the person making the gift and the person receiving the gift. The tax free thresholds are lifetime allowances.

The base date for aggregation of gifts/inheritances within the same Group Threshold is 5th December 1991 for gifts/inheritances taken on or after 5th December 2001.

Relief

- From 1st January 1999 the first €1,270 in respect of all gifts is exempt, from 1/1/2003 €3,000 is exempt
- Gifts or inheritances between spouses are exempt.
- Since 20th January, 1985 for inheritances
- Since 31st January, 1990 for gifts

Agricultural Relief

Nominally, tax is based on the market value of the property comprising the gift or inheritance. A special concession known as Agricultural relief applies where the recipient is classified as a farmer i.e. **80%** of the gross property, after receiving the gift or inheritance is agriculture property, livestock, bloodstock and farm machinery. From 1/1/2005, the EU Single Farm Payment entitlements also qualifies as Agricultural Property.

Agricultural Relief entitles a "farmer" to a reduction of **90%** in respect of the market value of all eligible farm assets being gifted or inherited. The availability of agricultural relief will ensure a nil tax liability in the vast majority of cases so it is vital that the person about to receive or inherit a farm should have as few non agricultural assets as possible. A farmer who is considering willing or gifting the farm and cash reserves to a successor should establish that their successor will be eligible for agricultural relief after receiving the gift or inheritance.

Other Conditions for Agricultural relief

- Claimant must be an individual and resident in the state. (individual does not need to be domiciled in the State from 2/2/2006)
- Agricultural relief is clawed back if, within 6 years after date of gift/inheritance, the property is sold, and not replaced by agricultural property within 1 year (for C.P.O. must replace within 4 years (6 years from 25/3/2002)).
- There is no limit to the availability of agricultural relief regardless of the number/value of gifts/ inheritances.
- Agricultural relief is not available where the property passing is shares in a company owning agricultural land.
- If land with development potential has qualified for Agricultural Relief or Business relief after 2nd February 2006 and is disposed of in the period beginning 6 years after and ending 10 years after the date of Gift/Inheritance, the relief granted will be clawed back based on development value of the land at the date of gift or inheritance.

Agricultural Relief

The market value of agricultural land (including buildings and milk quota) is reduced as follows:

(i) Acquisition by Inheritance

	Land and Buildings	Livestock, Machinery etc,
From 11/4/1994	First €380,921 - 65% reduction Balance - 30% reduction	25% reduction
From 8/2/1995	First €380,921 - 65% reduction Balance - 50%, reduction	50% reduction
From 23/1/1996	All assets (Land, Buildings, Livestock, Machinery) are reduced by 75%	
From 23/1/1997	All assets (Land, Buildings, Livestock, Machinery) are reduced by 90%	
From 1/1/2005	Market value of EU Single Farm Payment entitlements are reduced by 90%	

(ii) Acquisition by Gift

	Land and Buildings	Livestock, Machinery, etc
From 11/4/1994	First €380,921 - 80% reduction Balance - 30% reduction	25% reduction
From 8/2/1995	First €380,921 - 80% Balance - 50% reduction	50% reduction
From 23/1/1996	As for F.A. 1995 or all assets may be reduced by 75%	
From-23/1/1997	All assets are reduced by 90%	
From 1/1/2005	Market value of EU Single Farm Payment entitlements are reduced by 90%	

Under- F.A. 2000 the property to which a person is beneficially entitled in possessions is deemed to include

- a) An interest in expectancy and
- b) Property comprised in a discretionary trust set up by the donee or successor in which he/she is a potential beneficiary.

C.A.T. TAX FREE THRESHOLD (2008)

TAX FREE THRESHOLDS	THRESHOLDS - INDEXED							
	to 1989	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
	£	£	£	€uro	€	€	€	€
Class (a) Child* of donor Favourite nephew/niece	£150,000	£300,000	£316,800	€422,148	€441,198	€456,438	€466,725	€478,155
Class (b) parent, grandparent brother/sister, niece/nephew	£20,000	£30,000	£31,680	€42,215	€44,120	€45,644	€46,673	€47,815
Class (c) All others	£10,000	£15,000	£15,840	€21,108	€22,060	€22,822	€23,336	€23,908
Index	1.00	2.0 (a) 1.5 (b,c)	1.056	1.108	1.158	1.198	1.225	1.255

* Child includes (a) a step child (b) a child adopted under the Adoption Acts 1952 - 1998 or under a foreign adoption subject to 1991 Act.

For 2007: (Class A = €496,824) (Class B = €49,682) (Class C = €24,841).

For 2008: (Class A = €521,208) (Class B = €52,121) (Class C = €26,060).

The 1991 F.A applied Class (a) Threshold to an Inheritance (not a gift) taken by a parent of a child, where the inheritance reverts back to parent and is an absolute interest and is taken on the death of the child. This relief is back-dated to 2nd June 1982.

From 12th April 1995 where gift reverts back to a parent, no tax is payable provided (i) the property was transferred to the child within the previous five years and (ii) the date of the inheritance must be the date of the death of the donor, otherwise Class (a) threshold applied. From 6th December 2000 Class (a) applied to a foster child.

Favourite Niece or Nephew

Where a niece/nephew has worked the farm and gets it by way of gift or inheritance they are treated as a child of the farmer and can avail of the higher tax free threshold. (But only for the Business Related Assets).

To qualify as a favourite nephew or niece the niece/nephew must be:

(ii) A blood nephew/niece

(iii) Have worked for more than 15 hours per week on the farm of the uncle or aunt for a period of 5 years prior to the transfer of the property. (If more than one worker on the Farm - Nephew/Niece must work at least 24 hours per week).

C.A.T. RATES OF TAX					
Slice	26/3/'84 - 29/1/'91 Rate	30/1/'91 - 10/4/94 Rate		From 11/4/1994 Rate	From 1/12/1999 Rate
Threshold Amount	Exempt	Exempt		Exempt	Exempt
First £10,000	20%	20%	First £10,000	20%	Balance 20%
Next £40,000	30%	30%	Next £30,000	30%	
Next £50,000	35%	35%	Balance	40%	
Next £50,000	40%	Balance 40%			
Next £50,000	45%				
Balance	55%				
The rates of tax for gifts is 75% of the above. From 1/12/1999 the tax is similar (20%) for gifts and inheritance.					

Self Assessment applies to gift or inheritance tax. The recipient of any gift or inheritance is obliged to make a return within 4 months of the date of the benefit, where 80% of the Group threshold is exceeded and pay the tax due, if any.

Family Home Relief

For gifts or inheritances of the family home after 1st December 1999, C.A.T. will not apply provided

- (i) it is the principal private residence of the donor and/or recipient
- (ii) the recipient has been living in the house for the 3 years prior to transfer
- (iii) the recipient does not have an interest in any other house
- (iv) The recipient does not dispose of the house for 6 years after transfer.

Domicile V Residence/Ordinary Residence

Gift or inheritance of non-Irish situated property, taken on or after 1/12/1999, will be liable to tax where EITHER the donor OR the beneficiary is resident or ordinarily resident in the State.

(3) Capital Acquisition Tax (C.A.T.) - Continued

Business Asset relief (B.A.R.)

Agricultural property may qualify for 'Business relief' in circumstances where it fails to qualify for agricultural relief (from 10/2/2000)

Business Asset relief reduces the value of 'business' assets by 90%

Business Assets includes Land, Buildings, Machinery and Plant, Quota and Livestock. For a sole trader the value of business assets is the net Value, i.e. Market Values of assets used in business less market value of any liabilities incurred for the purposes of the business. Note that assets such as a farm house are not included in the relief.

Conditions for Relief.

To qualify for B.A.R. the business property must have been owned and farmed for a continuous period of 5 years prior to date of gift or for the prior 2 years in case of inheritance. Ownership by the disposer's spouse will count for this requirement. If the business ceases to trade within 6 years after the valuation date, the relief will be clawed back unless the business is replaced within 1 year by other relevant business property.

If land with development potential has qualified for Agricultural Relief or Business Asset Relief after 2nd February 2006 and is disposed of in the period beginning 6 years after and ending 10 years after the date of the gift/inheritance, the Relief Granted will be clawed back based on the Development Value of the land at the date of gift or inheritance.

Note: Letting of Land is not regarded as a business/trade. (So the land must have been farmed/used and not let).

Capital Aquisitions Tax Changes in 2007

The budget of December 2006 will now allow an individual to offset borrowings on an off-farm principal private residence against the property's value, for the purpose of calculating the 80% agricultural assets test for qualifying for the 90% agricultural relief (See details ealier). This relief will apply from 2007 (See Finance Act - Late March/early April 2007 for actual start date for this improved relief). Borrowings on other off-farm properties is not allowed to be deducted against those properties.

Capital Acquisitions Tax changes in 2008

There were no changes announced in the Budget for the 2008 tax year.

(4) CAPITAL GAINS TAX (C.G.T.)

Capital gains tax is charged for a year of assessment, i.e. year ending 31st December (previously 5th April). The tax arises where there is a disposal (sale, Gift, transfer) of an asset, e.g. Land, quota, shares, etc. while the owner is still living. (Note: Capital Gains Tax does not apply to assets transferring by inheritance after death).

Rate of Tax

From 1st December 1999, a single rate of 20% tax applies on all chargeable gains.

Exemptions

- Gains on sale of principal private residence and ground up to one acre.
- Gains on disposal of chattels (personal movable property, furniture, etc.) where the price does not exceed €2539.
- Gains on disposal of Irish Government Stocks, Saving Certificates.
- Payments under approved pension schemes, compensation for personal injury.
- Transfers between spouses. The spouse who acquired the asset is deemed to acquire it at the cost/value at which the other acquired it

Annual Exemptions

	To 5/4/1992	From 6/4/1992	From 6/4/1998
Single/Widow(er)	£2,000	£1,000	€1270 per person, non transferable
Married Couple	£4,000	£2,000	(Non transferable between spouses).

Incidental Cost Allowed

Costs incurred on the acquisition and improvement of the asset are allowed and are indexed for inflation. The cost of transfer/sale is deducted from the sale price or market value at date of transfer. (Costs include stamp duty paid on acquisition, legal costs, auctioneer, etc).

Indexation Relief

In calculating chargeable gains, the original cost or value of the asset is adjusted for inflation. (See Indexation Table later).

Main Reliefs

1. Retirement Relief

Retirement relief is given to an individual on the sale/transfer of all or part of the qualifying assets of the business.

Two Separate Sections

(i) Disposal to a Child of Owner (Section 599).

Where disposal to a child or favourite Niece or Nephew, there is no limit on the proceeds or gain which may qualify for relief. However, there is a claw-back of relief if the child or favourite Niece or Nephew does not retain the assets for a period of 6 years. From 2/4/2007 the child of a deceased child (an orphaned Grandchild) will also qualify).

(ii) Disposal to Others (Section 598)

Full relief from CGT payable on disposal of qualifying assets provided the aggregate proceeds from such assets does not exceed a specified limit (€476,152 from 1/12/1999 increased to €500,000 F.A. 2003) - This is a lifetime limit for disposals after the age of 55 years. The €500,000 limit includes disposals to a spouse. Budget for 2007 increases this limit to €750,000 from 1st January 2007.

Marginal Relief

May be available where aggregate proceeds exceed €500,000. The relief restricts the tax payable to 50% of the difference between the consideration and €500,000.

Conditions for Relief

Retirement relief applies where the disposal is made:

- ➔ by the individual
- ➔ who is aged 55 years or more at time of disposal
- ➔ of "qualifying assets" i.e., business assets used in the business and owned for 10 years prior to disposal.

Note: Land which is rented out is not a "qualifying asset". However, F.A. 98 amended the definition of "qualifying assets" for farmers who retire under E.R.S. and lease their land to a transferee. The date taken for the purpose of the test for a "qualifying asset" is the date on which the lease was signed for E.R.S. and not the subsequent date of disposal.

F.A. 2002

Also amends S. 598 so that land let in the period of 5 years prior to disposal under a C.P.O. for the purpose of road building/widening but which was farmed for 10 years prior to first letting qualify as a qualifying asset.

Finance Act 2007 (March/April) will have details of new changes re land letting rules. For disposals after 2/4/2007. To children, the land can be leased out or rented out for up to 15 years before the transfer, but it must have been owned and used for at least 10 years before date of first letting.

Retirement Relief and Joint Ownership (S 599 and S 598)

Where a farm business is jointly owned (say by Husband and wife) and only one individual makes annual income tax returns, Revenue (at present) will only allow half the business to qualify for retirement relief, the other half is assessed for CGT in the normal way. To avoid this problem, both joint owners should farm in partnership and each should make annual income tax returns at least 10 years prior to sale or transfer. If possible, they should also have joint herd numbers, joint Single Farm Payment Applications and a Joint Bank Account in relation to the business. These help to prove that both joint owners are actively farming the land.

(4) CAPITAL GAINS TAX (C.G.T.) - Continued

2. Roll Over Relief

If proceeds from the sale of a business are re-invested in similar assets within a period of 1 year prior to disposal and 3 years after, any CGT is deferred. Farmed land (not development land) qualifies for this relief. However, F.A. 1995 allowed Roll Over relief on development land acquired under a C.P.O. for road building. From 1st January 2001, the reinvestment period is extended to 2 years prior to disposal and 4 years after for C.P.O. land.

“Similar Assets” include

- Land and Buildings occupied and used solely for the trade
- Plant and Machinery
- Goodwill

For disposals on or after 4th December 2002 Roll Over Relief is no longer available.

Note: Development Land

Where the sale of land exceeds its current use value, it is defined as development land. The term is not in any way related to the use to which the land is put.

Generally, development land did not qualify for:

- Indexation Relief (except for small disposal). £15,000 (€19,046)
- Roll Over Relief (except in context of C.P.O.) to 4th december 2002

Small Disposals of Development Land

In any year of assessment if the total consideration from disposals of development land do not exceed €19,046 (£15,000), then indexation can be applied. (This is an old rule and is really not relevant now because of the big increase in prices for development land and sites in recent years).

Part Disposal of Development Land

Arising from a recent decision (2003) by the Appeal Commissioners, Revenue will accept that where land is acquired at current use value and a part of that land is subsequently sold as development land, the allowable cost, determined by the part disposal formula, should be indexed in full, without restrictions (See example 2 later).

Payment of C.G.T.

F.A. 2001 discontinued the application of Preliminary Tax to C.G.T. From 2001 year of assessment, 100% of the C.G.T. is due by 31st October in the year following the year of assessment, i.e. 31/10/2002 for sales in year of assessment ending 31/12/2001.

For disposals on or after 1st January 2003 the payment date will depend on when the disposal was made.

Disposal	Tax Due by
On or before 30th September in the tax year	31st October in that tax year
From 1st October - 31st December in the tax year	31st January in the following tax year

Disposal of Shares - Shares of the same class are identified with purchases on a first in, first out basis.

RATES OF CAPITAL GAINS TAX						
General Assets			Development Land			
			Normal Disposal or C.P.O.		Residential Development Land	
Disposal	6/4/92 - 2/12/97	From 3/12/97	6/4/92 - 30/11/99	1/12/99 - 5/4/02	23/4/98 - 30/11/99	1/12/99
Rate	40%	20%	40%	20%	20%*	20%

* Three categories of development land qualified for 20% tax rate from 23/4/98 - 30/11/1999

- (i) Land acquired for the purposes of the Housing Acts - i.e. Housing Authorities, etc.
- (ii) Land the whole of which had at the time of disposal had unexpired planning permission for residential development
- (iii) Land the whole of which was Zoned for use solely or primarily for residential purposes.

Tax Clearance Certificate may be applied for where sale proceeds exceed €500,000, F.A. 2000, otherwise 15% should be deducted by purchaser and remittance made to revenue. The Certificate (CG 50A) is obtainable if any of the following applies:

- person is resident of the State
- no Capital Gains Tax liability is payable
- the Capital Gains Tax liability has been paid

Losses

Losses are set off against chargeable gains in the same year. Unused losses may be carried forward against future gains. Inflation relief may not convert a monetary gain to an allowable loss or increase a monetary loss.

Transfer of site from parent to child (from 6/12/2000)

C.G.T. will no longer apply on the transfer of a site from parent to child to enable the child to construct a principal private residence on the site. The site must not be valued at more than €253,947. If the site is disposed of without being occupied as a principal private residence for at least 3 years, the C.G.T. which would have accrued to the parent on the initial transfer will now accrue to the child. Parents only (not Uncles/Aunts/Others) are allowed to transfer one site only per child under this relief. The Finance Act of 2007 limits the size of the site area to 1 acre - exclusive of the proposed house site (from 1/2/2007). From 5/12/2007 the site transferred can have a value of up to €500,000

(4) CAPITAL GAINS TAX (C.G.T.) - Continued

INDEXATION TABLE

Capital Gains Tax

Capital Gains Tax Multiplier for Disposals Years ended April 1997 to 31 December 2007

Year Expenditure	Y/E 5/4/97	Y/E 5/4/98	Y/E 5/4/99	Y/E 5/4/00	Y/E 5/4/01	Y/E 31/12/01	Y/E 31/12/02	Y/E 31/12/03 31/12/04 31/12/05 31/12/06 31/12/07 31/12/08
1974/75	6.017	6.112	6.215	6.313	6.582	6.930	7.180	7.528
1975/76	4.860	4.936	5.020	5.099	5.316	5.597	5.799	6.080
1976/77	4.187	4.253	4.325	4.393	4.580	4.822	4.996	5.238
1977/78	3.589	3.646	3.707	3.766	3.926	4.133	4.283	4.490
1978/79	3.316	3.368	3.425	3.479	3.627	3.819	3.956	4.148
1979/80	2.992	3.039	3.090	3.139	3.272	3.445	3.570	3.742
1980/81	2.590	2.631	2.675	2.718	2.833	2.983	3.091	3.240
1981/82	2.141	2.174	2.211	2.246	2.342	2.465	2.554	2.678
1982/83	1.801	1.829	1.860	1.890	1.970	2.074	2.149	2.253
1983/84	1.601	1.627	1.654	1.680	1.752	1.844	1.911	2.003
1984/85	1.454	1.477	1.502	1.525	1.590	1.674	1.735	1.819
1985/86	1.369	1.390	1.414	1.436	1.497	1.577	1.633	1.713
1986/87	1.309	1.330	1.352	1.373	1.432	1.507	1.562	1.637
1987/88	1.266	1.285	1.307	1.328	1.384	1.457	1.510	1.583
1988/89	1.242	1.261	1.282	1.303	1.358	1.430	1.481	1.553
1989/90	1.202	1.221	1.241	1.261	1.314	1.384	1.434	1.503
1990/91	1.153	1.171	1.191	1.210	1.261	1.328	1.376	1.442
1991/92	1.124	1.142	1.161	1.179	1.229	1.294	1.341	1.406
1992/93	1.084	1.101	1.120	1.138	1.186	1.249	1.294	1.356
1993/94	1.064	1.081	1.099	1.117	1.164	1.226	1.270	1.331
1994/95	1.046	1.063	1.081	1.098	1.144	1.205	1.248	1.309
1995/96	1.021	1.037	1.054	1.071	1.116	1.175	1.218	1.277
1996/97	—	1.016	1.033	1.050	1.094	1.152	1.194	1.251
1997/98	—	—	1.017	1.033	1.077	1.134	1.175	1.232
1998/99	—	—	—	1.016	1.059	1.115	1.156	1.212
1999/00	—	—	—	—	1.043	1.098	1.138	1.193
2000/01	—	—	—	—	—	1.053	1.091	1.144
2001	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.037	1.087
2002	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.049
(2003 + Later)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.000

Note:

In the expenditure incurred column, and for all years to 2000/2001 inclusive, a year means a 12 month period commencing on 6th April and ending on the following 5th April. The year 2001 covers the period 6/4/2001 to 31/12/2001. Indexation is not available on expenditure incurred within 12 months prior to the date of disposal.

Calculation of Capital Gains - Examples

Example 1

A sale of 30 ha. of agricultural land in May 2008 for €485,000.

- Original land acquired in June 1976 when it was valued at €57,000
- Cost of acquisition €2,000 and disposal €8,000.

SALE PRICE	=	€485,000
- Less expenses	=	€8,000
Net Price	=	€477,000
Acquisition Cost €57,000 + €2,000 x 5.238	=	€309,042
Gain	=	€167,958
Personal Allowance	=	€1,270
Taxable Gain	=	€166,688
Tax at 20%	=	€33,337.6

* The farmer should check if she/he is/are eligible for CGT Retirement Relief.

Example 2 - Part Disposal of Development Land

Sale of a site (1/2 acre) May 2008	€50,000
Cost of Disposal	€3,000
Net Price	€47,000

50 acres acquired from parent in March 1990 valued at €63,500 including costs. Best option is to use “part disposal” formula to value the development site.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{i.e. } & \frac{€63,500 \times €50,000}{*€275,000 + 50,000} = €9,769 \text{ (Current use value in 1990} \\ & \text{includes agricultural \& development} \\ & \text{Value)} \\ & *€275,000 = \text{present value of land after sale of site} \end{aligned}$$

Calculation of C.G.T.

Net Sale Price	€47,000
Less: €9769* x 1.503	
	= €14,683

*Revenue now allow the full original value to be indexed.

Gain	= €32,317
Personal Allowances	= €1,270
Taxable	= €31,047
Tax at 20%	= €6,209.40

* The farmer should check if she/he is/are eligible for CGT Retirement Relief.

On a subsequent disposal from the remaining 49.5 acres, the base cost of the land disposed of will be the original cost (€63,500) less base cost allocated to first disposal (€9,769) = €53,731

Other points

C.G.T. no longer applies on transfer of site from parent to child to enable the child to build a principal private residence. The site must not be valued at more than €500,000. If the site is disposed of by the child without being occupied as a principal private residence for a least 3 years, the C.G.T. which would have accrued to the parent will now accrue to the child. The Finance Act 2007 limited the site area size to 1 acre - exclusive of the proposed house site. (from 1/2/2007)

Single Farm Payment Entitlements and CGT

The sale/gift of SFP Entitlements is a disposal subject to Capital Gains Tax (CGT) rules. CGT at 20% would apply on the market value of the entitlements. However, CGT Retirement Relief will apply to farmers over 55 years when entitlements are transferred with the land and the 10 year ownership/use rules are met for the land. No retirement relief applies if entitlements only are gifted/sold without land. CGT does not apply to inheritances of entitlements (after death) or lifetime transfers between spouses.

(5) STAMP DUTY

Stamp Duty is charged on “instruments” ie written documents conveying certain assets from one person to another (No Stamp Duty on Inheritance). In the sale the accountable person is the purchaser; in a lease - the lessee; in a gift - both donor and donee are accountable persons.

- ➡ Stamp Duty on lease (up to 35 years) is 1% of the average annual rent.
- ➡ Stamp Duty on land varies with value or sale price as follows (from 1/9/1990)

Value of Asset (from 1/9/1990)	Rate of Duty	New Thresholds from 4/12/2002
€6,349 (£5,000)	Exempt	Up to €10,000
€6,350 - €12,700 (£10,000)	1%	€10,001 - €20,000
€12,700 - €19,049 (£15,000)	2%	€20,001 - €30,000
€19,046 - €31,743 (£25,000)	3%	€30,001 - €40,000
€31,743 - €63,487 (£50,000)	4%	€40,001 - €70,000
€63,487 - €76,184 (£60,000)	5%	€70,001 - €80,000
€76,184 or more	6%	€80,001 - €100,000
-	7%	€100,001 - €120,000
-	8%	€120,001 - €150,000
-	9%	over €150,000

Reliefs

1. Related Persons

If a transfer or purchase is between related* persons the rate of duty is half the normal *(parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister or lineal descendant of a person, husband, wife or brother, sister). This is ‘Consanguinity Relief’.

Transactions between spouses are exempt.

2. Stamp Duty Relief for young Trained Farmers

For the 3 years 31 December 1999 to 31 December 2002 there is 100% relief from stamp duty for qualified young farmers, extended to 31 December 2005 in F.A. 2003. The Finance Act 2006 extends this 100% Stamp Duty Relief to young trained farmers for another 3 years up to 31 st December 2008.

Conditions

- ➡ Under 35 years of age on date of transfer (Transfers include gifts/purchases of land + buildings).
- ➡ Satisfy the qualification requirements (See later).
- ➡ The young farmer must also furnish a declaration that he/she intends to, for a period of 5 years from date of deed of transfer
 - Spend not less than 50% of normal working time farming the land
 - Retain ownership of the land
- ➡ Furnish a PPSN

(See more details later)

Information sources

- 1 See revenue Leaflets SD2 and SD2 A
- 2 For most recent changes/update - see the new Revenue Brochure entitled “Stamp Duty Relief on Transfer of Land to Young Trained Farmers” leaflet SD 2B (April 2007). Can also see this leaflet on TNET site/advisory/farm management/stamp duty. (See more details later in this section.

(5) STAMP DUTY - Continued

PAYMENT OF STAMP DUTY

Duty must be paid within 30 days of the date of execution of the document
Rates of Stamp Duty for residential Property (from 6th december 2001)

Value of Asset	First Time Buyer	Other Owner Occupiers/Investors
Up to €127,000	Nil	Nil
€127,000 - €190,500	Nil	3.00%
€190,501 - €254,000	3.00%	4.00%
€254,001 - €317,500	3.75%	5.00
€317,501 - €381,000	4.50	6.00%
€381,001 - €635,000	7.50%	7.5%
Over €635,000	9.00%	9.00%

NOTE: New simplified stamp duty system from 5th November 2007 as follows:

A) First €125,000 = NIL B) Next €875,000 = 7% C) Excess over €1 million = 9%

PREVIOUS RATES

from 15th June 2000 to 6th December 2001 a Three Tier Stamp Duty system applied to Second Hand Residential Property.

£	First Time Buyers Rate	Other Owner Occupiers	Rate	Investors
0-150,000	0%	0-1,000,000	0%	A stamp duty rate of 9% applied on all price categories for new (to 26/2/01) and second hand residential properties
150,000 - 200,000	3%	100,000	3%	
200,000 - 250,000	3.75	150,000 - 200,000	4%	
250,000 - 300,000	4.5%	200,000 - 250,000	5%	
300,000 - 500,000	7.5	250,000 - 300,000	6%	
500,000	9%	300,000 - 500,000	7.5	
		500,000	9%	

New residential property - from 27/2/2001 - 5/12/2001

£	First Time Buyer	Other Owner/Occupiers	Investor
0 - 100,000	0%	0%	3%
100,000 - 150,000	0%	3%	3%
150,000 - 200,000	3%	4%	4%
200,000 - 250,000	3.75%	5%	5%
250,000 - 300,000	4.5%	6%	6%
300,000 - 500,000	7.5%	7.5%	7.5%
500,000 +	9%	9%	9%

Revised Stamp Duty Rates for first time buyers of second hand residential property payable on instruments executed on or after 2nd December 2004.

NOTE - All Stamp Duty has been removed after 31 March 2007 for first time purchasers

Value of Second Hand residential Property Being purchased for Occupation by first time buyer	Existing first time buyer Rate to 2/12/2004	New first time buyer Rate from 2/12/2004
Up to 127,000	Exempt	Exempt
127,001 - 190,500	Exempt	Exempt
190,501 - 254,000	3%	Exempt
254,001 - 317,500	3.75%	Exempt
317,501 - 381,000	4.5%	3%
381,001 - 635,000	7.5%	6%
Over 635,000	9.0%	9.0%

(5) STAMP DUTY - Continued

MAIN EXEMPTIONS FROM STAMP DUTY

- The sale or gift of Single Farm Payment Entitlements - Instruments executed on/after 1/1/2005 are exempt.
- Transfer in shares in Government stock, or loan stock of E.S.B., R.T.E., I.C.C.
- Wills (No Stamp Duty applies on transfer of assets by inheritance following death of owner).
- Sale of new houses which qualify for a grant
- Transfers between spouses
- Commercial woodland (not the land)
- New houses and apartments where floor area does not exceed 125 square metres. Partial relief may be available on new houses and apartments where floor area exceeds 125 square metres.
The annual rent threshold below which a lease of a dwelling not exceeding 35 years is exempted from stamp duty has been increased from €7,618 to €19,050 from 1/12/1999.
- Relief is granted in a transfer to an Owner/Occupier of a NEW house/apartment without a floor area certificate. Duty is charged on the site value or 25% of the total value, whichever is greater (Excluding VAT on building costs. (Normal rates and thresholds apply).
- The transfer of a site, with a market value not exceeding €254,947 from parent to child is exempt from stamp duty from 6/12/2000. The exemption is limited to one site per child, and only applies to transfers from parents and not from others (e.g. Uncles/Aunts/Others). The Finance Act 2007 limits the size of the site area to 1 acre - exclusive of the proposed house site from 1/2/2007. (from 5/12/2007 the site can have value up to €500,000).

Stamp Duty on Leases

Duty at the rate of 1% is payable on the average annual rent, however, if land is leased at below market value (i.e. for love and affection) then revenue will reassess the duty and full stamp duty will be charged on the Assessed "gift" over the full lease term.

e.g. 40 ha. leased for €1,000 for 10 years

revenue re-assess rent at (say) €10,000 per annum

Annual saving = €9,000 over leasing period

Extra Duty assessed on €90,000 at 6% = €5,400

This €90,000 is regarded as a gift and will be aggregated with other gifts/inheritances for gift tax purposes.

Stamp Duty Relief for exchange of farmland for farm consolidation purposes.

Section 121 of the Finance Act 2005 inserted a new section, Section 81B, into the Stamp Duties Consolidation Act 1999 to grant Stamp Duty relief where an exchange of farmland takes place between two farmers for the purposes of consolidating each farmer's holding. The relief is that no Stamp Duty will be payable where there is no difference in the market value of each farmer's land involved in the exchange. Where there is a difference in values, Stamp Duty will be payable on the difference by the farmer receiving the more valuable land. This relief will apply to deeds of transfer executed in the period commencing 1st July 2005 and ending on 30th June 2007. Both farmers must have a valid farm Consolidation Certificate at the date of execution of the deed of transfer effecting the exchange. Both farmers must apply to Teagasc for a Farm Consolidation Certificate and the certificate remains valid for 1 year from the date of issue.

A range of documentation is required with the application. Each farmer must spend not less than 50% of his or her normal working time farming. The Finance Act 2007 extends the consolidation relief for 2 more years to 30th June 2009. Changes will broaden the relief to some extent (full details will be in Finance Act 2007)

See full details of the relief for the new consolidation in the next section (1/7/2007 to 30/6/2009).

Note: (Capital gains tax applies to Land Disposals by Gift, Sale, Exchange out).

Where two farmers exchange land, they need to calculate Capital Gains Tax due, if any, as land is being disposed of by each farmer. Each farmer involved in the exchange should check the CGT implications before entering into the transaction, with their Accountant/Tax Advisor. Some farmers over 55 years old may qualify for CGT Retirement relief.

The Farm Consolidation Relief

(STAMP DUTY RELIEF)

1. Fragmentation is high on Irish Farms

- 40,000 farmers have 4 or more separate land parcels (CSO -2005)

2. Fragmentation adds to farm costs and reduces efficiency

- Extra travel time and labour
- Extra machinery and facilities required
- Extra stock movement and inspection
- Not enough land in the milking platform (dairy farms)

Note: Reducing farm fragmentation can result in benefits in each of the above areas.

3. Barriers to farm restructuring

- The high cost of farm land
- Stamp duty charges on land purchased
- Capital gains tax on land disposed of during the owner's lifetime

4. Farm consolidation relief (first scheme – now closed)

- This farm consolidation relief for stamp duty to help promote farm restructuring was introduced under Section 81B of the Stamp Duties Consolidation Act 1999.
- Applied to land exchanges between two farmers in the period 1st July 2005 to 30th June 2007, which met various Consolidation criteria.
- Each farm had to have fewer separate parcels of land or less distance between parcels following the exchange.
- Stamp duty was only paid by the farmer receiving the higher value land and only on the excess value over the land disposed of.
- Uptake for first scheme was poor, mainly due to restrictive conditions.

5. The new scheme of farm consolidation relief for stamp duty (now open)

- Improved scheme for stamp duty relief was introduced under Section 104 of Finance Act 2007 and Section 81C of the Stamp Duties Consolidation Act 1999.
- This Scheme provides a relief for stamp duty where an individual farmer sells and purchases qualifying land in order to consolidate his/her farm.
- The sale and purchase transactions for qualifying land must be within 18 months of each other and must also be within the two year scheme period (1st July 2007 to 30th June 2009).
- The interaction of the sale and purchase together must result in:
 - (a) A reduction in the number of separate land parcels comprised in the existing farm (e.g. sell two parcels and buy one parcel)
 - (b) OR an overall reduction in the distance between existing parcels comprised in the farm (e.g. sell a parcel some distance away and buy a parcel closer to the existing farm)
 - (c) Thereby leading to a reduction in the fragmentation of the farm and an improvement in the operation and viability of the consolidated farm.

6. Land parcels

- A parcel of land means a stand-alone piece of land. It is any piece of farmed land which is completely surrounded by land of other farms or by roads, forests, rivers etc.

7. Qualifying land

Parcels of land sold and purchased as part of farm consolidation must be:

- (a) In the State
- (b) Agricultural land or afforested land
 - Bogland is not eligible
 - Land must not contain residential buildings unless they are derelict and unfit for human habitation
 - Residential buildings and bogland should be excluded from the transaction and put on separate legal instrument (consult your Solicitor).
 - Farmyards and farm buildings are acceptable on the land
 - Land purchased must be farmed for five years and land sold can be sold for farming or non-farming uses.
 - A sale of land which splits an existing land parcel is not eligible.

8. Conditions

When applying to the Stamp Duty Office for farm consolidation relief, the farmer must sign a declaration that it is his/her intention for a period of five years from the date of execution of the deed of purchase for the land purchased:

- (a) To spend not less than 50% of his/her normal working time farming
- (b) To farm the lands purchased
- (c) To retain ownership of the lands

9. Farm Consolidation Relief

For relevant land sales and purchases, the farmer applies to the designated Teagasc adviser using the FC2 application form with supporting documentation. Teagasc will issue a Farm Consolidation Certificate for land transactions which qualify.

10. Capital Gains Tax (CGT)

When a farmer “disposes of” farmland during his lifetime, by either sale, gift or exchange to another person, capital gains tax rules apply (even when the farmer has qualified for farm consolidation stamp duty relief).

The Capital Gains Tax on the lands disposed of can be substantial due to the rapid rise in land values in recent years. In some situations, the CGT on the land disposed of could exceed the stamp duty saved under Farm Consolidation Relief. Farmers over 55 years of age may qualify for retirement relief. Check the CGT calculations with your accountant before land disposal transactions take place.

11. The bottom line – Potential savings

There is a sliding scale for stamp duty which increases to 9% for any land purchased or received by gift with a value over €150,000.

Transactions between related persons are allowed 50% relief and would pay 4.5%. Two examples illustrate the benefit of farm consolidation relief:

Example 1

- (a) Farmer sells two land parcels eight miles from his main farm in September 2007 for €270,000
- (b) In April 2008 he purchases one land parcel beside his main farm for €440,000
- (c) He qualifies for Consolidation Relief (less land parcels and less distance between parcels) and gets a Farm Consolidation Certificate from Teagasc.
- (d) Value of purchase exceeds sale by €170,000
- (e) Stamp duty payable = 9% of €170,000 = €15,300
- (f) If no consolidation, stamp duty = €440,000 at 9% = €39,600.
- (g) Stamp duty saving due to consolidation relief = €24,300

Example 2

- (a) Farmer B buys one land parcel within a mile of his main farm in January 2008 for €230,000 and pays 9% stamp duty = €20,700.
- (b) In April 2008 he sells a parcel of land 3.5 miles away from his farm for €255,000
- (c) He now qualifies for consolidation relief (less distance between land parcels) and obtains a Farm Consolidation Certificate from Teagasc
- (d) The value of land sale exceeds the purchase so no stamp duty payable
- (e) The farmer can now claim a refund of the stamp duty (€20,700) paid on the purchase.

12. Conclusions

Farmers who are purchasing/selling land parcels to restructure their farms may be eligible for valuable stamp duty relief under the new Farm Consolidation Relief Scheme for the lands purchased. Contact your local Teagasc Office. The farmer should be aware of the conditions to be met for the relief before land transactions take place.

Teagasc

Advisory Services

20th June 2008

Stamp Duty Relief on Transfers of Land to Young Trained Farmers

Under current legalisation (ie Finance Act 2007), “young trained farmers” (see conditions below) qualify for 100% stamp duty relief on deeds of land transfers executed on or after 2 April 2007 and on or before 31 December 2008.

Conditions (to satisfy the status of “young trained farmer”):

- (A) Applicant must be under 35 years of age on the date of execution of the Deed of Transfer
- (B) Satisfy the qualification requirements as set out below in the table of Schedule 2B Qualifications.
- (C) The applicant is required to furnish a declaration* that it is his/her intention, for a period of five years from the date of the execution of the Deed of Transfer:
 - Spend not less than 50% of normal working time farming the land
 - Retain Ownership of the land
 - Provide a PPS Number

*The declaration, which is required under Section 81AA of the Stamp Duties Consolidation Act 1999, is contained in the Revenue application form which is part of the Revenue Information Leaflet SD2B entitled “Stamp Duty Relief on Transfers of Land to Young Trained Farmers”.

The declaration is normally signed along with the relevant documentation at the date of the transfer, in the office of the applicant’s solicitor.

Educational Qualifications – for Relief of Stamp Duty

The claimant need satisfy only the requirements of one of the following categories or, where appropriate, one of the options within the given category. The category being claimed under must be stated on the application form (see SD2B).

Category

- (A) The claimant must, at the date of the transfer, subject to refund provisions, be the holder of a Schedule 2B qualification (see list hereunder).
- (B) The claimant must, at the date of the transfer, be the holder of a letter issued by Teagasc confirming satisfactory completion of a course of training approved by Teagasc for persons with learning difficulties.
- (C) The claimant must, at the date of transfer and before 31 March 2008, be the holder of:
 - (i) a qualification from paragraph 1 (f) or paragraph 2(h) of Schedule 2A (See leaflet SD2A) and also be the holder of a 180 hours certificate, or
 - (ii) a qualification from paragraph 3 (b), (c), or (d) of Schedule 2A (See leaflet SD2A) and also be the holder of an 80 hours certificate
- (D) The claimant must, at the date of transfer and before 31 March 2008, have achieved the required standard for entry into the third year of a full-time course, in any discipline, of three years or more duration at a third-level institution and also be the holder of a FETAC Certificates for the Teagasc 100 hours and 80 hours courses.
- (E) The claimant must be the holder of a qualification and Teagasc has certified that the qualification corresponds to a Schedule 2B qualification and that the qualification is deemed by the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland to be at a level on the National Framework of Qualifications equivalent to that of the Schedule 2B qualification.

Schedule 2B Qualifications

A holder of any of the following will satisfy the requirements for Stamp Duty Relief (those who hold an equivalent qualification should apply to Teagasc for a letter confirming that they meet the qualifications requirements as per one of the above Categories):

1 Qualifications awarded by the Further Education and Training Awards Council (FETAC):

- (a) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Farming
- (b) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Agriculture
- (c) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Dairy Herd Management
- (d) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Drystock Management
- (e) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Agricultural Mechanisation
- (f) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Farm Management
- (g) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Machinery and Crop Management
- (h) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horticulture
- (i) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Forestry
- (j) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Stud Management
- (k) Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Horsemanship

2 Qualifications awarded by the Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC):

- (a) Higher Certificate in Agriculture
- (b) Bachelor of Science in Agriculture
- (c) Higher Certificate in Agricultural Science
- (d) Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Science
- (e) Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Land Management, Agriculture
- (f) Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Land Management, Horticulture
- (g) Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Land Management, Forestry
- (h) Higher Certificate in Engineering in Agricultural Mechanisation
- (i) Bachelor of Business in Rural Enterprise and Agri-Business
- (j) Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and Environmental Management
- (k) Bachelor of Science in Horticulture
- (l) Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Horticultural Management
- (m) Bachelor of Science in Forestry
- (n) Higher Certificate in Business in Equine Studies
- (o) Bachelor of Business in Equine Studies

3 Qualifications awarded by other third-level institutions:

- (a) Bachelor of Agricultural Science - Animal Crop Production awarded by University College Dublin
- (b) Bachelor of Agricultural Science - Animal Science awarded by University College Dublin
- (c) Bachelor of Agricultural Science - Food and Agribusiness Management awarded by University College Dublin
- (d) Bachelor of Agricultural Science -Forestry awarded by University College Dublin
- (e) Bachelor of Agricultural Science -Horticulture, Landscape and Sportsturf Management awarded by University College Dublin
- (f) Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine awarded by University College Dublin
- (g) Bachelor of Science in Equine Science awarded by the University of Limerick
- (h) Diploma in Equine Science awarded by the University of Limerick

REFUNDS

Refunds of Stamp Duty may be payable as follows:

- A Where an applicant meets the qualifications requirements but neglected to claim the relief at the date of the execution and stamping of the deed of transfer. An application for the refund must be made within four years of the date of stamping the deed.
- B A refund of stamp duty may be payable when the following conditions are met:
 - Applicant is under the age of 35 years at the date of execution of the deed of transfer
 - The applicant acquires the necessary qualification within four years from the date of execution of the deed of transfer
 - An application for the refund is made within four years of satisfying the above condition

In the case of refunds the five year period during which the young trained farmer is required to retain the land/farm commences from the date of the claim for refund.

Applications for refunds are made on the application form attached to the Revenue Leaflet SD2B.

Annex I

Agricultural Qualifications

Eligible qualifications include:

FETAC Certificate in Farming

FETAC Level 3 Vocational Certificate in Agriculture

FETAC Level 6 Advance Certificate in Agriculture

And many more equivalent or higher qualification

A full list of eligible qualifications is available in the RULES FOR THE OPERATION OF MILK PRODUCTION PARTNERSHIPS (MPP's) - EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM)

Annex II

Farm Manager

A Farm Manager is defined for the purpose of this scheme as a person who holds one of the following qualifications:

- (i) Teagasc/FETAC advanced Certificate in Agriculture - dairy Herd Management
- (ii) FETAC diploma in Agriculture (Teagasc) - dairy Herd Management
- (iii) FETAC Level 6 Advanced Certificate (Teagasc) in Agriculture - Dairy Herd Management
- (iv) FETAC Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Dairy Herd Management
- (v) Teagasc/FETAC Advanced Certificate in agriculture - Farm Management
- (vi) FETAC Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Farm Management
- (vii) FAB First Farm Management Certificate in Farm Management
- (viii) FAB/FETAC Certificate in Farm Husbandry
- (x) FAB/FETAC Certificate in Farm Business Management
- (xi) A qualification deemed to be equivalent or greater to one of those listed in (i) to (x) above

and

has worked post qualification for a minimum of three years as a farm manager and contributed PRSI during that period(s) under Class A as defined by the Department of Social and family Affairs

Further Information on Stamp Duty

Further information may be obtained from the addresses and telephone numbers listed below.

1. Dublin Stamping District,
Dublin Region,
Stamping Building,
Dublin Castle,
Dublin 2.

Telephone: LoCall 1890 48 25 82

2. Cork Stamp Duty Office,
South West region,
Government Buildings,
Sullivans Quay,
Cork.

Telephone: 021 49 68 783

3. Galway Stamp Duty Office,
Border Midlands West Region,
Custom House,
Galway.

Telephone: 091 53 63 00

(6) PROBATE TAX
(Probate Tax is abolished in respect of deaths on or after 6/12/2000)

- Probate Tax introduced in 1993 Finance Act will be administered as part of the Capital Acquisitions regime.
- The charge to tax applies in respect of deaths occurring from 18th June 1993 (the date of passing Finance Act).
- The rate of tax is 2% and is charged on the value of both real and personal property (e.g. car) comprised in the deceased's Estate which pass by WILL or Intestacy. Where the deceased was domiciled in the State all assets, wherever situated, are liable. Where the deceased was not domiciled in the State only assets situated in the State are liable.
- A charge to Probate Tax cannot arise in respect of property passing other than by Will or Intestacy. e.g. Property held Jointly which passes by survivorship is not subject to the tax.
- Property passing to spouse is exempt. (F.A. 1994) effective from 18/6/1993.
- Life Time Gifts are not liable.
- Property held on Trust which passes under the terms of the trust is not liable.
- No charge arises where the value of a deceased's Estate does not exceed €12,697 (index linked), €12,888 in 1994, €13,193 from January 1995, €13,523 from January 1996, €13,739 from January 1997, 13,942 from January 1998 and €14,285 from January 1999. From 1/12/1999 the exemption threshold was increased to €50,789 in respect of deaths on or after that date.
- Certain property may be excluded from the taxable value of a deceased's Estate
 - Benefits taken under a superannuation or retirement annuity scheme which pass to the dependents under the terms of the pension scheme.
 - Property given by deceased's Will for public or charitable purposes.
 - The deceased's dwelling house if survived by his spouse. (It is not necessary that the spouse should succeed to the dwelling).
 - If the deceased is not survived by his spouse the dwelling house may be excluded if it passes by Will or Intestacy to a Dependent child or a Dependent relative of the deceased. To qualify, the dependent child or relative must normally be residing in the house and have income not in excess of €6,355 in the preceding tax year, for deaths after 5/4/00.
- The Valuation date is the date of Death.
- The market value of the property may be reduced by debts and liabilities existing at the date of death and reasonable funeral expenses. No deduction is made for expenses incurred after the date of death (e.g. administration costs).
- Where a dwelling house qualifies for exemption, any mortgage or debt on the house may be deducted as a liability.
- Agricultural relief of 30% is available on agricultural land and buildings. (1994 F.A. effective from 18/6/1993).
- The personal representative (executor or administrator) is primarily accountable for Probate Tax which is payable within 9 months from date of death. If payment is not made in time interest at 1.25% per month is charged from date of death. If the Tax is paid earlier than the nine months a discount of 1.25% per month is allowed.
- The Probate Tax liability will be apportioned between the various beneficiaries to the extent that they take property which is not exempt. The beneficiary can claim the Probate Tax as an expense in calculating C.A.T. liability.
- The proceeds of "section 60" policies are exempt to the extent to which they are used to pay Probate Tax and/or Inheritance Tax.
- A Probate Tax Return must accompany the Inland Revenue Affidavit which is an application for a Certificate of probate. Payment of the Probate Tax must accompany the Inland Revenue Affidavit. Payment by tendering Government stock is allowed.
- The Revenue Commissioners may postpone payment of Probate Tax if they are satisfied that insufficient liquid assets exist to pay the Tax.
- Penalties also apply

Fraud or negligence	€1,270
Failure to make a return	€ 508
Obstructing inspection of property	€ 254

(7) VALUE ADDED TAX - (2008)

Farmers are not obliged to register for VAT, but may do so if they wish. The VAT rates currently in force are:

- **Zero Rate** - includes animal feed, (except for pets), fertiliser (over 10kgs), food and drink for human consumption (except alcoholic drinks, minerals, ice-cream, chocolates/confectionery), milk, cereals, medicines for human oral consumption, medicine for animal oral consumption (except for pets), seeds, plants, etc. for food production, children's clothes, footwear, etc.
- **4.8% Rate** - includes live cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, deer, horses, greyhounds (from 1/1/2005). (**4.4% from 1/1/2004**) This rate has been risen to 5.2% from 1st January 2007.
- **13.5% Rate (from 1st January 2003)** - includes building services, repair and maintenance services, agricultural and veterinary services, fuel for power and heating (marked oil).
- **21% Rate (from 1st March 2002)** - includes all goods and services not included in above rates, incl. road diesel, petrol, auto L.P.G., concrete products, and most building materials, farm accountancy, farm management and auctioneer services, machinery, adult clothing etc.

Unregistered Farmers (Flat Rate Farmers) are compensated for the VAT they are charged on purchases by means of a flat rate addition to the prices they receive from VAT registered customers for their products, cattle, milk, grain, etc. The flat rate addition increased from 4.4% in 2004 to 4.8% from 1st January 2005. And 5.2% from 1st January 2007. This rate of 5.2% continues for 2008.

Repayment of VAT on Farm Buildings, Drainage and Land Reclamation

Minimum claim €127. Claim Form VAT 58. (To be used by unregistered flat rate farmers for VAT)

Claim form VAT 58 and supporting documentation should be sent to:

VAT (Unregistered) Repayments,
Revenue Commissioners,
Government Offices,
Kilrush Road,
Ennis,
Co. Clare.

Telephone: 065 684 9000 or LoCall 1890 20 20 33

New Address from 1st January 2007

The revenue Commissioners,
River House, 3rd Floor,
Charlottes Quay, Limerick.
LoCall: 1890 252449
Fax: 061 402125

- **VAT Registered Farmers** can use the VAT 3 form which is completed each 2 monthly period to reclaim relevant VAT which they incur on their business transactions.
- **More details on VAT** and the relevant forms is available on the Revenue website (www.revenue.ie)

Agricultural contractors must register for VAT if their annual turnover exceeds €25,500 in any 12 month period (from 1 July, 1994). This limit increased to €27,500 from 1st May 2006. The limit increases to €35,000 from 1st March 2007.

The Single Farm Payment Entitlements and Value Added Tax

The present position in February 2007 regarding VAT and SFP entitlement transactions is as follows (subject to further Revenue clarification):

1. VAT does not apply to the inheritance of entitlements following death of the owner.
2. No VAT will arise if entitlements are gifted (i.e. no payment/consideration involved) with or without land to a family or non - family member.
3. When entitlements are sold with accompanying land to another farmer who continues on the farming business, no VAT applies (i.e. sale of full business or part of business). If sold to a non - farmer then VAT at 21% applies.
4. VAT at 21% applies when the sale value of **entitlements without land** exceeds the VAT registration threshold of €27,500 in 2006. The limit increases to €35,000 from 1st March 2007. And €37,500 from 1st May 2008 (See No 6 below).
5. Farmers should discuss the tax aspects of any transactions involving Single Farm Payment Entitlements with their accountant before the transaction takes place.
6. A farmer who is registered for VAT must account for VAT on all sales of entitlements without land (the €27,500/€35,000/€37,500 limit above at no. 4 does not apply).

Succession and Inheritance

There are two important acts outlining the legal procedures regarding transfer of property.

- (i) The 1965 Succession Act
- (ii) The 1987 Status of Children Act

The 1965 Succession Act established the legal rights of spouses and children where a will exists or where the deceased died intestate. A spouse can claim their legal rights through the courts, children have no legal rights to a share of the deceased's estate but they can challenge it in the courts. The 1987 Act extended the legal rights of children in intestate cases to children born outside of marriage and for adopted children.

Legal Rights Established by 1965 Succession Act (Summary Table)

<p>(i) <u>Where WILL exists (Testate)</u> <u>Relative Surviving</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spouse and Children • Spouse and no Children 	<p>- <u>Share as Legal Right</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spouse can claim 1/3 of estate - Spouse can claim 1/2 of estate
<p>(2) <u>Where no will exists (Intestate)</u> <u>Relative Surviving</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spouse and Children • Spouse and no Children • Children only • Two parents, brothers, sisters • One parent, brothers/sisters • Brothers/ Sisters 	<p>- <u>Distribution of estate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spouse takes 2/3 Issue take remainder - Spouse takes whole estate - Children take whole estate - Each parent takes 1/2 - Parent takes whole estate <p>All take equal shares, children of a deceased brother/sister take their parents share</p>

Some useful websites on Taxation/Legal Issues (2008)

The following websites are useful to consult for further and more detailed information:

- The Revenue (www.revenue.ie)
- The Land registry (www.landregistry.ie)
- Citizens Information (www.oasis.gov.ie)
- The Law Society (www.lawsociety.ie)

Main Social Welfare Payments for 2007 and 2008

(1) Social Insurance Payments (PRSI based - contributory): Payments per week (EURO)	2007 (Euro/Week)	2008 (Euro/Week)
(A) Old age Contributory Pension under 80 years	209.30	223.30
• Person with Qualified adult under 66 years	348.80	372.10
• Person with Qualified Adult aged 66 or over	382.30	423.30
(B) Old age Contributory Pension aged 80 or over	219.30	233.30
• Person with Qualified adult under 66 years	358.80	382.10
• Person with Qualified Adult aged 66 or over	392.30	433.30
(C) Widow's or Widower's Contributory Pension:		
• Age under 66 years	191.30	203.30
• Age 66 and under 80 years	209.30	223.30
• Age 80 years and over	219.30	233.30
(D) Note Invalidity Pension and Deserted Wife's Benefit are similar to Widow's Pension	- -	- -
(2) Old Age Non-Contributory Pension (Means Tested)		
• Personal Rate Under (80 years)	200.00	212.00
• Under 80, with Qualified Adult under 66	332.20	352.10
• The rates increase by €10 per week if aged 80 or over		
(3) Farm Assist Payments (Per Week)		
• Personal Rate	185.80	197.80
• Person with Qualified Adult	309.10	329.10
(4) Child Benefit - Monthly Rates	From April 2007	From April 2008
• First and Second Children (each)	160.00	166.00
• Third and Subsequent Children (each)	195.00	203.00

- Notes: (1) Qualified Adult Allowance and Income Limits in the Family Income Supplement (FIS) Scheme have also been increased.
- (2) For extra information contact the local Social Welfare Office or the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs, Information Services, Aras mhic Dhiarmada, Store Street, Dublin 1. (01 7043274).
Website: www.welfare.ie
- (3) Information and help is also available from the Local Office Network of the Community Information Services.

MAIN SOCIAL WELFARE PAYMENTS

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE (non-contributory)			SOCIAL ASSISTANCE (contributory)		
Subject to Means Test		From Jan '05	Based on PRSI class and number of contributions		From Jan '05
Claimant and Qualified Adult Dependant Rates		Max. Weekly Rate €	Claimant and Qualified Adult Dependant Rates		Max. Weekly Rate €
Non-contributory Old Age Pension (SW 16)			Retirement Pension/Old Age Contribution Pension (SW 18)		
Claimant Personal rate	166.00	182.00	Personal rate (with 48+ contributions)	179.30	193.30
Claimant with adult dependant	275.70	302.30	Person with adult dependant under 66	298.80	322.10
			Person with adult dependant 66 or over	317.80	342.60
Blind Pension (SW 76)			Widow/ Widower's Contributory Pension/ Deserted Wife's Benefit (SW 25)		
Aged Under 65	148.80	165.80	Aged Under 66	154.30	171.30
Aged 66 or over	166.00	182.00	Aged 66 or over	179.30	193.30
Claimant (66 yrs) with adult dependant	264.70	292.00			
Widows/ Widowers Pension/ Deserted Wives/ Prisoner's Wives (SW 26)			Occupational Injuries Benefit (SW 30)		
Aged Under 66	148.80	165.80	Personal rate (Aged under 66 years)	148.80	165.80
Aged 66 or over	166.00	182.00	With adult dependant	247.50	275.80
One-Parent Family Payments (SW 82)			Disability Benefit (SW 9)		
Aged Under 66	148.80	165.80	Personal rate (Aged under 66 years)	148.80	165.80
Aged 66 or over	166.00	182.00	With adult dependant	247.50	275.80
Potential Extra Benefits			Potential Extra Benefits		
Living alone Allowance	7.70	7.70	Living alone Allowance	7.70	7.70
Over 80 Allowance	6.40	10.00	Over 80 Allowance	6.40	10.00
Island Allowance	12.70	12.70	Island Allowance	12.70	12.70
Carer's Allowance (SW 41)			Invalidity Pension (SW 44)		
Aged Under 66- Caring for one	153.60	180.00	Personal rate (Aged under 65)	154.30	171.30
Aged Under 66- Caring for two or more	230.40	270.00	With adult dependant (Aged under 66)	264.40	293.50
Aged 66 or over- Caring for one	169.80	200.00	Personal rate (Aged 65 or over)	179.30	193.30
Aged 66 or over- Caring for two or more	254.70	300.00	With adult dependant (Aged over 66)	317.80	342.60
Unemployment Assistance (SW 65)			Carer's Benefit (SW 49)		
Claimant Personal rate	148.80	165.80	Where Carer is looking after one	163.70	180.70
Claimant with adult dependant	247.50	275.80	Where Carer is looking after two or more	245.60	271.10
Farm Assist (SW 27)			Unemployment Benefit (SW 65)		
Personal Rate	148.80	165.80	Personal rate	148.80	165.80
With adult dependant	247.50	275.80	With adult dependant	247.50	275.80
Pre-Retirement Allowance (aged 65 and under 66yrs) (SW 80)			Increases for Child Dependants		
Personal rate	148.80	165.80	Child Dependant Rates for the following-		
With adult dependant	247.50	275.80	Retirement Pension/Old Age Contribution Pension		
Disability Allowance (formerly Disabled Person's Maintenance Allowance) (SW 29)			Invalidity Pension		
Claimant Personal Rate	148.80	165.80	are Full Rate (if qualify for adult dependant increase)		
With adult dependant	247.50	275.80	Otherwise potential for Half Rate		
Supplementary Welfare Allowance (SW 54)			Unemployment Benefit		
Claimant Personal rate	148.80	165.80	Disability Benefit		
Claimant with adult dependant	247.50	275.80	Occupational Injuries Benefit		
Health & Safety Benefit (SW 21)			are Full Rate (if qualify for adult dependant increase)		
Personal Rate	148.8	165.80	Otherwise potential for Half Rate		
With adult dependant	247.5	275.80	Widow/ Widower's Contributory Pension/ Deserted Wife's Benefit		
			Each Child dependant		
			Carer's Benefit- Child Dependant Increase		
			Single- Full rate		
			Married- Half rate		
			Orphan's (Contributory) Pension (SW 48)		
			Disablement/Survivors Benefit (SW 31) max.		

Increases for Child Dependants			Health Board Payments		
Child Dependant Rates for the following-			From April '05		From Jan '06
Non-contributory Old Age Pension			Weekly Rate		
Blind Pension			Blind Welfare Supplementary Allowance		46.30
Unemployment Assistance			Additional for Child Dependants		4.40
Farm Assist			Infectious Diseases Maintenance Allowance		148.80
Pre-Retirement Allowance			Claimant with adult dependant		247.50
Disability Allowance			Domiciliary Care Allowance (per Month)		225.20
Health & Safety Benefit			Mobility Allowance (per Month)		156.00
are Full Rate (if qualify for adult dependant increase)		16.80	Medical Card Means Test		
Otherwise potential for Half Rate		8.40	Income Threshold Guidelines - based on weekly gross income less tax & PRSI		
One-Parent Family Payments Each Child		19.30	GP Visit card figures in brackets		
Supplementary Welfare Allowance Increase		16.80	Age under 66		
Carer's Allowance- Child Dependant Increase			Age 66 to 69		
Single- Full rate		16.80	Single person living alone		
Married- Half rate		8.40	Single person living with family		
Orphan's Non-Contributory pension (SW 48)			Married couple/Lone parent		
FAS-Community Employment			Allowance for first 2 children under 16		
Participant			Allowance for 3rd etc child under 16		
Participant with Dependent Adult			Allowance for first 2 children over 16		
Per Month			Allowance for 3rd etc child over 16		
Monthly Child Benefit (SW 42)			Dependant over 16 yrs in full time 3rd level education		
First two children (each)			Reasonable expenses for childcare, rent, mortgage are allowable.		
Third and subsequent children			Expenses travelling to work (public transport cost or 50cent/mile to work)		
Early Childcare Supplement					
Payment for children under the age of six					
(three payments of €250 due in 06, four in a full year)					

PAY RELATED SOCIAL INSURANCE (PRSI) - 2008

All employees, self-employed, and part-time workers earning €38 or more a week are liable for PRSI contributions. The PRSI contribution is a percentage of the employee's gross reckonable earnings in a week, after allowance for superannuation contributions. Both employer and employee pay a share of the overall contribution.

The self-employed pay PRSI on gross income less superannuation and capital allowances.

PRSI Contribution Classes

Broadly speaking there are 9 PRSI classes depending on type of employment, employer, weekly earnings, etc. The PRSI class is further divided into Classes 0, X, 1 and 2 representing different classes of people as follows:

- 0. Men and women with reckonable weekly earnings of €352 or less. The Health levy is not payable.
(Applies to classes AO, BO, CO, DO, EO, HO).
- X. Men and women with reckonable weekly earnings of €352 - 356 incl. The Health levy is not payable.
(Applies to classes AX, BX, CX, DX, EX, HX).
- 1. Men and women insurable at the standard rate for that class with reckonable weekly earning in excess of €500 pay levies.
- 2. Medical Card Holders and recipients of a Social Welfare widows/ers pension, Deserted Wives Benefit or One Parent Family payment or a Social Security widows/ers pension from E.U. country and where earnings are in excess of €500/week

PRSI CLASSES AND BENEFITS

Class	Employees etc.	Benefits
A	People in industrial, commercial and service type employment under a contract of service with reckonable earnings of €38 or more per week. New entrants to Public Service from 6/4/95. From April 1996 workers on Community Employment Schemes liable for class A9 PRSI. PRSI at 4% is charged on weekly earnings over €127. However, if weekly earnings are under €352 in a week no PRSI is payable. A new class AL applies to employees earning between €356.01 - €500 inclusive where the employee pays only 4% (No Health Levy)	Unemployment, disability and maternity benefits; invalidity pension, widow's contributory pension, orphan's contributory allowance, deserted wife's benefit, retirement pension, old age contributory pension, treatment benefit, occupational and injuries benefit, carer's benefit, bereavement grant
J	People as in class A who earn less than €38 per week. However, a small number of employees are insurable at Class J irrespective of earnings e.g. employees over age 66 People in subsidiary employment.	Occupational injuries benefit,
K	People who are liable to levies only, e.g. persons in receipt of an occupational pension who are not insurably employed, persons employed by spouse/parent and income of people over 66 previously liable for class S.	Health services administered by Health Services Executive.
B,C,D	Permanent and pensionable public servants, e.g. civil servants, teachers, nurses, gardai, Commissioned Army Officers, semi-state employees recruited prior to 6 April 1995. PRSI - Free allowance €26 per week	Survivor's contributory pension, orphan's contributory allowance, deserted wife's benefit, occupational injuries benefit for classes B & D, bereavement grant, carer's benefit
H	NCO's/soldiers. (- P.R.S.I. rate 3.9%)	Same as for Class A (except occupational injuries benefit).
M	Persons with no PRSI liability, e.g. under 16 years.	In certain cases occupational injuries benefit.
S	Self employed - e.g. farmers with a total income (adjusted profit) of €3174	Widow's contributory pension, orphan's contributory allowance, old age contributory pension, maternity benefit, Adoptive benefit, bereavement grant
P	Self employed whose principal income is share fishing who are already paying PRSI under class S.	Limited Unemployment Benefit & Disability Benefit, Treatment Benefit.
E	Ministers of religion in Church of Ireland.	As for Class A except Unemployment and Occupational Injuries Benefit.

P.R.S.I. RATES FOR FULL AND PART-TIME WORKERS

Part-time workers became liable for PRSI from April 1991. All part-time workers who earn €38 or more per week are liable for Class A PRSI contributions. Part-time workers who earn less than €38 per week are covered under Class J.

Full and Part-Time Workers' Summary

Earnings/Week	Weekly Earnings	Contribution	Rate of first €50,700	Rate on Balance over €50,700
Less than €38 Class J	All All Employer	Employer NIL	0.5% NIL	0.5%
€38-€352/week Class AO	All All All	Employer Employer Employer	8.5% NIL 8.5%	8.5% NIL 8.5%
€3521-€356/week Class AX	First €127 Balance All	Employer Employer	NIL 4.0% 10.75%	NIL NIL 10.75%
€356.01-€500/week Class AL	First €127 Balance All	Employer Employer	NIL 4.0% 10.75%	NIL NIL 10.75%
Over €440/week Class A1	First €127 Balance	Employer	2.0% 6.0%	2.0% 2.0%

* (Note First €127/week exempt from 4.0% PRSI for classes AX, AL, A1, A2, Employees paying PRSI in class A,B,C,D,H, exempt from PRSI where income is €352 or less in a week and at €26 for classes B, C and D.

From January 2008 the annual earnings for P.R.S.I. (except class S) is €50,700.

From 1 January 2008, employees are not liable for the 2% Health Contribution on reckonable earnings up to €500 per week.

PRSI for self-employed (Class S) (see SW 74)

With few exceptions, all self-employed people between 16 and 66 year with earnings of €3,174 or more are liable to PRSI on their reckonable income.

Reckonable income includes:

- Income from a trade (e.g. farming)
- Rental income from any premises in Ireland
- Interest, dividends

The following income is exempt from PRSI:

- Payments from Department of Social and Family Affairs
- Approved superannuation contributions for self-employed people
- FAS training course payments

Exempt persons from PRSI

- Prescribed relatives. e.g. spouse, son/daughter, parent (but who are NOT partners in the business)
- Person on unemployment assistance (dole), Farm Assist
- Persons under 16 and over 66 years
- Persons with income under €3,174 (before capital allowance)
- Persons on an occupational pension and whose only other income is investment income (incl. Rental income)
- Civil or public servant paying PRSI at class B, C or D (widowed person having other income from self employment, liable since 5/4/1990)

Registration A registration form SE3 must be completed and returned to Department of Social & Family Affairs for new contributors.

THE RATES OF PRSI FOR SELF-EMPLOYED (CLASS S) SINCE 2000/'01 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Year	PRSI (%)	Income	Min. (€)	Levies
2008	3	All	€253	2% on all income if income over €26,000 2.5% on all income portion exceeding €100,000
2006	3	All	€253	2% on all income if income over €22,880
2005	3	All	€253	2% on all income if income over €20,800
2004	3	All	€253	2% on all income if income over €18,512
2003	3	All	€253	2% on all income if income over €18,512
2002	3	All	€253	2% on all income if income over €18,512
2001	3	All	€200 (€148 for short year)	2% on all income if income over €10,775
2000/'01	5	26,500	€215	2% on all income if income over €14,560

Income Exempt from Levies - Department of Social Welfare pensions, Dole

Persons Exempt from Levies

- Medical Card holders and all people aged 70 years and over
- Persons with less than €26,000 income - 2008
- Women in receipt of Widows/Widowers Pension, One-Parent Family Payment, Deserted Wife's Benefit/Allowance.

There is a special flat-rate contribution of €253 for people who have a low income and are informed in writing by the Revenue that they are not required to submit a return of income. These contributions can be paid by instalments to the Department of Social and Family Affairs.

Voluntary PRSI Contributions 2004 (S.W. 8)

A person who ceases to be covered by PRSI either as an employee or as self-employed person may opt to pay voluntary contributions.

Conditions

- have at least 260 weeks PRSI paid (156 weeks prior to April 2002)
- apply within 12 months from end of the last contribution year
- agree to pay voluntary contributions from start of next week after ceasing compulsory payments

Rates	Amount	PRSI Class
High rate	6.6%	A, E, H
Low Rate	2.6%	B, C, D
Special rate	€253 Flat Rate	S

The amount of Voluntary Contributions is subject to the following

High Rate	Low Rate
- Max €3,075.60*	- Max €3,075.60*
ie (6.6% of €46,600)	ie (6.6% of €46,600)
Min = €317.00	Min = €126.00

Benefits Covered

High Rate	Low Rate	Special Rate	Benefits Covered
✓			Retirement Pension
✓		✓	Old Age (Contributory) Pension
✓	✓	✓	Widow/ Widower's (Contributory) Pension
✓	✓	✓	Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
✓	✓	✓	Bereavement Grant

Voluntary contributions may be paid either as a lump sum or by quarterly or half yearly instalments.

How to apply

Complete Application Form (VC1) available from local Social Welfare, or contact:

Voluntary Contributions Section
 Social Welfare Services Office
 Cork Road
 Waterford
 Telephone: 051 - 356000

Social Welfare Payments (S.W. 4)

Types of Payments

Social Welfare Payments can be divided broadly into three categories:

- Contributory (social insurance) payments which are made on the basis of a Pay-Related Social Insurance (PRSI) record. Entitlement to payment is subject to the client requiring a certain number of PRSI contributions
- Non-Contributory (Social assistance) payments which are made subject to the client satisfying a means test and be habitually resident in the state.
- Universal Services such as Child Benefit and Free Travel which do not depend on PRSI or means

Anyone can claim social welfare payment in his / her own right provided he/she satisfies the conditions for payment. Apart from the PRSI Record or Means Test, other conditions may apply depending on the payment. For example, if you are claiming an Unemployment Payment, you must be available for and looking for work.

You must inform the Department of any change in circumstances which may affect your entitlement to a Social Welfare payment, e.g. if your spouse/partner takes up work or if you change your address.

How Claims are Decided

Claims for Social Welfare payments, except Supplementary Welfare Allowance, are decided by specially appointed Deciding Officers of the Department of Social & Family Affairs. If you are not satisfied with the decision of a Deciding officer, you can appeal to the Social Welfare Appeals Office.

Supplementary Welfare Allowance claims are decided by Officers of the regional Health Boards and there is a right of appeal to the Health Board.

Rates of Payment

See Rates of Payment Booklet (SW 19)

Most weekly Social Welfare payments are made up of a personal rate for you and additional amount for a Spouse/Partner and Child Dependents.

There is an additional allowance for people aged 80 or over and there is a Living Alone Allowance for people aged 66 or over who live alone.

Only one basic payment can be claimed at any one time. However, there are a few exceptions to this rule, for example a Widow/Widower or a Lone Parent may qualify for Disability or Unemployment Benefit (at half the personal rate) for a limited period in addition to his/her pension/payment.

Payments for Dependents

Extra allowances are payable for a spouse / partner and child dependents

Qualified Adults (QA)

If you are married, or if you are living with someone as husband and wife and you are wholly or mainly supporting that person, then she/he is considered a qualified adult and you can claim an allowance for him/her.

If you are divorced and claiming a social welfare payment and you are supporting your former spouse, you may be entitled to receive an increase in respect of him/her.

If you are separated from your spouse, you may claim an increase in your payment for him/her if:

- you are contributing an amount which is at least equal to the current rate of Q.A. allowance for Unemployment Assistance (€98.70/week from 1 January 2005)
- She/he is not living with someone else as husband and wife
- his/her income* does not exceed €88.88 per week

If your spouse/partner's sole income is from one of the following social welfare or health board payments, she/he may be considered a qualified adult:

- Disablement Benefit
- Orphan's (Contributory) Allowance
- Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension
- Death benefit
- Domiciliary Care Allowance
- Child Benefit
- Foster Care Allowance

If there are children living with you and you are getting one of the social welfare payments with which an allowance for a qualified adult can be paid and you are single, widowed, separated or divorced, you may get an allowance for the person who is caring for the children.

You will **not** get an allowance for an adult if she/he:

- has earning or income* of more than a certain amount (€88.88 per week gross less superannuation from April 1st 2000) or
- is getting a social welfare payment including Family Income Supplement in his/her own right (other than Disability Pension, Supplementary Pension, Supplementary Welfare Allowance (SWA) Child Benefit, Orphan's Contributory Allowance, Orphan's Non-Contributory Pension.
- or
- is getting an Infectious Diseases Maintenance Allowance (IDMA) from Health Services Executive
- or
- is disqualified from getting unemployment payments because of a trade dispute
- or
- is taking part in a full-time FÁS non-craft training course.

* The income referred to above includes earning from employment/self-employment, occupational pensions, income from property, savings and investment,s etc.

NOTE

For Disability Benefit, Disability Allowance, Unemployment Benefit, Unemployment Assistance, Farm Assist, Pre-Retirement Allowance, Occupational Injury Benefit and Unemployment Supplement where a spouse/partner works and earns over €88.88 gross per week, an increase for a spouse/partner continues to be paid at a reducing rate, until his/her earnings exceed €203.16 gross per week (January 2003) €210 gross per week (Jan 2004) and €220 gross per week (January 2005) and €240 gross per week (January 2006)

Child Dependants Increase (CDI)

You can claim an extra allowance for each of your dependant children. (Child Dependant Increase)

A child aged up to 18, who is living with you, is your dependant. A child who is aged 18 or over and is living with you is also considered your dependant for the 3 month period after she/he leaves second level education or completes the Leaving Certificate examination.

If you are getting a social welfare payment (excluding Disability, Health and Safety, Occupational Injury, Unemployment Benefit or Unemployment Assistance) a child aged 18 and up to 22 continues to be your dependant until the end of the academic year in which she/he reaches age 22 if she/he is in full time education by day.

School-going children up to the age of 22 can be included when claiming Family Income Supplement (FIS).

You will **not** get an allowance for child if she/he is getting:

- a social welfare payment (except Disablement Pension or Supplementary Welfare Allowance (SWA).
- or
- An Infectious Diseases Maintenance Allowance (IDMA) from the Health Services Executive.

Who gets the Allowance for the Children ?

Normally children are regarded as being dependants of both parents and each parent can claim for the Child(ren). If you are married and both you and your spouse are getting a social welfare payment in your own right, half the rate of the allowance for a child dependant will be paid to each of you. This also applies in the case of a couple who are not married to each other but are living together as husband and wife.

You will get the full rate of the allowance for a child dependent if you are:

- married and you qualify for an allowance for your spouse - see note below
- living with someone as husband and wife and you qualify for an allowance for that person - see note below
- a lone parent

You get half rate Child Dependant Allowance in any other case

Qualifying for Social Assistance Payments

If you do not have enough PRSI contributions to qualify for a social insurance payment or if you have never worked and paid PRSI contributions or if you have used up your entitlement to a social insurance payment, you may be entitled to a social assistance payment instead.

To qualify for payment, you must satisfy a means test. Your means are any income you or your spouse / partner have or property (except your home) or an asset which could bring in money or provide you with an income, or for certain payments, the value of benefit and privilege such as free board and lodging.

Your weekly rate of payment will depend on the amount of means assessed. See Means Test Section for details.

SOME SOCIAL INSURANCE BENEFITS

To qualify for most social insurance payments a person must first have a certain number of PRSI contributions paid since they started work **and** secondly they must have a certain number of PRSI contributions paid or credited in a specific period, that is in the relevant contribution year. The relevant contribution year is generally the second last complete tax year before the benefit year in which the claim is made.

For a Claim made in Benefit Year:

2005
2006

Relevant Tax Year is:

2003
2004

1 Unemployment Benefit (PRSI Class A,H & P) (See S.W. 65)

✦ To qualify for unemployment benefit you must be: -

- under 66 years
- available for and capable of work and genuinely seeking work
- fully unemployed for at least 3 days in any period of 6 consecutive days
- have 39 paid PRSI contributions since starting work
- have at least 39 weeks PRSI paid and 39 weeks PRSI paid or credited in the relevant tax year, OR 26 weeks PRSI in relevant tax year and 26 weeks PRSI paid in tax year prior to relevant tax year.
- You must have suffered a loss of employment, that is, you must have lost at least one day's insurable employment including a loss of income

SOME POINTS:

Unemployment benefit is normally paid from the 4th. day after you claim: -

- If you are under 18 years - unemployment benefit can be paid for 6 months, excluding Sundays.
- If you are between 18-65 years, unemployment benefit can be paid for 15 months, excluding Sundays.
- If you are 65 years or over and have 3 years PRSI paid, unemployment benefit may be paid to age 66.
- Unemployment Benefit rates are graduated according to earnings in the relevant tax year
- Reduced rate of U.B. paid to unemployed people whose weekly earnings in the relevant tax year was below €150.00.

2 Disability Benefit (PRSI Class A,E,H,P) (See S.W. 9)

Disability benefit is a payment made to insured people who are unable to work due to illness

Conditions:-

- under 66 years
- unfit for work due to illness
- have at least 39 weeks PRSI paid since starting work and 39 weeks PRSI paid or credited in the governing tax year with a minimum of 13 weeks paid contributions **OR**
- have 26 weeks PRSI paid in the relevant tax year and 26 weeks paid in tax year prior to relevant tax year.

Disability benefit is normally paid from 4th. day of claim. If you have 260 PRSI paid since starting work, disability benefit can continue for as long as you are unfit for work, up to age 66. If you have between 52 and 259 weeks PRSI paid, disability benefit can be paid for 52 weeks, at the end of this period an extra 13 PRSI contributions must be paid to re-qualify.

The rates of disability benefit are graduated according to earnings, maximum benefit is paid where average weekly earnings are €150.00 or more, any increases for dependant children are not earnings related. Increases for dependant children may be dependant on your spouse's income.

Disability Benefit (excl. any increases for child dependants) is liable for income tax.

3 Invalidity Pension (PRSI Class A,E,H) (See S.W. 44)

Invalidity pension is payable instead of disability benefit if you have been unable to work for at least 12 months.

You qualify if:-

- if you have been incapable of work for at least 12 months and are likely to be incapable of work for at least 12 months OR
- you are permanently incapable of work OR are over 60 and suffering from a serious illness or incapacity
- you have 260 weeks PRSI paid and 48 weeks paid or credited in the last complete tax year before your claim.

How much pension?

Invalidity pension is made up of a personal rate with extra amounts for a qualified adult and child dependants.

The personal rate is not affected by any other income, savings or occupational pension.

The entire invalidity pension is assessable for income tax.

4 Occupational Injuries Benefit (PRSI Classes A,D,J,M, (B for limited benefits) (See S.W 30)

You qualify if:-

- you are unfit for work, due to illness as a result of an accident at work or an occupational disease
- your illness lasts for at least 4 days (not including Sundays).

The benefits payable are

- Injury Benefit/Disablement Benefit and Medical Care

The maximum period for payment is 26 weeks, after 26 weeks you may be entitled to disability benefit.

The rates of injuries benefit is made up of a personal rate with extra amounts for dependants.

Occupational Injuries Benefit (excluding the first 6 weeks in each tax year and any increase for child dependants) is liable for income tax.

5 Treatment Benefit (PRSI Class A, E, P and H) (See S.W. 24)

- * **Dental Benefit** - free dental examination, free diagnosis, free scaling, polishing. Reduced cost for other dental work.
- * **Optical Benefit** - free sight test, glasses (of a certain kind) repairs to glasses. Reduced cost for contact lenses.
- * **Medical and Surgical Applications** - half the cost of hearing aids and contact lenses subject to a maximum of €285.

PRSI Conditions

Contribution Conditions dependant on age

Aged under 21	39 weeks-paid PRSI since starting work
21 – 24	as above plus 39 weeks PRSI paid or credited in relevant tax year and 13 paid in a recent tax year
25 – 65	260 weeks PRSI paid plus 39 paid or credited weeks in relevant tax year and 13 paid in a recent tax year
66 + yrs	260 weeks PRSI paid plus 39 paid or credited Weeks in either of the last two complete tax year Before reaching 66 and 13 paid in a recent tax year

A qualified adult is entitled to treatment benefits on spouse's PRSI record if they are

- dependent on the spouse
- have income of €76.18/week or less
- earn more than €76.18 a week and were dependant on your spouse or partner before entering or resuming employment at Class A, E, H or P
- not getting a social welfare payment (except Carers allowance, Disblement pension, Supplementary Wwelfare allowance or Child Benefit
- getting a Carers allowance or Old Age (non contributory) Pension in own right and were dependent on spouse immediately prior to getting the allowance or pension

6 Carer's Benefits (PRSI Classes A, B, C, D, H, and E) (See S.W. 49)

Carer's Benefit is a payment made to insured persons who leave the workforce to care for a person(s) in need of full time care

Conditions

You qualify, if you

- are 16 years or over
- have been employed for eight weeks in the 26 week period immediately before applying for Carer's Benefit
- give up employment to care for a person on a full time basis (employment must have been for a minimum of 16 hours a week or 32 hours a fortnight
- are not employed or self employed outside the home for over 10 hours per week and the person you are caring for is
- so disabled as to need full time care
- not normally living iin a hospital or nursing home

PRSI requirements

For First Claim you must have

- 156 contributions paid and (a) 39 contributions paid on the Relevant Tax Year or (b) 39 contributions paid in the 12 months period befor commencement of carers benefit or (c) 26 contributions paid in Relevant Tax Year and 26 paid in prior tax year

For second and subsequent claims

- You need to satisfy the PRSI contribution conditions again
- You do not need to satisfy the employment conditions in the three month period prior to commencement of your claim if you were in receipt of Carer's Benefit within this three month period.

Rate of payment

Payment is made up of a personal rate and extra amounts for child dependants. If you are providing care to more than one person you may be entitled to an extra 50% of the personal rate. Payment lasts for a period of 65 weeks for each person being cared for.

Carers benefit is assessable for income tax purposes

Qualifying for Social Assistance Payments

If you do not have sufficient PRSI contributions or if you have never paid PRSI, you may be entitled to a Social Assistance payment. To qualify for a Social Assistance payment, you must satisfy a Means Test.

QUALIFYING FOR SOCIAL INSURANCE PENSIONS

Retirement Pension (PRSI Class A,E,H, F, G, N) (See SW 18)

You qualify if you:

- are aged 65 years or over
- are retired from full-time work (you can be employed part-time and earn less than €38/week or less than €3,174 from self employment)
- paid PRSI contributions before age 55 and
 - * have paid at least 260 weeks (5 years) PRSI - (for those reaching 65 on or before 5 April 2012)
 - * have a yearly average of 24 weeks PRSI paid or credited from the time you started insurable employment (since 1953) to the end of the tax year before age 65 OR
 - * a yearly average of at least 48 full year contributions paid and/or credited from 1979 to the end of the tax year before age 65 (this applies if you reach age 65 from 6 April 1982)
 - * After 6/4/2012 you must have at least 520 contributions or 260 contributions plus balance with high rate voluntary contributions.

Note: 24 weeks average contributions - minimum pension
48 weeks average contributions - maximum pension
Voluntary Contributions paid at the high rate also count.

Old Age Contributory Pension (PRSI Class A,E,H,G, F, N and S) (See S.W. 18)

Note: Classes F,G and N no longer exist but some people may have contributions paid at these classes in the past.

You qualify if you:

- are aged 66 or over
- have paid PRSI contributions before reaching age 56 and
 - * have at least 260 paid contributions (5 years from 6/4/2002), after 6/4/2012 you must have at least 520 contributions.

The amount of pension is based on average weeks PRSI paid:

- average 10 weeks PRSI - minimum pension (see below)
- average 48+ weeks PRSI - maximum pension. There are extra amounts for adult and child dependants.

From November 1997 people with between 10 and 20 average contributions may get a pro-rata pension provided they have 260 paid contributions.

For the year 2006 the rates for those awarded their pensions from 7th January 2005 are:

Yearly Contributions	Claimant	%Pension	Qualified Adult Allowance (Under 66)	Qualified Adult Allowance (Over 66)
48 or over	€193.30	100%	€128.80	€149.30
20-47	€189.50	98%	€128.80	€149.30
15-19	€145.00	75%	€96.60*	€112.00
10-14	€96.70	50%	€96.40*	€74.40*

* These Qualified Adult rates are increased to €107.70 for under 66 years and €116.30 for over 66 years for pensions awarded prior to 6/4/2001.

Irrespective of when the pension was awarded if the spouse/partner has earnings/income of between €88.88 and €210.00 gross per week these QAA rates will be further reduced. No increase for a qualified adult is payable if they have gross income of over €220 per week or if they are getting certain social welfare payments in their own right.

Qualified Adult Allowance for contributory O.A.P.

Tapered payments are made for Q.A. allowance where claimants spouse/partner's earnings are between €88.88 - €220.00 per week. Full child/dependants payments are made when any Q.A. allowance is made.

Qualified Adult Allowance - Rates for 2006

Spouse's/Partners earning	Qualified Adult Allowance Under 66	Over 66
€88.88 or less per week	€122.20	€149.30
+ every €6.35/week	Minus €4.80	Minus €6.20
€240.00 + /week	nil	nil

PRO - RATA PENSION FOR SELF EMPLOYED

This pension came into effect from 1st April 1999 but money was not paid until October 1999. Self employed persons who have at least 5 years contributions and who failed to qualify for Contributory O.A.P. because they were over 56 years when they first started paying PRSI in 1988 will qualify for 50% of the maximum personal rate plus 50% of increase for dependents where applicable. Some of those affected may already have got a refund of part of their PRSI contributions. This will have to be repaid to the Department to qualify them for this pro-rata pension.

PRE - 1953 CONTRIBUTION - People who paid National Insurance Contributions before 1953 and who do not qualify for a Contributory Old Age Pension may qualify for a special pension. If at least 5 years Contributions were made (Pre 1953 National Insurance plus post 1953 Social insurance) Contributors may qualify for half the maximum rate of Contributory O.A.P., payments for qualified adults and child dependents will also be at half the normal rate (per 1953 contributions will be counted as 3 for every 2).

✚ Survivors (Widow/Widower) Contributory Pensions (All PRSI classes except J.K.M) (See S.W. 25)

A widow/widower can apply for a survivors contributory pension based on either her/his own or spouses PRSI contributions.

PRSI Conditions:

- At least 156 weeks (3 years) PRSI paid or credited to date your spouse died
And
- either an average of 39 weeks PRSI paid or credited over the 3 or 5 tax years before she/he died.
Or
- for a minimum pension, a yearly average of 24 weeks PRSI paid/credited since starting work.
Or
- the late spouse was getting either a Retirement Pension or Old Age Contributory Pension with an entitlement for the surviving spouse.

The survivors pension is paid for as long as you remain a widow/er. The pension stops if you remarry or live with someone as husband and wife.

MEANS TEST

The Means Test varies depending on the payment being applied for:

- Old Age (Non-Contributory) Pension
- Carer's Allowance
- One-Parent Family Payment
- Widow's or Widower's (Non-Contributory) Pension
- Orphan's (Non-Contributory) Pension
- Unemployment Assistance/Farm Assistance
- Pre-retirement Allowance
- Blind Person's Pension
- Disability Allowance
- Supplementary Welfare Allowance*
- Prisoner's Wife Allowance, Deserted Wife's Allowance, and Single Woman's Allowance

Means or Income are also taken into account for Family Income Supplement (F.I.S.) and Rent Allowance.

When you apply for a means tested payment, a Social Welfare Inspector will ask for details of your means. The Inspector may do this at your local Social Welfare Office or may call to you at your home. The Inspector will need to ask for details about the items which count as means and you may also be asked to produce documents such as accounts or bank statements.

WHAT COUNTS AS MEANS

The main items which count are:

- cash income
- income from employment/self-employment
- the value of any property you have but not your own home
- the value of any investments and capital you have - (notional income)
- for Unemployment Assistance or Pre-Retirement Allowance, the value of any "benefit" and privilege such as board and lodgings
- for Supplementary Welfare Allowance purposes, Family Income Supplement is counted as means.

If you are married and living with your spouse or if you are living with someone as husband and wife, the means of your spouse/partner can be taken into account in the means assessment.

WHAT DOES NOT COUNT AS MEANS

- Payment received under the Farm Retirement Pension Scheme (however, this payment may be reduced by the amount of O.A.P.)
- your own home
- any social welfare payment (for example, Family Income Supplement (FIS), Child Benefit, Old Age Pension, etc.)
- income from providing accommodation to students studying Irish in Gaeltacht areas under a scheme administered by the Minister for the Gaeltacht
- money from certain charitable organisations
- Rent Allowance (for tenants affected by the de-control of rent in 1982)
- Supplementary Welfare Allowance pensions or allowances for service in the War of Independence
- First €101.58 a year of certain Army Pensions
- A certain amount of income from casual employment by a Health Board as a home help
- Foster Care Allowance from a Health Board
- Mobility Allowance from Department of Health and Children
- Part of the proceeds of the sale of a pensioner's home in certain circumstances.

ASSESSING MEANS - Assessment and Reliefs vary depending on the type of welfare payment

Cash Income - the means test officer is required to assess the income which the applicant may reasonably expect to receive in the coming year, if this is not possible then the income for the past year may be taken.

Note: A married applicant whose spouse is working can still claim the adult dependant allowance provided the income of the spouse does not exceed €88.88 per week.
A gradually reducing rate is paid where earnings are between €88.88 - €240.00 per week
Over €240.00/week, no adult dependant allowance is paid.

Farm Income - assessed on the basis of actual sales (incl. premiums, headage, grants) less actual expenses incurred in running the farm, for the year preceding the assessment. (Income up to €2,540 from REPS is disregarded in assessing means for Unemployment Assistance and Non-Contributory old age pension allowance. From 1998 in SAC areas, the first €2,540 continues to be disregarded with the balance of REPS +SAC payments assessed at 50%)

Savings/Investments - the income is worked on a notional basis:

For all means tested payments, except Supplementary Welfare Allowance, i.e., Old Age non-contributory Pensions, Non-Contributory Widows/Widowers pension, Carer's Allowance, Disability Allowance, One parent Family and Unemployment Assistance and including Supplementary Welfare Allowance, Deserted Wife's allowance, Prisoners Wife's Allowance from June 2005.

Capital will be assessed as follows for a single person
(These savings, etc. amounts are doubled for a couple)

From 6th June 2005		From October 2000 to 5th June 2005	
First €20,000	Not Counted	First €12,697	Not Counted
Next €10,000	Assessed @ €1 / €1,000/ week	€12,697 - €25,395	Assessed @ €1.27 / week / €1,270
Next €10,000	Assessed @ €2 / €1,000/ week	€25,395 - €38,092	Assessed @ €2.54 / week / €1,270
Excess of €40,000	Assessed @ €4 / €1,000/ week	Excess of €38,092	Assessed @ €5.08 / week / €1,270

EXAMPLE: (Calculation of Non Contributory O.A.P. for a married person with a qualifying adult)

Amount of Savings	€90,000
Less 1st €40,000 disregarded (couple)	€40,000
	€50,000

Next €10,000 (up to €20,000) @ €1 per €1,000 =	€20
Next €10,000 (up to €20,000) @ €2 per €1,000 =	€40
Balance (€10,000) @ €4 per €1,000 =	€40
Assessed Means per week =	€100
These means are halved (married couple) =	€50

Weekly Old Age Non-Contributory pension payable (2006)
(see Rates of Payment SW 19)

Personal Rate	€182.00
Qualified Adult (aged under 66) increase	€120.30
Pension with no Means	302.30
Less Net Assessed Means (first €7.60 not counted for both)	84.80
Total Payment per week	€217.50

Means Vs Social Welfare Payments

(a) Unemployment Assistance:




If weekly means are less than the normal entitlements then unemployment assistance may be paid to make up the difference. E.g.

If means (as assessed) are under:	€165.80 (from Jan 2006)	- Single person
	€275.80	- Married couple
	€309.40	- Married couple + 2 qualified children

Then unemployment assistance may be paid on a € for € basis.

(b) O.A.P./widows non-contributory pension/blind person's pension/deserted wife's allowance/lone parent's allowance/prisoner's wife's allowance/carers allowance

Up to €7.60 means per week, the full rate is paid; this is then reduced by €2.50 per week for every €2.50 increase in weekly means.

Weekly means as assessed by Dept.	O.A.P. (Non-Cont. Pension) Rate per week (2006)	
	Personal Rate €182.00	Increase for qualified Adult €120.30
Up to €7.60/week (+ by €2.50 steps)	-€2.50	-€1.70 (Average)
		
over €185.10/week	Nil	Nil

SOCIAL ASSISTANCE MEANS TESTED PAYMENTS

1 Old Age Non-Contributory) Pension (see S.W. 16)

Old Age non-contributory pension is a means tested payment for people who do not qualify for the contributory pension.

You qualify if you are:

- aged 66 or over
- living in the State
- satisfy a means test

The pension is made up of personal rate and extra amounts for dependants

Where means assessed are €7.60/week or less, the full personal rate of €182.00 is paid with additional €120.30 for a Qualified Dependant

2 Unemployment Assistance (see S.W. 65)

Unemployment assistance (U.A.) is a weekly payment made to unemployed people who do not qualify for unemployment benefit. (PRSI based)

The payment is comprised of a Personal Allowance, Qualified Adult Allowance and Child Allowance

To qualify for Unemployment Assistance the applicant must:

- be unemployed and aged 18 to 66 years
- capable of work and available for and seeking work that is suitable
- fully unemployed for at least 3 days in any period of 6 consecutive days.
- satisfy a means test.

The Unemployment Assistance means test

The main headings are as follows:

- Cash Income - This may be regular income from a part time job, self employment or a pension of the applicant or spouse/partner. A person with a regular job would only be eligible for U.A. on the days when he/she is not working.

Earnings from casual employment are assessed as follows - (Up to and including 3 days work)

- people with dependent children - 60% of casual earnings are counted
- people with no dependent children - €12.70 is disregarded for each day worked and 60% of the balance is counted
- Net earnings are Gross Earnings less tax, PRSI, health levy, superannuation, travel to work costs and union dues.

Spouse/Partners earnings from insurable employment

A spouse's/partner's net earnings from insurable employment reduces the personal U.A. payment as follows:

- If he/she works 3 days a week or less, with take home pay of €50.00 or less there is no change in payment if earning €50.00 plus travel expenses are disregarded and the balance is then halved. If the work is for 4 days or more a disregard of €100.00 is allowed, if earning more than €100.00 the balance is halved.

EXAMPLE 1 spouse works 3 days a week and earns €80. The assessed income is €80 -€50.00 = €30.00 divided by 2 = €15. The basic personal U.A. of €165.80 is reduced by €15. However the full Qualified Adult Allowance of €110 is paid as spouse's income is less than €100.

EXAMPLE 2

You are claiming U.A. (with 2 dependant children) and your spouse earns €260 (net) per week

Means Assessment

Spouse's Income €260.00

Disregard €100.00

Net Means €160 / 2 = €80

Your personal rate of U.A. is reduced by €80, with no Qualified Adult Allowance as your spouse earns more than €100 - €250 Half the child allowance is paid.

Qualified Adult Allowance

If spouse/partner earns less than €100 a week the full Q.A.A. is paid. Between €100 and €250 a tapered allowance is paid but the full child allowance is paid. Over €250 no Q.A.A. is paid and only half the child allowance is paid.

- Value of property used personally, e.g. farm, shop, but not the family home unless there is a rental income from it.

(iii) Investments -

Capital will be assessed as follows for a single person

(These savings, etc. amounts are doubled for a couple)

From 6th June 2005

First €20,000 Not Counted

Next €10,000 Assessed @ €1 / €1,000/ week

Next €10,000 Assessed @ €2 / €1,000/ week

Excess of €40,000 Assessed @ €4 / €1,000/ week

From October 2000 to 5th June 2005

First €12,697 Not Counted

€12,697 - €25,395 Assessed @ €1.27 / week / €1,270

€25,395 - €38,092 Assessed @ €2.54 / week / €1,270

Excess of €38,092 Assessed @ €5.08 / week / €1,270

Unemployment Assistance is not liable for tax.

3 FARM ASSIST (see SW 27)

Farm Assist is a weekly means-tested payment for low income farmers aged between 18 and 66. Farm Income is assessed on a factual basis, i.e. Gross Receipts less normal expenses, including interest and depreciation on machinery/equipment.

For dependent children the net income is reduced by €254 for each of the first two children and by €381 for each subsequent child. The farmer is then assessed on 70% of the remaining farm income. Income from REPS and SAC is assessed separately as follows - First €2,540 of REPS is disregarded, 50% of the balance, less expenses incurred, is taken as the yearly value.

Assessment of Other Income

- (i) *Insurable Employment*
 - with dependent children
 - 60% of average net weekly earning is assessed as means
 - no dependent children
 - €12.70 per day worked is deducted from net weekly earnings and 60% of balance is assessed as means.
- (ii) Seasonal Work
 - Assessed only during period farmer is working.
- (iii) Investments and Savings (include cash value of investment and property, savings, cash)
Capital will be assessed as follows fro a single person
(These savings, etc. amounts are doubled for a couple)

From 6th June 2005		From October 2000 to 5th June 2005	
First €20,000	Not Counted	First €12,697	Not Counted
Next €10,000	Assessed @ €1 / €1,000/ week	€12,697 - €25,395	Assessed @ €1.27 / week / €1,270
Next €10,000	Assessed @ €2 / €1,000/ week	€25,395 - €38,092	Assessed @ €2.54 / week / €1,270
Excess of €40,000	Assessed @ €4 / €1,000/ week	Excess of €38,092	Assessed @ €5.08 / week / €1,270

Spouse/Partner's Income

- (i) A certain amount of spouse's income is disregarded as follows
 - €50 plus travel expenses if spouse works 1, 2 or 3 days per week
 - €100 plus travel expenses if spouse works 4 days per week
 - One half of the amount that is left is then assessed as your means
- (ii) Spouse's/Partner's income from self employment – as for farm income.

OTHER INCOME

Cash value of other income is assessed Euro for Euro.

Rate of Payment

The payment is made up of a personal rate with extra amounts for a qualified adults and child dependants. Your weekly rate of payment is calculated by subtracting your weekly means assessment from the maximum rate of Farm Assist payable if you had no means. The current maximum rate (2006) is €165.80. (2007 - 2008 = €197.80)

Qualified Adult

If farmer is married/living with someone whose gross income is under €100 per week the full dependant allowance (€131.30) is paid, if income is between €100 - €250 per week a reduced allowance is paid.

Child Dependents

The farmer can claim an allowance (€24) for each dependent child under 18 living at home or a child aged 18 to 22 if in full time education by day. A farmer qualifying for Qualified Adult allowance will get full rate child dependent allowance, otherwise half the child allowance is paid.

Farm Assist is paid on a weekly basis either directly into the farmer's bank account or by Post Draft at local Post Office.

The payment continues as long as conditions are met. Farm Assist is not liable for tax.

EXTRA BENEFITS

A farmer getting Farm Assist payments is also entitled to:

- Christmas Bonus
- Fuel Allowance (subject to certain conditions)

4 Disability Allowance (See S.W. 29)

A weekly allowance paid to people with a disability who are aged 16 - 65 years who also satisfy a Means Test and Medical Examination. Extra allowances are payable for dependants.

Disability Allowance is payable as long as you satisfy the qualifying conditions.

5 Carer's Allowance (see S.W. 41)

The carer's allowance is a payment to carers on low income who live with and look after certain people in need of full time care

To Qualify

- (i) The carer must
 - be aged 18 or over
 - satisfy a means test
 - live with the person(s) being cared for (in certain exceptional cases, a non-resident carer may qualify)
 - are caring for the person(s) on a full time basis
 - are not employed outside the home for more than 15 hours per week
- (ii) the person(s) being cared for are
 - aged 16 or over or if under 16 getting a full rate Domiciliary care allowance from a Health Board
 - so disabled as to need full time care
 - not normally living in a hospital or nursing home

Means Test - as for non-contributory O.A.P.

Earning Disregard

Married/Co-habiting Carer - If carer of spouse has income, the first €580/week of a couple's joint income is disregarded, half the balance is taken as carer's means

Single Carer - The first €290 of weekly income is disregarded

EXAMPLE - Married carer (own income €65), spouse's income (€580 after PRSI & Superannuation) with 3 qualified children

Spouse's Income (/ week)	€590
Carer's Own Income (/ week)	€65
Total	€655
Less Deduction for 3 children	€7.62
Reckonable Earnings	€647.38
Less Earnings Disregard	€580
Combined Means of couple	€67.38
Half of Total Carer's means	€33.69
Carer's Allowance	
Personal Rate	€180
Half rate increase for 3 children (€8.40 X 3)	€25.20
Total Carer's Allowance	€205.20

From June 1997 an additional payment of 50% was paid to carers who provide full time care to more than one person.

From June 1998 Foreign Social Security Disability payment up to a maximum of O.A.P. (Contrib.) is disregarded as means.

All carers qualify for Free Travel Pass (Sept 1998) and free electricity allowance and T.V. licence (Oct 2000). From April 2000 carer's Allowance recipients can qualify for Disability Benefit without meeting the requirement to have 13 recently paid PRSI contributions. Respite Care Grant of €1,200 for each person cared for. This payment can be spent in whichever way the carer decides.

6 Supplementary Welfare Allowance (see S.W. 54)

A supplementary Welfare Allowance may be paid to people who

- cannot get a regular social welfare payment
- have needs that cannot be met by their social welfare payment
- have exceptional or urgent needs

Entitlement Based Payments Where a person satisfies the means test and other conditions, payment include basic

Supplementary Welfare Allowance €165.80 personal rate plus €110 max for Qualified Dependant and Weekly Supplements to cover Rent, Mortgages, Heat, Diet, Etc.

Discretionary Type Payments

eg Exceptional Needs Payments, Urgent Needs Payments

People working full-time (30+ hours per week) are not entitled to Supplementary Payments unless the work is of help to people who are disabled or recovering from illness.

7 Family Income Supplement (F.I.S.) (see S.W. 22)

FIS is a weekly payment for families, including lone parent families, at work on low pay.

You qualify if

- you are working full time (at least 19 hours/week or 38 hours per fortnight) for an employer and likely to last for at least 3 months
- you have at least one qualified child living with you and supported by you (i.e. child to 18 years or to 22 years if in full time education).

your average weekly income is below a fixed amount - see below, for husband + wife combined income from self employment, other income, including social welfare or health board payments.

F.I.S. is calculated on net earnings, that is pay after tax, P.R.S.I., levies and superannuation.

F.I.S. is 60% of the difference between the weekly income and income limit for the family size.

F.I.S. is paid for 52 weeks while you continue working, payment not taxable. At the end of 52 weeks you can re-apply.

Size of Family	Income Limit (€/week)
1 Child	465
2 Children	510
3 Children	565
4 Children	630
5 Children	705
6 Children	775
7 Children	845
8 Children	905

The weekly minimum payment of F.I.S. is €20.

OTHER SOCIAL WELFARE ALLOWANCES

(1) Household Benefit Package (S.W. 107)

Three allowances make up the package

- (i) Electricity/Gas Allowance
- (ii) Telephone Allowance
- (iii) free T.V. Licence

WHO CAN QUALIFY?

You may qualify if:

- you are aged 70 or over
or
- you are in receipt of a Carer's Allowance
or
- you are under 70, are in receipt of a qualifying payment and live alone or only with certain excepted persons (see below) or
- you are aged between 66 and 69, satisfy a means test and live alone or only with certain excepted persons (see below).

Additional Qualifying Conditions that must be satisfied by all applicants

- You must be permanently residing (this is on all year round basis) at the address at which you wish the allowances to be applied. The allowances do not apply if you reside in a Nursing/Retirement Home where the accommodation is not fully self contained
AND
- no other person in your household can be in receipt of the allowances.
AND
- You must be the registered consumer of electricity/gas if you are applying for an Electricity/Natural Gas Allowance and the registered telephone account holder if you are applying for the telephone Allowance.

List of qualifying payments for persons aged between 66 and 70

- Old Age (Contributory) or (Non-Contributory) Pension
- Retirement Pension
- Blind Pension
- Widow's/Widower's (Contributory) or (Non-Contributory) Pension
- Invalidity Pension
- Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance
- One-Parent Family Payment
- Prisoner's Wife Allowance
- An ORDINARY Garda Widow's Pension from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law reform
- An equivalent Social Security Pension/Benefit from a country covering Regulations, or from a country with which Ireland has a Bilateral Social Security Agreement

List of qualifying payments for persons under 66

- Invalidity Pension
- Blind Pension
- Unemployability Supplement or Workmen's Compensation with Disablement Pension (for at least 12 months)
- Disability Allowance
- An equivalent Social Security Pension/Benefit from a country covering Regulations, or from a country with which Ireland has a Bilateral Social Security Agreement

Electricity Allowance

the allowance covers

- normal standing charges
- 250 units of electricity per 2 month billing period in Summer and 350 units in winter (1800 units per year)

Telephone Allowance

The allowance provides a payment towards your telephone bill. It will be shown as a credit on your bill. From October 2003 the value of the allowance is €49.40 (incl VAT) per 2 months

The allowance does not cover the installation charges or charges for mobile telephones.

Free T.V. Licence

Persons qualifying for Electricity allowance also qualify for a free colour T.V. licence.

2 Free Travel (S.W. 40)

- Available to all over 66 years, residing permanently in the State.
OR
- Aged under 66 and receiving invalidity pensions, carers allowance, disabled person's maintenance allowance from Health Boards, blind persons aged 18 years or over who are registered with National Council for the Blind, and people who have been getting an invalidity pension or benefit continuously for at least 12 months from another EU country, or a country with which Ireland has a bilateral social security agreement.
- If you qualify for a free travel pass and you are married/co-habiting you are entitled to a free travel pass for your partner when travelling

A companion Free Travel Pass is also available if you are deemed unfit to travel unaccompanied. This allows the holder to be accompanied by any person over the age of 16, free of charge.

Those receiving State pensions or allowances should receive their free travel pass automatically. others can get an application form (FT 1) at the Post Office, or Social Welfare Offices.

The scheme allows people to travel free of charge on most C.I.E. public transport services as well as in the public transport services of a large number of private operators.

TAX LIABILITY OF SOCIAL WELFARE PAYMENTS

The following payments are not liable to tax:

- Farm Assist
- Family income supplement
- Unemployment Assistance
- Intermittent unemployment insurance
- Children's Allowance
- Death Grant
- Disabled person's maintenance allowance
- Child dependent allowance paid with Disability and unemployment Benefits.
- Pre retirement Allowance
- Respite care grant
- Medical Card Scheme (paid with occupational injuries And Disablement)
- Supplementary Welfare Allowance
- Back to work Allowance
- Part time job incentive Scheme
- Back to education allowances
- Boarding out allowance (Foster Care)

TAXABLE ON AN ACTUAL BASIS:

- Contributory old age pension
- Retirement pension
- Contributory widow's pension
- Contributory orphan's allowance
- Invalidity pension (when paid for more than 12 months)
- Deserted wife's benefit (when paid for more than 12 months)
- Unemployment benefit excluding child allowance (from 6/4/1994) except for systematic short-term workers who are exempt again for 2002. The first €13 of unemployment benefit is disregarded for tax. Also qualifies for PAYE Tax Credit.
- Disability benefit - the first 6 weeks benefit is disregarded for tax. The child dependant allowance is not liable to tax.
- Occupational Injuries benefit
- Pay related benefit
- Child dependent Allowances paid with Widower's pension, Old Age Contributory pensions, Retirement pensions and Invalidity pensions are now taxable following a recent Supreme Court decision.

qualify for PAYE tax credit at the standard rate (€1830 in 2007)

Including the following means tested payments:

- non-contributory widow's pension
- non-contributory old age pension
- non-contributory orphan's pension
- blind persons pension
- social assistance allowance for deserted wives
- social assistance allowance for prisoners wives
- social assistance allowance for unmarried mothers
- social assistance allowance for single women
- Carers Allowance

Note: *Whether a tax liability actually arises or not will depend on the amount of other income which the person or person's spouse has in the tax year. Person's whose sole income is any of the above payments are unlikely to be liable for tax.*

THIRD LEVEL EDUCATION GRANTS

Details on third level education grants for 2006/2007 were issued in Summer 2006. The last day for completion of application forms is 31st August 2006. Application forms are obtained from Local authority or vocational Educational Committee (V.E.C.) depending on grant being applied for.

The main grant available to third level students is the **Higher Education Grant**.

This scheme is administered by Local Authorities for students attending approved courses at third level institutions.

To qualify for a grant a candidate must be at least 17 years of age on 1st January 2007 and who having sat the Leaving Certificate secures a place to pursue an approved third level course. (Mature candidates who secure a place on an approved course will be eligible). (1/1/2007 - 31/12/2007 for those entering third level in Autumn 2008)

Means:

The candidate must satisfy the provisions of a means test. Eligibility is normally assessed by comparing the 'Reckonable Income' of the candidate and of the candidate's parents/guardians in the year ending 31st December of the prior year in which the candidate enters an approved course, i.e. income for year ending 1/1/2005 - 31/12/2005 for those entering third level in Autumn 2006.

'Reckonable Income' means all amounts received or receivable by individuals both from the Irish and foreign sources, which are liable to Irish Income Tax, Capital Gains Tax or Capital Acquisitions Tax, or which would be so liable but for exemptions and reliefs contained in Irish legislation.

Value of Grant:

The amount of grant to be awarded is determined in accordance with a schedule based on reckonable income, number of dependent children and distance of normal family residence from college.

(a) Lecture Fees:

(b) Maintenance Grants:

These are payable at either Adjacent or Non-Adjacent Rates. The Local Authority decides the rate applicable in each case. Generally, the Adjacent Rate is payable to students whose normal family residence is within 15 miles of the college or if over 15 miles where the student could reasonably be expected, in the light of distance and local public transport services, to travel daily between the normal family residence and college.

Ordinary Maintenance Grants for 2007/2008

	Full Maintenance + Registration Fee	75% Maintenance + Registration Fee	50% Maintenance Registration Fee	25% Maintenance Registration Fee
Non Adjacent	€3,420	€2,565	€1,710	€855
Adjacent	€1,370	€1,030	€685	€345

Maintenance grants are also paid to Irish Students attending approved courses abroad.

TOP-UP GRANTS - If income is below the income threshold of €16,748 and generally where assessed persons have means tested social welfare payments and pensions the top rate of Grant is paid.

Rate of Top-up	Non Adjacent Rate	+ €2,860 on Full Rate
	Adjacent Rate	+ €1,145 on Full Rate

Reckonable Income Limits - Tax year 2006 (1/1/2006 - 31/12/2006)

No. of Dependent Children	Full Maintenance	75% Maintenance	50% Maintenance	25% Maintenance	50%
	+ Full Fees	+ Full Fees	+ Full Fees	+ Full Fees	Fees Only
Less than 4	€38,675	€41,085	€43,500	€45,920	€48,335
4 - 7	€42,490	€45,150	€47,805	€50,465	€53,120
8 or more	€46,140	€49,025	€51,905	€54,785	€52,665

Note: (1): Registration and Examination fee for 2006/2007 is €775, (if income €46,700 or over)
 (2): In cases where 2 or more children are attending third level education the above income limits are increased by €4,525 for the first 2 children and by increments of €4,295 for each child over 2 attending third level.)4,685 for each child in 2006/2007).

HEALTH SERVICE BENEFITS

Public health benefits are paid from general taxation, incl. the 2% health levy. However, individuals are entitled to public health care even if they do not pay the health levy. Generally, the range of free services available depends on whether the individual has a Medical Card or not.

1. Persons who have a Medical Card are entitled to the following:

- general practitioner services, prescribed drugs and medicines
- all out-patient public hospital services, incl. consultants
- all in-patient public hospital services in public wards, incl. consultants
- dental, ophthalmic and aural services and appliances
- maternity and infant care services

2. Persons with NO Medical Card are entitled to:

- all in-patient public hospital services in public wards, incl. consultant services, subject to certain charges
- out-patient public hospital services, incl. consultant services, subject to certain charges, excluding dental and routine ophthalmic and aural services.
- a maternity and infant care service
- a refund of expenditure on prescribed drugs and medicines in excess of €85 per month, for individuals and families for approved prescribed drugs, medicines and appliances for use by that person or family in that month. A registration form must be completed and returned to Health Board (see leaflet Drugs Payment Scheme).
- free drugs and medicines for treatment of certain specified long term illnesses.

Hospital Charges (non-Medical Card holders)

In-Patient Charge in public ward - €60 per day subject to a maximum of €600 in a 12 month period.

Out-Patient Charge: from 1st. January 2006:

- normal outpatient clinic - free
- visit to emergency/casualty clinic; free if patient has letter from doctor, otherwise there is a charge of €60 per visit.

Public and Private Care

Any person using public hospital services may opt to be a public or private patient.

In-Patient Services

If you choose public in-patient services:

- you must use a public bed
- you are not the private patient of any consultant and you do not pay consultants' fees
- you may be placed on a waiting list

If you choose private in-patient services:

- you must use a private or semi-private bed
- you are the private patient of your own consultant
- if there is a waiting list, you will be placed on this list for a private or semi-private bed.

Charges for Private and Semi-Private accommodation in public hospitals, 1st January 2006, (these are additional to the daily €60 charge):-

	Private	Semi-Private	Day Care
Health Board Regional and Voluntary Teaching Hospitals	€551	€432	€397
Health Board County and Voluntary Non-Teaching Hospitals	€460	€370	€329
Health Board District Hospital	€197	€168	€146

The Rural Social Scheme (RSS)

The Scheme is aimed at low income farmers and fishermen.

The scheme provides the participants with 19.5 hours work for an initial 12 month period, the hours are flexible to allow normal farming, fishing to be practiced. A dependent spouse can take your place provided neither of you is participating in a similar scheme.

To be eligible you must:

- Be currently in receipt of farm assist,
or
- Have a herd number and be in receipt of one of the following:
 - Unemployment Assistance / Benefit
 - Disability Allowance
 - One Parent Family Payment
 - Widow's/Widower's Contributory or Non-Contributory Pension
- Be a registered self-employed fisherman
- Be a child or sibling of a qualifying herd owner, you must also reside on or be working on the farm and be in receipt of a qualifying social welfare payment.

PARTIPANT CATEGORY	TOTAL WEEKLY PAYMENT (2008)
Participant - No adult dependent	€222.20
Participant - with adult dependent	€353.50
Increase for child dependent (full rate)	€24.00
Increase for child dependent (half rate)	€12.00

Participants who are in receipt of the qualifying social welfare payments will still receive their other payments but these will be topped up to the rate in the table.

Apply to your local Leader Group or Udaras na Gaeltacht, for further information.

The cost of the scheme in 2008 is expected to be about €52 million.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

TB and Brucellosis Eradication Schemes (2008)

Revised Arrangements from 2 April 2002

The main aspects of the TB and Brucellosis Disease Eradication Schemes are as follows:

- annual testing of the national herd and/or designated categories of animals, with primary responsibility for arranging testing, negotiating terms and paying for certain tests assigned to farmers;
- follow-up and focused strategic additional testing, including use of blood testing in certain circumstances;
- a quality control programme in relation to all aspects of the Schemes;
- a comprehensive programme to expedite the lifting of movement restrictions on certain herds;
- a comprehensive research programme aimed at preventing TB spread by wildlife;
- improved epidemiology and feedback to farmers,
- continuation of research on developing blood tests, vaccines and other technological tools required to improve effectiveness of programmes;
- a national Forum to advise and make recommendations to the Minister on the operation of the Schemes.

The central focus of the arrangements is that responsibility for arranging and paying for the first herd tests each year has been devolved to farmers. In recognition of this, the disease levies, which contribute towards compensatory costs, were reduced. In addition, farmers have been assigned greater responsibility for protecting their own herds and are also expected to assist the Department's District Veterinary Offices in research activities as necessary.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS (TB)

Bovine Tuberculosis is a chronic highly infectious disease of cattle caused by *Mycobacterium bovis*. The bacterium can cause disease in other domestic or wild animals and also in humans.

Untreated raw milk from reactors should never be consumed.

Causes of infection in cattle

- Breathing air contaminated by already infected animals.
- Consuming contaminated food or water.
- Movement of animals and contact with infected animals e.g. across fences. Inter-farm sharing of machinery (cattle trailers, muck/slurry spreaders, etc.) or farm facilities (cattle crushes).
- The use of dirty lorries to transport animals.
- Wildlife, especially badgers, infected with *Mycobacterium Bovis* may be a significant factor in the persistence of bovine tuberculosis in certain areas.

Precautions against TB Infection

- Have stock-proof boundary fencing.
- Avoid contact with other herds and stock of unknown status.
- Exercise care in buying-in cattle. Ensure that only recently tested cattle are allowed onto your farm to mix with your stock.
- Avoid using dirty contract equipment e.g. cattle transport, slurry spreaders. All such equipment should be-cleansed and disinfected before use.

BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS

Brucellosis in cattle is a highly contagious disease which is spread by infected material at time of calving or abortion and which can also result in infertility, morbidity and reduced milk yield. The organism is readily killed by disinfection. There are also human health risks because the disease may be transmitted by drinking unpasteurised milk from infected cows, by inhalation, cuts and abrasions, or by droplet infection. The only clinical symptom of brucellosis in cattle is abortion and it is obligatory to report all abortions to the Department's local District Veterinary Office (DVO).

The Department's policy is to eliminate the final sources of infection by depopulating brucellosis herds with active infection. A full round of blood testing for all eligible cattle is carried out each year to complement the existing arrangements which include the monthly milk testing of dairy herds.

All female cattle and bulls, over 12 months of age, being moved into or out of holdings (other than direct to a slaughter premises) must have passed a blood test within 30 days preceding the date of movement. Also, bulls over 12 months and female cattle over 18 months of age may not be sold more than once, whether by public or private sale on foot of a brucellosis test and such cattle being sold must be moved from the holding where tests are undertaken direct to either the purchaser's holding or direct to a mart and from there direct to the purchaser's holding.

COMPENSATION REGIME - ARRANGEMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

- 1 The main elements of the existing compensation regimes are the On-Farm Market Valuation Scheme, the Income Supplement Scheme, the Depopulation Grant Scheme and the Hardship Grant Scheme. In order to qualify for payment, the owner/keeper must meet certain eligibility conditions under each scheme.
- 2 Under the Brucellosis Eradication Scheme, an eligible animal means any bovine animal aged 12 months or more except a castrate. Thus, an eligible animal is (i) a female animal aged 12 months or over (ii) a bull aged 12 months or over.
- 3 For a Brucellosis breakdown, the DVO will commence completion of Form ER 111 using all available information on eligible animals which possibly entered the herd during the specified period under review for determining compensation payment. Form ER 111 will be forwarded to the owner/keeper who may be required to furnish additional information but will be required to sign a declaration. Each owner/keeper will have a unique review period which is dependent on, inter alia, date of breakdown test and date of last full herd test prior to the breakdown.

It is vital that the Animal Herd Register is up to date and that details of all animal movements into and out of the herd are available to the valuer and the DVO.

ON-FARM MARKET VALUATION SCHEME

The On - Farm Market Valuation Scheme replaced only the Reactor Grant element of the compensation regime with effect from 2 April 2002 for all reactors disclosed as a result of a test carried out on or after this date.

For the purpose of valuations "Market Value" will be the equivalent price which might reasonably have been obtained for the animal at the time of determination of compensation from a purchaser in the open market if the animal was not affected by TB or Brucellosis or was not being removed as part of a depopulation under the disease eradication programme.

A number of changes have taken place in 2007/2008 following reviews:

The main features of the live valuation system include-

- ★ Valuations to be carried out by suitably qualified valuers within prescribed timescales and by reference to guidelines drawn up by Department staff.
- ★ A ceiling of €2,800 (inclusive of factory salvage price) to apply to payment in respect of any single animal, except in respect of one pedigree stock bull per farm where a ceiling of €3,500 (inclusive of factory salvage price) applies.
- ★ Where the owner/keeper or the Department do not accept the initial valuation, this can be appealed to another valuer on the panel. The party making the appeal will carry the full cost involved. In 2007/2008 Appeal Costs are reduced by 50%.
- ★ Following completion of the on-farm valuation process (i.e. first valuation or appeal), the reactor(s) are removed from farms by the Reactor Collection Service on the next available occasion.
- ★ If there is no agreement following an appeal, the matter is to be referred to an Arbitration Panel whose decision will be final and binding on both parties.
- ★ Graduated penalties apply to the final compensation payment made to the owner/keeper where s/he unreasonably delays the removal of reactors or where a voluntary post movement Brucellosis test was not carried out as well as for other breaches of regulations.

Full Market Value

Full market values subject to the ceilings referred to above will be payable where breakdown herds are stable (i.e. not transient or dealer) and where the owner/keeper has complied with the legal and other requirements relating to the disease eradication schemes and to cattle identification/registration and veterinary medicine requirements. In respect of dealer/transient herds, compensation will not in any event exceed the ceilings that apply under the 27 April 1998 Compensation Regime.

Voluntary Brucellosis Post Movement Test

Failure by the owner/keeper to carry out the voluntary Brucellosis 30 day Post Movement Blood Test on all eligible animals moved into the holding during the review period will result in deductions in the range 2% - 25% on the valuation Gross Differential Amount in accordance with the following criteria:

DEDUCTION RANGES

No. of Animals Bought - In	Status (At initial breakdown test)	Deduction
1 -5	All Clear	2%
6-10	All Clear	5%
11 and higher	All Clear	10%
1 -5	1 or more failed	5%
6-10	1 or more failed	15%
11 and higher	1 or more failed	25%

INCOME SUPPLEMENT

Income Supplement continues to be payable in cases where disease breakdown results in the removal of more than 10% of animals in a herd and where depopulation is not deemed appropriate. Payment is in respect of each animal removed as a reactor from a herd, subject to a maximum of 100 animals qualifying for payment Income Supplement eligibility will cease in the event of:

- (i) Animals, other than a replacement bull, or a bull in a newly established suitable enterprise being purchased or moved into a restricted holding with the permission of the DVO at any time during the restriction period. (It is important to note that movement of any animal into a restricted herd is prohibited, except with the written permission of the DVO and on foot of a movement permit, where appropriate).
- (ii) The owner/keeper failing to co-operate with Veterinary Inspectors or authorised officers in carrying out their duties under the Diseases Eradication Schemes.
- (iii) Depopulation (total or partial) of the herd being deemed appropriate by the Department.
- (iv) De-restriction of the holding.

The rates currently applying are as follows:

INCOME SUPPLEMENT MONTHLY RATES (TB)

	Pedigree	Non Pedigree	Transient
From 1 January to 31 December			
(i) Suckler Cows	€38.09	€38.09	NIL
(ii) Dairy Cows and Other Animals	€25.39	€25.39	NIL

BRUCELLOSIS INCOME SUPPLEMENT MONTHLY RATES

	Standard Rate	Standard Rate Plus	Other Rate
From 1 January to 31 December			
(i) Suckler Cows	€38.09	€38.09	Nil
(ii) Dairy Cows and other animals	€25.39	€25.39	Nil

* Payment is in respect of full months only. When eligibility ceases, a pro rata payment will not issue in respect of any remaining part month.

DEPOPULATION GRANT

An owner/keeper whose herd is depopulated (totally or partially) in the interest of disease control may qualify for Depopulation Grants. Depopulation Grants are paid for each animal removed in the depopulation measure and for those removed as reactors since the holding was restricted, on condition that the owner/keeper agrees to depopulation at the time specified by the DVO. If this agreement is not received, and depopulation takes place subsequently, the owner/keeper is excluded from eligibility for Depopulation Grants on all past, present and future reactors during the restriction period i.e. Depopulation Grants will only be paid on the in-contact animals removed at the time of any subsequent depopulation. Depopulation Grants are paid in respect of each month of the rest period specified by the DVO.

The rates currently applying are as follows:

DEPOPULATION GRANT RATES (TB) (Payment per month - for maximum of 4 months)

	Pedigree	Non Pedigree	Transient
(i) Dairy Cows/in-Calf Heifers, Pedigree Bulls > 12 months	€57.13 per month	€57.13 per month	NIL
(ii) Other Cows/in-Calf Heifers	€31.74 per month	€31.74 per month	NIL
(iii) Other Animals	€19.04 per month	€19.04 per month	NIL

Note: An owner/keeper, whose herd is depopulated (totally or partially) in the interest of disease control, may qualify for Depopulation Grants.

BRUCELLOSIS DEPOPULATION GRANT RATES (Payment per month - for maximum of 4 months)

	Standard Rate	Standard Rate Plus	Other Rate
(i) Dairy Cows/In-Calf Heifers, Pedigree Bulls > 12 months	€126.97	€228.55	Nil
(ii) Other Cows/in-Calf Heifers	€126.97	€126.97	Nil
(iii) Other Animals	€38.09	€76.18	Nil

Note: Depopulation Grant rates quoted above represent the maximum available in respect of a 4 month rest period following Brucellosis depopulation. Pro rata deductions or increases will be made if the rest period after Brucellosis depopulation is less than or more than 4 months.

HARDSHIP GRANT

The 2004/2005 Hardship Grant eligibility period commenced on 1 November, 2004. This Scheme is designed to alleviate the costs difficulty of some owner/keepers whose holdings are restricted on foot of a herd re-test and where animals are retained and fed during periods of restriction. Potentially eligible owner/keepers must meet certain conditions including requirements that they (i) must not have any income from milk sales and (ii) must not have any off-farm income.

The Grant may provide eligible owner/keepers with a payment of up to €250 per month for a period not exceeding 4 months within the period 1 November, 2007 to 30 April, 2008.

The onus is on potentially eligible owner/keepers to ensure that they obtain and familiarise themselves with the terms and conditions document and application form ER97. Potentially eligible owner/keepers are issued with the terms and conditions document, important notice and application form ER 97 by the DVO. Supplies of the relevant documentation are also available at DVO offices. The onus is on the owner/keeper to apply for a Hardship Grant. These grants are at present under review.

Note: Owner/keepers who received any Hardship Grant payment in respect of previous Hardship Grant eligibility periods can qualify for a Hardship Grant during the current eligibility period.

GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR PAYMENT - TB AND BRUCELLOSIS

Under the compensation regimes, the criteria normally applying (i.e. compliance with the provisions of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1966; any Orders made there under, with movement, identification and other controls laid down under the Diseases Eradication Schemes) will apply but entitlement to the payment of compensation is also conditional on the owner/keeper concerned meeting other national/EU legislative requirements and controls relating to bovine animals administered by the Minister for Agriculture and Food. The Minister may refuse payment of compensation, in whole or in part, where a owner/keeper does not satisfy the aforementioned provisions or where the Minister is satisfied that the owner/keeper has failed to co-operate with authorised officers or Veterinary Inspectors of the Department in carrying out their duties under the Schemes. -

REACTOR COLLECTION SERVICE

A key condition for compensation payment eligibility is that all reactors must be removed immediately to slaughter via the Reactor Collection Service/meat Plant tendering arrangement only. Where herd depopulation is deemed appropriate and the owner/keeper agrees to depopulate the herd, the entire herd must be removed to slaughter promptly in consultation with the DVO.

OTHER MATTERS

- ☐ If a compensation payment is over €650, a Tax Number is required and if over €6,500 in a 12 month period, a Tax Clearance Certificate is required.
- ☐ In accordance with the payment targets agreed for the Protocol on Direct Payments to Farmers, payment of TB and Brucellosis compensation will normally be made within 2-4 weeks of the date of receipt of the required back-up documentation from the owner/keeper and the meat plant. The required back up documentation for valuation payment is detailed in the On-Farm Market Valuation Scheme Booklet.
- ☐ The Department will pay compensation as processed by the DVO in accordance with the provisions of the compensation regime and specified payment targets. This does not undermine or compromise the owner/keeper with regard to any appeal. In the event of a successful appeal, the requisite amount will issue as a separate payment.
- ☐ The compensation arrangements and rates are adjusted from time to time in consultation with the farm organisations. Any queries in relation to compensation matters should be directed to the appropriate DVO in the first instance.

BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalitis)

This is a disease of the nervous system affecting cattle. It can only be confirmed by post-mortem examination of the brain. It is most common in cows aged 9 years or over. Clinical signs may include evidence of anxiety and fear, abnormal gait, pawing the ground or continuous licking of nose, reduced milk yield, frenzy or aggression. Suspect animals are destroyed by the Department. Herds are restricted pending the outcome of post-mortem examination. If an animal is confirmed to have BSE, the whole herd is then slaughtered (depopulated). Compensation for the depopulated herd is assessed by a panel of valuers and it is the valuer's brief to ensure that fair compensation is paid to the herdowner. This is based on market value of the animals at the time of depopulation. Herd owners are allowed to restock 30 days after the animals are removed and after the housing and handling facilities have been thoroughly disinfected. Since 1st July 2001, under the active surveillance programme for BSE, all cattle presented for slaughter over 30 months of age and all fallen and casualty animals over 24 months of age are tested for BSE.

(Information Sources):

- (1) The Department of Agriculture and Food Schemes and Services Booklet - 2006 and 2007.
- (2) DAF booklet - Important information on the Bovine Tuberculosis and Brucellosis Eradication Schemes (August 1998).
- (3) DAF Booklet on the On-Farm Market Valuation Scheme - "Important Information for the Owner/Keeper" - July 2004
- (4) The Department of Agriculture and Food
Animal Health and Welfare Division
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
Phone: 01 607 2407
- (5) The DAFF Website (www.agriculture.gov.ie)
- (5) Full information available from the District Veterinary Offices (DVO's) of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF).

Summary of Animal Depopulation Situations

Disease	Compensation	Additional Payments in Fallow Period	From Date Depopulation Fallow Period	Penalties/Conditions for re-stocking	Appeals
Bovine Tuberculosis	Market Value with Cap	Depopulation Grant	Usually 4 Months	Keep stock free; disinfection	2nd valuation arbitration
Bovine Brucellosis	Market Value with Cap	Depopulation Grant	Min. 4 Months	Keep stock free; Movement testing Disinfection; Slurry treatment	2nd valuation arbitration
BSE	Market Value, no Cap	None	1 month	Keep stock free; disinfect premises	2nd valuation arbitration
Scrapie in Sheep	Market Value, no Cap	Flock Productivity Factor	Minimum 1 Month	Keep stock free	2nd valuation

Milk from T.B. and Brucellosis reactor animals cannot be fed to bovines or supplied to a creamery.

Milk from BSE herds is, independent from Department of Agriculture & Food regulations, not accepted by a creamery.

Breaches of Animal Health Regulations, Diseases of Animals Act, etc. may lead to penalties on a scale depending on seriousness of breaches.

Note: For full details/update contact the Local District Veterinary Office (DVO) of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF)

Area under Crops and Pasture - (June 2001 - June 2007) - C.S.O.

Description	June 2001	June 2002	June 2003	June 2004	June 2005	June 2006	June 2007
	'000 Hectares						
Wheat-total	84.9	102.7	95.7	102.7	94.7	87.5	84.4
Winter wheat	49.9	80.0	60.6	71.5	65.3	59.2	65.3
Spring wheat	35.0	22.7	35.2	31.2	29.4	28.3	19.0
Oats - total	16.8	18.8	21.0	20.0	16.5	20.4	19.7
Winter oats	5.7	11.8	9.4	12.9	8.4	9.3	12.2
Spring oats	11.1	7.0	11.6	7.0	8.1	11.1	7.5
Barley-total	182.0	176.0	183.1	183.7	164.5	167.0	167.7
Winter barley	19.6	23.2	19.8	20.5	16.5	15.1	18.2
Spring barley	162.4	152.8	163.3	163.2	148.0	151.9	149.4
Other cereals	2.2	1.8	3.1	3.8	5.3	4.9	6.3
Total Cereal	285.9	299.3	302.9	310.2	281.0	279.8	277.9
Beans and peas	1.9	1.7	2.8	2.7	3.7	4.3	-
Oilseed rape	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.2	3.7	5.1	-
Arable Silage	24.4	20.8	29.4	21.2	19.6	14.7	-
Maize Silage	19.7	19.3	15.6	13.5	14.6	20.2	-
Kale and Field Cabbage	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Potatoes	14.3	15.4	14.2	13.3	12.2	12.1	12.3
Tumips	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.2	-
Sugar beet	31.1	31.3	31.5	31.1	31.0	1.7	-
Fodder beet	4.3	4.1	3.6	4.1	4.0	7.7	-
Vegetables for sale	4.3	4.0	4.1	3.7	4.1	3.9	-
Fruit	1.2	0.9	1.3	1.2	1.6	1.5	-
Nurseries, Bulbs and Flowers	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.4	-
Other crops ¹	22.4	21.0	25.6	17.2	20.9	25.8	-
Total Crops, fruit and horticulture	415.5	423.4	436.4	423.9	401.0	382.0	-
Silage	1,065.9	1,015.1	999.3	1,020.4	1,198.3	1,211.2	-
Hay	251.5	199.4	184.0	189.0	242.3	264.6	-
Pasture	2,214.0	2,262.4	2,282.5	2,218.1	1,988.7	1,932.7	-
Crops and pasture	3,947.0	3,900.3	3,902.2	3,851.4	3,830.5	3,790.1	-
Rough grazing in use	463.1	471.1	468.1	453.5	471.5	471.0	-
Area farmed	4,410.1	4,372.0	4,370.2	4,305.0	4,302.0	4,261.1	-

¹ Includes set-aside and fallow land.

SOURCE: Central Statistics Office

Address: Central Statistics Office (CSO)
Agricultural Statistics Section,
Skehard Road, Cork
Lo-Call: 1890 313 414
Phone: 021 453 5000
Fax: 021 453 5555
Email: agri@cso.ie
Website: www.cso.ie

- (1) Crops and Livestock Survey provisional estimates June 2007 (Published 24 October 2007)
- (2) Statistical Yearbook of Ireland 2007 (October 2007)
- (3) Area, Yield and Production of Crops - CSO - 18 July 2007.

Number of Livestock (June 2001 - June 2007) - C.S.O.

Description 2000	June 2001	June 2002	June 2003	June 2004	June 2005	June 2006	June 2007
	'000						
Total cattle	7,049.7	6,992.2	6,966.8	7,015.6	6,888.0	6,915.9	6,710.1
Breeding cattle	2,769.2	2,755.1	2,759.7	2,798.8	2,785.5	2,779.7	2,726.5
Dairy cows ¹	1,182.5	1,164.1	1,155.6	1,156.1	1,117.2	1,109.2	1,094.5
Other cows	1,196.8	1,154.2	1,187.6	1,207.1	1,231.0	1,215.4	1,190.6
Dairy heifers ²	198.3	230.7	215.8	229.6	227.5	228.7	220.3
Other heifers	132.8	143.2	137.0	139.6	140.9	157.0	152.5
Bulls	58.8	62.8	64.1	66.5	68.9	69.3	68.6
Other cattle	4,280.5	4,237.2	4,207.1	4,216.8	4,102.5	4,136.2	3,983.7
Male: 2 years and over	642.1	560.4	598.7	605.4	607.7	639.7	610.3
Female: 2 years and over	299.0	284.3	302.8	305.2	297.9	311.5	305.2
Male: 1-2 years	913.3	991.8	983.3	949.8	889.5	915.7	850.8
Female: 1-2 years	601.7	601.4	593.9	585.0	620.0	638.1	627.3
Male: under 1 year	955.2	953.1	889.4	929.8	855.8	801.7	782.6
Female: under 1 year	869.2	846.2	839.1	841.6	831.5	829.5	807.4
Total sheep	7,330.3	7,209.6	6,848.9	6,777.2	6,204.3	5,973.2	5,470.9
Breeding sheep	4,019.5	3,909.5	3,717.9	3,670.0	3,363.2	3,200.0	2,926.9
Ewes : 2 years and over	3,261.3	3,150.0	3,026.8	2,985.6	2,718.6	2,619.7	2,390.5
: under 2 years	653.3	654.1	588.6	584.8	548.0	484.6	448.0
Rams	104.9	105.3	102.5	99.6	96.6	95.7	88.4
Other sheep	3,310.9	3,300.1	3,131.0	3,107.3	2,841.1	2,773.2	2,544.0
Total pigs	1,741.1	1,769.5	1,713.4	1,645.5	1,681.1	1,643.2	-
Breeding pigs	186.8	185.1	175.7	170.2	170.8	167.5	-
Female breeding pigs	183.4	181.6	172.6	167.4	169.5	-	-
Boars	3.4	3.5	3.1	2.9	2.7	-	-
Other pigs	1,554.3	1,584.4	1,537.7	1,475.2	1,508.9	1,473.8	-
20kg and over	999.8	1,028.4	1,008.4	968.3	993.8	1,037.5	-
Less than 20kg	554.5	556.0	529.3	506.9	515.1	436.3	-
Total poultry	12,602.6	12,708.6	12,737.8	-	-	-	-
Ordinary fowl	11,450.3	11,599.1	11,365.2	-	-	-	-
Other fowl	1,152.3	1,109.5	1,372.6	-	-	-	-
Horses and ponies	71.0	72.6	70.4	72.8	79.9	86.6	-
Mules, jennets and asses	4.9	4.7	5.8	5.7	6.0	7.0	-
Goats	7.8	7.7	7.6	7.5	7.3	6.7	-
Farmed deer	12.1	11.6	11.2	10.6	10.1	9.3	-

¹ Dairy cows are those kept principally to produce milk for human consumption.

² Heifers in calf intended for the dairy herd.

Sources: (A) Crops & Livestock Survey - June 2007 (Provisional)

(B) Statistical Yearbook of Ireland 2007

(C) Pig Survey - June 2007

Central Statistics Office
October 2007

Output, Input and Income in Agriculture, (2001 - 2007)

Description	Estimated Value					
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m	€m
Livestock (incl. stock changes)	2,019.7	2,069.8	2,217.8	2,274.1	2,377.5	2,349.9
of which: cattle	1,168.1	1,229.5	1,344.6	1,416.6	1,479.4	1,479.9
pigs	300.1	282.7	301.0	288.5	311.6	289.6
sheep	202.2	193.3	203.2	191.9	190.4	181.9
Livestock Products	1,454.3	1,482.6	1,457.0	1,377.6	1,365.9	1,710.9
of which: milk	1,415.1	1,444.5	1,417.0	1,335.4	1,323.0	1,667.8
Crops (incl. stock changes ¹)	1,107.6	1,178.2	1,352.8	1,310.1	1,366.1	1,613.0
of which: cereals	141.7	189.1	181.5	125.7	163.0	273.3
root crops	167.9	194.1	166.8	162.5	-	-
forage plants	483.5	478.4	685.4	686.6	741.7	911.9
Goods output at producer prices	4,581.7	4,730.6	5,027.6	4,961.9	5,109.5	5,673.8
Contract Work	287.2	303.6	263.2	273.0	278.7	274.2
Subsidies less taxes on products	876.7	889.7	917.6	446.9	-17.4	-15.1
Agricultural output at basic prices	5,745.6	5,923.8	6,169.2	5,643.0	5,370.8	5,932.9
Intermediate consumption	3,124.6	3,148.7	3,450.6	3,501.0	3,673.4	4,015.4
of which: feedingstuffs	952.7	906.8	903.9	875.7	942.3	1,024.8
fertilisers	343.7	371.4	358.0	363.3	379.9	358.9
energy and lubricants	300.8	317.4	245.0	279.0	321.0	326.3
forage plants	479.5	474.5	676.5	676.5	730.6	896.9
contract work	287.2	303.6	263.2	273.0	278.7	274.2
Gross value added at basic prices	2,620.9	2,775.1	2,718.6	2,142.0	1,697.5	1,917.5
Fixed capital consumption	623.6	623.9	655.7	667.2	689.1	709.6
Net value added at basic prices	1,997.3	2,151.2	2,063.0	1,474.9	1,008.4	1,207.8
Other subsidies less taxes on production	748.3	722.8	594.3	1,699.0 (Note 3)	1,813.4	1,883.5
Factor income	2,745.6	2,874.0	2,657.3	3,173.9	2,821.8	3,091.4
Compensation of employees	276.2	284.5	428.3	431.9	465.2	455.9
Operating Surplus²	2,469.4	2,589.5	2,229.0	2,742.0	2,356.6	2635.5

Note: Figures for 2006 are final estimates. Figures for 2007 are preliminary estimates. Final estimates will be published in June 2008.

¹ Principally cereals and potatoes

² This is calculated before deduction of interest payments on borrowed capital and land rental paid by farmers to landowners. The estimates for these items are:

Interest Less FISIM:- 2001, €254.6m; 2002, €264.5m; 2003, €246.0m; 2004 = €275.6m; 2005 = €212.14 m; 2006 = €284.6m; 2007 = €364.3m

Landrental:- 2001, €195.9m; 2002, €182.3; 2003, €184.8m; 2004 = €171.9m; 2005 = €159.5 m; 2006 = €152.8m; 2007 = €148.4m

(See full revisions for above table on www.cso.ie)

³ The figures for 2005 include the new Single Farm Payment paid for first time in December 2005.

Source: Central Statistics Office
8 th February 2008

Structure of Irish Farming.

1. Age Structure of Farm Holders

Age	<u>1975</u>		<u>1999</u>		<u>2005</u>	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Under 35yrs	14,615	6%	15,800	11%	10,400	8%
35 - 44	36,942	16%	27,500	19%	24,800	19%
45 - 54	59,370	26%	35,200	25%	32,400	25%
55 - 64	61,198	27%	32,300	23%	31,600	24%
Over 65	55,881	25%	33,000	23%	32,000	24%
Total	228,006	100%	143,700	100%	131,200	100%

Source: C.S.O. Agricultural Labour Survey.

2. Size Structure of Irish Farms

Size (Hectares)	<u>1975</u>		<u>1999</u>		<u>2005</u>	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Under 10ha	72,100	32%	28,600	20%	25,400	19.0%
10 - 19	70,600	31%	38,700	27%	31,400	24.0%
20 - 29	35,800	16%	28,500	20%	21,400	16.0%
30 - 49	29,800	13%	27,900	19%	28,200	21.0%
50 - 99	15,900	7%	16,300	11%	19,900	15.0%
Over 100	3,700	2%	4,000	3%	5,200	4.0%
Total	227,900	100%	143,900	100%	131,400	100%
Average farm size:	22.3ha		29.3ha		33.2ha	

Source: C.S.O. Census of Agriculture and Agricultural Labour Survey.

3. Milk quota structure - (Provisional Estimates)

<u>Category</u>	<u>No. of Producers currently in production</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Total Quota (Million Litres)</u>	
< 200,000 L (43994 gls)	10,332	46%	1,247	25%
200,000 - 300,000 L (65990 gls)	6,542	30%	1,604	31%
300,000 L + (65,990 gallons and higher)	5,168	24%	2,255	44%
TOTALS	22,042	100%	5,106	million litres
	100%			

Source: DAF - April 2007.

4. Investment in Agriculture (1996 - 2006).

Gross Fixed Capital Formation in Agriculture (€million)

(Exclusive of deductible VAT)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Farm Buildings	137.3	183.1	128.8	104.0	88.0	128.0	133.6	160.2
Land Improvements	10.3	13.7	9.6	7.8	7.0	10.0	10.0	12.0
Transport Equipment	119.4	117.4	108.0	110.9	108.0	105.0	110.9	99.9
Agric.Machinery/Equipment	229.6	228.5	240.6	254.2	223.0	244.0	259.3	297.1
Other Equipment	72.1	74.0	52.6	96.0	94.0	90.0	97.0	63.6
Breeding Stocks	(55.8)	(27.2)	(3.6)	(19.2)	2.0	-11.0	-26.0	-25.8
Total (excl V.A.T)	€512.9	€589.5	€536.0	€504.2	€523.0	€566.0	€584.9	€607.0
Deductible V.A.T.	€110.4	€100.9	€109.7	€98.0	€104.00	-	-	-

Source: C.S.O. (See CSO website. www.cso.ie)

Total Subsidies to Farmers (National and EU), 1999 - 2004 / 2007

Schemes	1999 € M.	2000 € M.	2001 € M.	2002 € M.	2003 € M.	2004 € M.
Headage						
Cattle	109.862	102.649	5.484	0.356	-	0.10
Beef Cow	15.839	14.291	1.016	0.048	-	0.03
Sheep	29.402	29.328	1.162	0.014	-	0.03
Goat	0.057		0.006	-	-	-
Equine	1.445	0.731	0.230	0.003	-	-
Area Based Comensatory Allowance Scheme						
Area-based Compensatory Allowance Scheme	-	-	212.533	251.932	238.17	238.00
Premia Schemes						
Suckler Cow	153.012	227.918	195.876	256.519	243.00	198.00
Ewe & Rural World	125.825	255.674	80.807	108.316	104.54	102.10
Special Beef	181.482	104.318	229.777	270.456	279.08	263.87
Deseasonalisation Slaughter	17.743	0.165	0.004	0.000		
Extensification	100.886	99.977	143.105	143.241	154.47	163.50
New Slaughter	-	27.015	73.089	125.805	141.02	133.60
National Envelope	-	5.125	7.339	12.083	25.75	44.08
National Envelope - Heifer Top Up			-	10.475	10.96	9.04
Arable Aid Scheme						
Arable Aid	115.594	120.046	128.694	132.707	137.51	132.66
Euro Compensation						
Arable	-	5.972	3.870	1.667	-	-
Suckler Cow			6.173	2.778	0.031	-
Special Beef	9.568	17.771	3.620	3.786	-	-
Extensification			3.707	1.276	-	-
Ewe & Rural World	6.144	0.039	4.136	1.580	-	-
Fodder Schemes						
Beef	20.480	0.038	-	-	-	-
Dairy	3.564	-	-	-	-	-
BSE - Agri-monetary Aid						
Beef	0.152	1.215	-	-	-	-
Arable	0.076	0.237	-	-	-	-
Milk	-	2.240	-	-	-	-
Cull Ewe Scheme						
Cull Ewe Scheme	0.165	0.011	-	-	-	-
Disease Eradication Scheme						
Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme	31.870	27.359	20.700	24.000	22.03	17.61
Brucellosis Eradication Scheme	20.951	19.508	19.800	24.000	14.64	9.18
BSE Scheme (Slaughter of herds)	9.650	13.706	23.677	38.727	21.82	15.70
Scrapie Eradication Programme	-	-	-	9.087	4.19	2.94
Johnes Disease	0.317	0.020	0.016	0.520	-	-
FMD Compensation	-	-	8.601	0.013	-	-
Rural Environment Protection Scheme						
REPS 1 and 2 and REPS 3	183.807	196.555	157.653	167.333	181.38	208.00
Euro Compensation REPS	-	8.761	6.222	2.012	-	-
Installation Aid for Young Farmers						
Installation Aid for Young Farmers	4.031	3.301	2.695	4.994	8.86	7.03
Forestry Premium						
Forestry Premium Scheme (1990 Scheme)	1.855	2.230	2.466	2.495	2.31	2.49
Forestry Premium (Accompanying Measures)	18.868	27.473	40.006	45.604	47.02	51.58
Forestry Compensatory Allowances	0.197	0.225	-	-	-	-
Production Aids						
Production Aid for Dried Fodder		0.325	0.281	0.431	0.28	0.29
Production Aid for Seeds		0.045	0.010	0.002	-	-
Total	1,162.844	1,314.268	1,382.735	1,642.260	1,637.04	1,641.43

* NOTE: 2004 figures are preliminary (2005 figures total = €2,279.56 million, due to Single Farm Payment).

Source: Department of Agriculture and Food Review and Outlook Reports (2000 to 2007) (2006 = €1,954.68m)
(2007 = €2,213m)

Consumer Price Index (C.P.I.) (Base 1973 = 100), 1973 - 2006 (INFLATION)

Year	Average % Change	Average Annual Index
1973	0.0	100.0
1974	17.0	117.0
1975	20.9	141.4
1976	18.0	166.8
1977	13.6	189.6
1978	7.6	204.0
1979	13.2	231.0
1980	18.2	273.1
1981	20.4	328.9
1982	17.1	385.2
1983	10.4	425.6
1984	8.6	462.1
1985	5.4	487.3
1986	3.9	505.8
1987	3.2	521.8
1988	2.1	532.9
1989	4.0	554.6
1990	3.4	573.1
1991	3.2	591.4
1992	3.0	609.9
1993	1.5	618.4
1994	2.4	632.9
1995	2.5	648.9
1996	1.6	659.9
1997	1.5	669.4
1998	2.4	685.6
1999	1.6	696.9
2000	5.6	735.6
2001	4.9	771.5
2002	4.6	807.3
2003	3.5	835.4
2004	2.2	853.7
2005	2.5	874.5
2006	4.0	908.7

Source: Central Statistics Office (February 2008)

Note: Estimated Consumer Price Index (CPI) - Inflation Rate for 2007 = 4.8%

% of Farm Households with off farm jobs, 1993 - 2006

Year	Holder or Spouse (%)	Holder (%)	Spouse (%)
1993	31.4%	23.7%	12.2%
1994	33.3%	23.9%	15.2%
1995	36.5%	27.4%	15.8%
1996	40.1%	28.1%	19.8%
1997	42.5%	29.2%	21.6%
1998	43.5%	29.8%	22.0%
1999	45.2%	32.2%	22.0%
2000	45.1%	32.7%	23.1%
2001	45.2%	32.9%	24.1%
2002	48.1%	34.6%	25.8%
2003	50.2%	35.0%	-
2005	55.0%	38.0%	-
2006	58.0%	42.0%	-

Source: Teagasc (National Farm Survey) = NFS

NOTE: (Additional details and information available in the Teagasc National Farm Survey Results each year for the period 1993 to 2006)

Source: The National Farm Survey 2005 - Teagasc Rural Economy Research Centre (RERC) - July 2007.

Note: NFS 2007 results expected July 2008.

Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Legislation (2008)

Purpose

The purpose of the Safety, Health at Work, Act, 2005 is to reduce the number of injuries and ill health in farming.

The Health and Safety Authority operates under the Act to provide advice and guidance on how to comply with all Health and Safety Legislation and to enforce the legislation.

Duties of Farmers

Farmers are responsible for ensuring the safety, health and welfare of themselves and their employees. This includes:

- providing and maintaining
 - a safe place of work
 - safe plant and equipment
 - safe systems of work
- providing information, instruction and training to staff.
- Complete a Risk Assessment document, prepared under a Code of Practice for the Agricultural sector or prepare a safety statement.
- where a hazard cannot be eliminated - suitable protective equipment must be provided and used.
- emergency plans, such as fire precautions and First aid, must be prepared and updated.
- provide facilities and arrangements for the welfare of staff.
- Farmers must safeguard people who are not their employees such as members of the public.
- Farmers must consult with their employees on Safety, Health and Welfare issues.
- A competent person may be employed to advise on solving safety issues.

Preparation of a Risk Assessment or Safety Statement

The preparation of a risk assessment is central to complying with the duties of the Act (Sec 20, 2005 Act)

Every farmer must prepare a written safety statement or comply with the Terms of the Code of Practice for the Agriculture Sector. The safety Statement must:

- identify the hazards and assess the risks.
- set out the control measures being implemented to control the hazards identified.
- In the case of employers it must set out the co-operation required from the staff and the names of persons who have specific health and safety responsibilities e.g., checking the fire safety equipment. This safety statement must be updated on a regular basis.
- On farms where 3 or less persons are employed, complying with the terms of the Code of Practice for the Agricultural Sector and completing and implementing the Risk Assessment Document is an alternative to completing a Safety Statement. The Code of Practice for the Agricultural Sector was launched in September 2006, and was sent to every farmer in the country.

Duties of Employees/Farm Workers

Employees must:

- Co-operate with their employer in complying with the Act.
- Take care to avoid injury or ill health to themselves and others.
- Report any defect they notice in the place or system of work which might be a safety or health hazard.
- Use all items (e.g. equipment or protective clothing) in a safe manner.

Enforcement

The Act is enforced by an inspector of the H.S.A. The inspector has the power to:

- enter, inspect, examine and search any place of work and make any enquiries necessary.
- require the production of records including the safety statement/Code of Practice documents.
- require any person to provide relevant information.
- obtain samples and take measurements.
- have equipment tested.

During an inspection the inspector can examine the Code of Practice risk assessment or safety statement and see how it is being implemented. If it is inadequate the inspector will order that it be revised within 30 days.

Penalties for Non Compliance

A person convicted of an offence under the Act can be fined or imprisoned depending on the nature of the offence.

On summary conviction the maximum fine is €3,000 in the District Court. For serious offences, such as non-compliance with the terms of a prohibition notice, conviction on indictment can lead to a maximum fine of €3 million or imprisonment or both.

Farm Accidents

In 2007 there were 11 farm fatalities and an estimated 1,800 serious accidents on farms. Over a 10 year period, fatal farm accidents were associated with the following: (A) Tractors/machinery/vehicles = 48% (B) Livestock = 14% (C) Falls = 13% (D) Drownings = 11% (E) Falling objects, collapse of buildings = 5% (F) Electrocution = 4% (G) Timber related = 5%

More information from:

The Health and Safety Authority (HSA) Phone 1890 289 389 and www.hsa.ie

Publication: HSA Code of Practice for the Prevention of Accidents and Occupational Ill Health in Agriculture (Sept 2006)