

# **Agroforestry Grants, Rules & Funding**

**Current options for farmers**

**‘Teagasc – The Sign Post Series’**

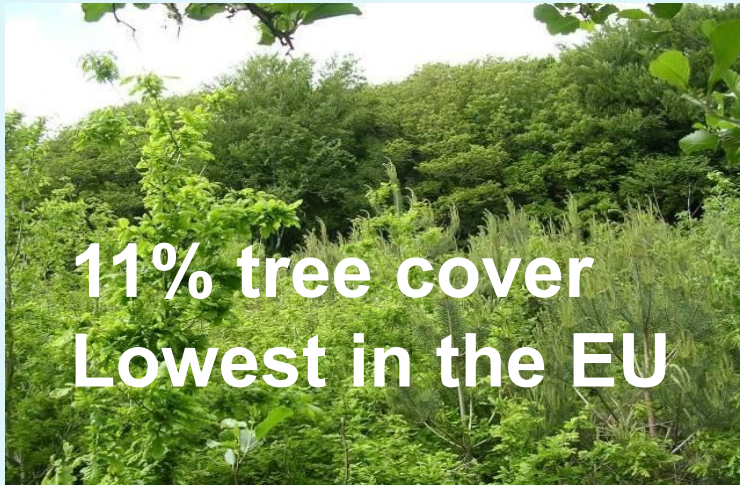
**Friday 24th September 2021  
(on line event)**

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Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine**

# Grass + Animals + Trees ?



# Loughgall (NI)

Research plots set up by Professor Jim McAdam



**8 Yr Old**



**16 Yr Old**



**19 Yr Old**



**It appears to work**

# 1<sup>st</sup> Demonstration Plot



**Liam Beechinor planted 1.89 hectares of silvopasture with ash at 5 x 5 metre spacing (400 trees/ha) in Liscubba , Co. Cork In 2012**



# Establishment Grants & Annual Premiums

Grant and Premium Category (GPC)	Previous Total Grant Available per hectare (€/ha)	INCREASED 1st Grant (€/ha)	INCREASED 2nd Grant (€/ha)	INCREASED Fencing Allocation (IS436), 140m/ha	INCREASED Total Grant Available (€/ha)	INCREASED Annual Premium for planted areas less than 10 ha	INCREASED Annual Premium for planted areas greater than 10 ha	Premium Duration (years)
GPC 1 – Unenclosed	€2,600	€1,605	€535	€600	€2,740	€185	€190	15
GPC 2 - Sitka spruce / Lodgepole pine	€3,545	€2,330	€775	€600	€3,705	€440	€450	15
GPC 3 – 10% Diverse Conifer/Broadleaf	€3,650	€2,410	€805	€600	€3,815	€510	€520	15
GPC 4 – Diverse Conifer e.g., Scots pine, Douglas Fir	€3,965	€2,785	€925	€600	€4,310	€590	€600	15
GPC 5 – Broadleaf e.g. sycamore	€5,435	€3,960	€1,320	€600	€5,880	€605	€620	15
GPC 6 – Oak	€5,750	€4,215	€1,405	€600	€6,220	€645	€660	15
GPC 7 – Beech	€5,750	€4,215	€1,405	€600	€6,220	€645	€660	15
GPC 8 – Alder / Birch	€3,860	€2,695	€900	€600	€4,195	€605	€620	15
GPC 9- Native Woodland Establishment (oak-birch-holly-hazel)	€5,750	€4,215	€1,405	€600	€6,220	€665	€680	15
GPC 10- Native Woodland Establishment (alder-oak woodland)	€5,435	€3,960	€1,320	€600	€5,880	€665	€680	15
GPC 11 - Agroforestry	€4,450	€4,215	€1,405	€600	€6,220	€645	€660	5
GPC 12 – Forestry for Fibre	€2,450	€2,410	€805	€600	€3,815	€510	€520	15



Can be part of a larger plan !



# Target

200 hectares of newly-created agroforestry by 2020



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# Main Rules

- **Stocking – 400 to 1000 trees /ha (will be thinned over time)**
- **Area – Minimum area of 0.5 hectares.**
- **Width – Plots should be a minimum of 20 metres wide.**
- **Fruit & Nut trees – 15% of the area can be allocated.**
- **Protection – Against browsing with shelters and fencing.**
- **Plant size – 90cm plus, exit tubes earlier.**



# Specifications cont.

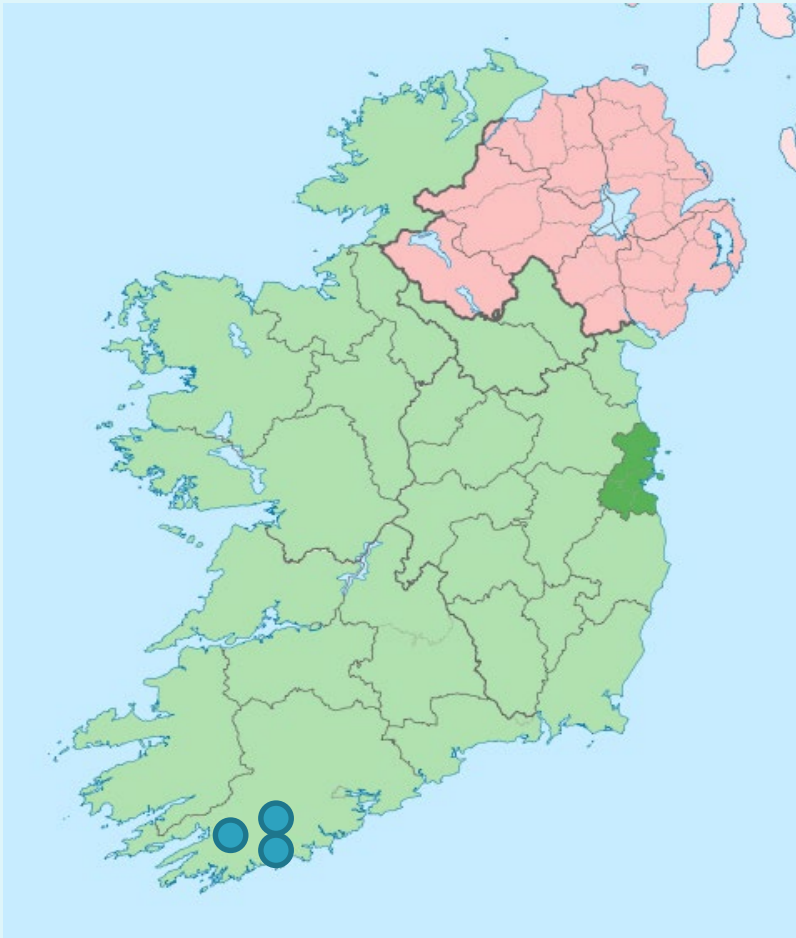
- Soil – Well drained, no mound drains.
- Fertilizer – 100 kg/ha of nitrogen for grass.
- Cultivation – Pit plant or use an auger.
- Tree shelter – rigid 1.5m tall.
- Posts – Two 1.5m tall (7cm diameter),  
one with flat surface. Prevent crushing.
- Herbicides – avoid or spot spray area to be planted.
- Species – Oak, sycamore, birch, cherry , Norway maple,  
Walnut, Scots pine, red oak, (others)



# New Applications

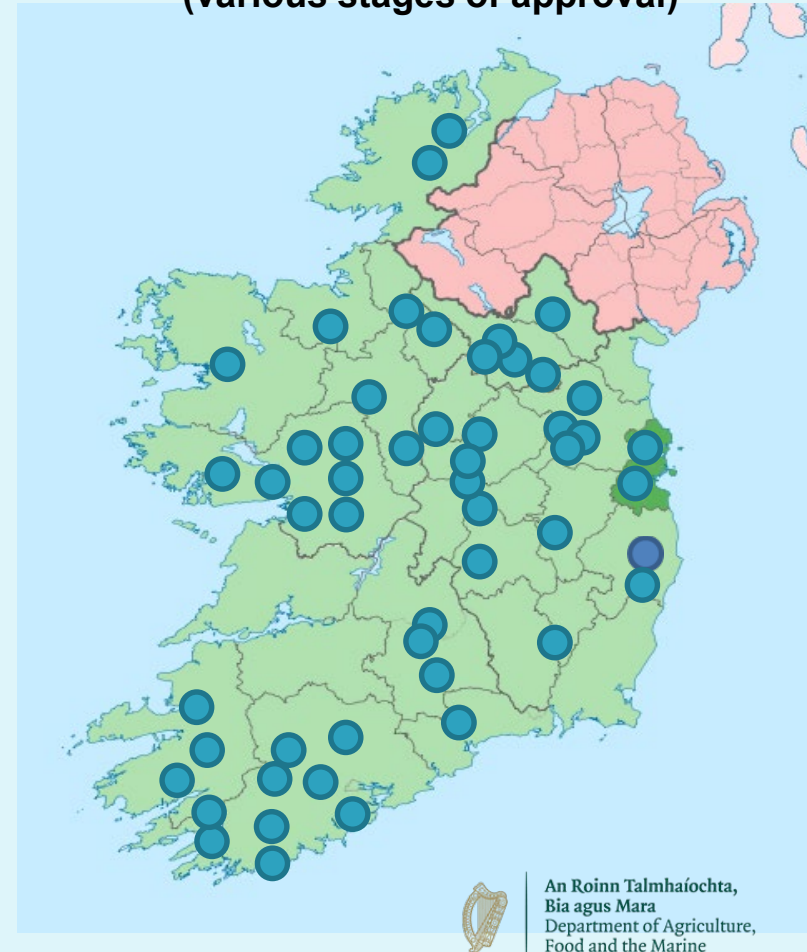
**2015**

**5 ha demonstration, 3 farmers**



**2021**

**226 ha in the system 71 farmers**  
(various stages of approval)



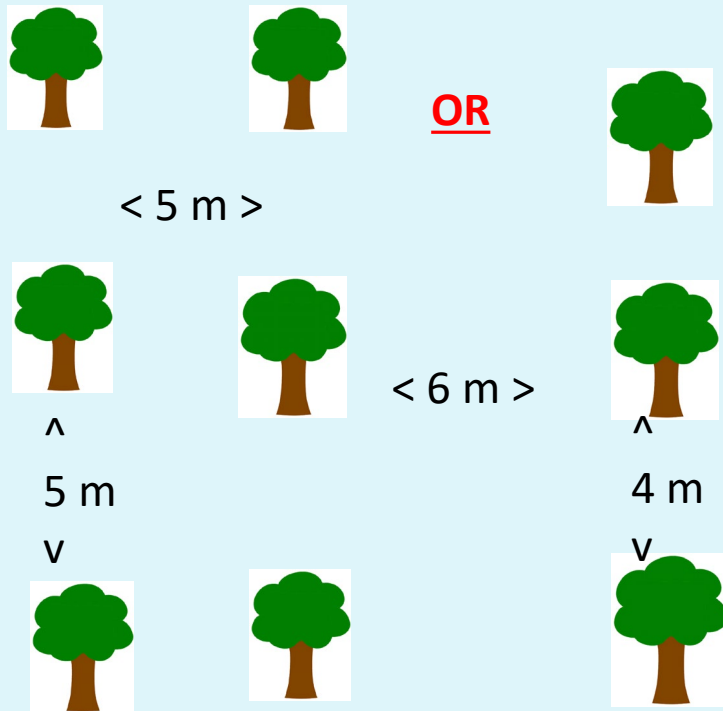
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# Designs

(400 -1000 trees/ha)

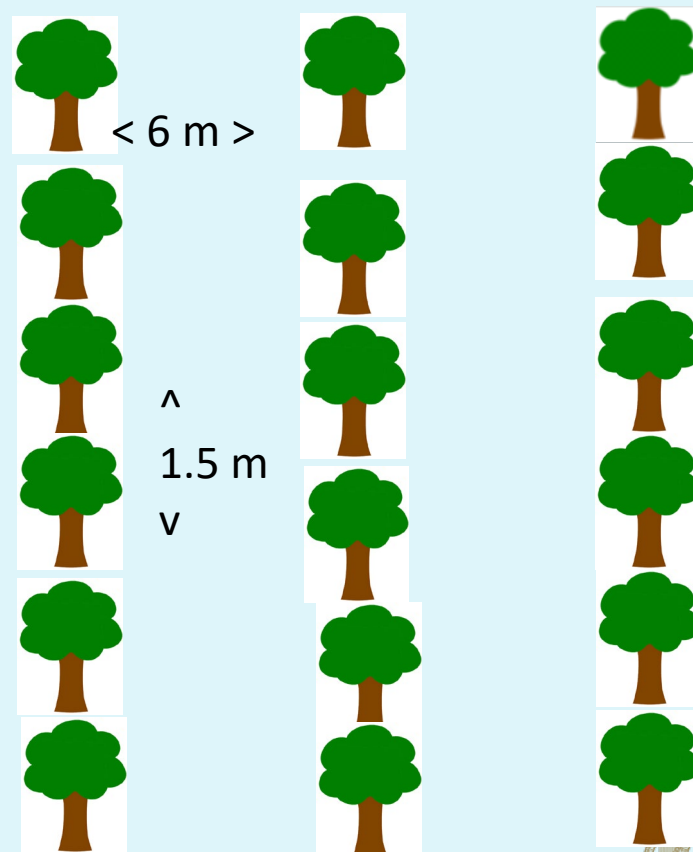
400 plants/ha

poultry/sheep/Silage



1111 plants/ha

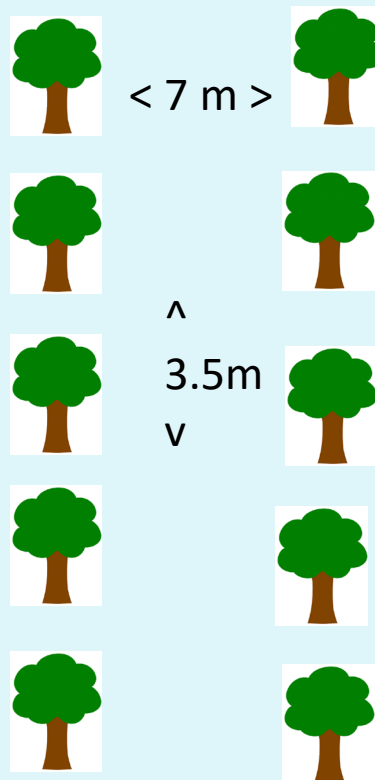
Poultry/sheep/silage/hay



# Designs cont.

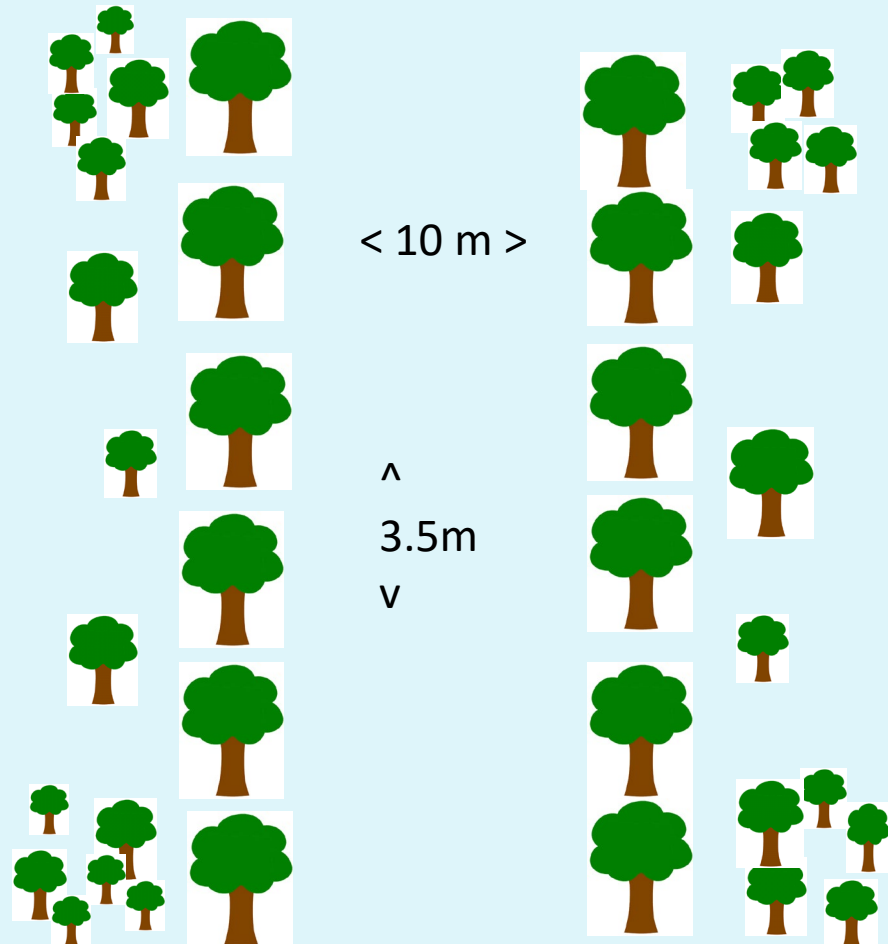
408 plants/ha

(poultry/sheep/silage)



285 plants/ha (115 hedges/corners)

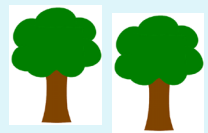
(poultry/sheep/silage)



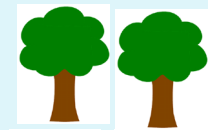
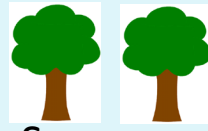
# Designs cont.

## Mixtures

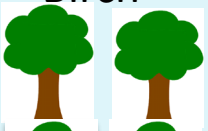
poultry/sheep



Sycamore



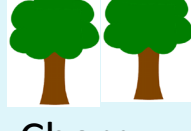
Birch



Cherry



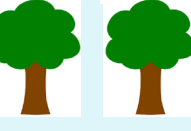
Cherry



Sycamore



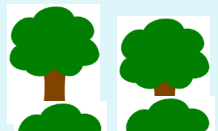
Birch



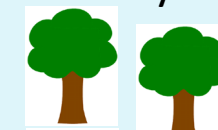
## Single tree 5m x 5m



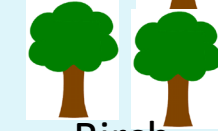
Scots pine



Cherry

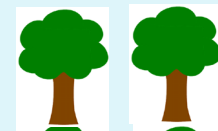


Birch

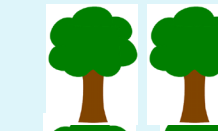
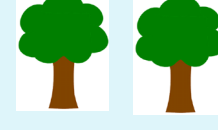


## Conifers ?

poultry/sheep



Cherry



Birch

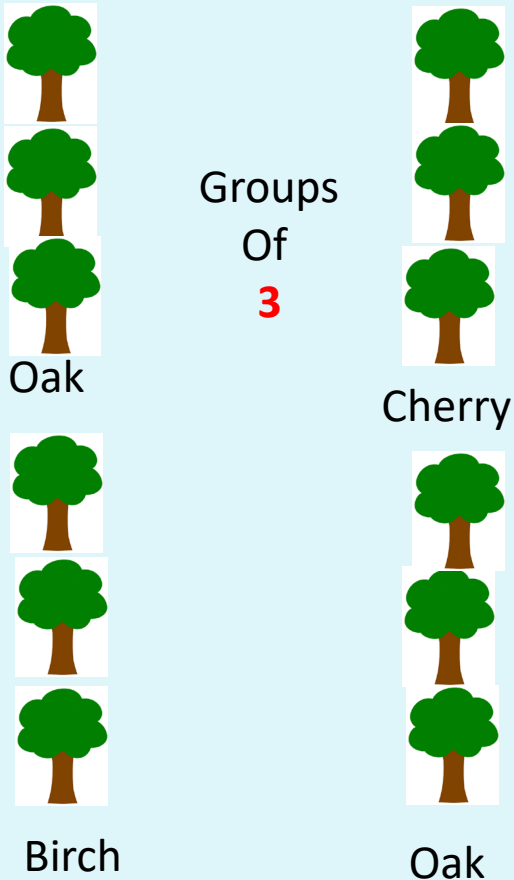


Scots pine

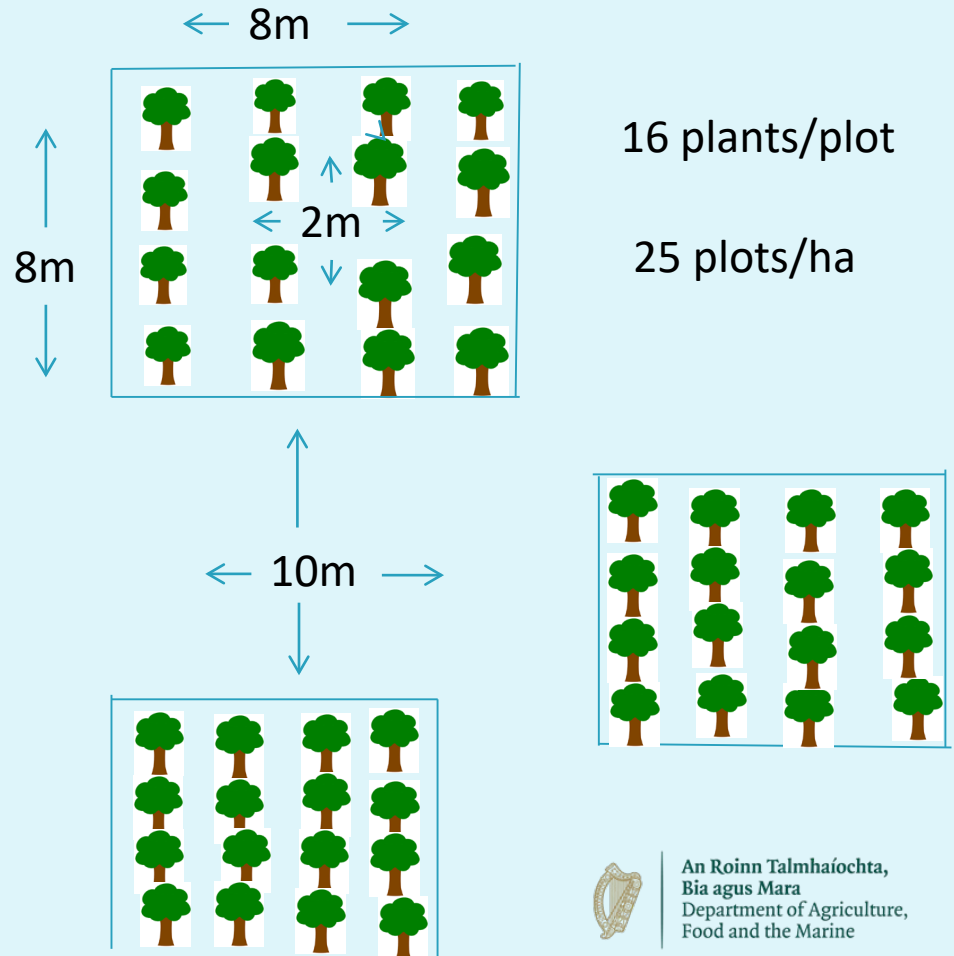


# Designs cont.

## Rows & Alleys poultry/sheep



## Groups (400 trees/ha) Cattle



# Tree Protection



Square stake



Half Round



Wire through one side



# Protection



Plastic mesh



Stock /sheep fencing



Spiral guards



Metal mesh



Individual enclosure



Easy wraps



# Electric Fencing

Currently not acceptable on its own by the Department



Creating Paddocks ?



# Stiles



**Elaborate**



**Less elaborate**



**Basic**



# New Plantations



Leo Murphy, Co. Kildare .



Christoph Eisele, Co. Cork.  
3-4 metre plants/no shelters



# New Plantations Continued.



Poultry – ‘Freedom Food’



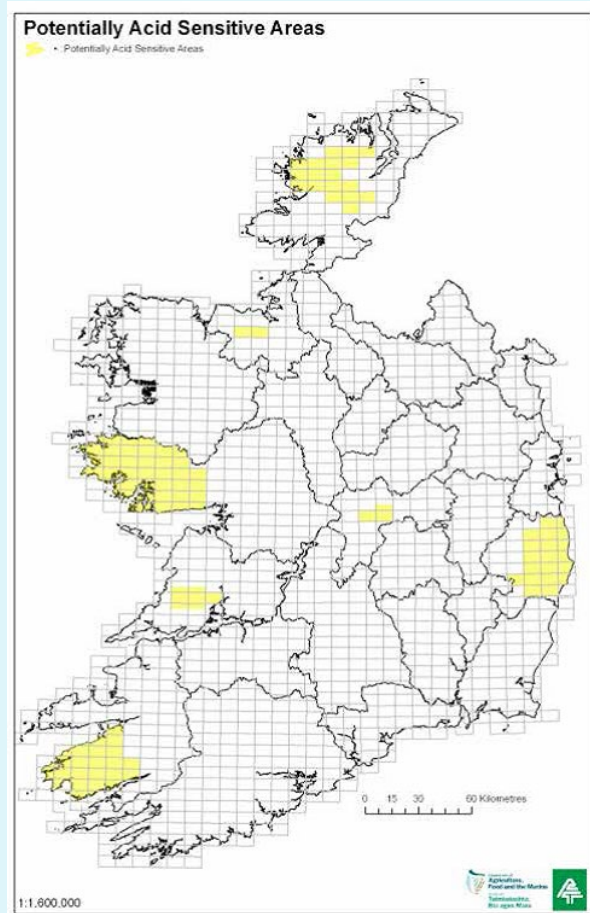
Allshires – Pig/sheep/poultry production



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# Opportunities

## Acid Sensitive Areas/EPA

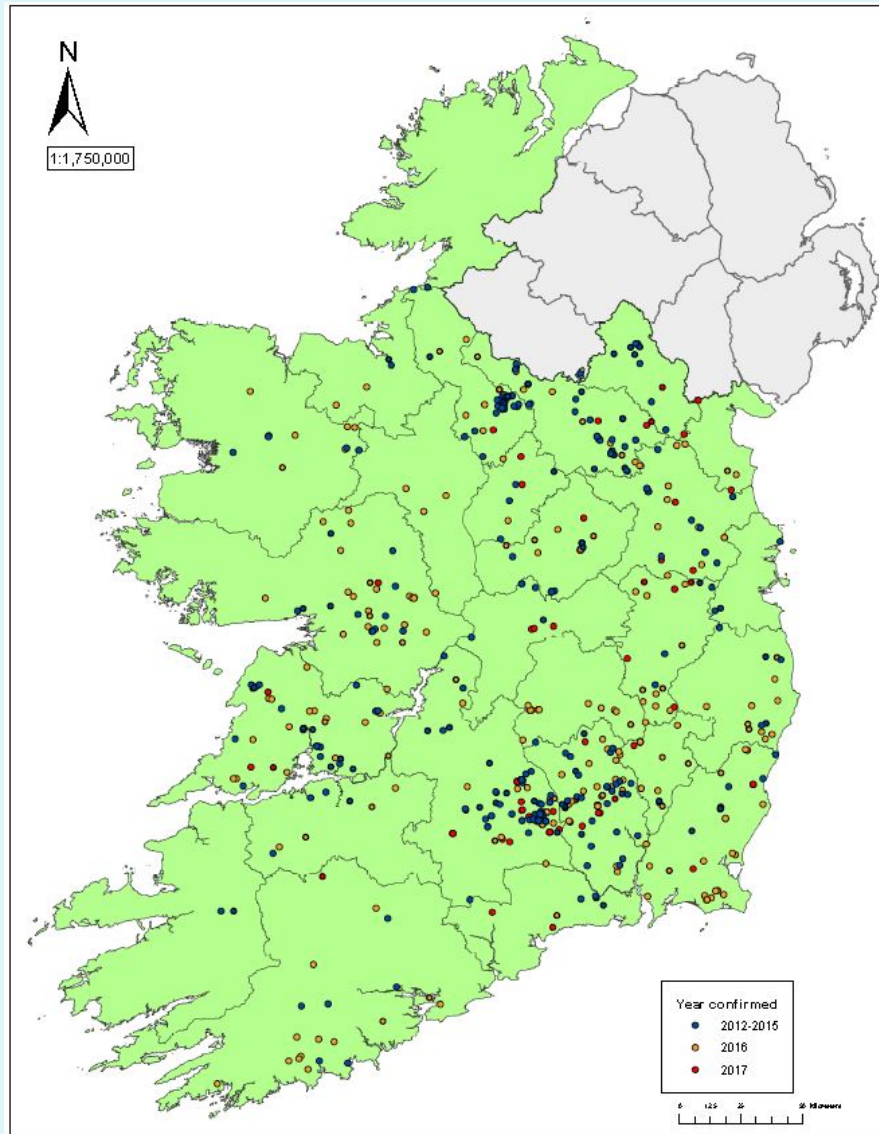


## Organic Farming



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# Ash Die Back



- Sheep like to eat the leaves
- Ash in Agroforestry ?



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# Practical Aspects

- Headlands / Machinery
- Hedgerows (incorporate/expand).
- Animal Welfare (shelter ? Nutrition ?)
- Woodland improvement grant (pruning)
- Deer Fencing Upgrade grant (plastic mesh?)



# Thank You



**Further information-**

**DAFM** = [www.gov.ie/en/publication/642e6-forestry/](http://www.gov.ie/en/publication/642e6-forestry/)

**European Agroforestry Federation (EURAF)** = <https://euraf.isa.utl.pt/>

**Farm Woodland Forum** = <https://www.agroforestry.ac.uk/>



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