



Sustainability: Policy Developments

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**Rural Economy and Development Programme
Teagasc**

Multi-dimensional concept



Economic



Environmental



Social



Data Source: Teagasc National Farm Survey

- Conducted by Teagasc since 1972
- EU Farm Accountancy Data Network
- EU Farm to Fork Strategy
 - “convert its Farm Accountancy Data Network into the Farm Sustainability Data Network”
- Best Approach
 - “**integration** of economic, social & environmental **data**”
 - richer resource for research purposes
 - can **unlock the answers** to more complex questions



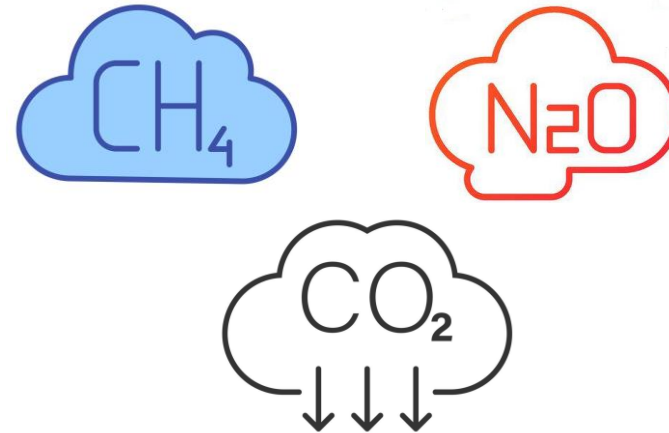
Developments in the last 12 months

- Climate Action Plan 2021 published
- Sectoral GHG Mitigation Targets Agreed
- Food Vision 2030 Implementation Plan Launched
 - Dairy and Beef FV Committees established
- Ireland's National CAP Strategic Plan Accepted
- Revised data on farm numbers, farm size etc



Climate Action Plan 2021 published

- The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021
- Climate Action Plan
- Sectoral GHG Mitigation Targets established
- Agriculture sector
 - 2018 baseline of 23Mt CO₂ eq2 to
 - 17.25 Mt CO₂ eq. by 2030
- Reduction of 5.75 Mt CO₂ eq., 25%
- Methane (CH₄) and Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) emissions reduction measures required



Interim Report of the Food Vision Dairy Group

INTERIM REPORT OF THE FOOD VISION DAIRY GROUP

27 May 2022



Food Vision 2030 Implementation Plan

- The Strategy consists of **22 Goals**, grouped into **four high-level Missions** for the sector to work toward:
 1. **A Climate Smart**, Environmentally Sustainable Agri-Food Sector
 2. **Viable and Resilient** Primary Producers with Enhanced Well-Being
 3. **Food Which is** Safe, Nutritious And Appealing, **Trusted And Valued** at Home and Abroad
 4. An **Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Agri-Food Sector**, Driven by Technology And Talent
- Food Vision **Dairy Group** and **Beef Group** established
 - **Stakeholders:** Farm organisations, food industry, government and researchers
 - **Identify measures** that the sectors can take to contribute to “initially stabilising and then reducing emissions”



Ireland's National CAP Strategic Plan Accepted

- Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan
 - approved by European Commission
 - approved by Irish Government
 - reflects updates in light of observations by the Commission
- Focused on achievement of 10 specific CAP objectives
 - **environmental, social and economic** challenges
 - cross-cutting objective on **knowledge and innovation**
 - **Green Deal, Farm to Fork and Biodiversity Strategy** objectives



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Summary of Ireland's
CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027



CAP Reform Ambitions

- **More targeted CAP spending**
 - greater environmental focus
 - aligning spending with environmental goals
- **Results based orientation**
 - Shift from compliance with rules to **delivery of outcomes**
- **Better indicators required** for agriculture
 - to **measure progress** in a wider range of areas
 - to measure the **effectiveness of policy**



2021 Teagasc Sustainability Report

- Comprehensive range of results
 - **4 Farm Systems** (Dairy, Cattle, Sheep, Tillage)
 - **4 Sustainability dimension**
 - » Economic, Environmental, Social & Innovation
 - » **129 indicators** for **2021** (most recent year)
 - **Temporal Dimension**
 - » Individual year results **2016 to 2021** in appendix of report
 - 129 indicators x 6 years
 - » 3 year rolling averages **2014-2021** (longer term trend)
- Results presented today is only a small subset

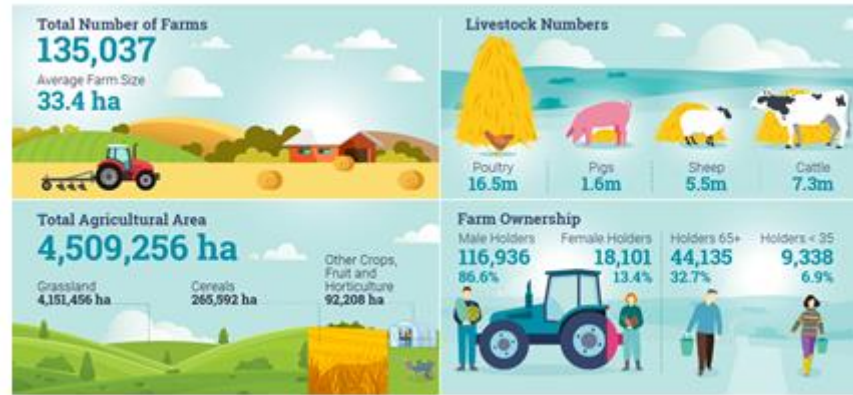


Agriculture Census 2020

- Provides an update on the true farm population

- Key variables

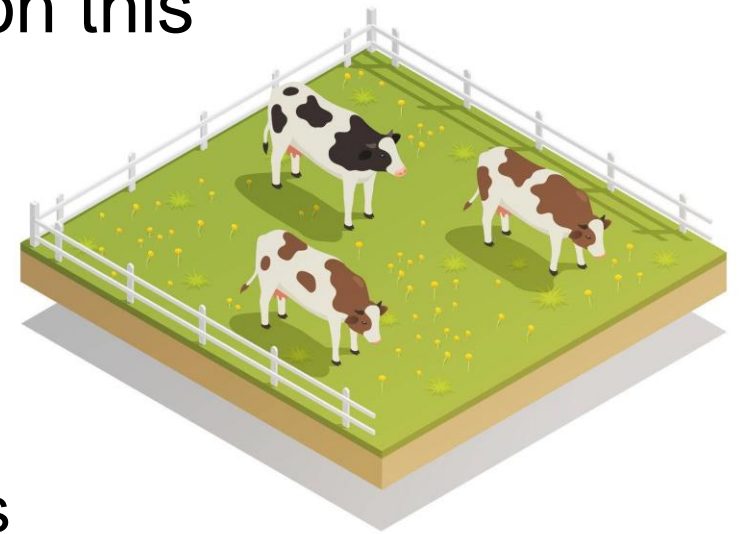
- Number of farms
- Farm type
- Farm size



- Information from the Census is used to **weight farms** in the NFS
- **Revised weights** have been applied in deriving all NFS results and related Sustainability metrics from **2017 to 2020**
- These **revisions** are included in the **Sustainability Report for 2021**

Agriculture Census 2020: Implications for some Sustainability Measures

- For most sectors these revisions are small
- But for dairy farms they are more appreciable on this occasion
- Census results for Dairy
 - Fewer dairy farms (than previously thought)
 - Greater % of dairy farms are in larger size categories
 - Average dairy farm size is larger (than previously thought)



Thank You