



## GURTEEN COLLEGE OPEN DAY

### 8 March 2023

- Hear about the courses offered at Gurteen College.
- Venue: Gurteen College, Ballingarry, Roscrea, Co Tipperary, E53 TP93.
- Event time: 10:30am – 12:30pm.

## TEAGASC COLLEGE OF AMENITY HORTICULTURE OPEN DAY

### 9 March 2023

- Hear about the courses offered at the Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture.
- Venue: Teagasc College of Amenity Horticulture, National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin, Dublin 9, D09 VY63.
- Event time: 12 noon – 3pm.

## BALLYHAISE COLLEGE OPEN DAY

### 10 March 2023

- Hear about the courses offered at Ballyhaise College.
- Venue: Teagasc, Ballyhaise Agricultural College, Ballyhaise, Co Cavan, H12 E393.
- Event time: 10am – 1pm.

## CLONAKILTY AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE OPEN DAY

### 10 March 2023

- Hear about the courses offered at Clonakilty Agricultural College.
- Venue: Teagasc, Clonakilty Agricultural College, Darrara, Clonakilty, Co. Cork, P85 AX52.
- Event time: 11am – 1pm.

## LET'S TALK ORGANICS - FEEDING THE EWE PRE- AND POST-LAMBING IN AN ORGANIC SITUATION

### 8 March 2023

- Event time: 7:30pm.
  - Venue: Online.
- A series of organic webinars with Teagasc organic specialists covering various technical aspects of organic farming.
- This episode of *Let's Talk Organics* will focus on feeding the ewe pre- and post-lambing in an organic situation.

## FARMING FOR SOIL HEALTH

### 16 March 2023

- Event time: 10.30am – 3pm.

- Venue: Johnstown Castle, Co Wexford, Y35 Y521.
- Productive and resilient agricultural systems start from a foundation of good soil health. This field day, held in association with the third Global Soil Biodiversity Conference, will demonstrate the practices and technologies that can be adopted on farms to assess and enhance soil health. These will include:
- Demonstrations of visual assessment techniques.
  - Soil functional assessment.
  - Practices that improve health in soils (including diversification of grassland swards, cover crops, straw incorporation and manure amendment of soils).
  - Avoiding physical damage of soil.
  - Enhancing soil nutrient supply.
  - Increasing soil carbon.

Those in attendance will also have the opportunity to take a close look at some of the biology in soil and partake in our 'Ask a Soil Scientist' Q&A.

Attendees will include farmers, agricultural advisors and policymakers, and the scientific community, including Global Soil Biology Initiative scientists.

This event is free to attend, but registration is essential.





## LET'S TALK ORGANICS - GROWING RED CLOVER SILAGE TO FINISH BEEF CATTLE

### 5 April 2023

A series of organic webinars with Teagasc organic specialists covering various technical aspects of organic farming.

- Venue: Online.
- Event time: 7:30pm.

## AGRI AWARE FARM WALK AND TALK

The Agri Aware Farm Walk and Talk series demonstrates the practical elements of modern agriculture to second-level students preparing for their Leaving Certificate Agricultural Science exam.

- **Tuesday, March 7** – Gurteen Agricultural College, Co Tipperary.
- **Thursday, March 9** – Teagasc, Kildalton Agricultural College, Co Kilkenny.
- **Friday, March 10** – Teagasc, Kildalton Agricultural College, Co Kilkenny.
- **Wednesday, March 15** – UCD Lyons Farm, Co Kildare – Double Day.
- **Thursday March 16** – Salesian Agricultural College, Pallaskenry, Co Limerick.
- **Tuesday, March 21** – Teagasc, Ballyhaise Agricultural College, Co Cavan.
- **Thursday, March 23** – *Irish Farmers Journal* Farm – Tullamore, Co Offaly.

Tickets are €10 per student, with teachers going free. Places are on a first come-first served basis and must be paid in advance or you may lose your spot. You can register on the Teagasc or Agri Aware websites. Farm Walk and Talk is a longstanding collaboration between Agri Aware, Teagasc, UCD, the Irish Farmers Journal and I.A.S.T.A.

## ADVERTORIAL



## Aiding the transition – pre-ruminant to ruminant

Maeve Regan,  
Head of Ruminant Nutrition, Agritech

New-born calves are born with undeveloped rumens, yet they will spend most of their lives as fully functioning ruminants. The main objective is to assist the transition from pre-ruminant to ruminant by developing the rumen as much as possible before they are weaned off milk, so that they grow to be cost-effective forage consumers that are efficient at converting feed to milk or meat.

Rumen development begins within the first few days after birth and is advanced by exposure to healthy bacteria from the environment and the consumption of solid feeds – concentrates and straw (preferable to hay). Concentrates should be introduced from three days of age (an 18% crude protein calf-starter ration/nut ideally) alongside free access to fresh clean water and high-quality clean straw ad-libitum (no haylage or silage).



Source: Penn State Extension

### Considering Weaning

Weaning on a weight basis alone can leave a false sense of security with how ready calves are for the next stage of life/nutrition. The success of the weaning process and the weeks thereafter will hinge around how the rumen has developed over the first weeks of the calf-rearing period. Weaning should never be considered until calves are consuming at least 1.5kg of concentrates/hd/day in grouped pens – signalling that the calves dry matter intake can cope with the transition to a 100% solid feed diet.

Concentrates should be offered ad-lib while on milk but tracked closer to weaning to ensure the group is consuming adequate levels to allow weaning to commence.

**For further advice on calf rearing and calf milk replacer, contact your local Agritech Sales Advisor or visit [www.agritech.ie](http://www.agritech.ie)**



[www.agritech.ie](http://www.agritech.ie)