



TEAGASC EXHIBIT AT THE NATIONAL PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS 17-19 SEPTEMBER

Better Farming – Better Environment – Better Living

Teagasc has research backed solutions to address sustainability challenges

Financial: production, cost control, farm management

Environmental: water, climate, soils, biodiversity, forestry

Societal: education, succession, Health and Safety, food

A wide range of interactive exhibits will ensure visitors have a fun as well as informative experience in our marquee. These include: 3D virtual tours of milking parlours, Virtual Reality visits to forest landscapes, a hands-on welding simulator, a food digestion exhibit and several scale dioramas exhibiting farm landscapes and yards. A new science engagement desk will focus on second level students.

Outdoor exhibit

In our outdoor exhibit area there will be live cattle and sheep demonstrations. There will be a major exhibit on protecting water courses on both tillage and live-stock farms. The outdoor dairy exhibit will use a professional quality scale model to demonstrate how farmyard design is key to protecting the environment. Crops of clover and mixed-species swards will demonstrate how mineral nitrogen levels can be reduced. Biodiversity, Greenhouse Gas reduction and forestry are also key themes on the outdoor exhibit.

As always, Teagasc specialists and advisors will be present to answer questions on production of everything from pigs to potatoes, education (including full-, part-time, distance education and apprenticeships) farm management, diversification, organic farming, health and safety, succession etc.

Teagasc stand Block 2, row 12, stand 201

FUTURE BEEF FARM WALK

Wednesday 11 September

Opportunities in Beef Farming

Venue: Shane & Grainne

Keaveney's farm, Ballybane,

Ballinlough, Co. Roscommon.

Eircode: F45 W599

Time: 6pm

TILLAGE FORUM

Wednesday, 11 September

Venue: Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge,

Co Kildare. **Eircode:** W12 T925

Time: 2pm

GROWING ORGANICS FARM WALK

Tuesday September 26

Organic Suckler to Store Farm

Walk

Venue John O'Hanlon, Tipper, Bal-

lymahon, Co. Longford.

Time 2pm

INDUSTRIAL HEMP: OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGRICULTURE

26 September 2024

Event Time 9:30am - 3:30pm

Venue Teagasc Ashtown Food

Research Centre, Ashtown, Dublin

15. Eircode: D15 DY05.

Teagasc, in association with TCI (Textile & Composite Industries PTY Limited), Victoria, Australia are hosting a conference focusing on Industrial Hemp: Opportunities for Agriculture and Other Sector

TRANSFERRING THE FAMILY FARM CLINICS

Limerick: Tuesday 1 October

Venue: Fitzgerald's Woodlands

House Hotel & Spa, Knockanes,

Adare, Co. Limerick. **Eircode:** V94

F1P9. **Time** 10am.

Cork: Wednesday 2 October

Venue: Corrin Mart Conference

Centre, Fermoy, Co. Cork. **Eir-**

code: P61 EE37. **Time** 10am.

Wexford: Thursday 3 October

Venue: Riverside Park Hotel &

Leisure Club, The Promenade,

Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford. **Eircode:**

Y21 T2F4. **Time** 10am

Donegal: Tuesday 8 October
Venue: Inishowen Gateway
 Hotel, Railway Road, Buncrana,
 Co. Donegal. Eircode: F93 PPH9.
 Time 10am.

Mayo: Wednesday 9 October
Venue: Knockranny House Hotel,
 Knockranny, Westport, Co. Mayo.
 Eircode: F28 X340. Time 10am

Laois: Thursday 10 October
Venue: Abbeyleix Manor Hotel,
 Cork Road, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois.
 Eircode: R32 VE24. Time 10am

DAIRY CALF-TO-BEEF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Wednesday, 16/17 October
Venue: Clayton Whites Hotel,
 Abbey Street, Wexford, Y35 C5PF
 Teagasc with the support of the
 British Society of Animal Science
 (BSAS) and ABP is hosting an
 International Technical Conference
 on the 16th, and 17th of October 2024
 focusing on the production of beef
 from the dairy herd.
 National and international scientists
 will compare:

- intensive concentrate-based and pasture-based dairy-beef systems and their impact on financial and environmental sustainability;
- the impact of new developments in beef cattle genetics targeted for use in the dairy herd;
- nutrition of dairy-beef calves in early life;
- health of dairy-beef calves in intensive and pasture-based systems as well as measures to support better vertical integration of the dairy-beef industry.

Registration fee: delegate rate: €250 | student rate: €200
 Registration fee includes attendance at the two day event, lunch on both days, tea/coffee breaks, gala dinner and proceedings booklet.
For more information about this event, please contact: ellen.fitzpatrick@teagasc.ie or margie.egan@teagasc.ie

BEST PRACTICE IN MILKING COURSE - CORK

30-31 October
Event Time 9am - 4:30pm
Venue Teagasc Moorepark
 Advisory Office, Fermoy, Co. Cork.
Eircode: P61 C996
 The theory exam takes place on Tuesday, 12 November.
 Milking Process Routine - QQI Level 6
 Certification on successful completion of course and individual assessment.
The course cost is €300.

ADVERTORIAL



Preparation is Everything

Maeve Regan,
 Head of Ruminant Nutrition, Agritech

Although it seems almost too early to admit, and it doesn't appear to have been that long since 'winter mode' ended, but Winter 2024 is approaching, and a little bit of preparation over the next few weeks will help to set ourselves up and make informed decisions around management.

Silage Analysis

Year-on-Year grass silages can be extremely variable in nutritional qualities, and after a difficult growing season, large variation in quality between cuts may also be seen. Testing what silage is available in the yard is crucial to plan accordingly.

For dry cows, silage quality will dictate the condition of cows at calving, and dilution/corrective feeding may be required. Stretching silage with dry cows may also be required where deficits occur in feed budgets, and knowing silage nutritional analysis is a must in these cases.

Target BCS at dry off is typically 2.75 – 3.0 and at calving is 3.0 – 3.25 – therefore we are aiming for a maintenance type diet over the 60-day dry period; 68-70% DMD silage will suffice here.

For thin cows, drying off early is the preferred option. If dried off early (e.g. 10-12-week dry period), cows fed average quality silage (68-70% DMD) should have an increase in BCS of approx. 0.5 units before calving.

For youngstock, feeding rates will also be dependent on silage quality results. If we take the same silage used for dry cows above with our youngstock, offering a silage-only diet, a weight gain of only 0.3kg/day can be expected over the winter from a 70% DMD silage. Some 1.5 - 2 kg of concentrate would be needed here to achieve target winter growth rates. Is their higher quality forage available for youngstock?

Fodder Budgeting

After the delayed spring, silage reserves have been depleted in many yards. Coupled with poor growth over the summer, refilling that reserve has proven a constant challenge for some. Conducting a quick fodder budget to highlight sufficient reserves or a deficit is crucial, and the sooner this is completed the more options that are available to help bridge the gap.

For more information contact your local Agritech Sales Advisor or visit www.agritech.ie.



www.agritech.ie