

VISTAMILK INDUSTRY DAY 2024

Monday, 22 January 2024
VistaMilk Industry Day
Venue The Midlands Park Hotel
Portlaoise, Event Time 9am - 4pm

The VistaMilk team are showcasing some of their exciting developments in agrifood-tech across the whole dairy supply chain. There will be a particular focus on the future plans in the areas of soil, pasture, animal and food.

Highlighted on the day will be emerging technologies and the role of advanced analytics in advancing the agri-food sector. This event is open to companies that are in the agrifood-tech industry who would like to get an insight into the VistaMilk research.

BEEF CALFCARE EVENT - MEATH

Beef CalfCare Event Tuesday, 23 January 2024
Beef CalfCare
Event Teagasc Grange, Dunsany, Co Meath. Eircode: C15 PW93
Event Time 11am

NATIONAL LOWLAND SHEEP CONFERENCE - ATHLONE

National Lowland Sheep Conference 23 January 2024
Event Time 7pm
Venue Athlone Springs Hotel, Athlone.

NATIONAL LOWLAND SHEEP CONFERENCE - LETTERKENNY

National Lowland Sheep Conference Thursday, 25 January 2024
Venue Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny, Co Donegal
Event Time 7pm

NATIONAL TILLAGE CONFERENCE 2024

National Tillage Conference Wednesday, 31 January 2024
Lyrath Conference Centre, Paulstown Road, Kilkenny.
Eircode: R95 F685
Event Time 9am - 4pm

As the NTC2024 is a physical meeting only, pre-registration is required by all attendees. Please visit the Teagasc website.



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Teagasc National Tillage Conference at the Lyrath Hotel, Co Kilkenny 2024

A crop of winter wheat in early December at Teagasc Oak Park.



2024 National Tillage Conference

Lyrath Conference Centre, Wednesday January 31st

9.00 – 9.45	Registration check (pre-registration essential)
9.45 – 9.55	Welcome and conference opening
9.55 – 10.50	Session I - Planning for the 2024 Results from the Teagasc winter sowing survey with possible scenarios for 2024 planting and consequential impact on rotation. Followed by panel discussions with research, sectoral and farmer input to Q&A from audience
10.50 – 11.10	Session II – Research Snapshots I
11.10 – 11.30	Tea/Coffee
11.30 – 11.50	Session III – Research Snapshots II
11.50 – 12.40	Session III – What added value opportunities exist for the tillage sector Plant processing and valorization options gaining ground in the food and drinks industry. This session will highlight recent developments and advancements made both at a research and industry level. Followed by panel discussions with research, sectoral and farmer input to Q&A from audience
12.45 – 2:00	Lunch
2.00 – 4.15	Session IV Interactive Workshops – Workshop I - Are there synergies for the tillage and dairy sector? Workshop II – What do the 2030 Food Vision Tillage Group recommendations mean for the sector? Workshop III – Getting to grips with grassweeds Workshop IV – Disease control decisions for 2024 Workshop V – Getting the most out of your bean crop
4.15	Conference close with Tea/Coffee

Spring Tillage seminars 2024 – 10:30am - 1pm

Wexford	Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy	January 22	19.30
Cork	Munster Arms Hotel, Bandon	January 23	19.30
Carlow	Seven Oaks, Carlow	January 24	19.30
Tipperary	Teagasc office, Nenagh	January 25	11.00
Galway	Teagasc office, Athenry	January 25	19.30
Wicklow	Arklow Bay Hotel, Arklow	January 26	11.00
Kerry	Ballyroe Heights Hotel, Tralee	January 29	19.30
Waterford	Park Hotel, Dungarvan	January 30	11.00
NTC	Lyrath, Kilkenny	January 31	10.00
Meath	Teagasc office, Navan	February 1	19.30
Wexford	Horse & Hound, Balinaboola, New Ross	February 1	19.30
Laois	Teagasc Education centre Portlaoise	February 6	19.30
Louth	Teagasc office, Dundalk	February 7	19.30
Kilkenny	Teagasc office, Kilkenny	February 7	19.30
Offlay	Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore	February 15	19.00
Donegal	An Grianan Hotel, Burt, Co. Donegal	February 29	20.00
Dublin	Rolestown Inn, Swords	TBA	19.30

MALTING BARLEY CONFERENCE**Malting Barley Conference Tuesday, 20 February 2024****Venue Riverside Park Hotel, Enniscorthy, Co.****Wexford. Eircode: Y21 T2F4****Event Time 10:30am - 1pm****ADVERTORIAL****The arrival of the next generation**

Maeve Regan,
Head of Ruminant Nutrition, Agritech

The onset of spring brings with it the influx of the next generation of milking cows in our herds. Calves born over the next few weeks will calve down in February 2026, become the mature stalwart cows of 2029 and the influence we have on the beginning of their lives will be long felt regarding longevity, milk production and the herd's overall health and wellbeing.

Colostrum is (still) King

Year-on-year we discuss, read, and write about 3-2-1 rules, and how important receiving adequate colostrum is. Yet conversations still arise around how best to avoid scour in calf sheds, anti-scour remedies and as we face into another spring, a back to basics approach needs to be taken with colostrum. It is important to remember that the calf's first opportunity for infection is through its navel or mouth. Therefore teats, the cow's underbelly and contact with the calving pen bedding become a source of infection for a new-born calf. Prolonged time spent in the calving areas are often a key issue with disease transfer in herds. All feed equipment must be disinfected before colostrum is collected/fed. Dirt contamination of colostrum is known to have a negative effect on passive transfer and therefore cleanliness of the collection process is vital.

Storage is also important – it's an all-too-common sight to see buckets of colostrum in the parlour/dairy – and where ambient conditions arise, bacterial counts can double every 20 minutes. A dam-to-calf system is obviously the ideal. However, during a compact calving period this can sometimes be difficult to obtain in every instance. It's very important to remember that colostrum quality can vary dramatically between cows. Where pooling occurs, at the very least, colostrum must be brix tested prior to pooling to avoid dilution with poor colostrum. Factors that affect colostrum quality are short dry periods, parity, high yielders (dilution effect) and poor dry cow nutrition. Vaccination of the dam is also a key consideration on farm to help avoid scour outbreaks. However, passive transfer from the vaccine only occurs from dam-calf via colostrum and transition milk so all of the above still applies. Research has shown where passive transfer is 100% successful in herds mortality rates of <5% are achievable, in stark comparison where passive transfer of just 85-90% is achieved, calf mortality rates can increase to ~8%. Treat colostrum with the respect and attention it deserves.

For further advice, contact your local Agritech Sales Advisor or visit www.agritech.ie



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