# Visions of research and innovation

**TEAGASC recently ran a photography competition for its staff and students. Some of the winning images can be seen here.**

*Farming the uplands – Karen O'Neill.*

Congratulations to the winner and runners-up of Teagasc's Visions of Research and Innovation image competition 2016. The aim was to find the most innovative and compelling images showcasing the range of research and innovation activities taking place across Teagasc. The overall winner was Karen O'Neill for her image 'Farming the Uplands'. The runners-up were: Deirdre Hennessy; Maria Hayes; Brian McGuinness; Dominika Krol; Leanne Roche; Dheeraj Singh Rathore; Wiley Barton; Jessica Werner; Catherine McCarthy; and, Giulia Bondi.

The images were judged by a panel of Irish and international photographers. The images feature in a YouTube video showcasing excellent Teagasc research (https://youtu.be/sI2XLON8XXc) and many were included in a Teagasc Vision of Research 2017 calendar.

Speaking about the competition, Frank O'Mara, Teagasc's Director of Research, congratulated all of the entrants and, in particular, the winner and runners-up. He said: "The images highlight the breadth of research and innovation activity undertaken by Teagasc staff, from students to senior researchers, and how a seemingly everyday image can be part of an exciting scientific investigation".

The winning image shows a Scottish Blackface lamb grazing in the Caragh catchment and was taken during Walsh Fellow Karen O'Neill's work on the KerryLIFE project (www.kerrylife.ie).

The agricultural system in the KerryLIFE project area features a low-intensity agricultural system of extensive mixed-livestock grazing, few agro-chemical inputs, and labour-intensive management practices. This creates a unique cultural and semi-natural landscape managed by traditional farmers and their animals, and has made the Iveragh Peninsula a repository of a unique flora and fauna. Speaking of the winning image, judge Dr John Beeching, whose own photographs have been exhibited and published internationally, said: "While there was accompanying text for each photo, the ability of the photo to stand alone and communicate the theme was important".

The next Visions of Research and Innovation image competition launched on May 9, 2017 and will close on October 2, 2017.

## Authors

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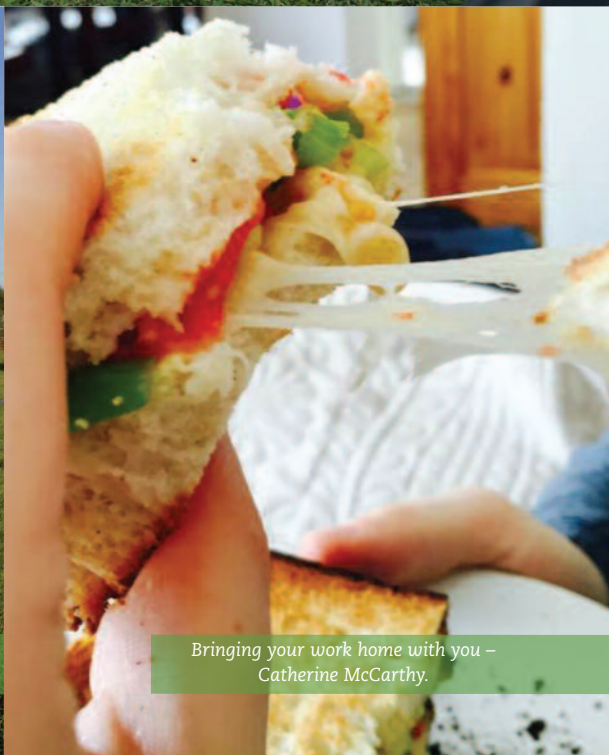
*Bottle brush blues – Brian McGuinness.*

*One to many in vitro regeneration – Dheeraj Singh Rathore.*

*Ruminating cow – Jessica Werner.*

*Earth's colours – Giulia Bondi.*

*Cow effect: mitigating greenhouse gases from agriculture – Dominika Krol.*



*Bringing your work home with you – Catherine McCarthy.*