Teagasc Crops Forum 2026

Crop planning for 2027

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Choices for 2027

- Demand for barley & wheat
- Poor demand for oats, rye.
- Oilseed rape very profitable but limited.
- Proteins – heavily subsidized
- Premium markets – quality/market issues
- Straw?

- What's best for the farm??

General rules still apply

- First cereal crops after break crops pay best
- Second cereals –
  - More expensive
  - Perform poorer
- Break crops – rotational limitations
- Organic manures can increase yield and reduce fertiliser costs

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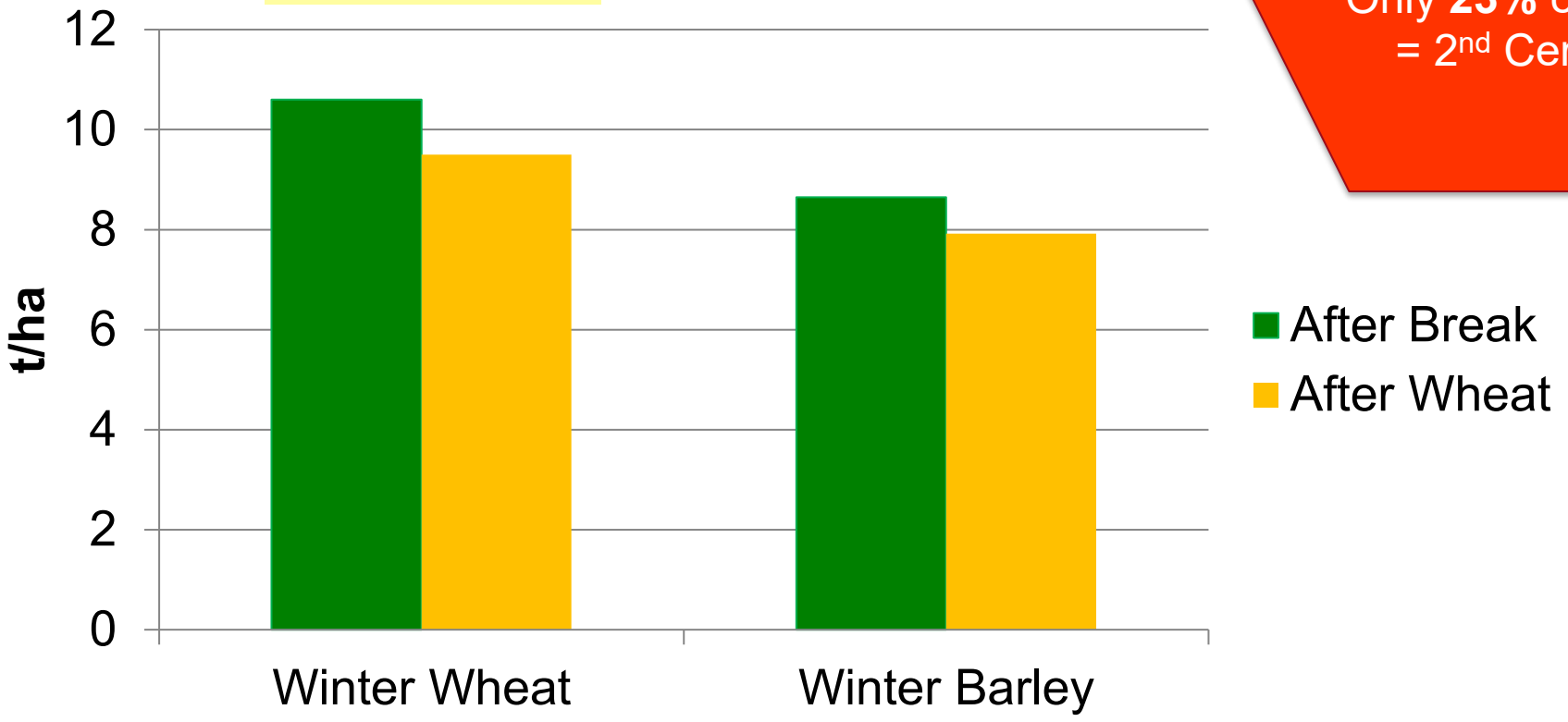
Rotation Effect

After Break
+11% Yield
+ 1.1 t/ha

After Break:
+ 9% Yield
+ 0.7 t/ha



80% of **WB**
= 2nd Cereal

Only **23%** of **WW**
= 2nd Cereal

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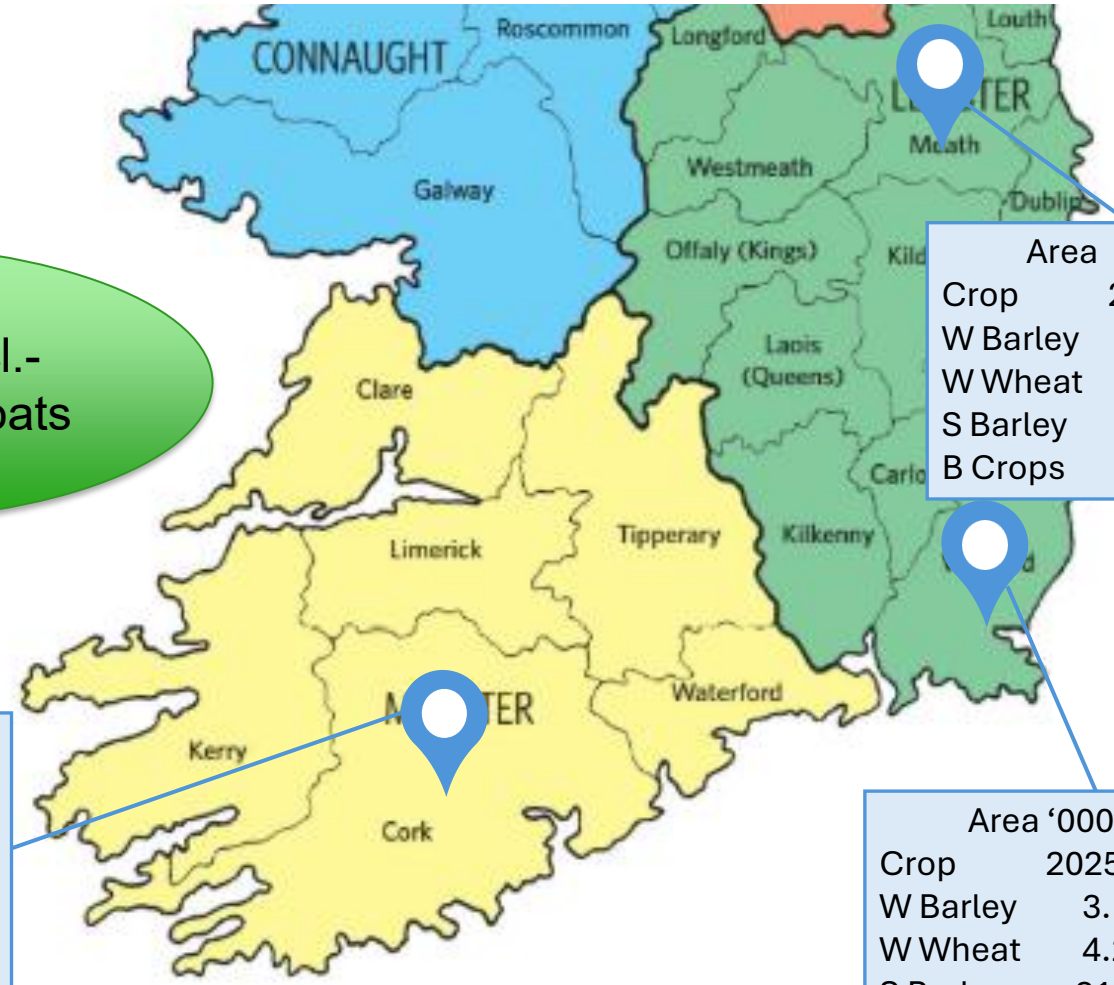
Options may be different in certain areas

Break crops incl.- beans, osr, pot, oats



Area '000 Ha		
Crop	2025	2026
W Barley	8.1	8.7
W Wheat	3.3	3.0
S Barley	20.4	19.4
B Crops	6.6	7.0

Area '000 Ha		
Crop	2025	2026
W Barley	6.8	7.9
W Wheat	14.4	10.1
S Barley	4.0	4.8
B Crops	9.9	10.2

Area '000 Ha		
Crop	2025	2026
W Barley	3.1	4.3
W Wheat	4.2	6.5
S Barley	31.2	27.8
B Crops	11.3	10.0

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Rotation considerations

- Weed pressure – grass weeds
- Land suitability – susceptibility in dry summers or wet winters
- Market demands –
  - Poor demand for oats
  - Straw – only saw a price increase due to shortage
  - Malting barley – contract cuts
- Premium markets – what % actually passes each year

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Rotation Margins €/ha:

- Assumptions
  - CSO yields
  - Crop margins 2027

- Wheat rotation (Meath)
  - OSR, WW, WO, WW, Beans
- W Barley rotation (Cork)
  - WB, OSR, WB, Beans, WB
- Malting Barley rotation (Wexford)
  - MB, Beans, WB, MB, MB

Results

Crop	WW	WB	MB	WO	OSR	Beans
Yield t/ha (CSO 5 yr. av.)	10.2	8.8	7.3	8.9	4.6	5.4
G Margin (2027)	585	372	589	557	841	696

Rotation	Average Margin €/ha
Wheat*	740
W Barley*	600
M Barley*	601

* incl. CSO + 10% yield bonus for 1st cereal

Conclusions

1. Break crops – contributing more to margin than most cereals
2. Winter wheat – on high yielding sites, most profitable cereal
3. Winter Barley – minimise the number of crops to increase margin
4. Malting barley – profitability depends on pass rate + premium
5. Rotation – Are we growing cereals to facilitate break crops?

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Thank You

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