



Teagasc Briefing for Members of Oireachtas and
European Parliament
5 Oct 2022
Prof Frank O'Mara, Director

Presentation outline

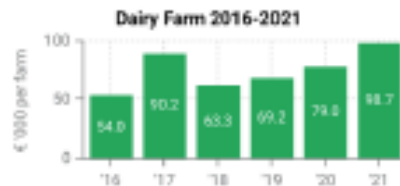
- Farm incomes
- Climate strategy and actions
- 5th Nitrates Action Programme
- ACRES
- Fodder/Inputs/Fertiliser
- Teagasc activity updates

Farm Income by Farm System

Dairy Farm Average 2021

€98,745

Farm Size 64 ha



Cattle Rearing Farm Average 2021

€10,865

Farm Size 33 ha



Cattle Other Farm Average 2021

€17,233

Farm Size 35 ha



Sheep Farm Average 2021

€20,794

Farm Size 43 ha



Tillage Farm Average 2021

€57,939

Farm Size 68 ha



National Average 2021

€34,719

Farm Size 45 ha



2021 highlights

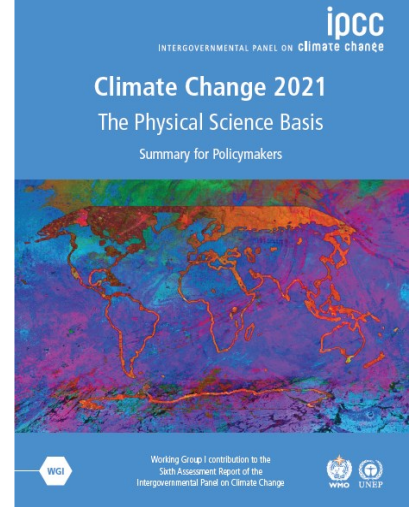
- National average income up to €34,719 (+€7,500) Weather favourable for grass and tillage
- Good output prices, especially milk and lamb
- Input prices rose substantially as year progressed
- Cattle farm incomes still low despite percentage increases
- Direct payments 139/92% of FFI on Cattle Rearing/Cattle Other farms (90% on sheep)
- Very difficult year for pig farms

2022 Update

- Significant rises in fertiliser, feed and fuel continued into 2022
- These prices will squeeze margins, although strong global milk prices look likely to increase dairy incomes in 2022
- Pig margins recovered but still negative

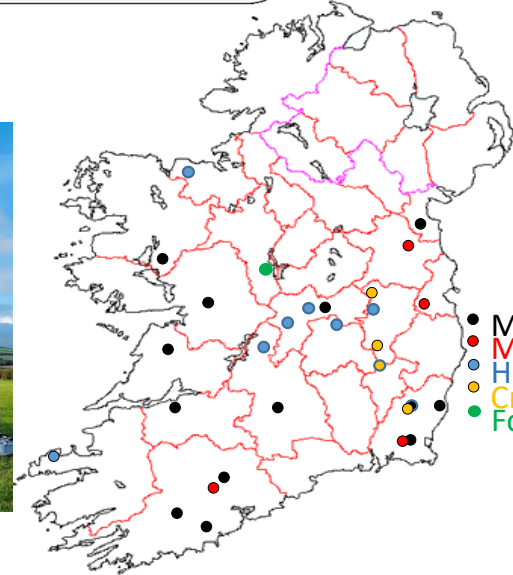
Climate Change

- Sectoral targets agreed in July: 25% for agriculture, LULUCF to be revisited in 18 months
- New national **Climate Action Plan** being developed
- Teagasc developed a new Climate Strategy to increase our support to the industry



Key Teagasc initiatives in 2021/2022

- Established the Signpost Programme (with 50 partners)
- Established the National Agricultural Soil Carbon Observatory
- Scaled up methane measurement capability



Key new initiatives in Teagasc Climate Strategy



New National Centre for Agri-Food Climate Research & Innovation



New Signpost Climate Advisory programme with individual farmer support



New Sustainability Digital Platform

Fodder, Inputs, Fertiliser

Input Price Indices (CSO - July 2022)

Overall (all inputs) + 39%
Fertiliser prices + 134 %
Energy Prices + 51 %
Feed prices + 34 %

Fodder

Teagasc actively supporting the work of the National Fodder and Food Security committee
High focus on crops for forage for winter 2022-23

July Teagasc Fodder Survey

- 19% surplus conserved forage available across all farms
- Midlands and North East lower reserves than other areas
- 12% of dairy farms at risk of fodder shortage

Fertiliser outlook

Price remains high

Supply of product is tenuous :

Reduction in EU production (due to energy price)

Sanctions on Russian product

Risk management associated with carrying stocks is affecting the supply chain

Many farmers have taken early positions on fertiliser purchases

Reports that P and K availability (mainly for cereals) is tight

Sept repeat survey

- 15-20% of Dairy farms in Midlands / East now in danger of significant feed shortages
- Overall national position remains positive

ACRES (Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme)

Ireland's new agri-environment climate scheme
€1.5 billion (replaces GLAS in previous round of CAP)
Help address biodiversity decline
Delivering an income support for up to 50,000 farm families in Ireland

Teagasc plans for Tranche 1

Additional temporary advisors in place
Exceptionally busy period for advisors
Closing date for Tranche 1 in Mid Nov
– Final spec for Scheme being finalised

General - available nationally (outside of the high priority geographical area defined for the ACRES Co-operation approach)

Up to €7,311 per farm

Cooperation - available to farmers in defined high priority geographical areas, and involves results-based payments as well as bespoke farm and landscape actions

Up to €10,500 per farm

Review of the 5th Nitrates Action Programme

New Provisions

- **Banding of dairy cows: the higher the milk yield, the higher the N excretion**
- **Lower chemical N limits and new Fertiliser Register**
- **Earlier closing date for autumn slurry spreading**
- **Soiled water: no spreading in Dec, and 1 month's storage by 2024**

Interim review in 2023

- **Conditionality attached to the Derogation requires a water quality review to take place in 2023**
- **Review could result in derogation farmers in some areas of the country being limited to a maximum stocking rate of 220kg N/ha as opposed to the current limit of 250kg N/ha**

Other Provisions

- **Continued Government and industry funding for the ASSAP**
- **Increased focus on improving compliance and enforcement**



Large capital projects completed and major new funding commitments

National Food Innovation Hub

Official opening Sept 2021

€8.8m investment

Secure, confidential office and lab space for company R&D personnel
Fully occupied



National Prepared Consumer Foods Centre

€10m investment in facility and equipment completed in 2021
(e.g. packaging, thermal processing equipment)

Facilitates companies to develop new products, reformulate existing products, solve problems



DAFM funding

NASRIC (National Agricultural Sustainability Research and Innovation Centre)

State of the art environmental research facilities at Johnstown Castle

€9m allocated + €3.7m

Ballyhaise Student Accommodation

€3m allocated

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Teagasc Diversity and Inclusion Strategy
(including 2020-2022 Action Plan)

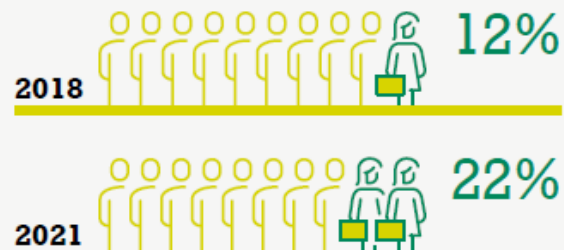


2022 Year of Diversity and Inclusion

- Cultural audit taken - Inclusio online training and assessment tool
- Training for staff and manager
- Communities of support, e.g. Pride
- Support for staff with neuro-diverse needs



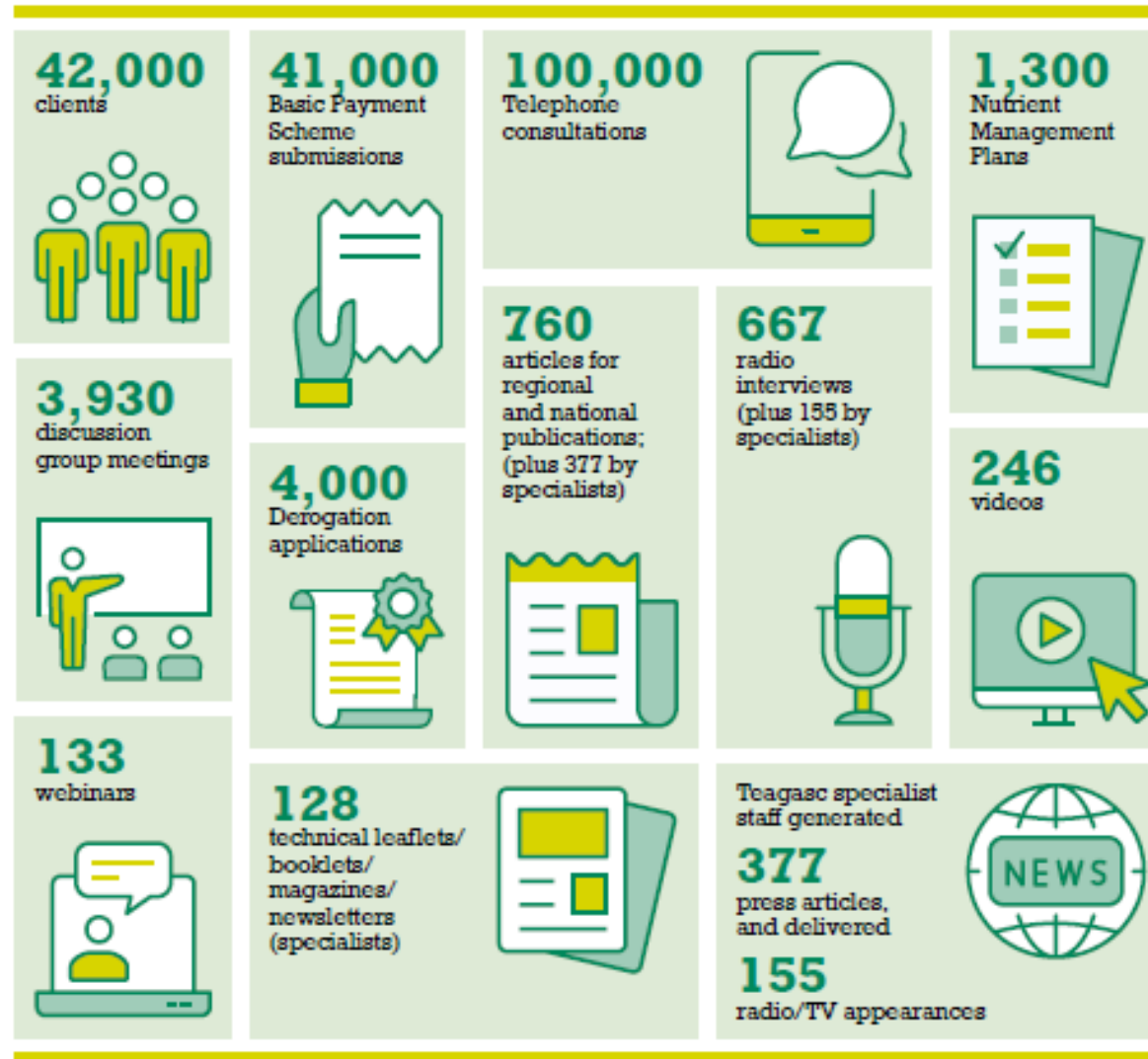
Women in senior management positions in Teagasc



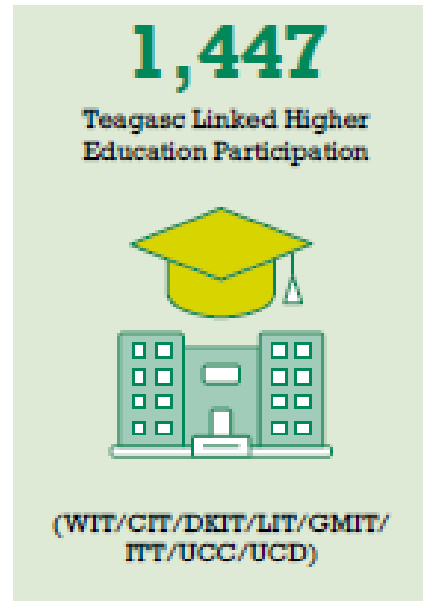
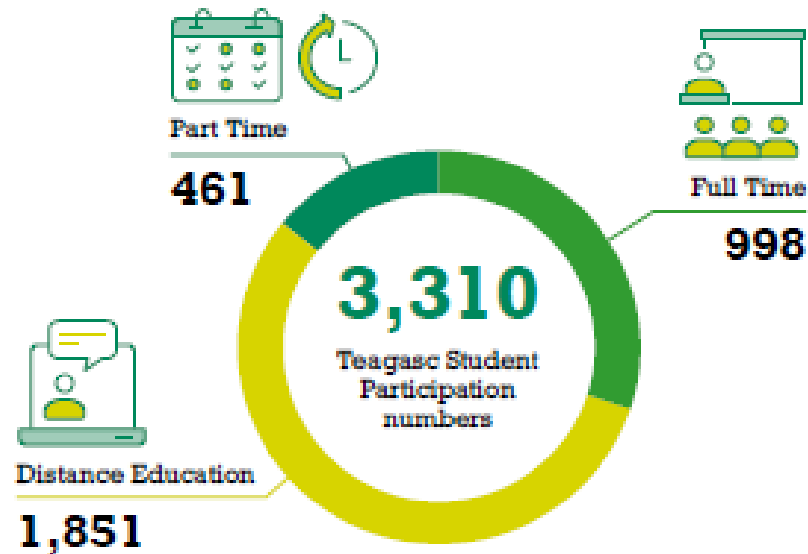
External actions

- Female only discussion groups
- Female only education courses
- NFS: requirement to gather data
- Website for visually impaired
- Recordings of publications
- Learner supports

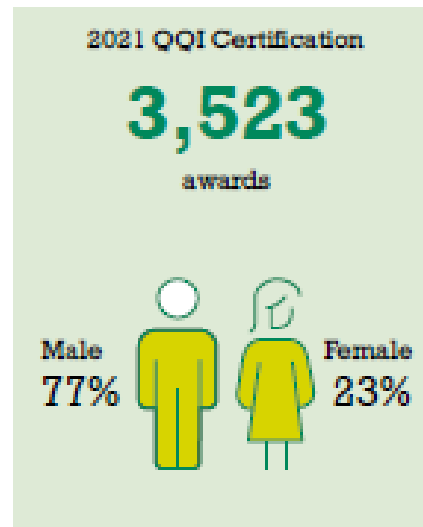
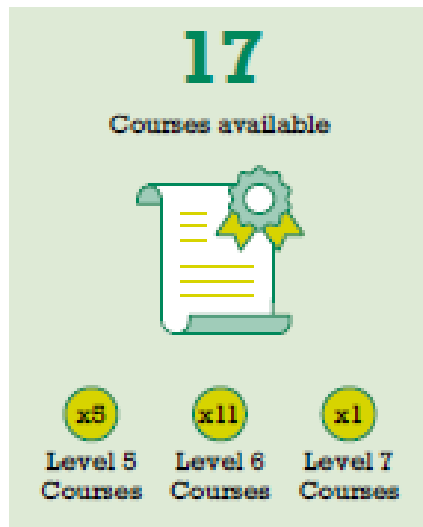
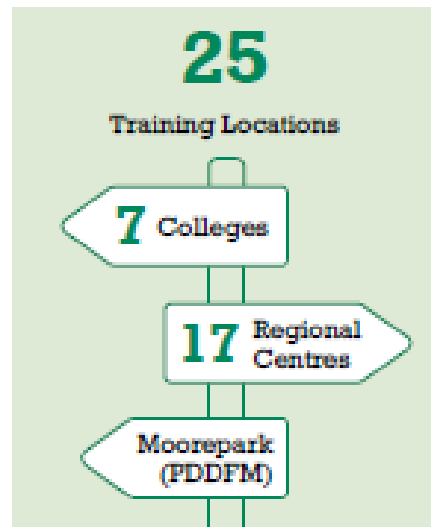
Knowledge Transfer activities by Teagasc regional advisors/ specialists in 2021



Teagasc Student Participation Numbers



- New Head of Education, Dr. Anne-Marie Butler
- New Moodle digital platform rolled out
- Progress with five apprenticeship applications (Sportsturf Technician, Horticulturalist, Assistant Stud Manager, Farm Technician, Farm Manager)



Technology Transfer Office Support

Fostering collaborations with industry



18% of Teagasc research income was generated from collaborative research with industry

Nurturing early stage ideas



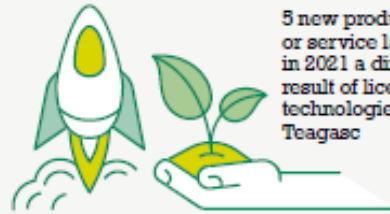
During 2021, the Teagasc Technology transfer team worked with researchers to compile 26 invention disclosures and file 6 new patent applications

Accessing world leading specialist facilities



The combined income from Food Programme technical services and MTL services rose by 12% from €4.4m in 2020 to €5.0m in 2021.

Delivering impacts



5 new products and/or service launched in 2021 a direct result of licensing of technologies from Teagasc

Research Funding



Value of contracts signed for external research funding increased from €18m in 2020 to €26m in 2021



DAFM and EI account for 2/3 of external research funding in 2021

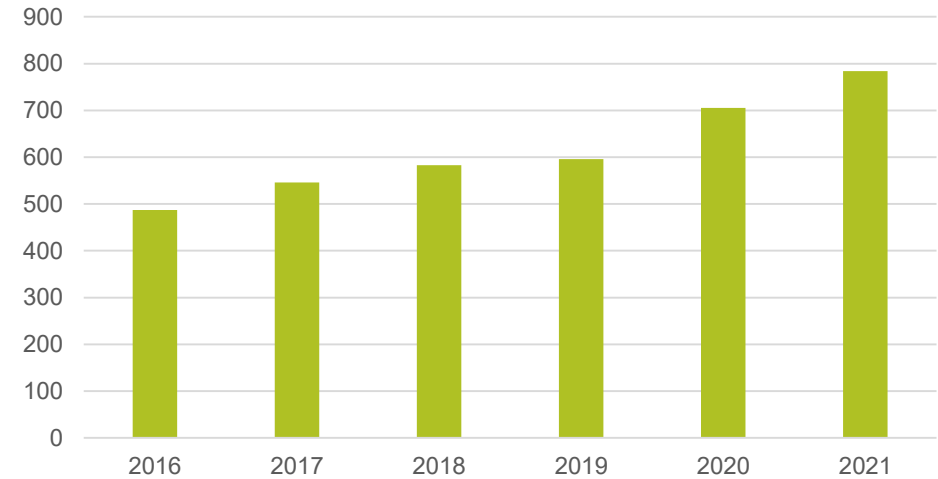


€28.7m funding secured from Horizon 2020 over the lifetime of the programme.



Teagasc ranked 6th of all organisations from all countries for number of projects funded by the agri-food stream of Horizon 2020.

Teagasc peer reviewed publications



Four of the 31 Irish scientists on the Clarivates Highly Cited list are from Teagasc



Go raibh maith agaibh