Teagasc resources committed to supporting the beef sector

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Key message

- This has been an exceptionally difficult year but there is a danger that we could collapse with negativity … note

- Taking one year with another there is profit in beef production if farmed to a high level of performance
Teagasc commits significant resources to beef

- Teagasc provides an integrated sect of services to Irish agriculture embracing advisory, education and research
- The Authority endeavours to support sectors in proportion to their importance to the rural economy and their prevalence throughout Ireland
- The following slides documents a variety of indicators that demonstrate its profound commitment to Ireland’s beef industry
Drystock advisors by Teagasc

Advisory Region

Total advisors
Drystock = 140
Dairy = 89
Tillage = 16

/ Envir.  Dairy  Tillage

Cork East  Cork West  Galway/Clare  Kerry/Limerick  Roscommon/Longford  Sligo/Leitrim/Donegal  Tipperary  Waterford/Kilkenny  West Meath/Offaly/Cavan/Monaghan  Wexford/Carlow/Wicklow
Beef Education in Numbers

All colleges
Students 2,039
Teachers 19.5
Animals 666
Land (ha) 327

Teagasc Annual Beef Conference Claremorris December 2019
On-farm demonstration initiatives

1. Teagasc Derrypatrick Herd (Suckler Beef: Grange)
2. Teagasc and Dawn Meats Newford Herd (Suckler Beef: Athenry)
3. IFJ-Teagasc BETTER Beef Programme (Suckler and Other Systems (25 commercial farms))
4. Teagasc Maternal Index Herd (Suckler Beef: Grange)
5. Teagasc Dairy Calf to Beef Programme (Johnstown Castle)
6. Teagasc Dairy Calf to Beef Programme (Grange)
7. Teagasc ‘Green Acres’ Dairy Calf to Beef Programme (14 commercial farms)
8. Teagasc-Dawn Meats Integrated Dairy Calf to Beef Programme (4 commercial farms)
Summary of Teagasc beef research

1. Teagasc now implements a common genetics and grassland platform for all ruminant livestock

2. Evidence from all types of demo farms indicate a GM/ha of €1,000+ taking one year with another is feasible

3. Maternal Herd Replacement Index Grange: €110 extra per suckler cow

4. Dairy Calf to Beef Johnstown Castle: large differences within sire breed (e.g. worth €210 GM per calf for HE)

5. Recent initiatives: anthelmintic resistance, floor type and space, disbudding and castration procedures, arresting the decline in reproductive efficiency, molecular understanding of Feed Efficiency, grass-based beef and human health and nutrition

6. Meat Technology Ireland … over €8 mill investment over 5 years
Thank you