

## Teagasc Post-Doctoral Research Fellow Level 1 Specification

<b>Post Title</b>	<b>Teagasc Post-Doctoral Research Fellow Level 1 (PD1)</b>
<b>HR Reference</b>	PD1/CA/AT/0519
<b>Research Area</b>	Consumer Behaviour and Economics
<b>Eligibility</b>	PhD in a relevant discipline with up to 3 years' (max.) relevant experience. The combined total of this contract combined with any other PD1 contracts must not exceed 3 years in total.
<b>Project Title</b>	Circular Agronomics
<b>Current Project End Date</b>	31/08/2022
<b>Post Duration</b>	The indicative duration of 36 months, but not exceeding the above project end date, subject to contract.  A panel may be formed from which future similar vacancies may be filled.
<b>Location</b>	Teagasc Research Centre, Ashtown, Dublin 15.
<b>Reports to</b>	Project Leader and/or other nominated manager as maybe identified from time to time.
<b>Training Rate</b>	Appointment will be at the minimum point of the Post Doctoral Level 1 (PD1) scale (€35,678).  The current PD1 scale is as follows: PD1: €35,678 (min.); €37,757; €39,529 (max.)  Increments will be awarded annually* subject to performance and completion of the prescribed training plan.  <i>Note: Exceptional circumstances may apply for candidates with current or previous service in the public sector. *Remuneration and the annual cycle for the payment of increments may be adjusted from time to time in line with Government policy.</i>
<b>Basic Function of the post:</b>	We are seeking a competent, driven and enthusiastic person with experience in food marketing and/or economics, to work on a recently European funded project 'Circular Agronomics'. Outputs from this project will contribute to the improvement of European Agricultural sustainability policies by providing evidence based, farmer led and consumer relevant recommendations for the agri-food chain. The candidate will be actively involved in survey design and data analysis and should have excellent analytical, organisational and dissemination skills in addition to personal communication skills necessary to effectively engage with research partners across a number of European countries.  The candidate will be responsible for tasks relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managing and designing a pan-EU survey of approximately 5,000 consumers, to allow for the profiling and segmentation of attitudes and behaviours of European consumers regarding sustainability in food production, food consumption and food waste;</li> <li>• Survey design and analysis of farmer's needs, expectations and acceptance of new technologies and farming methods relating to carbon abatement across a</li> </ul>

	<p>number of European countries;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farm level cost benefit analysis of abatement technologies, where the economic impact of innovative technologies will be examined; and</li> <li>• Policy analysis of alternative economic, environmental and social impacts of abatement technologies.</li> </ul>
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**Background:**

The Teagasc post-doctoral programme provides training and development opportunities for early career scientists that enhances their experience of learning and equips them with the necessary skills for the next stage of their chosen career in research.

The successful candidate will be based at Teagasc Food Research Centre, Ashtown Dublin 15. At Ashtown, there are over 100 scientists and technicians providing research, training and technical services to the food sector. Areas of expertise at Ashtown include food science, food safety, consumer behaviour and food marketing, agricultural economics and horticulture.

The candidate will participate in a very exciting cutting edge research project that will contribute to making agriculture an integral element of the circular economy. The aim of the research is to have a full spectrum of understanding of sustainability measures from farmer to consumer to policy makers in order to develop more sustainable practices at farm level that will positively resonate with consumers across a number of European countries. The research will address challenges from a consumer and farmer perspective by elaborating non-technical measures to reduce nutrient surpluses and by a change in consumer food behavior. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day administration and management of survey design and data analysis as well as an important role in communication dissemination activities. This post will also require European travel.

This is a research focused training role, the primary purpose of which is to provide early career scientists with the opportunity to develop their research skills and competencies.

The PD Fellow will, while working in conjunction with senior research staff, gain insight and experience into a variety of areas including the processes of project and budgetary management, publishing in peer-reviewed academic journals, writing grant applications, attracting external funding, the development of active collaboration with relevant national and international research communities, the development of communication and presentation skills, leadership and management skills and overall career development.

Modules will be conducted under the supervision and direction of the (Project Leader) or other designated manager in conjunction with the Head of Department.

**Duties & Responsibilities specific to this project:**

- Implement the project plan with the project leader and relevant project work package leaders.
- Undertake literature reviews to identify suitable methodologies and provide a sound theoretical basis to the research.
- Undertake consumer research across a number of European countries using quantitative research methods. This includes questionnaire design, methodological development, data analysis and report writing. Data collection will be outsourced.
- Manage the data collection process in collaboration with a designated market research agency.
- Perform statistical analyses of consumer data collected as well as cost benefit analysis relating to abatement technologies at farm level. Develop policy implications relating to each aspect of the research.
- Report on research orally at scientific and other technical meetings and write peer reviewed scientific papers.
- Liaise and develop links with international collaborators and other relevant researchers in Ireland and abroad from the agriculture, food industry, government and state agencies.

### Additional Duties & Responsibilities:

- Interpret research findings and prepare scientific and popular press publications.
- Disseminate research findings to a variety of audiences as appropriate.
- Assist Teagasc in meeting the commitments of the Quality Customer Service Charter and action plan.
- Comply with all relevant Teagasc policies and procedures.
- Fully co-operate with the provisions made for ensuring the health, safety and welfare of themselves, fellow staff and non-Teagasc staff and co-operate with management in enabling Teagasc to comply with legal obligations. This includes full compliance with the responsibilities outlined in the Safety Statement.
- Actively participate in the Teagasc Post-Doctoral Fellowship programme and review processes, and to undertake all Post-Doctoral fellowship training and associated duties as agreed in the Training & Development Plan.
- Take up additional duties as they may arise and be assigned by management.

### Person Specification

This section outlines the qualifications, skills, knowledge and/or experience that the successful candidate would be required to demonstrate for successful discharge of the responsibilities of the post. Applications will be assessed on how well candidates satisfy these criteria.

#### Essential

- PhD in consumer behaviour, food marketing, food business, economics with marketing and/or statistics and/or economics as a major topic or related discipline.
- Relevant research experience not to exceed 3 years' post-PhD.
- Demonstrated research and technical expertise in consumer behaviour/economic research methodologies in addition to quantitative data collection, database management, data manipulation and statistical analysis.
- Evidence of research activity (publications, conference presentations, awards) and future scholarly output (working papers, research proposals etc.). At least one peer reviewed published paper is essential.
- Knowledge of European agricultural systems and policies.
- Knowledge of EU food and agricultural sustainability research.
- Excellent project management, analytical (including data analysis and statistical skills and experience in at least one statistical software packages) and report writing.
- An ability to collaborate with team members and PhD students to help build research knowledge and skill and to guide professional development.
- Excellent communication skills (oral, written, presentation) with an ability to enable effective knowledge and technology transfer.
- Ability to generate new ideas, unique concepts, models and solutions.

#### Desirable

- Experience in sustainability measurement and analysis of the food and/or agricultural sectors.
- Experience in a range of statistical and data management software packages.
- Ability to search for, identify and evaluate appropriate methodologies and identify suitable statistical tests.
- Good project management skills.
- Self-motivated and innovative.
- Experience in setting own research agenda.
- Evidence of teamwork and collaboration with relevant partners.



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### Further Information for Candidates

Candidates can access a Fellowship Programme Application form for this post on the Teagasc website at <https://www.teagasc.ie/about/opportunities/post-doctoral-opportunities/> Teagasc do not accept Curriculum Vitae as an application for a position. In order to apply for a post the relevant application form must be completed in order to be considered.

Completed application forms should be TYPED, saved in PDF format and submitted by email to [teagascjobs@clark.ie](mailto:teagascjobs@clark.ie) no later than **12 noon on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019**. Applications received after this time will not be considered.

Teagasc is an equal opportunities employer. As part of Teagasc Gender and Diversity strategies, Teagasc welcomes a balanced pool of applicants. Canvassing will disqualify.

The details contained above are subject to change without notice.