

# Crops, Environment & Land Use Programme



## Teagasc

Teagasc is a Development Agency of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. The primary function of Teagasc is to support science-based innovation in the Agri-Food sector and the broader bio-economy.

### Teagasc Mission

To support science-based innovation in the agri-food sector and wider bio-economy so as to underpin profitability, competitiveness and sustainability.

### Teagasc Vision

Teagasc wishes to be nationally and internationally recognized as the knowledge provider of choice for Ireland's agri-food sector.

### Statement of Values

We aim to be professional, responsive, efficient, accountable and independent while endeavouring to attain scientific excellence in all our activities and working in partnership with other organisations to meet the needs of our stakeholders.

### Crops, Environment and Land Use Programme

The aim of the Teagasc Crops, Environment and Land Use Programme is to develop and transfer cost-effective crop production systems along with evidence based knowledge to support and underpin the development of a profitable, competitive and environmentally sustainable agri-food sector.

Given the current and burgeoning future challenges to our food supply and to the environment, **sustainable intensification** of agricultural production is emerging as a priority for policymakers and international development agencies. Sustainable intensification has been defined as producing more from the same area of land while reducing negative environmental impacts and increasing contributions to natural capital and the flow of environmental services.

The Teagasc Crops, Environment and Land Use Programme is at the heart of the sustainable intensification of the Irish agri-food sector.



**Paddy Browne**  
*Head of Crops, Environment  
and Land Use Programme*

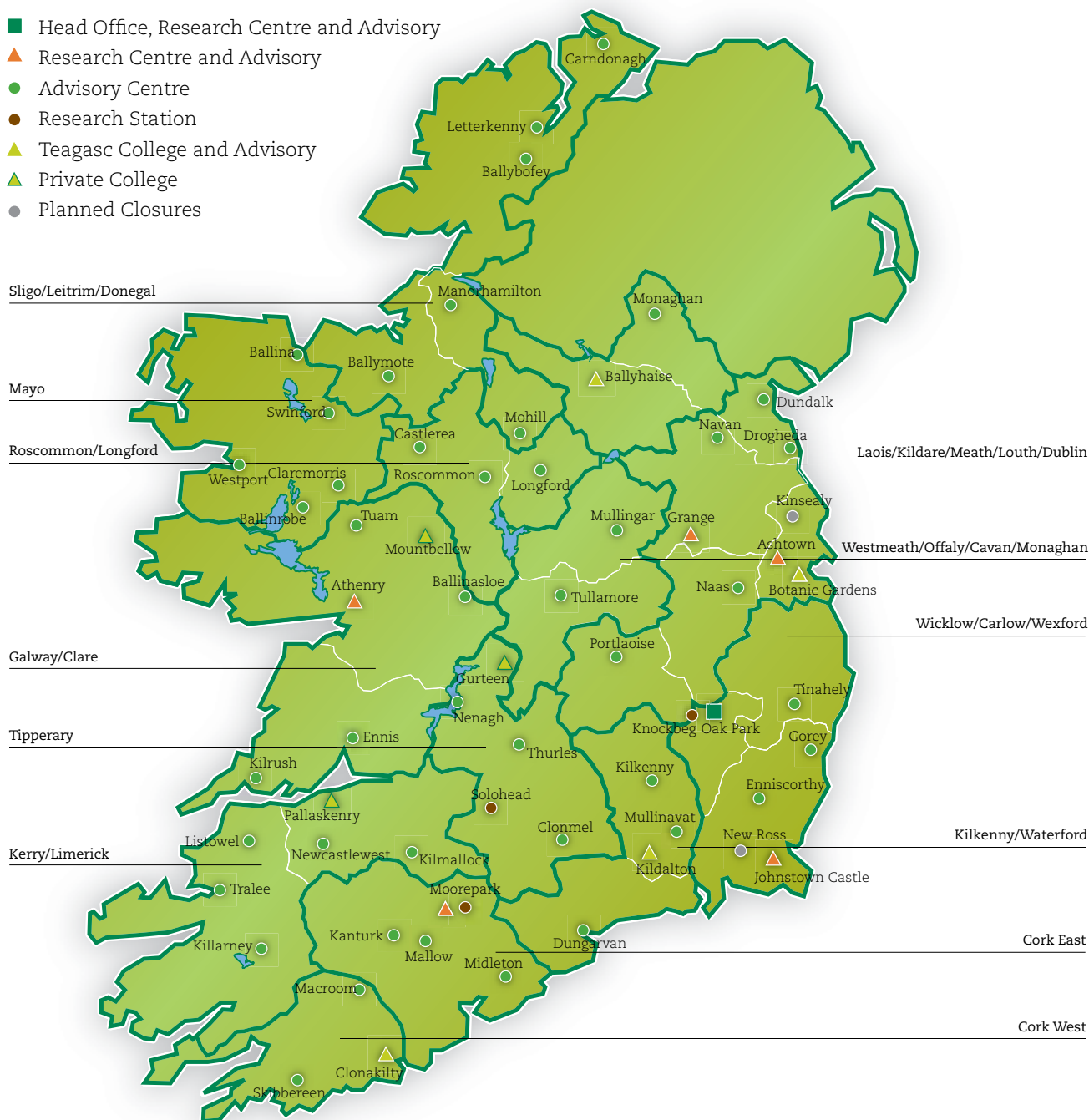
**E-MAIL:**  
paddy.browne@teagasc.ie

**PHONE:**  
+353 (0)59 9183418

# WHERE TO FIND US

## Three research centres

- Head Office, Research Centre and Advisory
- ▲ Research Centre and Advisory
- Advisory Centre
- Research Station
- ▲ Teagasc College and Advisory
- ▲ Private College
- Planned Closures



## 7. Forestry Development Department



**Nuala Ni Fhlatharta**  
Head of Forestry Development  
Department

**E-MAIL:**  
nuala.nifhlatharta@teagasc.ie

**PHONE:**  
+353 (0)91 845229

### Introduction

The Forestry Development Department provides integrated forestry research, advisory and education services which allows for rapid and effective dissemination of research through knowledge transfer and educational initiatives.

### Objectives

The objective of the forestry research and knowledge transfer programme is to develop forests and forest management systems that maximize the potential of farm forestry from economic, social and environmental perspectives.

### Forestry Research

Forestry research focuses on broadleaf tree improvement, broadleaf silviculture and thinning and harvesting management. Forestry research projects currently include:

- FORGEN: Birch and Alder tree improvement
- Improvement and selection programme for ash, sycamore and cherry
- B-SilvRD: Broadleaf Silviculture Research – management and thinning
- Supply Chip: facilitating the supply of wood chip from forestry
- Conifer management and thinning research
- AGROCOP: novel Agroforestry – Short Rotation Coppice System

### Knowledge Transfer

Focus on the following areas:

- Unbiased assessment of the suitability of a farm forest enterprise
- Access to technologies and information to assess the status of their crops, the need for thinning and harvesting and mechanisms to effectively and profitably market their produce
- Forestry promotion through different media channels

Successful knowledge transfer is achieved using a number of tools:

- National and regional events
- Wide range of training courses
- Group meetings, and forest walks and consultations
- Initiation and support of various development initiatives
- Wide range of publications
- Website, e-News and social media

The Teagasc forestry knowledge transfer and training programme is provided in collaboration with the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine.

### Forest Owner Groups

A particular area of focus is the formation and support of Forest Owner Groups. Forest owners are finding it difficult to single-handedly thin their plantations as the cost of harvesting and transportation can outweigh the financial returns on an individual basis.

To achieve economies of scale and realise an economic return to growers, the organisation of individual growers into local forest groups is seen to be critical. These groups, supported by Teagasc and Local Development companies are striving to achieve a greater understanding of the potential of an individual forest and how to achieve this potential through cooperation with other growers.

Forestry research is carried out on Teagasc lands and on farm forestry sites throughout the country. Up-to-date experimentation, monitoring, evaluating and recording equipment is used in gathering data from trial sites. In addition research facilities are located at Teagasc. Athenry and Teagasc, Ashtown. Laboratory facilities include well-resourced soils, molecular and microbiology laboratories and a large plant growth room. In addition to the dedicated forestry facilities, extensive laboratory and analytical facilities are also available within the AFRC. In 2013 heated and unheated glasshouse, polytunnels and capillary beds will also be constructed.

## Contact Details:

### Teagasc Head Office

Head Office, Oak Park, Carlow

Tel: +353 (0) 59 9170200

Fax: +353 (0) 59 9182097

Email: [info@teagasc.ie](mailto:info@teagasc.ie)

### Teagasc Food Research Centre

Ashtown, Dublin 15

Tel: +353 (0)1 8059500

Fax: +353 (0)1 8059550

Email: [info@teagasc.ie](mailto:info@teagasc.ie)

### Teagasc Food Research Centre

Moorepark, Fermoy, Co. Cork

Tel: +353 (0)25 42222

Fax: +353 (0)25 42340

Email: [info@teagasc.ie](mailto:info@teagasc.ie)

[www.teagasc.ie](http://www.teagasc.ie)