

Integrating Farm Safety and Health into Knowledge Transfer

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Authority,

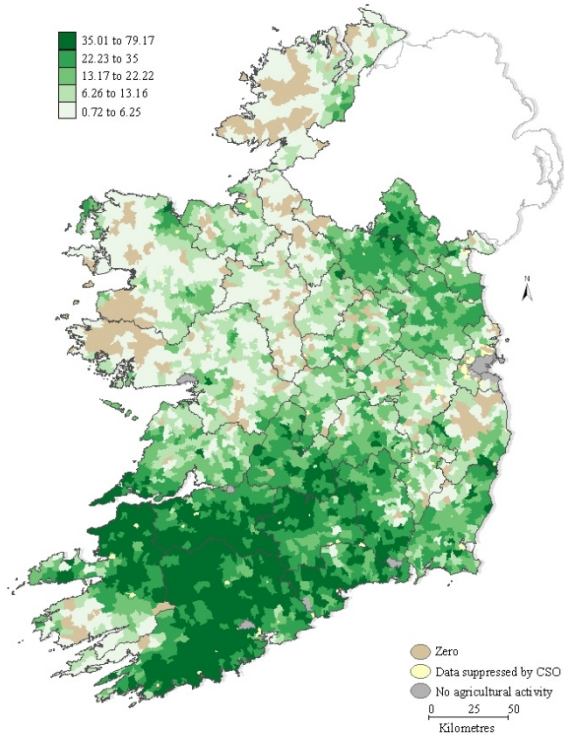


The Irish Agriculture and Food Development Authority

Agenda

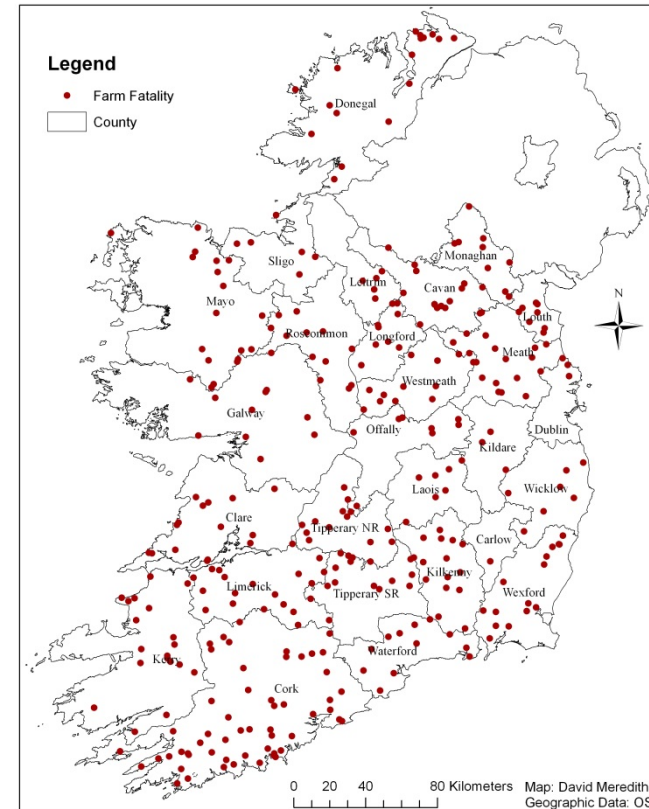
- Acknowledge the role of Farm Safety Partnership
- Farming in Ireland.
- Irish Model: Research – Knowledge Transfer
- Facilitator Role in gaining adoption

Farm Deaths are Tragedies



Specialist dairy farms* as percentage of total 2000

*Dairying contributes >2/3 of total SGM

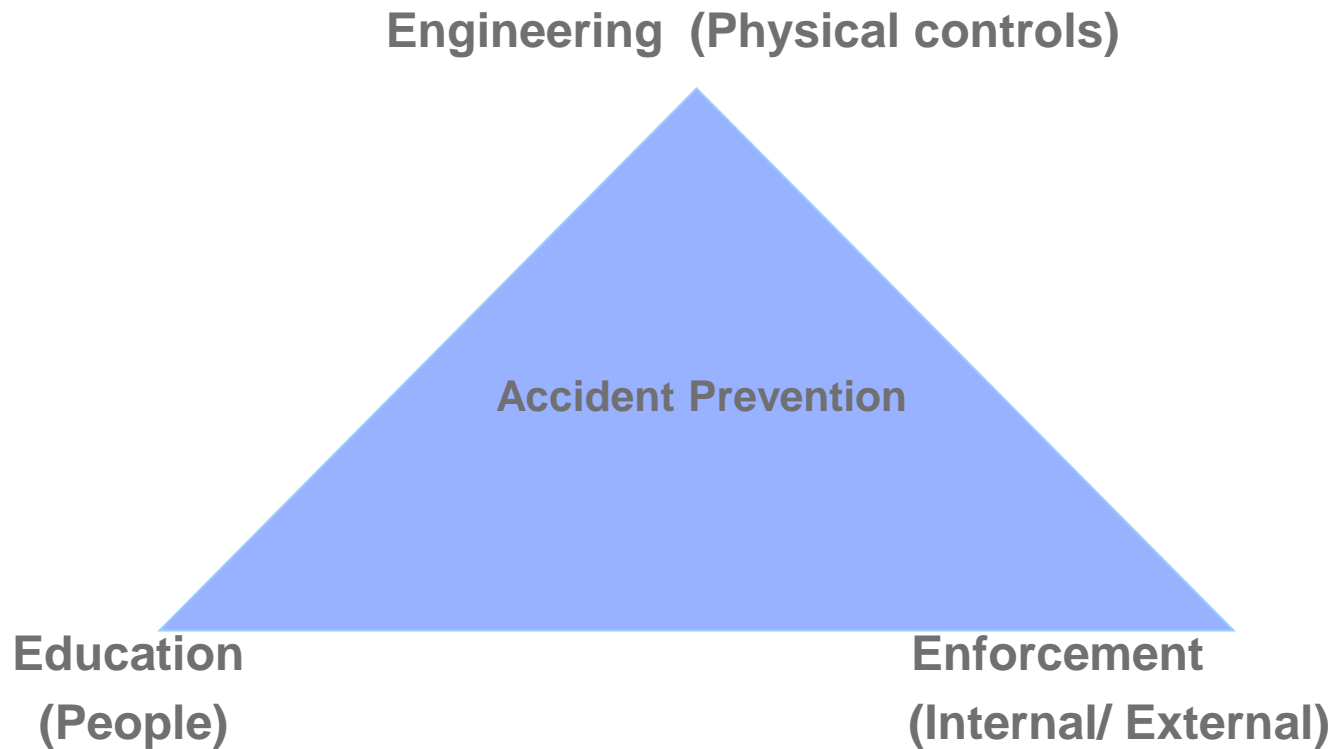


Distribution of Farm Fatalities 1993 - 2011

Agriculture in Ireland

- **140,000 Farms**
- **Predominantly self-employed (92%)**
- **400,000 persons at Risk**
- **91% grassland and 9% crops**
- **Average farm size – 32 Ha**
- **Average Age circa 57**
- **Considerable Risk**

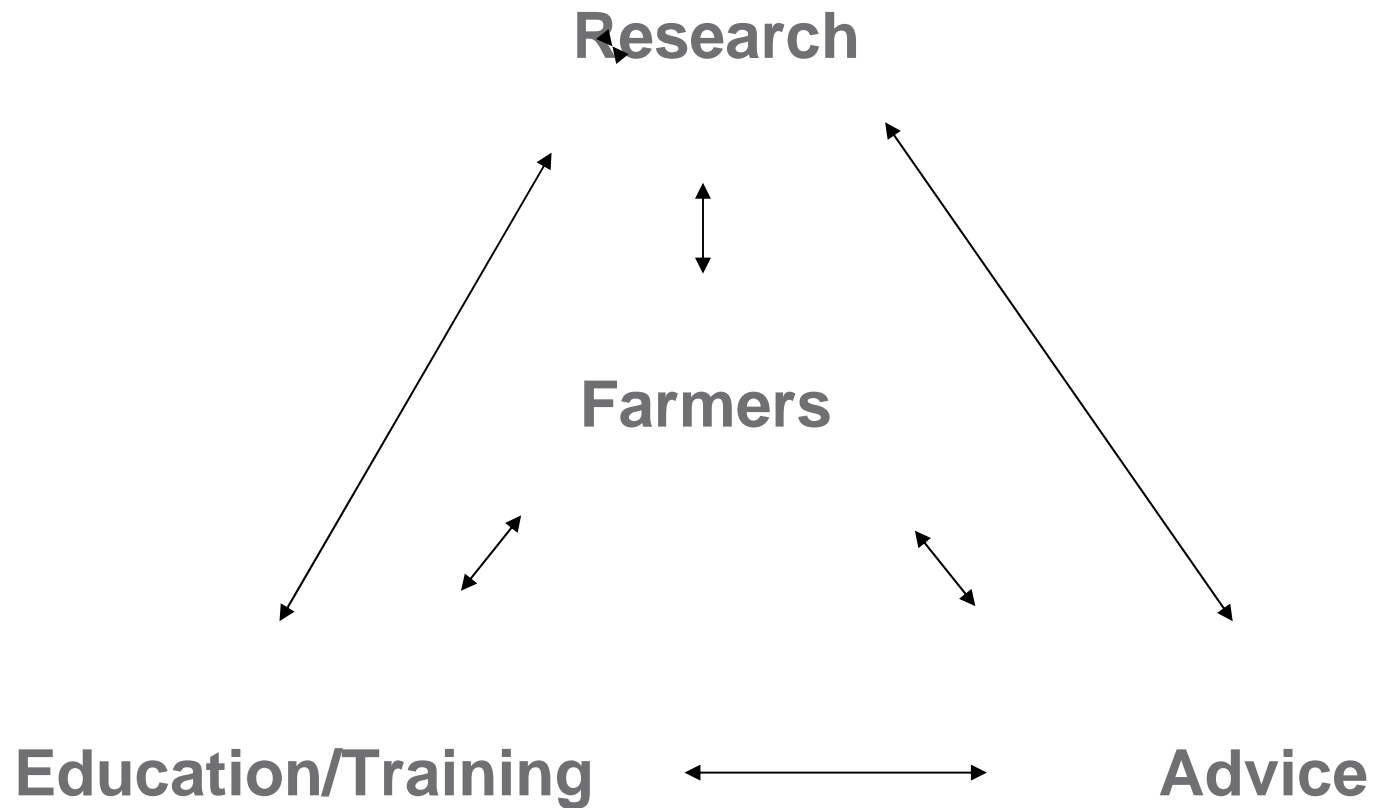
Effective Safety Management - The '3 E' Approach



Making Progress with Farm OSH

- 90% of Accidents have behavioural cause.
- Human Capital Development crucial
- Managerial Development Crucial (Suutarinen, 2003 Finnegan, 2007)
- Business Climate – Profitability, Labour Availability etc are Key Factors also.

Irish Knowledge – Transfer Model (Adapted from FAO.)



Teagasc Roles

- **Research ↔ Knowledge Transfer model**
- **Media**
- **Training and Advice.**
- **Health and Safety: Joint Agreement to work with H.S.A. & Farm Safety Partnership A.C.**
- **National Specialist and 30 Health and Safety Co-Ordinators.**
- **Advisers Trained on the Farm Safety Code of Practice.**

Current/ Recent OHS Projects

Farm Accident and Ill Health levels.	Dr Anne Finnegan
Code of Practice Implementation	Dr John McNamara
Geo-demographic study	Dr David Meredith
Animal Welfare and Safety	Dr Miceal Mazurek.
Impact of Disability	Dr Shane Whelan
Health and Safety with Spent Mushroom Compost	Dr. Bala Velusami
Health of Farmers	Dr Aoife Osborne
Rural Suicide Prevention	Dr Maria Feeney
Knowledge Transfer (M.Sc)	Ms Marion Fox
Social Support (Discussion Groups)	PhD Study commenced 2016

New Entrant Training for a Land-based Career in Ireland

- **Green Certificate Training provided (since c 1982)**
- **Currently 1,900 new trainees per annum commence training with c 6,000 in total in Training.**
- **Training involves, Husbandry/ Science, Practical Experience & Management Training over 2 years.**
- **Further Information: <http://www.teagasc.ie/training/>**

Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM)

- Specify Standards for Supports in EU Rural Development Programme (2016-2019) Including OHS
- Specify Training Inclusion in Farmer Schemes
 - Rural Environment Scheme.
 - Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme.
 - Knowledge Transfer (KT) Scheme

DAFM Schemes

- **TAMS 2**
 - **€675 Million for farm infrastructure (to 2020)**
 - **Slurry Aeration, Access manholes**
 - **Electrical Installations and Lighting**
 - **Livestock Handling Facilities**
 - **Safety Rails and Sliding Doors**
- **Half-Day Training in Risk Assessment (or Green Cert.) must be completed in 5 years previous to submitting claim for payment**

DAFM Knowledge Transfer Scheme

- Farm Health and Safety to be included in Discussion Group Session
- Farm Health and Safety in one-to-one groups
- Facilitators to shortly receive training in farm Health and Safety

Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme (TAMS)

- A wide range of OHS measures are eligible for Funding (typical rate 40%).
- Included: Slurry Storage; Electrical and Lighting; Livestock Handling facilities, etc.
- Half- Day Risk Assessment Training must have been completed within previous 5 years.

Knowledge Transfer (KT) Scheme

- **Knowledge Transfer Groups (aka Discussion Groups) superior in gaining farm practice and technology adoption.**
- **Current KT Scheme specification includes an OSH session.**
- **Facilitator Training required (circa 550)**



Current Irish Challenges

- Expansion of Agriculture.
- Age Structure of Farmers.
- Engaging the late and non adopters (circa 33%)

Opportunities

- Recently devised DAFM Incentives in place in Ireland aimed at increasing OSH implementation
- PhD Study in progress on efficacy of KT groups with OSH (Teagasc/H.S.A./UCD).
- Final Message – Change ...adopt at least one OSH new practice !