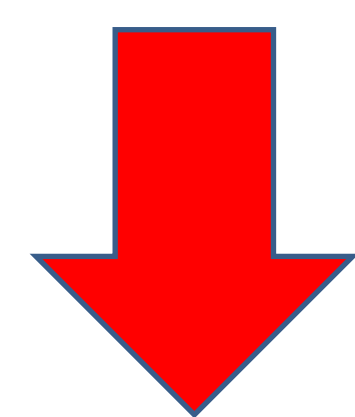


Why don't people use contractors?

- Availability & cost
- Inexperienced drivers
- Enjoy machinery work
- Don't realise hours of worked saved



How to work with contractors in your business?

- Agree on work to be contracted
- Pay when each task is complete
- Have 2-3 contractors
- Farm map & fields prepared

Example: Cost benefit analysis for 120 cows

Currently 50% slurry, 100% fertiliser & drawing bales is done by the farmer. What would it cost to contract out this work?

Extra contractor costs

Draw 200 bales @ €3/ bale
 Pipe 90K gal slurry @ €135/hr
 Spread 50% fertiliser €65/hr
 Total costs: **€2,551**

What did this work cost the farmer?

Diesel @ 0.75c/ l: €385
 74hrs work @ €20: €1,480
 Total cost **€1,865***

****Depreciation of machinery & loss in efficiency not incl.***

Take home message

- Contractors are a very important resource
- Respect, good communication & planning key requirements to create a good relationship
- Doing your own machinery work does not save money