

# Farmer experiences at reducing antimicrobial use (AMU) on a Sheep Farm.



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# Gurteen Agricultural College

- Large Farm 400ha (1,000 acres)
- Dairy, Calf to Beef, Suckler Beef, Sheep, Tillage and Renewable Energy
- Sheep Flock (450 ewes)
  - 85 early lambing
  - 315 mid season lambing
  - 50 ewe lambs to ram
- Farm is split into two main blocks (College block & Trench Farm)
  - Sheep Housing is on College Block
  - Most of grazing happens in Trench Farm
  - 2 permanent handling units with roofed batch footbaths





# Lameness on our Farm

- 2015 College Enterprise Review
- Identified that we had significant lameness issues and poor facilities
  - (2 plastic footbaths in short race and injecting lame sheep)
- 2016 Built First Batch Footbath in Trench Farm
- Massive reduction in lameness & need to individually treat sheep
- 2018 Constructed new sheep shed and Batch Footbath at college block



# Summary

- Effective Footbaths have;
  1. Reduced lameness in our flock
  2. Reduced labour associated with catching and treating lame sheep
  3. Reduced Antibiotic use

Product	2015	2019
Alamycin 300LA	33 x 100ml	4 x 100ml
Penstrep	9 x 100ml	Nil
Cyclo Spray	9	5
Estimated cost	€903.60	€145.20

4. Increased animal performance and productivity
5. Improved Animal Welfare
6. Improved margins

[Link to video Clip here](#)

