

TEAGASC NATIONAL DAIRY CONFERENCE 2022

Tuesday, December 6, Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork, T12 AKC8

Thursday, December 8, Mullingar Park Hotel, Westmeath, N91A4EP

While we have all grown accustomed to virtual events in recent times, there is no doubt that the best discussions happen when everyone is in the room, so we are looking forward to lively debate this year.

The conference comes at a time when the sector increasingly finds itself as a central topic in the national conversation around climate and environmental policy.

From speaking to many dairy farmers over the last few months, it is clear that this has created uncertainty for their business. However, there is eagerness to adopt farming practices which contribute to both environment and economic goals.

Delegates will hear from dairy co-operatives and nutrition researchers about the evolving trends and demands of the human nutrition market and the key role that dairy farmers play in providing high-quality nutrients to a growing global population.

Our conference agenda seeks to address the main challenges for the dairy industry in this context, and to deliver practical advice and solutions.

An immediate and significant challenge for dairy farmers is to develop pasture production systems that improve farm profitability at lower chemical nitrogen (N) inputs. There has been accelerated interest in this issue throughout 2022 due to high fertiliser prices.

Important questions include; what level of annual pasture growth can white clover swards support? How should the N rate and pattern of application be adjusted? What is the effect of different sward composition on milk solids and rumen function? How does this interact with feed supplements? A panel of leading researchers and farmers will share their experience and insights.

The arrival of calf crop 2023 will be imminent in December. With it comes the challenge of rearing calves to a high standard in a labour-efficient way. Ireland's dairy farms perform very well, relative to international counterparts, in terms of calf morbidity, mortality and welfare, however there are opportunities to improve calf value and performance by adjusting management practices.

The conference will address such questions as; what is the economi-



cally optimal design and space allowance for calf accommodation? Which calf husbandry practices are 'non-negotiable'? How can higher merit beef AI sires be incorporated into the herd breeding plan without compromising calving ease?

We will get the views of farmers, breeders and calf rearing researchers on these topics.

We have seen over many years that research and extension programmes can deliver valuable information to help farmers improve their technical and economic outcomes. This year's conference will feature an 'emerging science' session, in which new research will be presented on methane abatement in pasture systems, reduction of herd somatic cell count under reduced antibiotic use and options to improve the efficiency of the milking process. There will also be a discussion on strategies for financial budgeting and the challenges of controlling milk production costs in 2023.

The Teagasc Dairy Conference 2022 is first and foremost an event for dairy farmers, and as such, our programme focuses on practical solutions. Most importantly, however, the event is an opportunity to meet with fellow milk producers and join the debate on the challenges and opportunities facing the industry.

Full conference schedule and booking details can be viewed by visiting www.teagasc.ie/dairyconf22. Lunch and morning refreshments are included.

DAIRY: PEOPLE MANAGEMENT COURSE

23 November 2022 and 30 November 2022

Event time: 10am-4pm.

Venue: Greenway Manor, Kilotteran, Co Waterford.

Why should you attend this course?

If you are employing labour, be it part-time or full-time, or will be employing labour in the near future, then this course will be of benefit to you. This course will also benefit farmers who work with family members on the farm.

Overall, this course will help you to reduce conflict and stress when working with people and help you to attract and retain employees.

Register to attend by contacting Martina Gormley 087-903 1069 (Teagasc) before Monday 31 October 2022. The course will run from 10am to 4pm each day.

The cost of this course is €100 per participant – this includes course

People management course 2022.

	Day 1	Day 2
Donegal (Aurivo) Clann Ri Hotel, Letterkenny	November 7	November 8
Galway (Aurivo) Ard Ri Hotel, Tuam	November 11	November 18
Lakeland Bloomfield House Hotel	November 17	November 24
Glanbia Naas Killashee Hotel	November 21	November 28
Glanbia Waterford Greenway Manor	November 23	November 30



per suckler cow compared to calving at 30 to 36 months of age.

Venue: Farm of John Pringle, Sunnyhill Farm, Kilacloran, Auhgrim, Co Wicklow. Eircode: Y14 PT99.

Event time: Morning session – 10:30am and afternoon session – 2pm.

CALVING HEIFERS AT 24 MONTHS – KILKENNY

November 11

Calving heifers at two years of age significantly increases the net margin per suckler cow compared to calving at 30 to 36 months of age.

Venue: Teagasc Kildalton College, Piltown, Co Kilkenny. Eircode: E32 YW08

Event time: Morning session – 10:30am and afternoon session – 2pm.

CALVING HEIFERS AT 24 MONTHS – CORK

November 22

Calving heifers at two years of age significantly increases the net margin per suckler cow compared to calving at 30 to 36 months of age.

Venue: Teagasc Clonakilty Agri-

cultural College, Clonakilty, Co Cork. Eircode: P85 AX52

Event time: Morning session – 11am and afternoon session – 2pm.

LET'S TALK EQUINE WEBINAR – UK SHOW HORSE MARKETS EXPLAINED

November 22

A series of webinars, offering an opportunity to hear from industry professionals discussing topics of relevance to horse breeders.

Venue: Online – see Teagasc website for details.

Event time: 8:30pm.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY USE IN HORTICULTURE: HEATING WITH BIOMASS – OVERVIEW OF BOILER TECHNOLOGY AND FUEL TYPES

Monday November 14

Webinar as part of a series of webinars focusing on sustainable energy solutions in horticulture.

Venue: Online – see Teagasc website for details.

Event time: 4pm - 5pm.

materials, tea/coffee and lunch on the two training dates.

CALVING HEIFERS AT 24 MONTHS – WICKLOW

November 10

Calving heifers at two years of age significantly increases the net margin

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