

Teagasc/UCD Michael Smurfit Business School certificate course in business strategy

This course has been run since 2015 and has proven popular with farmers with all enterprise types. Key features are:

- **Accredited course:** on successful completion participants receive a level 8 certificate from University College Dublin.
- **Executive education:** the course involves interactive discussion between participants and lecturers based on Harvard Business School case studies and participants' own experience.
- **Residential course:** this allows you to concentrate on the course and network in the evenings.
- **You will gain business skills...** in areas such as strategy formulation, investment analysis, negotiation and people management. You will use these skills for the rest of your life.
- **You will create your own strategy.** By the end of the course you will have completed a strategy document for your business which will help you to reach your goals.
- **Teagasc support:** Teagasc advisors will mentor participants in creating their strategy.
- **Graduation:** those who complete the course will receive their certificate at a graduation ceremony in UCD.
- **World-class lecturers:** all core mate-



The class of 2022.

rial is delivered by Smurfit Business School staff.

- **Purely business:** there is no technical content about production. This is a purely business course and is relevant whatever your mix of farm enterprises.
- **Class size is small:** this ensures good interaction and networking.

Once you have been running a farm business for several years you qualify to participate. There is no minimum academic standard required.

What commitment is involved?

Module one: three days in November.
Module two: two days in December.
 Presentation of your strategy at UCD

Michael Smurfit Business School: one day in January 2024.

"I found it excellent and it really tuned me in to what I needed to do to move my plan forward," said Meath dairy farmer Peter Mongey.

The cost to participate is €2,600 with a €200 discount for Teagasc clients. This includes three nights' accommodation in the chosen hotel.

Meals are provided. Full terms and conditions are available on request. In recent years, Macra Skillnet has covered about 30%.

For further information

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Seaweed

Inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) causes inflammation and damage to the digestive tract. The term is usually used to describe Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis – both of which, if left untreated, can result in permanent damage.

More than 40,000 people in Ireland are estimated to suffer from IBD, six million people globally. IBD can be very painful and disruptive and, in some cases, life threatening. The exact cause of the disease remains a mystery, and there is currently no cure.

As part of the European Union Horizon

2020 Algae4IBD project, researchers at Teagasc Ashtown are exploring ways to identify and develop a set of novel small molecules derived from seaweeds and microalgae that can provide relief for sufferers of IBD.

The environment in which they are found leads these plants and microorganisms to develop defence mechanisms that often result in enhanced antimicrobial and antioxidative activities.

In Ireland, there are over 600 species of seaweeds found around our coastline. Teagasc's main role within the Algae4IBD project is to generate, extract and screen for anti-inflammatory, anti-pain and prebiotic compounds from extracts generated from both seaweeds

and microalgae supplied by partners or generated within Teagasc.

The health benefits of small molecules found in seaweeds and microalgae is a relatively new area of biodiscovery for researchers, but marine species of both seaweeds and microalgae have been shown to have tremendous potential for use as a reservoir of health-beneficial bioactives.

Teagasc's Maria Hayes says: "The ultimate goal of the project is to develop nutraceuticals and drugs that can treat IBD and potentially prevent it."

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