



# IFA



## Irish Farmers' Association Annual Report 2022



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# IFA Annual Report 2022





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4. On the IFA Stand at Ploughing 2022 in Ratheniska, Co. Laois

# President's Message



IFA President Tim Cullinan raises key issues with An Taoiseach Micheál Martin TD at the IFA 67th AGM in the Mansion House, Dublin January 2022.

## Policy Review & 2023 Priorities

2023 will go down as the year when significant decisions were reached which will have far-reaching ramifications for the farming sector. At our AGM in January, our focus was firmly on the critical issues of climate action, CAP and the real threat posed by rising input costs. The latter issue became much more serious following the invasion of the Ukraine.

Both the Taoiseach Micheál Martin and the Minister for Agriculture Charlie McConalogue addressed the meeting and heard the concerns of our officers about policy proposals that would damage farm families.

The Government set the sectoral emission ceiling for the sector in July, which means a reduction of 25% is required for agriculture under climate legislation. IFA resisted attempts to impose a reduction of 30% as this would have been hugely damaging to our productive capacity.

I want to acknowledge the strong campaign run across the country by our officers. It helped to mitigate the very severe proposal that was on the table.

### CAP

The CAP Strategic Plan, which has been fully approved, sets the framework for farming between next year and 2027. However, it will undermine food production and contains unrealistic targets. The new environmental scheme ACRES is disappointing but farmers had no option but to apply for it. The Government must ensure that all eligible applicants are included in this scheme. While a much increased allocation has been made for organic farming there is a real danger that there will not be sufficient markets for this produce.

Overall, the CAP Budget is simply too small. It has not kept pace with inflation and farmers are being asked to do more for less. This is something that Commissioner Wojciechowski also acknowledged when he addressed the IFA Council at the Irish Farm Centre in May. But his words need to be matched by action.

## CLIMATE ACTION

Our objective on climate action was to change the narrative around farming in Ireland and point to the many positives in the way we produce quality food.

The sectoral ceilings were set at 25%, which will prove very challenging for our sector. However, it would have been far worse if set at 30%.

Following the headline target, we have engaged with the Food Vision sub groups. Some of the measures will have a negative impact on our productive capacity and farm incomes.

We will continue to press for a policy that minimises the impact on farmers.

## INPUTS

Undoubtedly, the biggest issue across all sectors during the year was the phenomenal increase in the cost of inputs.

In some of our intensive sectors – pigs, poultry and horticulture – the scale of the increases threatened the viability

Aggregate prices paid to farmers, particularly among the low-income drystock sectors, fell during the year. This was at a time when inputs rose nearly 40%.

Fertiliser jumped up by 133%; energy rose 51% and feed costs were 34% higher.

Farm businesses cannot continue to absorb the gap between the cost of producing food, and what they are paid.

## BUDGET 2023

Budget '23 contained some of the targeted measures that IFA had looked for to address the challenges facing the sector.

Both the fodder scheme and tillage schemes will continue into next year.

The renewal of the Beef Environment and Efficiency Scheme for sucklers (BEEP-S) was important, but the allocation was too low and it leaves support for suckler farmers well below what was needed.

The fodder, tillage and suckler schemes won't be enough to mitigate the 40% increase in farm inputs, particularly for the low-income beef and sheep sectors.

## BREXIT

A Brexit Adjustment Reserve worth €5bn has been set aside to cover adverse consequences in Member States and sectors worst hit by Britain finally leaving the EU on January 1st of 2022.

We used every opportunity to remind our politicians that a substantial part of this funding will have to go to Irish farmers.

Farmers' incomes, which in some sectors have already been damaged by Brexit since 2016, stand to take an unsustainable hit.

As the deadline to allocate the funding expires at the end of 2023, we will continue to lobby our Government to ensure that farmers' livelihoods are safeguarded.

## LIVESTOCK/BEEF

The CAP proposals will place huge pressure on our livestock sector, where many farmers rely completely on their direct payments.

In 2023, we will continue to press for maximum support for a coupled payment that will improve the viability of suckler farmers.

## DAIRY

Markets were strong during 2022, but farmers also had to cope with rising input prices.

The review of the Nitrates Action Plan is the biggest concern for dairy farmers. It cannot place a heavy burden of additional costs on the family farm, which already have demanding repayment commitments.

In line with strong markets, the price to farmers must reward them fairly for their quality product they sell.

## SHEEP

Our main focus during 2022 was keeping pressure on processors to return the full value of the markets to sheep farmers. Dog control continued to be a huge issue. The Government must act on this. We kept the pressure on the Department of Agriculture to find a market for wool, with the establishment of the Wool Council.

## GRAIN

Global trends saw a lift in prices, which offset some difficult years and poor harvests.

The main concern for 2023 is the very substantial hike in input costs, which threatens to erode any margin for growers.

We will continue to campaign for greater inclusion of native grains in feed rations.

## PIGS

The last 12 months were probably the most difficult on record for pig farmers as price dropped and inputs rocketed, leaving pig farms with massive losses.

The Govt did intervene on two occasions, which helped to offset some of the losses. Prices recovered somewhat in the second half of the year.

Any lift that comes from international markets in the coming year will have to make their way back in full to pig farmers.

## FORESTRY

The licensing system remains difficult. Progress was made in clearing some of the backlog of licences, but the commitment to clear everything inside four months has to be met.

We cannot stand over a situation where farmers who invested in a crop are not in a position to harvest that crop.

## HORTICULTURE

The inputs crisis had a deep impact on the horticulture sector, with energy costs placing growers under huge pressure.

Our campaign to allow the harvesting of peat for our horticulture sector will continue. It's a very important part of agriculture in this country and we shouldn't have to import our requirements.

## BEYOND COVID-19

We were in a position to resume in-person meetings of our National Council this year. County Executives were also held in-person.

I want to acknowledge the resilience and the flexibility of our County Chairs who have maintained the link with our county officers by organising a mix of online and in-person meetings.

There is no doubt that digital communications will continue to have an enhanced role in facilitating the business of the Association.

I want to acknowledge the efforts of everybody during what has been a difficult year. IFA is about supporting and representing farmers to take on the challenges before us.



Tim Cullinan  
IFA President



# Representation



IFA President Tim Cullinan discussing Government funding from the Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) with the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform Michael McGrath TD.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL - GOVERNING BODY

19 National  
Committee Chairmen

National  
Committees

29 County  
Chairmen

29 County Executives

947 Branches

Each Branch elects 4 delegates to County Executive

Over 70,000 Members  
Organised Through Branches

Tim Cullinan  
President



Brian Rushe  
Deputy President



Damian McDonald  
Director General



Elaine Farrell  
Director of Governance  
and Oireachtas  
Engagement



National Officers Committee



Harold Kingston  
Munster Chair



Francis Gorman  
South Leinster  
Chair



Martin Stapleton  
National Treasurer  
and Returning  
Officer



Frank Brady  
Ulster & North  
Leinster Chair



Pat Murphy  
Connacht Chair

# County Chairs

CARLOW

John  
Nolan



CORK CENTRAL

Conor  
O'Leary



GALWAY

Stephen  
Canavan



CAVAN

Maurice  
Brady



CORK WEST

Donal  
O'Donovan



GALWAY 2<sup>ND</sup> REP

John  
Finn



CLARE

Tom  
Lane



DONEGAL

Brendan  
McLaughlin



KERRY

Kenneth  
Jones



CORK NORTH

Pat  
O'Keefe



DUBLIN

James  
McGrane



KERRY 2<sup>ND</sup> REP

Mary  
Fleming



# County Chairs

## KILDARE

Thomas O'Connor



## MAYO

Jarlath Walsh



## TIPPERARY STH

Pat Carroll



## KILKENNY

Jim Mulhall



## MEATH

Dermot Ward



## WATERFORD

John Heffernan



## LAOIS

John Fitzpatrick



## MONAGHAN

Patrick McCormick



## WESTMEATH

Bernie McCarthy



## LEITRIM

Desmond McHugh



## OFFALY

Pat Walsh



## WEXFORD

Jer O'Mahony



## LIMERICK

Sean Lavery



## ROSCOMMON

Patrick Leonard



## WICKLOW

Thomas Byrne



## LONGFORD

Gavin White



## SLIGO

Kathleen Henry



## LOUTH

John Carroll



## TIPPERARY NTH

Baden Powell





# Committee Chairs

## DAIRY

Stephen  
Arthur



## LIVESTOCK VICE-CHAIR

Declan  
Hanrahan



## ANIMAL HEALTH

TJ  
Maher



## ENVIRONMENT & RURAL AFFAIRS

Paul  
O'Brien



## RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Michael  
Biggins



## FMP

John  
Wynne



## FARM BUSINESS

Rose Mary  
McDonagh



## SHEEP

Kevin  
Comiskey



## MACRA NA FEIRME

John  
Keane



## FARM FAMILY & SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Alice  
Doyle



## PIGS

Roy  
Gallie



## ICOS

James  
O'Donnell\*\*



## FARM FORESTRY

Jason  
Fleming



## POULTRY

Nigel  
Sweetnam



## IFJ

Justin  
McCarthy\*



## GRAIN

Kieran  
McEvoy



## POTATO

Sean  
Ryan



## NOTE

ICOS and IFJ are observer Members of the National Council without a vote.

## OTHER REPS

## LIQUID MILK

Keith  
O'Boyle



## HORTICULTURE

Vacant

## AQUACULTURE

Michael  
Mulloy



## LIVESTOCK

Brendan  
Golden



## HILL FARMING

Cáillín  
Conneely



\*Stepped down as editor of the IFJ, September 2022

\*\*Replaced Jerry Long, June 2022

# Director of European Affairs Report



EU Agriculture Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski welcomed to the Irish Farm Centre during his visit to Ireland by IFA President Tim Cullinan, IFA Deputy President Brian Rushe, IFA Director General Damian McDonald, and IFA Director of European Affairs Liam McHale.

Last year I did not refer to Food Security in my report and this year, it has been central to debate at all political levels. And rightly so. While 2022 is the 60th anniversary of the CAP, its origins in the provision of affordable, safe, high quality food for European citizens had become clouded in the desire to meet the demand for the provision of public goods such as a clean environment. During successive CAP reforms, IFA Presidents had made repeated reminders of the priority for food production and thereby food security, however the growing strength of the EU agri-food sector diminished concerns for food scarcity, until suddenly it was threatened. That threat, initiated by the impact on food supply chains during the COVID pandemic was further crystallised in the early morning of 24th February when Russia invaded Ukraine.

Now, the EU is faced with an ongoing energy crisis which has impacted the cost of inputs on farm hugely since 2021 leading this year to inflation across the EU (10% Nov 2022) and even higher food price inflation (13.6%) added to a summer drought which saw a reduction of 27% in the EU maize production. Meanwhile the Green Deal Agenda sees several policy proposals under discussion many of which impact directly on the ability of farmers to produce food.

## POLITICAL PROGRESS ON THE GREEN DEAL

In 2023 the Commission will present a proposal on Animal Welfare which will also include a revision of the 2005 Protection of Animals during Transport regulation. A well timed visit by an IFA delegation led by President Cullinan to the European Parliament in Strasbourg in mid January provided additional support to the MEP Plenary vote on Live Animal Transport. Ireland seeks to achieve the high standards demanded of animal transport but any proposal much

recognise Ireland's geographic location and need to avoid the creation of animal welfare issues elsewhere in the food chain.

The Proposal for a Regulation for the Sustainable Use of Plant Protection Products was delayed this year due to the war in Ukraine and the Council have now proposed the completion of a Complementary Impact Assessment. IFA and COPA support the need for agronomic and scientific data to back up any proposed regulation. Elsewhere the Industrial Emission's Directive (IED) threatens the inclusion of family farming models under industrial scale refinery, chemical and mining operation restrictions. Thresholds for livestock numbers that threaten the European model of farming will not be accepted.

The proposal for a legislative Framework for Sustainable Farm Systems is due in Q4 2023 with the intention of accelerating the transition to sustainable farm systems. The question asked by



IFA President Tim Cullinan and IFA Treasurer Martin Stapleton pictured at the Eiffel Tower in Paris with President of COPA-COGECA and FNSEA Christiane Lambert, President World Farmers' Organisation Arnold Puesch d'Alissac, FNSEA Director of Economics & Sustainability Antoine Suau.

farmers is how willing consumers will be to pay the premium prices demanded by the reflection of more costly sustainability measures?

## TRADE

President Cullinan addressed the European Parliament Agriculture Committee on 8th December to provide an update on the impact on agriculture markets of the Trade and Cooperation Agreement with the UK. MEPs heard of the continued need to seek a negotiated and pragmatic outcome to elements within the Northern Ireland protocol and to preserve the longstanding integrated trade on the island of Ireland.

The victory of Lula in October's Brazilian Presidential election may herald renewed efforts to formally conclude the Mercosur Trade Agreement. There is a belief that greater positive public assertions for environmental protection will help overcome any lingering resistance in the European Parliament and the timing of the Spanish Presidency of the EU in the second half of 2023, may be when the final push comes.

## COPA

President Cullinan was reelected as COPA Vice President in the September elections and continues his work as Chair of the COPA Food Chain Working Party and as the COPA representative on Commission's Expert Group on the European Food Security Crisis Preparedness and Response Mechanism. The Food Security group was set up to address the issues arising from the COVID pandemic but the formation was accelerated by subsequent events in Ukraine. Among the most critical needs highlighted was the requirement of availability and fairer pricing of fertilisers. With the urging of the Agriculture Committee MEPs the Agriculture Commissioner provided a communication on Fertilisers in November. President Cullinan then addressed the media on behalf of COPA on a Belgian farm near Wavre to explain how the long term measures announced in the document did very little to address farmer needs

next spring. President Cullinan represented IFA and COPA at the COP27 climate talks in Egypt during November. Engagement with farmers and administrators from around the world highlighted the common challenges on climate faced by all.

## CAP 2023-2027

Ireland's CAP National Strategic Plan was approved on 31st August 2022 and this CAP programme begins on 1st January 2023. With a two year delay and the prospect of relevant EU law changes being incorporated into National Strategic Plans over the course of the coming years, farmers will be faced ongoing learning and adaption to new and more stringent regulation. For CAP post 2027, a Communication document is expected to be prepared by the Commission in the Autumn of 2023. Indications regarding the Multiannual Financial Framework(MFF) may not come until 2025.

## 2023

Will Agriculture operate in a more certain environment this time next year? Unlikely. We will have had 12 months of the new CAP period at that stage and on one hand there will be calls for leniency and flexibility in the implementation of the new regime and on the other hand reviews will be underway to assess the impact of new measures. Of course, one year is too short a time frame. At best, we will have a better understanding of the choices made, the operation of the programmes and amendments that may be needed to overcome unforeseen obstacles in implementation.

The political environment surrounding food production is changing and IFA continues to evolve to meet the new challenges. Next year will be the occasion of the IFA office's 50th year in Brussels. The workload clearly hasn't diminished even if many aspects of the role have changed significantly.

Liam MacHale  
Director of European Affairs



# National Committee Reports





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On the IFA Stand at Ploughing 2022 in Ratheniska, Co. Laois:

1. Minister for Foreign Affairs Simon Coveney TD engaging with farmers
2. IFA President Tim Cullinan with President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins and Mrs Sabrina Higgins
3. Taoiseach Leo Varadkar TD and Minister of State Martin Heydon TD and Colm Markey MEP with Barry Carey IFA Crime Prevention Executive
4. IFA President Tim Cullinan with Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald TD, Michelle O'Neill Vice President of Sinn Féin MLA, and Matt Carthy TD Sinn Féin Spokesperson on Agriculture

# Livestock

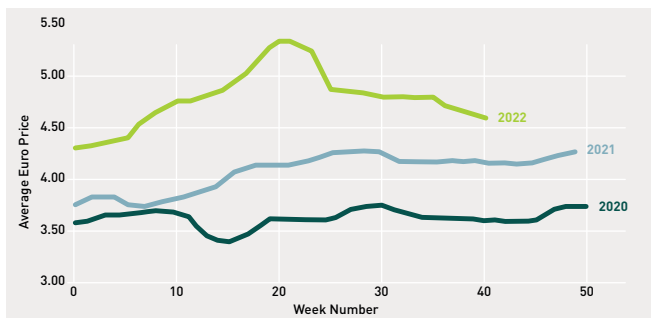


IFA President Tim Cullinan, IFA Deputy President Brian Rushe, IFA Regional Chair Francie Gorman and IFA Livestock Chair Brendan Golden meet with Minister for Agriculture, Food & the Marine Charlie McConalogue TD at the Tullamore National Livestock Show.

## CATTLE PRICES

Global and EU prices have remained strong in 2022, however high levels of inflation in some key export markets has resulted in some reduction in demand as consumer spending comes under pressure.

The Prime Irish composite price to-date this year increased by 18.6% on 2021 to €4.72/kg excl. vat. The Prime Export Benchmark price increased by 22.8% to €4.87/kg excl. vat.



To-date in 2022, the average price paid for R3 steers has been €4.78/kg which is 73c/kg higher than the same period in 2021. Steer prices are 18% higher than they were in 2021, and 31% above the corresponding week in 2021.

## SUPPLIES

Total cattle throughput has reached 1,514,214 up to week 42 of 2022. This is an 8.6% increase on 2021 figures. Steer production is up 6.5%, heifers increased by 6.03%, cows by 15.5% and young bulls by 6.32%. The overall increase in supplies to date of 120,428 which is the Bord Bia predicted increase in overall supplies for the year, pointing towards a tightening of supplies for the remainder of the year.

COUNTRY	PRIME IRISH COMPOSITE	PRIME EXPORT BENCHMARK
CURRENT WEEK	€4.53	€4.81
SAME WEEK LAST YEAR	€4.10	€4.19
% CHANGE PREVIOUS WEEK	▲ 0.0%	▼ -2.5%
% CHANGE PREVIOUS YEAR	▲ 10.5%	▲ 14.8%
AVERAGE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR	€3.98	€3.97
AVERAGE TO DATE CURRENT YEAR	€4.72	€4.87
% CHANGE AVERAGE TO DATE FROM LAST YEAR	▲ 18.6%	▲ 22.8%

## CUMULATIVE BEEF SUPPLY

	W/C 24/10/2022	W/C 25/10/2021	DIFFERENCE
YOUNG BULL	110,255	103,681	6,574
BULL	24,120	22,685	1,435
STEER	604,200	567,148	37,052
COW	328,672	284,443	44,229
HEIFER	417,348	393,613	23,735
VEAL - V	28,226	20,876	7,350
VEAL - Z	1,393	1,340	53
TOTAL	1,514,214	1,393,786	120,428

## LIVE EXPORTS

There was a total of 249,893 live cattle exported out of Ireland to week ending October 15th 2022, which represents an 11.7% increase from the same period in 2021. Exports have moved very strong in 2022 with total calve exports increasing 21% from the same period in 2021.

## IRISH LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS

CATEGORY	2021	2022	CHANGE - HEAD	%CH
WEANLINGS	14,868	21,510	6,642	44.7
STORES	28,994	29,247	253	0.9
CALVES	138,913	168,323	29,410	21.2
FINISHED	40,856	30,813	-10,043	-24.6
TOTAL	223,631	249,893	26,262	11.7

## INPUT CRISES

Inflation on energy prices is having a major effect on Irish suckler and beef farms. Based on the updated Teagasc Situation and Outlook report production costs for suckling and cattle finishing enterprises are forecasted to increase by 23% and 29% respectively in 2022 while the average gross margins on the single suckling enterprise is forecast to decrease by approximately 10%. Negative net margins per hectare of -€110 and -€20 is projected for both suckler and beef finishing enterprises in 2022 as market returns fail to keep pace with input cost increases.

IFA have sought financial supports for suckler and beef farmers to offset the increased costs for feed, fertiliser and fuel on farms based of their levels of production including targeted support for farmers investing in beef production for the remainder of the year and into 2023.



## SCHEMES

### BDGP

A funding allocation of €40m was provided for the BDGP scheme in 2022. 16,517 farmers applied to participate in the 2022 scheme.

### BEEP-S

A funding allocation of €40m was provided for the BEEP-S scheme in 2022. 27,649 farmers applied to participate in the 2022 scheme.

### Dairy Beef Calf Programme

Funding for the programme of €5m was provided in Budget 2023.

### Fodder support scheme

IFA secured a €56m silage support package providing farmers a €100/ha payment for all silage cut up to maximum 10ha. IFA successfully secured a rollover of the scheme for 2023 with an advance payment to be made in December 2022.

## FOOD VISION BEEF GROUP

IFA have participated in the Food Vision Beef Group throughout 2022. An update of the groups work has been sent to the Minister for Agriculture on 2nd November. The objective of the group is to have a final report towards the end of November.

IFA have put forward the following key points;

- The target for the sector should be to continue to produce beef from one of the most environmentally sustainable production systems in the world, based on our suckler herd.
- Our €2.5bn beef sector is built on the production standards and image of the world-class beef produced from our suckler cow farms.
- Suckler cow numbers are in serious decline and we are at a critical stage, with less than 50% of our beef animals now coming from suckler herds.
- Since 2018, there has been a significant reduction in suckler cow numbers, leading to a reduction of over 20% in suckler beef production.
- Suckler farming is an extremely vulnerable sector.
- Suckler and beef farmers will play our part on climate action. Measures that are practical to implement; have the potential to add value on our farms; and contribute to the climate objective will all be considered.
- The level of ambition for the sector will be determined by the level of Government and industry ambition to directly support farmers in the process.

## BUDGET 2023

€28m has been provided in the Budget for a suckler scheme to run alongside the SCEP in 2023. This brings total supports for the suckler sector for 2023 in line with total funding available in 2022. IFA sought the provision of €300/suckler cow payment and a minimum payment of €100 cattle rearing and finishing scheme. In addition, IFA sought financial supports for suckler and beef farmers to offset the increased costs for feed, fertiliser and fuel on farms based on their levels of production.

€30m Fodder Supports have been provided in the Budget for 2023 which will be paid out in December 2022.

## CAP

The key objectives for the CAP 2023-2027 for suckler and beef farmers were set out and raised directly with the Minister for Agriculture, all local TD's and senators and DAFM senior personnel. These included;

- €300/cow must be provided in targeted support to suckler farmers from 2023 onwards.
- The Minister must provide a rearing and finishing scheme for cattle farmers that will return €100/animal to support farmers in meeting the higher environmental production requirements.

### Suckler Carbon Efficiency Scheme

- The Minister has committed that all cows applied on in the new CAP Suckler Scheme will be paid at €150/cow for the first 10 and €120/cow for the remainder; this will require an increase in the €52m annual funding provided.

### Cattle Rearing and Finishing Scheme

- A scheme must be provided for farmers who rear and finish weanlings and stores with a minimum payment of €100/animal.

## PGI

The PGI application has progressed to the next stage of the process, i.e. publication by the Commission for the EU Member State/Third Country opposition procedure. It is now open to other Member States and third countries having a legitimate interest to make submissions on the application with the Commission within a three-month period.

## SUCKLER BRAND

The Brand proposition for suckler beef is advancing under the direction of the group with the target of a pilot launch in selected high-end markets in 2022.

## REPRESENTATION

The Livestock committee represented suckler and beef farmers on a number of outside bodies, state agencies and groups incl.

- Bord Bia
- ICBF
- FAWAC
- Beef Task Force
- Suckler Brand Oversight Group
- Farmer's Charter
- Calf Stakeholder Group
- WP on Breeding Animals
- WP on Beef and Veal
- The Meat Market Observatory
- EU Civil dialogue on Meat and Veal

## BOVINE PROJECT

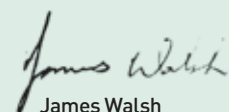
IFA is involved with Teagasc, farm organisations and research and advisory bodies across 10 EU member states in an EU funded Innovation network project focused on facilitating improved knowledge exchange and co-ordinated solutions on socio-economic resilience, animal health and welfare, production efficiency and quality and environmentally sustainability.



**Brendan Golden**  
Chair National Livestock



**Tomas Bourke**  
Senior Policy Executive



**James Walsh**  
Policy Executive

# Dairy



IFA President Tim Cullinan taking part in a panel discussion at Dublin Castle on *Food Vision 2030* and what's needed to support farmers in reaching its targets.

## MILK PRICE REVIEW

The global dairy market and the price of dairy commodities had a record year in 2022. This was mainly driven by a reduction in supply of dairy in most of the major global dairy producing regions. A combination of high prices of inputs, weather events and ever increasing stricter environmental regulations were the main drivers in the reduced supply. However, at the backend of the year production in the US has begun to increase on a year-on-year basis and this could have an effect on commodity prices going forward.

With tight supplies of vegetable oils partly driven by the war in Ukraine there are no readily available, cheaper alternatives to dairy fats, this means that record prices have held through the year. As the year closes there are reports of some downward pressure on prices but ultimately supply will probably dictate where the price for 2023 settles.

Compared to this time last year (16/10/21), EU commodity prices have risen sharply for butter, SMP and cheddar by, 56%, 28% and 47% respectively. The Ornu PPI also rose by 35% to its latest price for September 2022 of 56.0cpl excluding the value payment.

## INPUT COSTS

Like in all sectors the prices of inputs have skyrocketed in Dairy. Per the CSO agricultural inputs have risen 38.2% since this time last year (August 2022) with fertiliser seeing a rise of 127.8%, energy 40.8% and feed up 35.8%. It appears that these increases will remain into the foreseeable future and since August 2022 energy prices have seen further substantial rises. This means that despite the record output prices achieved for dairy in 2022 record input prices must be monitored. There is a fear that output prices may fall faster and sooner than input prices fall which may leave dairy farmers in a vulnerable position if such a scenario transpires.

## MILK PRICE ANALYSIS

Once more in April 2022 the Dairy Committee published the Milk Price Analysis. This work evaluated the income generated from a typical 500,000L herd with average solids across 11 milk processors from around the country. The results for 2020 and 2021 are outlined below. The IFA Dairy Committee intend to publish this analysis every year to give farmers a clear indication of how their milk processor is performing compared to others in the business.

### 2021

PROCESSOR	TOTAL REVENUE (€)	REVENUE/COW (€)
DRINAGH CO-OP	207,868	2336
LISAVAIRD CO-OP	207,075	2327
BANDON CO-OP	206,894	2325
BARRYROE CO-OP	204,252	2295
LAKELAND DAIRIES	203,777	2290
DAIRYGOLD	203,673	2288
AURIVO2	203,070	2282
KERRY	201,658	2266
ARRABAWN	201,284	2262
GLANBIA	201,268	2261
TIPPERARY CO-OP	200,661	2255
NORTH CORK CO-OP	200,482	2253

### 2020

PROCESSOR	TOTAL REVENUE (€)	REVENUE/COW (€)
DRINAGH CO-OP	185,987	2,090
LISAVAIRD CO-OP	185,400	2,083
BANDON CO-OP	185,202	2,081
BARRYROE CO-OP	182,651	2,052
KERRY	174,725	1,963
AURIVO	172,489	1,938
DAIRYGOLD	171,575	1,928
LAKELAND DAIRIES	171,344	1,925
ARRABAWN	170,073	1,911
TIPPERARY CO-OP	169,142	1,900
GLANBIA	169,091	1,900

In addition to the annual analysis, the monthly farmgate price at 3.3% Protein / 3.6% Butterfat is reported for several milk processors and is available to IFA members. Please contact your county dairy representative to gain access to this information. Also, the interactive milk price calculator is available on the IFA website and app. This easy-to-use application allows farmers to assess how much their milk is worth in each milk processor every month based on their own constituents and milk quality standards.

## FOOD VISION DAIRY GROUP

The Minister for Agriculture set up the Food Vision Dairy Group in Q1 2022. The remit of the group is to identify measures that the dairy sector can take to contribute to "initially stabilising and then reducing emissions" from the agricultural sector. IFA, along with other farm bodies and stakeholders in Irish dairy are part of this group and have met regularly throughout 2022. On October 19th a final report was published and is to be sent to the Minister for Agriculture. Withing this report is 19 measures, 6 direct impact measures which can be counted in the National Greenhouse Gas inventory and 13 enabling measures to help drive the uptake of the direct measures.

Throughout this process the Dairy Committee have met regularly and numerous detailed responses have been submitted for consideration to the Food Vision Dairy Group.

**A number of measures which the Dairy Committee identified as being harmful to Irish dairy farmers have been adjusted or removed from the final report, but at this stage (24/10/22) there remains a number of potentially very detrimental proposals, thus sign off on the report in its current guise cannot be given by the Dairy Committee.**

## FIXED MILK PRICE SCHEMES

A number of processors offer fixed milk price schemes to farmers, the idea behind these was to help farmers de-risk their business by fixing the price they receive for a portion of their milk into the future. In the period up to 2021 these schemes worked, but since then input prices have skyrocketed as outlined above, meaning that farmers in fixed milk found themselves in a situation whereby they were producing milk which was going into these fixed schemes at below the cost of production.

Since early 2022 the Dairy Committee have worked to find solutions to this situation. At this stage all processors have tried to alleviate this problem to some degree at farmer level with combinations of top ups, enhanced schemes and other supports being offered.

In a number of processors there is still issues for some farmers and the Dairy Committee continue to strive to find workable solutions for these farmers.



Karol Kissane  
Senior Policy Executive



Stephen Arthur  
Chair National Dairy Committee



# Liquid Milk



IFA delegation led by IFA President Tim Cullinan and IFA Deputy President Brian Rushe meeting with Tánaiste Leo Varadkar TD and Minister of State Martin Heydon TD on the challenges facing farmers.

## COST OF PRODUCING LIQUID MILK SPIRALS IN 2022

During 2022 the price of producing liquid/winter milk spiralled. As outlined below the price received for milk has increased during the year but the rapid rise in input costs is a serious challenge for the sector.

Per Teagasc research the difference in costs between winter and spring herds on a per cow basis was €281 for 2021 but this is projected to increase to €428 this year. On a per litre basis, it cost a liquid milk supplier 2.8 cent extra on every litre of milk produced over what it costs a spring calving herd. At an overall level the projected cost increases on winter milk farms in 2022 stands at €712 or 10.94 cent per litre compared to 2021. These costs show the precarious situation liquid milk suppliers find themselves in when compared to spring only herds. The need for a realistic premium to be paid to liquid milk producers is now more vital than ever if there is to be a vibrant liquid milk sector and the availability of fresh Irish milk on the shelves into the future.

## MILK PRICE INCREASES

For the first time since 2008 there have been increases in the price of fresh milk in Irish shops. The average retail price of 2 litres of milk in 2021 stood at €1.68 while today (29/10/22) this stands at €2.10. The Liquid Milk Committee through meetings and press

releases have highlighted the importance of the farmer receiving a fair price for their milk throughout the year. As outlined above liquid milk supplier costs have spiralled in 2022 and to retain suppliers in the sector needs to see those suppliers making a fair return.

## OFFICE OF FAIRNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

The establishment of the Office of Fairness and Transparency has been progressing throughout the year. The Liquid Milk Committee have had direct input into IFA's lobbying position on this and have attended numerous meetings on same. It is planned that the legislation to set up this Office will progress through the Dail in the next number of months. The UTP Enforcement Authority, headed up by Noel Collins in the Department of Agriculture (DAFM) has been tasked with enforcement of the Unfair Trading Practice Directive (UTP's) up until the time the new Office of Fairness and Transparency is established, the Liquid Milk Committee have also been involved in meetings with this Authority.

Karol Kissane  
Senior Policy Executive

Keith O'Boyle  
Chair National Liquid Milk Committee

# Sheep



IFA delegation led by Sheep Chair Kevin Comiskey meeting with Minister for Rural and Community Development Heather Humphreys TD on the urgency around legislating for strong measures that are needed to curb dog attacks.

## PRICES

Average reported Lamb prices to date in 2022 are €6.91/kg up €0.32c/kg on the 2021 average price for the first 41 weeks of the year. Overall trade in 2022 has been positive but higher production costs are eroding these margins in comparison to the previous 12 months.

## SUPPLIES

Total throughput to week 42 is 2,345,649 head which represents a 6% increase when compared to the same period in 2021. Spring lamb throughput is running 7% behind the same period last year. Strong hogget throughput seen in spring 2022 is accountable for the larger overall throughput which increased 29% in comparison to the same period last year.

CATEGORY	WEEK 42							
	2021		2020		DIFFERENCE		% DIFFERENCES 2022 VS 2021	
	WEEKLY	CUMULATIVE	WEEKLY	CUMULATIVE	WEEKLY	CUMULATIVE	WEEKLY	CUMULATIVE
LAMBS/HOGGETS	551	902,186	114	697,640	437	204,546	383%	29%
SPRING LAMBS	48,952	1,132,200	50,124	1,214,624	-1,172	82,424	-2%	-7%
EWES AND RAMS	11,285	311,126	8,666	290,395	2,619	20,731	30%	7%
LIGHT LAMBS	-	137	-	121	-	16	-	13%
TOTAL	60,788	2,345,649	58,904	2,202,780	1,884	142,869	3%	6%

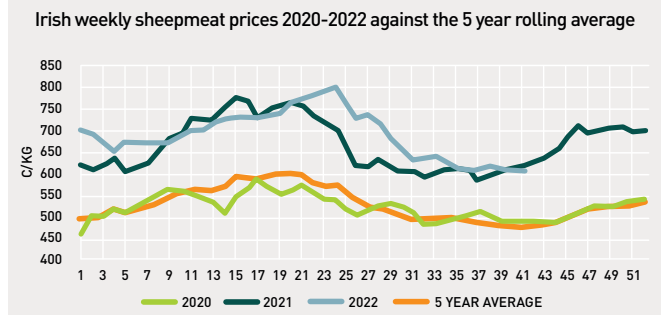
## INPUT CRISIS

Margins made from sheep production are forecasted to decline in 2022 from the record levels achieved in 2021. Higher lamb and sheep prices in 2022 will not be sufficient to cover the substantial increase in average production costs, with these costs expected to increase by 33% in total costs for the year. Average gross margin per hectare in 2022 is forecast to decline by over 11%, to just over €800 per hectare. Net margin from midseason lamb production is forecast to decline to about €60 per hectare, the lowest net margin per hectare for this enterprise in a number of years based on the updated Teagasc Situation and Outlook Report.

IFA has written to Minister of Agriculture Charlie McConalogue seeking immediate direct financial support for sheep farmers. IFA is seeking a direct payment for sheep farmers to offset the increased costs for feed, fertiliser and fuel on farms based of their levels of production. IFA sought an emergency catch/fodder crop incentive to maximise the volume of fodder produced in 2022 and help underpin the store lamb trade.

## FODDER SUPPORT SCHEME

IFA secured a €56m silage support package providing farmers a €100/ha payment for all silage cut up to maximin 10ha.



€30m Fodder Supports have been provided in the Budget for 2023 which will be paid out in December 2022.

## NO DOGS ALLOWED

IFA 'No Dogs Allowed' campaign was re-launched on February 8th 2022 on the anniversary of the campaign commencing in 2021. Minister McConalogue and Minister Humphreys have committed to strengthen dog ownership legislation following intense lobbying by committee members.

## CAP

### Sheep Improvement Scheme

IFA met DAFM officials and raised specific issues regarding the new SIS proposed terms and conditions that require amending. The scheme will deliver €12/ewe, IFA have sought funding allocations to deliver €30/ewe to all participant farmers in the scheme.

### Early-stage support for Producer Organisations

IFA ensured all existing lamb producer groups are eligible for this support. IFA convened a meeting of sheep producer groups with DAFM to discuss the proposed supports.

## Wool

IFA has called for the immediate convening of the Sheep wool industry group to advance the process of adding value to Irish wool following its recommendation through the wool feasibility study. IFA have sought the inclusion of shearing as an action in the sheep improvement scheme to address the collapse in the wool markets.

### Electronic Transfer of Funds (ETF)

IFA met with MII and called for all meat processors to offer Electronic Transfer of Funds (ETF) as a payment method to sheep farmers.

### Quality Assurance

IFA continue to engage with Bord Bia, MII and meat processors for an increased QA bonus for lamb of 30c/kg.

### Representation

The Sheep committee represented sheep farmers on a number of outside bodies, state agencies and groups incl.

- Bord Bia
- Sheep Ireland
- Copa-COGECA WP on Sheep
- EU Civil dialogue on Sheep

Kevin Comiskey  
Chair Sheep Committee

Tomas Bourke  
Senior Policy Executive

James Walsh  
Policy Executive



# Pigs & Pig Meat



Protest at Government Buildings seeking support for the pig sector.

2022 sees record pig prices of €2.10/kg offset unfortunately by soaring feed and energy prices leaving farmers still on the wrong side of breakeven. The welcome government and EU aid of up to €120k paid to successful applicants helped pay some bills but Irish pig producers are now entering their 15th consecutive month of losses. The invasion of Ukraine by Russia in February exacerbated an already difficult financial situation that had arisen as a result of African Swine Fever, Covid 19 and Brexit in 2021. Feed costs have jumped to €1.70c/kg and non-feed costs, including energy, to 60c/kg, the pig now costing €2.30/kg to produce. Composite pig feed has risen from €301 in December 2019 to €476 in Dec 2022 (forecast by Teagasc), a rise of 58% with energy prices escalating 300% on the back of Russia restricting gas exports to the EU.

At the height this price cost squeeze in Q1 of this year, the average family farm of 600 sows was losing €60,000 per month according to Teagasc. Today the same family farms are still incurring losses but at a reduced level of €10,000 per month, this reduction is in part due to the IFA's continued engagement with processors and retailers. Teagasc estimate that approximately 12,000 sows have been removed from Irish pig farms this year.

## CHINA

The Chinese pig price collapsed leading to a glut of Pigs on the European market. European exports to China are back by 57% for the first 7 months of this year when compared to the same period last year. The live quotation for pigs in China is stronger in the second half of the year with quotes of 28.54RMB (€5.00/kg), today's price is 26.67RMB or €4.81/kg. The Chinese government have reportedly released reserves of pigmeat over the last number of months to slow the rise of pig prices.

## AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

ASF in Germany remains with 3 cases reported and this has precluded their ability to sell pig meat to China. This year other Member States have had 460 outbreaks of ASF in domestic pig herds.

## BREXIT

The effect of Brexit on the labour availability in the northern Irish slaughtering plants was particularly evident in Q3 and Q4 last year. COVID-19 heightened labour shortages and some pig farmers had serious difficulty getting pigs slaughtered. Q1 of this year, Farmers found themselves in a terrible position and endured very poor producer prices causing Irish exports of primal pigmeat to the UK to reduce by 50% post Brexit.

## PIG COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

### Government Aid and Pig Price Increases

The IFA Pigs Committee engaged extensively with The Minister for Agriculture, Charlie McConalogue, and DAFM, retailers, processors and secondary processors to highlight the plight of the Irish Pig Sector and the financial turmoil that farmers continue to endure. The Committee, led by Chairman Roy Gallie held campaigns at both at Government and retail level focusing on the domestic market. This resulted in industrial action in an effort to have round table meetings to secure a lift in the pig price paid to farmers. These efforts secured government aid of up to €120,000 for successful applicants and has helped the Irish Pig Price to move from the mid €1.42c/kg to €2.10/kg, our current average price per kilo.

### Continuous Engagement

IFA has also engaged with AHL, the EPA, Bord Bia, the Pig Roundtable and DAFM throughout 2022 on a range of issues including the pig financial crisis, animal health & welfare, AMR, green house gas emissions, pigmeat promotions and the reduction of imported pig meat entering the country.

### DNA Programme

The farmer led DNA testing programme launched in Q4 2021 of the catering, hospitality, public procurement and independent butchers has guided the DNA testing strategy for 2022. We endeavour to work with these sectors to ensure that more BBQA Irish pigmeat is available to customers to purchase. The increase in consumption of Irish pigmeat will in turn support Irish pig farmers.

Roy Gallie  
IFA Pig Committee Chair

Sarah Hanley  
IFA Policy Executive

# Grain



IFA Grain Chair Kieran McEvoy and IFA Policy Executive Max Potterton at a COPA-COGECA Grain Working Party meeting in Brussels.

## ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

In February 2022, the IFA National Grain Committee elected Kieran McEvoy from Co. Laois as its new chairman. John Murphy from Co. Wexford was elected vice chairperson in May.

## HARVEST 2022

The national tillage area increased by 6% in 2022 according to statistics from DAFM. Within this increase, the cereal area rose by 4.7%, partially due to the introduction of the Tillage Incentive Scheme, which IFA had lobbied for in late February 2022 following the outbreak of war in Ukraine. Overall, the harvest was memorable for growers with satisfactory to very good yields, historically high grain prices and extremely favourable harvest weather conditions. Final estimates for the total quantity of grain produced in 2022 are expected to be in the region of 2.5 million tonnes, the highest native production figure since 2015.

## MALTING BARLEY

2022 was a very positive year for malting barley growers, with good to very good yields and low rejection levels. The now established pricing model, negotiated by IFA in 2019, takes a weekly price from the FOB Creil market over a period of 24 weeks and this year returned a record-breaking final average price of €398.38/t at 20% moisture. This model has also increased the final harvest price for other malting barley suppliers.

The IFA malting barley committee were in regular dialogue and negotiation with Boortmalt over the following:

- Green forward price offers of €250/t and €270/t in November 2021 and January 2022 respectively.
- Introduction of a new hectolitre weight bonus with €0.50c per point paid above 63kg/hl.

- Following the exceptionally dry harvest conditions in August, the Malting Barley Committee recommenced discussions with Boortmalt which resulted in the scrapping of the €12.50/t drying charge which had been introduced in late July.

## SUBMISSIONS

The IFA grain Committee made the following contributions to the IFA Pre – Budget Submission document.

- A rollover of the Tillage Incentive Scheme fund, with a half rate payment of €200/ha for eligible land remaining in tillage in 2022/23.
- The Straw Incorporation Measure should be topped up by €5 million from National Exchequer funds to bring the total available funding to €15 million for this scheme.

## NITRATES ACTION PLAN

Grain Committee representatives met with officials from the Nitrates Division in DAFM to discuss the problems caused by mandatory stubble cultivation for tillage farmers. The Committee highlighted the following issues. As a result of the meetings, the following exemptions were added to the amended legislation published at the end of July 2022.

- Provision for agrometeorological criteria such as soil moisture deficits to be considered when determining whether soil conditions are appropriate for shallow cultivations.
- Exemptions on the cultivation of oilseed rape stubble
- Exemptions on the cultivation of fields with certain problematic grass weed species.

**Kieran McEvoy**  
Chair IFA Grain Committee

**Max Potterton**  
Grain Policy Executive



# Farm Business



IFA Rural Development Chair Michael Biggins, IFA President Tim Cullinan, IFA Farm Business Chair Rose Mary McDonagh and IFA Senior Policy Executive Shane Whelan at the launch of IFA's Budget 2023 Submission to Government outside Dáil Éireann.

## BUDGET 2023

IFA pre-budget lobbying information session (Sept 14th) in Buswell's Hotel was well attended by Government Ministers, TD's and senators. Pre-budget lobbying was also conducted at a local level by IFA officers. Some key taxation measures delivered in Budget 2023 following consultation with Depts. of Agriculture and Finance include:

- Partnership stock relief & Young Farmer stock relief extended
- Young Trained Farmers stamp duty relief; Farm restructuring relief & Farm consolidation relief extended.
- No change in Inheritance Tax ceilings; Capital Gains Tax arrangement, rates or rules.
- Accelerated Capital Allowance Scheme for construction of slurry storage facilities.

## FARM INPUTS

The Committee undertook several initiatives throughout 2022 to create awareness of the on-farm challenges and input cost crisis, including regular engagement with Government and need for targeted measures (some delivered and renewed in Budget 2023). A webinar for members was held in January; meetings held with industry stakeholders; briefing documents re Russia/Ukraine conflict prepared; and numerous press releases issued.

## FINANCE PROVIDERS

The Committee maintained regular contact throughout the year with AIB, BOI, UB; PTSB; SBCI; Cultivate - prioritising issues relating to reduced competition, service provision, access to and the cost of credit. IFA were to the fore in challenging AIB's decision to withdraw 70 branches/cash services. We maintained regular contact with UB to minimise customer impact on their exit, including meeting with the Central Bank on key issues of concern.

## PROPERTY REGISTRATION AUTHORITY OF IRELAND

IFA continued to engage with the PRAI through its Customer Focus Group.

## IRISH BANKING CULTURE BOARD (IBCB) AND CREDIT REVIEW OFFICE

IFA have a representative on the IBCB and Credit Review Office. IFA supported IBCB farmer Banking Sentiment survey; participating also in Roundtable discussions with IBCB and Pillar Banks to identify possible solutions to the very stark and negative survey results to emerge.

## IFA DEBT SUPPORT SERVICE

IFA members in financial difficulty can avail of advice or support when negotiating with creditors. Currently, the IFA DSS is involved in a number of active cases dealing with banks, vulture funds and merchant debt.

### Submissions made to:

- Commission of Taxation & Welfare seeking retention of existing taxation measures; supports for Farm Succession and Climate Action; Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) exemption.
- Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Marine (DAFM) on State-Aid revisions.
- Dept. of Public Expenditure & Reform (DPER) and DAFM seeking targeted interventions and financial supports from the Brexit Adjustment Reserve. Engagement ongoing.
- Copa-Cogeca re Industrial Emissions Directive, challenging 'agro-industrial' correlation; reducing existing thresholds; aggregation rule and 'guilty until proven innocent' proposals amongst others.
- Irish Retail Banking Review, emphasising reduced competition & service provision; access to and the cost of credit; and,
- Dept. of Finance seeking roll-over of existing taxation relief's; sector schemes (with added funding); and innovative measures to existing schemes – spanning Input Cost Crisis; Brexit and Climate Action.

*Rose Mary McDonagh*

Rose Mary McDonagh  
Chair Farm Business Committee

*Shane Whelan*

Shane Whelan  
Senior Policy Executive Farm Business

# Potato



IFA Potato Chair Sean Ryan with members of the Potato Development Group and Minister of State, Senator Pippa Hackett at the launch of the Potato Chipping Project in August.

The planting season was timely this year with a good window early in Spring to get seed into the ground in optimal conditions. The growing season was mixed regionally, drought conditions and sustained periods with above average temperatures led to reduced yields. Early harvest was impeded by very high dry matter levels as a result of late drought. The knock-on effect of drought conditions led to late maturation of crops and delayed harvest in regions. High rainfall in October led to very poor harvest conditions. At the time of print (3rd of November 2022) it is likely that up to 20% of crops could have to be over-wintered due to saturated fields.

In terms of markets, it has been a very mixed year for growers as a result of changing consumption trends following Covid restrictions. Retail sales in the first half of the year were quite sluggish and consumers shifted away from bigger pack sizes which reduced sale volumes. Trade picked up again in the back-end of the year as the rising cost of living saw consumers revert to staple products.

Increased input costs, especially storage costs, are very worrying for growers. IFA continues to arrange meetings with all retailers and merchants to ensure that farmers receive a sustainable margin and to discuss irrational quality parameters.

## SEED POTATO

Following extensive lobbying and meetings with the Minister for Agriculture, the Scheme of Investment Aid of the Seed Potato Sector opened in June this year. Funding was allocated from the Brexit Adjustment reserve and the scheme will re-open again in 2023. The scheme is intended to assist in the development of the seed potato sector, by grant aiding capital investments in specialised plant and equipment including renewable energy, as well as technology adoption specific to the potato sector.

## PLANTED ACREAGE 2022

The area of planted maincrop reduced by 5% on 2021 acreage to 7593ha. There was a small decrease in early varieties planted. Yields to date are reported to be reduced on 2021 figures, official yield dig figures will be released shortly.

## EU POTATO PROMOTION

The third year of the 2nd EU funded potato promotions campaign is now nearing completion. To recap, the overall budget for the campaign is €1.95M and is 80% EU funded. Over 90% of millennials, who are the target audience for the promotion were reached through social media and online interaction. IFA is corresponding with all potato growers in order to collect the proportion of the campaign funding required from the producers.

## MARKET PRICE REPORTING

Price information is collected weekly and sent to growers via text message and published on [www.ifa.ie](http://www.ifa.ie). This information is also published in the Farmers Journal, along with information in relation to stocks and market trends.

## NATIONAL POTATO DAY (NPD) 2022

IFA was actively involved in another very successful NPD held in October which was co-ordinated by Bord Bia.

## FRESH CHIP POTATO PROJECT

IFA, Bord Bia and Teagasc have been co-operating over the past four years on a key market opportunities project, for chipping potatoes, on both the market and technical front. National Potato Day 2022 focused on Irish chipping potatoes to raise awareness around the origin of chipping potatoes.

## PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS

IFA led a successful lobbying campaign to attain an emergency approval of Diquat for the 2022 harvesting season. The non-renewal of Diquat is causing grave concern for growers and IFA will continue to work on emergency approval for 2023 and the approval of alternative active ingredients.

*Sean Ryan*

Sean Ryan  
Chair Potato Committee

*Niamh Brennan*

Niamh Brennan  
Senior Potato & Horticulture Policy Executive



# Environment & Rural Affairs



IFA Environment & Rural Affairs Chair Paul O'Brien address COPA-COGECA Environment Working Group in Brussels.

## CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

In July 2022, the Government agreed the Sectoral Emissions Ceilings for each sector of the economy, with a target for agriculture to reduce emissions by 25% by 2030. This means that agriculture is legally required to reduce emissions from 23 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO<sub>2</sub>eq) to 17.25 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>eq by 2030, this represents a 5.75 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>eq reduction.

IFA led a major national and regional campaign in advance of the announcement lobbying Ministers, TDs, and Senators to seek a reduction from the proposed 30% emission reduction target. During campaign, the need to set a realistic target was stressed in order to protect the viability of the family farm. Agriculture's unique position to offset emissions through carbon sequestration, storage and on farm renewables was also highlighted.

IFA continues to engage with Government and stakeholders to update the Climate Action Plan and provide a pathway for agriculture to achieve the emissions reduction target that minimises the impact on farmer's livelihoods and ensures adequate funding is made available to support farmers to implement climate action measures.

## NITRATES ACTION PROGRAMME 2022 TO 2025

The Nitrates Action Programme 2022 to 2025, which was published in March 2022 has implications for farmers across all sectors. On the back of several submissions and numerous meetings IFA secured significant changes to the programme and extensions to the introduction of measures to allow farmers time to implement. An interim review in 2023 will assess of the effectiveness of measures and new measures to improve water quality may then be introduced.

In April, Ireland was granted an extension to the nitrates derogation allowing farmers to farm at a higher stocking rate of 250 kilograms organic manure nitrogen per hectare subject to specific conditions. The derogation runs to the end of 2025 with an assessment of water quality data as part of the interim review. A conditionality attached to the derogation is that maximum stocking rate may reduce to 220 kilograms organic manure nitrogen per hectare from 2024 depending on this review.

IFA are in regular contact with the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine with regards to issues pertaining to new programme.

## WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY

The EPA published the Water Quality in Ireland 2016 – 2021 report, which shows that 54% of surface waters are in good or better ecological status. The data shows that the Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advisory Programme (ASSAP), which works with farmers in Priority Action Areas (PAAs) is delivering higher improvements to water quality than seen nationally demonstrating that targeted actions work.

IFA made a submission on the draft River Basin Management Plan that highlighted the investment made by farmers to protect and improve water quality, and the need for time to accurately evaluate the effectiveness of these measures on water quality. IFA supported the approach of the right measure in the right place which is shown in the EPA Water Quality report to be an effective mitigation strategy for nutrient losses to water.

A submission was made to the Joint Committee on Housing, Local Government & Heritage on Issues surrounding Water Quality and Supply including concerns regarding the Water Environment (Abstractions) Bill and called for the inclusion of the development of national compensation claims protocols to resolve concerns regarding property losses and/or disruptions to farms where abstractions are imposed.

IFA met with Commission for Regulation of Utilities (CRU) on the non-domestic water tariff, specifically on costs associated with

multiple connection charges on fragmented holdings. IFA is seeking a fairer tariff system for farmers with non-domestic water charges rather than on a per connection basis.

## CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY ON BIODIVERSITY LOSS

IFA made a submission and presented to the Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss in October 2022 highlighting the need to recognise farmers as custodians of the environment, the "boots on the ground" to maintain and enhance biodiversity, the investment and positives changes in recent year and the fact that farmland is a significant reservoir of biodiversity, on average 12-14% of farms provide space for nature.

## EU NATURE RESTORATION LAW

In June 2022, the European Commission proposed a new regulation on Member States to develop a national restoration plan to identify restoration measures, which will cover at least 20% of the EU's land and sea area by 2030 and all ecosystems in need of restoration by 2050.

IFA presented to the Joint Oireachtas Committee for Agriculture, Food and Marine in October on the impacts and restrictions that will be placed on farmland under the proposed regulation. IFA is seeking a full impact assessment at EU and National level to understand the area that will be affected and the economic and social impact of proposed restoration.

## SMART FARMING

The Smart Farming programme is currently undergoing a review of participants that took part in the programme between 2017-2021. This reflective assessment aims to support the future direction of the programme and ensure it is tailored to the needs of farmers. In addition, new guidance notes have been developed on Agri-Technology, Feed and Inputs.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

Negotiations for a revised IFA/TII Roads Agreement have recommenced and discussions regarding farmer agreements with ESB and Eirgrid are ongoing. Services continue to be provided by IFA for farmers involved in infrastructure negotiations and agreements with various stakeholders including TII, ESB, Eirgrid, telecoms and private developers.

## RENEWABLES

There have been considerable improvements in 2022 to remove some barriers to the adoption of renewables on farms, particularly solar. In October, regulations came into effect providing planning exemption for rooftop solar, while under TAMS solar panels will be eligible for 60% grant rate, a standalone investment ceiling of €90,000 and farm dwellings are now eligible. In multiple submissions IFA highlighted to need to remove additional barriers particularly in relation to grid connections and the opportunity to sell excess energy to the grid.

In a statement to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action on Anaerobic Digestion (AD) in July the need to develop a National Biomethane Strategy with associated support to give farmers the confidence to invest and support the wide scale deployment of AD production to meet the biomethane targets set out in the Climate Action Plan.

Paul O'Brien  
Chair Environment & Rural Affairs Committee

Geraldine O'Sullivan  
Senior Environment & Rural Affairs Executive

Edel McEvoy  
Policy Executive



# Poultry



IFA Poultry Committee members led poultry producers in a series of protests outside retailers, Aldi and Lidl, seeking price increases.

## MARKET REPORT

2022 has been the year of record input cost increases for producers, but equally right along the food chain, costs have escalated and continue to do so. The additional costs assorted with all the challenges that Brexit and Covid-19 placed on the sector, from the farmers yard right through to deliver to central distribution depots were further exacerbated this year by the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

The unprecedented increase in commodity grain and energy costs has resulted in a squeeze on margins that has not yet been fully recouped through the food chain. However, the Irish Poultry Committee have been actively campaigning to achieve justified cost recovery needed for chicken and egg producers. The committee have been in ongoing engagements with the retailers in particular to ensure price increases were delivered back to farmers urgently. Chicken producers have received circa 70% of the required 15c per chicken while egg producers have got commitment for their first increase over and above feed in almost 25 years. Packers have covered feed increases but the invisible cost increases are causing the most prob-blems (replacement birds, electricity, labour etc). The committee have worked tirelessly to achieve this and have had to engage in industrial action on a number of occasions with retailers.

Irish BBQA chicken is sold mainly in the domestic retail market with mainly brown meat exported. BBQA eggs similarly are sold on the domestic retail market with some used in food service and liquid egg. Our producers of BBQA chicken and eggs rely on the domestic market for their income and survivability.

In December 2021 a Bord Bia quality assured 2kg whole chicken retailed at €4.50 c/kg. Today the same chicken retails between €5.50 and €6.00/kg, yet farmers have not been able to secure their full ask of a mere 15c per chicken. Half a dozen of free-range large eggs retailed at €1.89 in September 2022 and now retails at €2.25. Irish family farms desperately require a larger slice of the price of the retail product. Thankfully we have made steps in the right direction to achieve this but have more to do.

## TEAGASC POULTRY DIVISION

IFA have worked closely with Rebecca Tierney, the Teagasc National Poultry Advisor in organising events for producers over the last number of months namely; Broiler farming in the next decade, and Energy and Biosecurity Considerations for the Poultry Industry. We look forward to working with Rebecca into the future.

## AVIAN INFLUENZA

Highly Pathogenic Avian Flu has appeared earlier this year in the wild bird population along the coast and in two small back yard coastal flocks and unfortunately, we have just had our first case confirmed case inland in a dead swan in Cavan. As a precautionary measure The Minister for Agriculture Food and the Marine Charlie McConalogue introduced the housing order for all captive birds from the 7th of November. It is paramount that strict biosecurity measures are implemented on all farms, and for processors & egg packers alike.

Nigel Sweetnam  
Chair Poultry Committee

Sarah Hanley  
Pigs & Poultry Policy Executive

# Aquaculture



Teresa Morrissey, IFA Aquaculture Executive, Michael Mulloy, IFA Aquaculture Chair, Trish Daly, BIM and Rory Campbell, BIM at the IFA Aquaculture Conference in Westport, April 2022

## BREXIT SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE GROWTH SCHEME

The final report of the Seafood Taskforce which was published in October 2021, resulted in the European Commission approving a €20 million scheme to support the Irish Aquaculture sector affected by the withdrawal of the UK from the EU.

The Brexit Sustainable Aquaculture Growth Scheme is now open to aquaculture producers for the purchase and installation new equipment and construction of new premises, with the aim of increasing the production, enhancing the quality of the Irish Aquaculture products.

The measure is financed under the Brexit Adjustment Reserve fund, established to mitigate the economic and social impact of Brexit, as recommended by Seafood Taskforce last year. The scheme will take the form of direct grants, covering up to 50% of the actual investment costs and will run until 31 December 2023.

## NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN FOR SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE

The draft National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development 2030 was published in September 2022 and was subject to public consultation – IFA Aquaculture made a comprehensive submission on the document. The overall direction of the objectives and key actions of the proposed strategy are to be welcomed. However, there is a critical need for commitment from Government to ensure the economic potential and sustainable future of the Irish Aquaculture industry is realised. Prioritising immediate action to implement a functioning aquaculture licensing system must be a key priority for any future development of the

Irish Aquaculture industry, including appropriate legislative changes required to facilitate this. The full implementation of the 'Aquaculture Licensing Review 2017' must be prioritised and actioned to allow for effective implementation of the actions proposed in the draft National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development 2030.

A delegation from IFA Aquaculture also addressed the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food & the Marine during a hearing on *The Challenges facing the Aquaculture Industry* in September, - highlighting the critical need for commitment from Government to ensure the economic potential and sustainable future of the Irish Aquaculture industry is realised.

## IFA AQUACULTURE AGM TO TAKE PLACE IN FEB 2023

IFA Aquaculture will host its annual conference and AGM at the Kilmurry Lodge Hotel, Limerick on Thursday 23rd February 2023. The event will take place on the eve of the Irish Skipper Expo taking place at the UL Sport Arena on Friday 24th and Saturday 25th February 2023.

A full agenda for the day will be issued in advance of the event but will include an update on the next EMFAF programme, the National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture, along with a brief on relevant issues relating to the sustainable development of Irish Aquaculture.

Details on registration for the event and information regarding the AGM for IFA Aquaculture members will also be issued in advance of the event.

Michael Mulloy  
Chair IFA Aquaculture

Teresa Morrissey  
Senior Policy Executive Aquaculture



# Hill Farming



IFA Hill Farming Chair Cáillín Conneely hosts members of the Hill Farming Committee on his farm in Connemara, Co Galway in September

## COMHAIRLE NA TUAITHE

Throughout 2022, IFA continued to participate in the National Outdoor Recreation Strategy which is currently being developed by Comhairle na Tuaithe in conjunction with the Department of Rural and Community Development. It is anticipated that the Strategy will be launched by Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys by end of year.

As part of an extension secured by IFA in Budget 2022, The Walks Scheme was expanded to 80 trails following the addition of 31 new trails in 2021.

There are currently 52 trails on the Walks Scheme, with 4 trails coming on in the next few months and 24 more approved, with workplans currently being developed. IFA insist that the previous commitment set out to extend the Walks Scheme to 80 walks must be delivered without further delay.

IFA made a submission regarding the proposed Outdoor Event Guidelines being drafted by Comhairle na Tuaithe. The guidelines are planned to be for use of by any individual, community group or event organiser that is involved in the planning and implementation of outdoor activity events across the island of Ireland. IFA insist that permission for access needs to be granted by the landowner in all instances where an event is scheduled to take place across private land

## BURNING

IFA Hill Committee continue to lobby the Minister for Heritage and Electoral Reform Malcom Noonan to allow the managed burning of gorse is allowed to take place in March. IFA has raised concerns with the Department that farmers whose land was burned in the spring of 2021 and 2022 should not be penalised. This burning was in most cases not caused by farmers and without proof, no farmer should have a penalty imposed on them. IFA has been working successfully with farmers on a number of reviews and appeals over the last year.

## CAP

The Hill committee is involved in CAP discussions within IFA. Direct payments account for a significant portion of farm income in hill area. The Hill Committee were actively involved in discussions surrounding the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES), with a particular focus on the co-operation approach of the scheme.

## EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS (EIP'S) / LOCALLY LED SCHEMES

EIPs have a total budget of €66 million, with over 3,000 farmers participating. At the end of 2021, Four EIP groups were awarded an extension to carry on with their project work until the end of 2022. 8 projects are due to be completed at the end of 2022, with the remaining due to finish at the end of 2023. The largest schemes are the Hen Harrier and Pearl Mussel Project areas, where up to 2,000 farmers benefit to the tune of €5m per year.

In Budget 2023, €18m has been allocated to locally-led projects, which will fund a large-scale water quality scheme on farms, as well as a new call for new EIPs in Q1 2023 on biodiversity, climate, rural environment, and farm safety.

IFA continues to participate in the EIP Advisory Committee.

## SAC'S

IFA again insisted that there must be no new designations. Payment rates need to reflect the restrictions imposed on farmers due to the designation.

IFA Hill Committee continues to participate in the Designated Areas Monitoring Committee. As part of the DAMC, IFA met with Minister of State Malcolm Noonan in April. IFA reiterated the need for meaningful consultation with farmers on the problems of designated land and adequate compensation delivered to farmers whose income and property values are affected by designations.

The NPWS Farm Plan Scheme opened for new applications in February, with 112 plans receiving approval to have schemes designed. IFA insists that the scheme should also be reopened to include all farmers who are farming on land which is designated.

€147 million was allocated in Budget 2023 to conserve and manage Ireland's heritage. An expanded NPWS Farm Plan programme is included, covering bog restoration and conservation of protected peatlands.

IFA also participates in the Peatland Council to ensure farmers who have turf-cutting restrictions are properly compensated.

*Cáillín Conneely*

Cáillín Conneely  
Chair National Hill Farming Committee

*Rachel Moloney*

Rachel Moloney  
Policy Executive

# Oireachtas



IFA President Tim Cullinan, IFA Animal Health Chair T J Maher, IFA North Tipperary Chair Baden Powell and Liam Coffey North Tipperary IFA lobbying Chair of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine Jackie Cahill TD on IFA's Budget 2023 Submission to Government – September 2022

## LOBBYING

IFA continued to advance the position of farmers by communicating issues to Oireachtas members/relevant Government Departments.

- Building relationships with the Government, Taoiseach and Government advisers.
- Engaging with all political parties in advance of Government formation, seeking to influence and progress key issues for farmers in the Programme for Government
- Devising/executing IFA's political operation at national/constituency/county level
- Briefing front bench spokespersons in Opposition parties
- Organisation/preparation of IFA presentations to Oireachtas Committees

### Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015 – IFA Compliance

Since 2015, IFA is a registered lobbyist and has published 2,237 lobbying returns. In a calendar year, IFA publishes lobbying activities on three different periods, which sees us at the very top of the lobbying register in terms of activity.

#### Lobbying Campaigns in 2022 included:

- Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) 2023 - 2027 - Strategic Plan
- Climate Action - Sectoral Emissions Ceiling for Agriculture Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021 / Climate Action Plan
- Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR)
- Food Vision 2030 - Dairy & Beef Sub-Groups
- Nitrates Action Plan Review
- Northern Ireland Protocol
- Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT).
- The Importance of Peat to the Horticulture Sector
- Budget 2023
- Farm input price crisis
- CAP 2023 - 2027 'Forgotten Farmers'
- Work Permits for Non-EU Nationals
- Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Schemes (TAMS) for the Equine Sector
- Citizens Assembly on Biodiversity Loss
- Financial Supports for Farms impacted by TB restrictions
- Forestry Licensing Crisis
- Commission on Taxation and Social Welfare
- Live Exports
- EU Directive on Unfair Trading Practices (UTPs) transposition / National Food Ombudsman / Enforcement Authority
- Rewetting of Peatlands
- Mental Health - 'Let's Talk and Walk' Campaign
- Veterinary Medicines
- Competition in the EU Fertiliser Market

### IFA made presentations to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food & the Marine on:

- Eradication of Bovine TB (two hearings)
- The Challenges facing the Pig Industry
- Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the Agricultural and Food Supply Chain Bill 2022.
- The Challenges facing the Aquaculture Industry
- Pre-Legislative Scrutiny on Veterinary Medicinal Products, Medicated Feed and Fertilisers Regulation Bill 2022
- Nature Restoration Targets
- Farm Schemes

### IFA made a presentation to the Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight to examine the Commission on Taxation and Welfare Report

#### IFA made the following Submissions:

- to the public consultation on the Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 – 2027
- to the Public Consultation on Carbon Budgets
- to the Commission on Taxation & Welfare
- to the Minister for Agriculture on a Proposal for establishment of Pig Stability Fund
- on the allocation of funds from the Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) to support Irish farmers in mitigating the adverse impact of Brexit
- to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine on pre-legislative Scrutiny of the Agricultural and Food Supply Chain Bill 2022.
- to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine on Solar Energy and the Agricultural Industry
- to Government on Budget 2023
- on Residential Zoned Land Tax
- to the Joint Oireachtas on Housing, Local Government and Heritage on Issues surrounding Water Quality and Supply
- to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine on Veterinary Medicinal Products, Medicated Feed and Fertilisers Regulation Bill 2022
- to the Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss
- on Finance Bill 2022

Elaine Farrell

Director of Governance and Oireachtas Engagement



# Rural Development



IFA Rural Development Chair Michael Biggins and IFA President Tim Cullinan heading to meet with Minister for Agriculture Charlie McConalogue TD on issues with the ACRES Scheme.

## COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY (CAP)

The Committee took up many issues regarding all schemes under Pillar I and Pillar II, addressing many technical issues in the course of the year. Ireland's draft CAP Strategic Plan 2023 – 2027 was submitted by DAFM to Commission on Dec 31st 2021. In March, DAFM received the European Commission's Observations letter in respect of Ireland's draft CSP. The Rural Development Committee participated in the preparation of IFA's submissions on the observations outlined. The CSP 2023-2027 was adopted by the European Commission in August and received final approval from the Irish Government in October. IFA continued to participate in the CAP Consultative Committee throughout 2022.

Throughout the year, the committee has participated in the EU Civil Dialogue meetings in Brussels, informing CAP reform discussions. The Committee has also engaged with COPA and the EU commission on various aspects of CAP as well as ongoing communication with the Department of Agriculture.

## BASIC PAYMENT SCHEME (BPS)

70% advance payments under BPS commenced on 17th October. The balancing 30% of BPS is expected to be issued on the 1st December. IFA insists that uncompleted inspection cases do not result in payment delays and that they be cleared for payment

## AREAS OF NATURAL CONSTRAINT (ANC)

The ANC scheme is a vital support to up to 100,000 farmers farming land in designated disadvantaged areas, and is worth €250 million per annum in essential farm income support with up to 77% of Ireland now designated ANC.

IFA campaigned to increase the allocation for the scheme to €300m per annum in the 2023 budget.

Following IFA lobbying, Farmers who had applied for ANC in previous years, but failed to tick the ANC box on their 2022 application, were contacted by DAFM before submission deadline. DAFM farmers/ agents on the issue, giving them the opportunity to go back and amend their application.

An 85% advance payment was issued to farmers in mid-September. The balancing payment of 15% will be made in early December.

## GREEN, LOW-CARBON, AGRI-ENVIRONMENT SCHEME (GLAS)

48,000 farmers are in the GLAS Scheme worth over €200m per annum. As part of the EU CAP Transitional Rules, farmers participating in GLAS 1, 2 and 3 were offered the option to extend their contracts into 2022. All GLAS contracts will finish at the end of 2022. The scheme will be replaced by the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES) under the next CAP. Advance payments of 85% are expected to be made in mid-November, in line with Charter guidelines.

## AGRI-CLIMATE RURAL ENVIRONMENT SCHEME (ACRES)

The Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES) is the new flagship agri-environmental scheme under CAP 2023-2027. The scheme is worth €1.5bn, and will replace GLAS. The scheme will have two approaches; ACRES Co-Operation, which will be carried out in 8 high geographical areas outlined by the Department and ACRES general to be carried out on areas outside of the eight identified zones. Maximum payments are expected to be €10,500 for co-operation area participants, and €7,300 for those in the general area. 30,000 places have been made available in tranche 1 of the scheme as outlined in Budget 2023.

IFA have engaged with the Department of Agriculture on multiple occasions throughout the year to iron out finer details of scheme, achieving key changes under measure such as extensively grazed pasture and flexibility surrounding the €7,000 ringfenced for results-based actions in the co-operation zone. These changes ensure that farmers have ample opportunity to achieve a higher payment. IFA continue to push for a payment for farmers who are not successful in tranche 1 of the scheme. IFA insist that no farmer should be left without an agri-environmental payment in 2023.

## TARGETED AGRICULTURAL MODERNISATION SCHEMES (TAMS)

52,216\* farmers had applied for TAMS and received approval to proceed with work.

31,800\* farmers who have completed work have payment applications submitted and 30,827\* farmers have received payment worth €380m\* to date

An increased allocation of €90m has been secured for the scheme in the Budget 2023, including specific supports for solar energy installation.

Following intense lobbying by the IFA, a review of the reference costings for grant-aided work under TAMS was carried out by the Department of Agriculture in late 2021. The review was implemented from the opening of Tranche 26. The increase in reference costings range from 5% to 15% across the investment's items listed under TAMS.

IFA made a submission on additional investment items to be included under the new TAMS, including underpasses, heat detection monitors and slat mats. IFA insisted that any item previously funded under TAMS should remain on the list and that additional items be included.

TAMS Tranche 28 opened on 24th September and will close on 16th December 2022. This will be the final tranche under the current TAMS. TAMS successor is scheduled to commence in early 2023 as outlined in Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027.

## LOCALLY LED AGRI-ENVIRONMENT SCHEMES/ EUROPEAN INNOVATION PROJECTS (EIP'S)

The Locally Led agri-environment schemes in the Hen Harrier areas, Pearl Mussel, and other EIP's were available in 2022. Up to 2,000 farmers participate in the larger Hen Harrier and Pearl Mussel areas, with over 600 participants across other Stream B projects. There are currently 18 other EIP's in operation across the country, with 13 of those implementing farmer payments as part of their projects. All project participants have been paid for the 2021 habitat season. Payments for 2022 are currently in progress. IFA insists that the maximum amount of funding goes to farmers.

## RDP 2014 – 2022

The Committee is represented on the 2014-2022 Rural Development Programme monitoring committee. The RDP Budget increased by €1.5bn to include 2021 and 2022. IFA has an ongoing objective that the RDP revised budget would be fully spent or committed by the end of the programme.

## CHARTER OF RIGHTS


The Farmers Charter of Rights continued for 2022. The committee is comprised of representatives of farm organisations and DAFM staff. The Rural Development Committee has insisted that the Charter of Rights commitments are upheld, and that all schemes are delivered on time. Major schemes, such as BPS and ANC, were paid on time this year. The committee continues to highlight the importance of all farmers being paid in the year to which the scheme applies. The Charter of Rights will continue on for 2023, with IFA insisting that negotiations for a new Charter, taking into account the new schemes under CAP 2023-2027, to commence as soon as possible.

## LEADER PROGRAMME

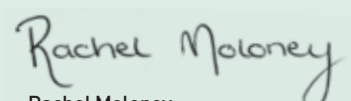
IFA is involved in the Leader structure through the LCDCs at local level.

€250 million has been made available for LEADER for the period 2021 to 2027. This is comprised of €70 million for the transitional period 2021 to 2022 which came into effect on 1 April 2021 and an additional €180 million from 2023 to 2027.

\* Figures correct as of October 2022



Michael Biggins  
Chair Rural Development Committee



Rachel Moloney  
Policy Executive



# Fresh Milk Producers



National Community Engagement Day in April on Dan O'Loughlin's Farm in Monasterevin. Garda Inspector Jim Molloy Kildare, Chief Superintendent John Scanlon Laois, Offaly and Kildare Division, Brian Rushe, IFA Deputy President, Minister of State Department of Justice James Browne TD, Assistant Garda Commissioner Paula Hilman, Conor O'Leary Muintir Na Tire.

John Wynne was elected to a two-year term as chair of FMP at the AGM in February, succeeding Wille Lennon. Willie had successfully chaired FMP through the restrictions imposed by Covid-19 and while a lot of work was carried out on behalf of FMP members, Willie took the chair in February 2020 at an in person meeting in the Farm Centre, and didn't get to take the chair in person again until the end of his chairmanship in February 2022.

With the lifting of restrictions in 2022, FMP Central Executive meetings moved to a hybrid of alternative in-person and online meetings which has proved successful to date. Speakers at meetings included Thomas Ryan, Glanbia sustainability manager, Shane Whelan, IFA Economist, Keith O'Boyle, IFA National Liquid milk chair, Karol Kissane IFA Executive and Zoe Kavanagh, CEO of the NDC, who all presented at FMP Central Executive meetings throughout the year. FMP held a well-attended on from event in June on the farm of FMP suppliers Conor & Mark McGrane, Walterstown, Navan Co Meath. Teagasc Winter Milk specialist, James Dunne facilitated an excellent debate on the economics of liquid milk production, which in 2022, more than ever before is being evaluated by FMP members given the challenges of rising input costs over the past 12 months.

The FMP management committee held an in-person meeting in Kiltashee hotel in October to assist in forming the policy direction for the FMP Negotiation team over the coming months, with particular emphasis on tackling the issue the liquid milk working band.

The 2022 Negotiation Team was led by chair John Wynne and Patrick Tuite from North Co Dublin was elected to the position of vice chair. John Roche from Hackettstown, Co Carlow was elected on to the Negotiation Team and joins Patrick Tuite, Vice Chairman John Wynne and Willie Lennon to represent FMP liquid milk suppliers. A number of negotiation meetings were held with Glanbia, later Tirlán following a rebranded of the now 100% farmer owed Co-op.

FMP Milk Quality Awards, were held in December 2021 at a virtual online meeting. This award is presented to the FMP member who records the best overall score across all milk quality tests for quality liquid milk, over the previous 12 months. Gordon Foster, Enfield Co Meath was successful for a second year in succession and was presented with the trophy for winning the FMP Liquid Milk Quality Award.

*John Wynne*

John Wynne  
Chair Fresh Milk Producers

*Robert Malone*

Robert Malone  
Executive Secretary Fresh Milk Producers

# Horticulture



IFA Potato Chair Sean Ryan, IFA President Tim Cullinan, Jim Power Economist, Matt Foley tomato producer and James McGrane IFA Dublin County Chair at the launch of the IFA commissioned report by Jim Power *Retail Price Compression Threatens the Viability of Irish Horticulture* on Matt Foley's farm, Rush, Co. Dublin in March.

Without doubt, 2021 was a very challenging year for Irish horticultural growers. Soaring input costs, labour challenges, growing media availability and market challenges from the fall out of the pandemic left growers in crisis mode at the beginning of the season. Growers could not commit to planting crops without achieving some price rises. In February, IFA held an emergency grower meeting in Newbridge, over 100 growers attended the meeting and the IFA President was mandated to undertake any action necessary to support growers. Some price rises were achieved as a result.

In March, IFA launched a commissioned report by economist Jim Power (*Retail Price Compression Threatens the Viability of the Irish Horticultural Sector*). The analysis contained in the report shows very clearly the intense pressure on primary producers of food in general, but horticultural produce in particular. Retail price compression has forced many producers out of business and many more will be forced out of business if the imbalance in pricing power in the supply chain is not addressed.

In July, Minister Hackett launched a report on the Opportunities for the Irish Horticulture Sector. Both European and Government policy all point towards the expansion of the Irish horticultural sector, however; unless high level issues are addressed it is likely that some growers will exit the business or substantially scale down in 2023. Notwithstanding the issues in the sector, there is huge potential for the sector to expand given the current trends in eating habits; the need for on-farm diversification; and the emphasis on local, sustainable production.

The Committee continues to engage with retailers to convey the precarious situation in relation to soaring input costs and the availability of labour. As we approach 2023, IFA will be demanding that growers receive sustainable prices which recognise the ever-high standards of Irish food production. Now that the budget for the Office of Transparency and Fairness is established, IFA will be demanding that it be established without further delay.

## LABOUR AND WORK PERMITS

Both the cost and availability of labour remain to the fore in horticulture businesses. IFA made further submissions and continued to lobby for the introduction of a seasonal work permit scheme.

## HORTICULTURE EXCEPTIONAL PAYMENT SCHEME

IFA compiled a submission in the spring for compensation for growers due to extremely high input costs. The provision of the Horticulture Exceptional Payment Scheme (HEPS) was positive; however, the exclusion of soft fruit growers was unacceptable. IFA lobbied extensively for the inclusion of soft fruit growers in the HEPS, especially those with product under heated glass.

## SCHEME OF INVESTMENT AID FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMERCIAL HORTICULTURE SECTOR

IFA successfully lobbied budget for the Horticultural Investment Scheme to be increased to €10 million. The scheme is essential for the continued development and competitiveness of the Irish horticulture sector.

## IMPORTANCE OF PEAT TO THE IRISH HORTICULTURE SECTOR

IFA will continue to lobby for peat for the domestic Irish market until alternatives are available.

## NURSERY STOCK

A successful online trolley fair was held in February 2022. The Green Cities promotion (which is 80% funded by the EU) continued this year and the Committee is actively involved in the roll out of the successful initiative.

## MUSHROOMS SECTOR

IFA continued to lobby for the mushroom sector to be fully compensated for any losses arising from Brexit under Brexit Adjustment Reserve funding.

Niamh Brennan  
Policy Executive Potato & Horticulture



# Forestry



IFA Deputy President Brian Rushe with Secretary General Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine Brendan Gleeson at the IFA 67th AGM in the Mansion House, January 2022.

## NEW FORESTRY PROGRAMME 2023 TO 2027

A budget of over €1.3 billion was secured in the new Forestry Programme, which was announced in November 2022. Premiums for planting trees are to be increased by between 46% and 66% and extended to 20 years for farmers. The forest premium payment rates offer farmers the potential to earn up to €1,142 per hectare payments for 20 years depending on the forest type planted. The programme also offers farmers greater diversity with several new forest type categories added including forests for water and continuous cover forestry. The increase in premium payments and the extension to the 20 years had been sought by IFA to enhance the financial proposition of forestry for farmers. The increase in premium rates is a positive development however barriers to planting remain which need to be addressed.

## PROJECT WOODLAND - REGULATORY REVIEW REPORT

In June, the external and independent review of Ireland's forestry regulations undertaken by solicitors Philip Lee was published. The report looked at the forestry regulatory system in Ireland, and explored whether improvements could be made to the licensing system, while working within the parameters of Irish and EU environmental law. IFA was disappointed with the lack of vision in the report and the failure of the recommendations to reform the licencing system, particularly with regards thinning licences. The recommendation to introduce procedures to ensure that forest road applications are considered in parallel with any associated applications for afforestation or thinning licence

## FORESTRY LICENSING PLAN 2022

In February, the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine published a Forestry Licensing Plan which set a target to issue 5,250 new forestry licences in 2022. As of October, licencing output year to date was 3,629 licences, 92% of the target set in the plan. In addition, progress has been made in reducing the backlog with the licences in the system over 120 days reducing from 3,700 at the beginning of 2022 to 1,683 as of October 2022.

As a result of pressure from IFA and recommendations from Project Woodland Independent Regulatory Review for Afforestation, Roads & Felling was carried out and published in June 2022. The review was unable to identify a solution and is currently being evaluated.

## SHARED NATIONAL VISION AND NEW FOREST STRATEGY

In April 2022, IFA made a submission to the consultation on Working Towards Ireland's Shared Vision for Forestry and a New Forest Strategy. The submission highlighted that farmers are critical decision makers in any land use policy change and therefore will drive the afforestation programme. Twelve key strategic priorities were highlighted including, the need for a new regulatory system that supports planting and managing forests at farm level, that farmers property rights must be respected, effective and proportionate incentives for planting and management were needed, removal of restrictions on planting productive land types, relaxation of replanting obligation and proper supports for farmers affected by ash dieback. IFA will be making a submission to the draft Forest Strategy and Forest Strategy Implementation Plan that is currently open for public consultation.

## ASH DIEBACK

IFA continues to lobby for an improved Ash Dieback Reconstitution Scheme that re-instates forest premiums on woodlands devastated by the disease and in some way compensates farmers for the income foregone. In addition, IFA is seeking the introduction of a scheme to support farmers and landowners to manage ash trees that have been infected by ash dieback in hedgerows along public roads. The health and safety concerns and risk to farmers in the management of trees infected by ash dieback in hedgerows along the public road network has been a major concern during 2022.

## TIMBER MARKET

IFA publishes quarterly timber market prices reports with prices sourced from forest owners, forestry companies and sawmills. The Russian invasion of Ukraine and other market disruptions have created extreme volatility in the global timber market over the past year with a significant drop in prices reported in the most recent survey. During 2022 the prices for timber, and sawlog in particular, reduced significantly with average prices for sawlog decreasing by 20%. The outlook for 2023 is difficult to predict however it is expected that the ongoing war in Ukraine, and continued sanctions, will reduce the supply of timber globally which could in a rise in prices.

Jason Fleming  
Chair Farm Forestry Committee

Geraldine O'Sullivan  
Senior Policy Executive Forestry

Edel McEvoy  
Policy Executive Forestry

# Rules, Privileges and Procedures

## FUNCTION OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee's function under the rules is 'to advise Council for Council to decide' on all matters concerning the Constitution and Rules of IFA, and on all matters of voluntary organisational procedure and discipline at all levels within IFA.

On a day-to-day basis, this work involves upholding and applying the rules of IFA, while at all times respecting the rights of members and the authority of Council.

The IFA rules designate the National Treasurer/Returning Officer as Chairman of the National Rules Committee and also give him responsibility for all IFA elections and election procedures.

The Committee welcomed 3 new members, one from South Leinster Caroline Farrell, one from Ulster/North Leinster Region Brendan McLaughlin and one National Council Representative Jim O Connor. To join Billy Cotter, Kevin Kiersey and James Gallagher.

## REVIEW OF 2022

### Disciplinary Committee formation

Following Rule Breaches and a breach of the Code of Conduct by a National Council Member in 2021, the Committee received advice from the IFA Audit Committee along with Legal Counsel. The Audit Committee advised on a need for a structure to deal with disciplinary issues in the future as the existing IFA Rules were unsatisfactory in this regard. After much consideration the Rules Committee formulated a proposal to National Council to set up a Disciplinary Committee structure to deal with Rule breaches by its members in the future. This Disciplinary Committee was ratified by National Council in September 2022. This Disciplinary Committee will consist of 5 members in total: 2 members from the Rules Committee, 1 past member of the Rules Committee, an ordinary member of the Audit Committee who shall automatically be the Chair of the Disciplinary Committee and the Secretary of the Rules Committee. Only the Present and past members have voting powers. The Disciplinary Committee formation will enable IFA to deal efficiently with any future Disciplinary matters.

### Kerry Complaint

In July 2022, a complaint was received from the Kerry Co. Chairman regarding 3 County Kerry Commodity Representatives, this complaint was considered by the Rules Committee and the Committee appointed an Independent Reviewer to review all facts and report back to the Rules Committee in September. The Rules Committee considered the report and invited the Complainers to meet with the Committee to present their submissions.

After meeting with both sides of the complaint and reviewing the independent report the Rules Committee presented a recommendation to suspend Michael O' Dowd from holding any voluntary offer position for 4 years with a right to appeal after 2 years. The Committee agreed to cease the investigation regarding John J FitzGerald as he has cancelled his IFA membership and the Rules Committee has parked the investigation of Francis Foley on medical grounds.

National Council in October ratified the Rules Committee recommendation to suspend Mr Michael O' Dowd from holding any voluntary offer position for 4 years.

## IMPLICATIONS OF COVID-19 FOR IFA OPERATIONS

Responding to the public health restrictions on meetings, the Committee devised solutions and made recommendations to Council to ensure that IFA could continue to operate legitimately at all levels, as follows:

### Elections by National Committees by Postal Ballot

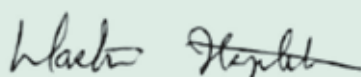
The Rules Committee oversaw National Commodity Chair Elections similar to previous years following a recommendation of postal voting by the relevant National Committee members. There were 8 National Commodity Chair positions voted in and commenced their role at the National Council AGM in January 2022. Since October 2022 this temporary Covid measure has now expired and all voting has returned to the traditional in person formats.

### Branch meetings

The Rules Committee recommended that Branch AGM's resumed in 2022 as normal in person and advocated for these to be held through the summer months, and were held and returned by the end of November.

### Commodity Committee Elections

All Commodity Committee positions were up for election prior to the end of 2022 and Nominations were received through the Branch AGM's with elections of County Commodity Representatives to be voted in at the County Executive meetings.



**Martin Stapleton**  
Chair National Rules Committee National Treasurer/Returning Officer



**John Mulhall**  
Secretary Rules Committee



# Animal Health

## TB STATISTICS

### National Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication Programme Disease Trends to end Q3 2022



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine

#### Herds Restricted

**4,324**  
(03 Oct 2021 – 02 Oct 2022)

**4,484**  
(04 Oct 2020 – 03 Oct 2021)

#### Reactors

**21,183**  
(03 Oct 2021 – 02 Oct 2022)

**21,470**  
(04 Oct 2020 – 03 Oct 2021)

#### Herd Incidence

**4.22%**  
03 Oct 2021

**4.12%**  
02 Oct 2022

#### 5-year herd Incidence

2021 - **4.33%**    2020 - **4.38%**    2019 - **3.72%**

2018 - **3.51%**    2017 - **3.47%**

### EU REQUIRED 30 DAY PRE/POST MOVEMENT TB TEST

The EU Animal Health Law requires a pre/post movement TB test on all animals that are over 6 months tested and moving from herds that are over 6 months since last tested. IFA rejected this due to the impact it would have on trade.

Through the TB Implementation Group, a compromise has been reached and the requirement will only apply to all cows and males over 36 months of age. This reduces the number of animals requiring a test to approximately 170k based on DAFM figures from over 2.6m animals traded each year. Over 60% of TB reactors are cows and so this measure focuses on the highest risk TB group. The implementation of this requirement has been deferred until February 2023.

The substantive issue to be resolved is payment for this test. IFA do not accept any farmer liability to pay for this regulatory required test.

### WILDLIFE

IFA have called for a doubling of resources in the Wildlife Control Programme and more effective implementation of the programme on the ground. While progress has been made in this area over the last 2 years, DAFM must build on their efforts and an effective wildlife programme must be in operation in every county. DAFM have proposed to invest an additional €3m in programme funding which will include the provision of an additional 26 FRS operatives.

### DEER MANAGEMENT

The Deer Management Strategy Group has been re-established and a chairman has been announced. IFA have called for the group to commence work immediately to address the levels of deer encroaching on farmland, spreading disease, causing damage and creating danger on rural roads.

### PURCHASE IN FACILITATION

A new policy in relation to movements into the herd came into effect in 2021 which allows restricted herds to purchase animals in subject to completion of a risk mitigation plan. It is proposed that these animals will be eligible for live valuation should they go down with TB during the outbreak and that the herd will retain income supplement entitlement.

### INCOME SUPPLEMENT & DEPOPULATION GRANT

IFA have sought an increase in these rates to reflect the actual levels of income loss associated with a breakdown. DAFM proposals for higher rates for these schemes are under active discussion.

### HARDSHIP GRANT

IFA have sought significant changes to the hardship grant scheme to offset the difficulty caused by the TB restriction. This includes higher rates and the removal of the off-farm income impediment to eligibility. DAFM proposals for increased rates are under active discussion.

### FUNDING MODEL

DAFM have proposed the increased payments to farmers in the Income Supplement, Depopulation Grant Scheme and the Hardship Grant are funded retrospectively through increases in the Disease Levies.

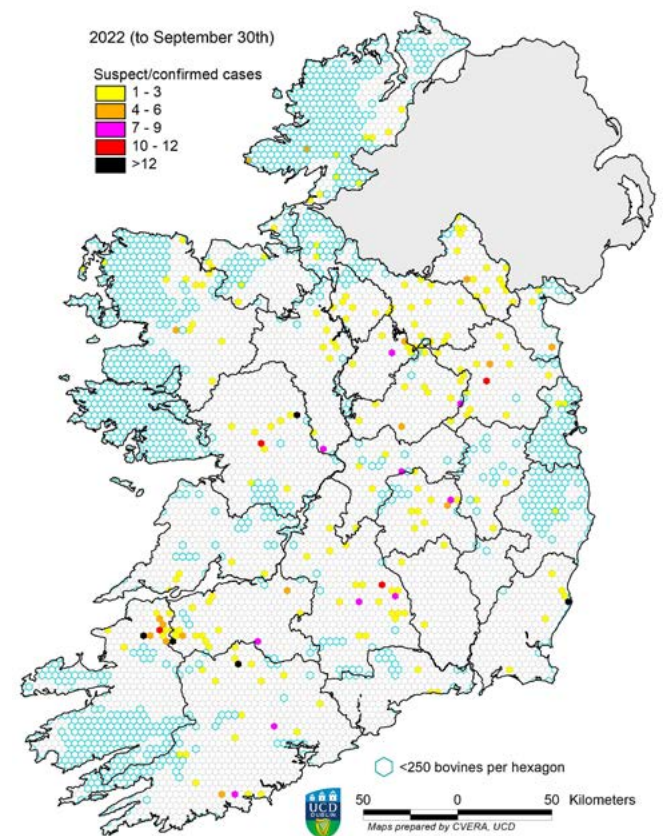
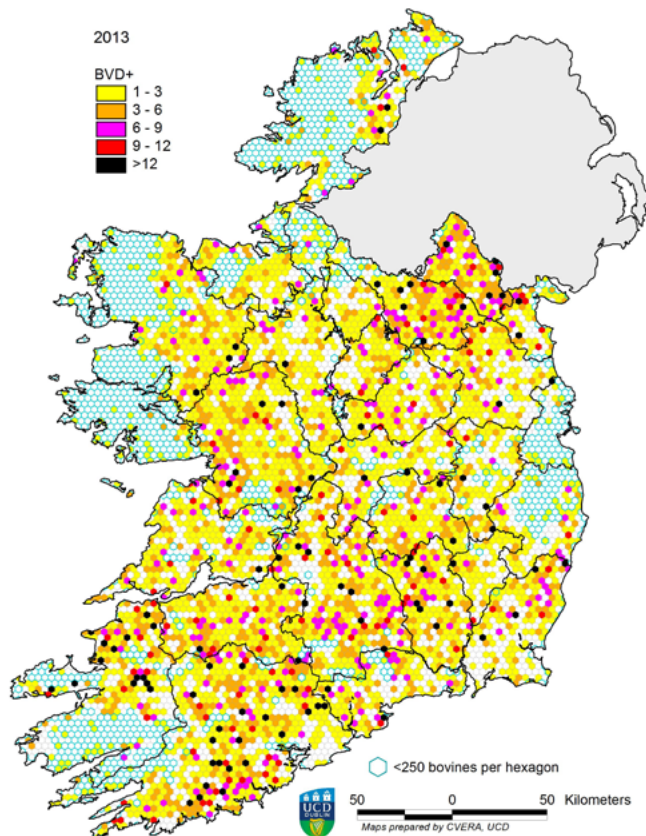
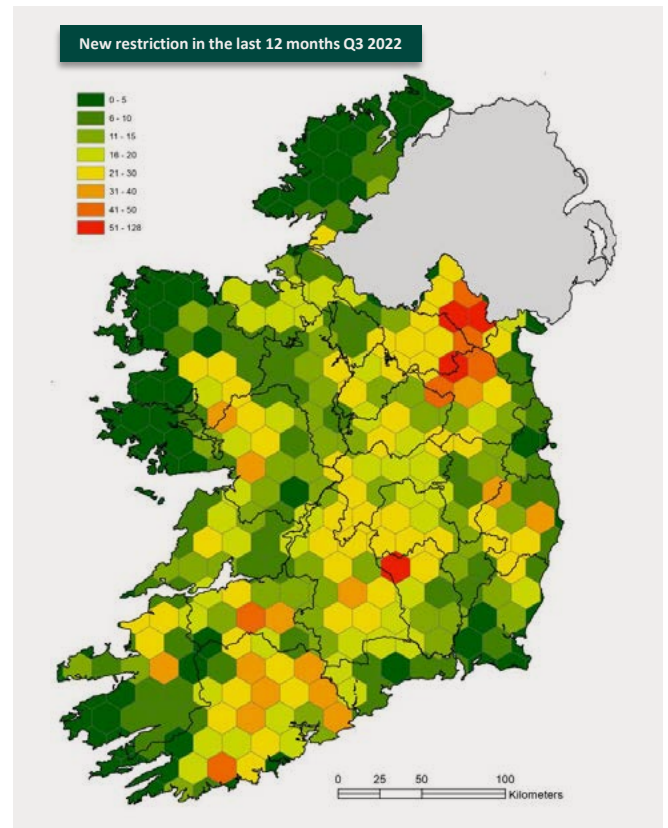
IFA are prepared to develop this proposal provided DAFM pay for the 30 day Pre/post movement TB test requirement and provide the funding and resources proposed for the wildlife control programme.

### NEW EU VETERINARY MEDICINES BILL

Since 2015, IFA have identified and continue to highlight the key areas of concern with the regulations as categorisation, supply routes, the prescribing process and access to antibiotics.

Following direct engagement by IFA, DAFM have adjusted their interpretation of the regulation to allow vets to prescribe a limited amount of antibiotics that will likely be required in advance of diagnosis of a condition to be held on farm.

As a result of the concerns raised by IFA in relation to the competitive supply of antiparasitic products, implementation of





# Animal Health Continued

the prescribing requirement for these products has been deferred until December 2022. Discussions are on-going to ensure Licensed Merchants and Veterinary Pharmacies remain actively involved in the sale and supply of antiparasitic products.

## NATIONAL VETERINARY PRESCRIBING SYSTEM

IFA have raised data concerns with DAFM in relation to the NVPS. Specific concerns relate to the level and type of data that will be stored relating to each individual farm and the accessibility of that data by DAFM and others. This system is not sufficient to address the issues with competitive supply of antiparasitic products.

## PARASITE CONTROL TASAH

IFA have recognised the introduction of the Parasite Control TASAH by AHI as starting point but IFA have called for the programme to be expanded to reward farmers for taking part.

## BVD

The programme identified 16,192 PI's in 8,935 herds in 2013. The 2022 figures to the end of October show that 619 PI's were identified in 269 herds.

IFA support the objective of attaining recognised BVD Free Status for Ireland, recognising the benefits and the direct investment of over €100m made by farmers to date in the programme. IFA have set out our key policy position that DAFM must fund the BVD programme from 2023 onwards. Once freedom is achieved, the testing and surveillance required to prove ongoing freedom must be paid for by DAFM, the testing approach that will be implemented must provide a high level of early case detection to protect the status achieved by farmers and where cases are found, farmers must be supported in full for the cost and impact of the controls.

## JOHNES

IFA are actively involved in the JDIG. The key objective for the group is to encourage farmer participation in the programme.

## IBR

IFA are members of the AHI IBR implementation Group.

## VAT ON VACCINES

The IFA Animal Health Committee have campaigned for the VAT rate on non-oral vaccines to be reduced to 0% for a number of years.

The DAFM objective to provide this from 2025 is the first time a target date has been set.

## FALLEN ANIMAL COLLECTION SCHEME

IFA have called on DAFM to have a full review of the Fallen Animal Collection Scheme. In its current format, the scheme protects the interests of rendering plants and licensed knackeries at the

expense of farmers. IFA policy outlines the two key issues that must be addressed by the review as guaranteed collection of all animals and competitive collection fees.

CATEGORY	AGE	MAX COLLECTION FEE
BOVINE	+48 months	€54.03
	24-48 months	€100
	12-24 months	€80
	6-12 months	€50
	3-6 months	€35
	0-3 months	€30
SHEEP		€30

## COMPULSORY BOVINE EID TAGGING

It became compulsory to EID tag all calves from July 2022. IFA rejected the imposition of cost on farmers and as a result, the Minister Charlie McConalogue TD announced a €4.25m subvention scheme which will operate over 3 years (2022-2024) with the first payments scheduled to take place in Q4 2022. Payment rates are calculated at €1 per EID tag set with a maximum payment of €100 per farmer over the course of the scheme. No application is necessary. IFA are also seeking financial support for farmers who choose to purchase an EID reader.

## REPRESENTATION

The Animal Health Committee represented bovine farmers on a number of outside bodies, state agencies and groups incl.

- TB Forum
- TB Implementation Group
- TB Finance Working Group
- TB Technical Working Group
- TB Communications Group
- BVD IG
- Johne's Disease IG
- IBR IG
- Interdepartmental INAP Stakeholder Group (AMR)
- INAP Animal Health Committee
- Antiparasitic Stakeholder Group
- Early Warning system
- Copa-Cogeca WP on Animal Health & Welfare
- Copa-Cogeca WP on Veterinary Questions & Animal Welfare

TJ Maher  
Chair Animal Health Committee

Anna Daly  
Policy Executive Animal Health

Tómas Bourke  
Senior Policy Executive Animal Health

# Farm Family and Social Affairs

## FARM SAFETY

2022 marked the tenth annual Farm Safety Week, a collaborative campaign, initiated by the Farm Safety Foundation in the UK and led by the IFA within Ireland that brings together farming organisations from Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England on farm safety. As part of the week regional farm safety events were held, a video featuring farm accident survivor Albert Evans was produced, a farm safety leaflet was published in partnership with FBD featuring statistics on farm fatalities and a dedicated Farm Safety Hub developed on the website.

IFA is a partner organisation in the Farm Family Continuous Professional Development (CPD), a European Innovation Partnerships (EIP) Project which will provide online farm safety training for all age groups in farm families.

IFA collaborated with Agri Aware and AgriKids on the Farm Safe Schools programme which aims to engage, educate, and empower children to become farm safety ambassadors. St. Joseph's NS, Killenummery, Co Leitrim was the Farm Safe Schools National Champion in 2022.

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

IFA ran several campaigns in relation to farmer health during 2022 these included:

- Twelve walks were organised in partnership with See Change, Coillte and Mental Health Ireland throughout the country for the Green Ribbon campaign to reduce mental health associated stigma.
- A leaflet Dealing with Stress was published in partnership with the Department of Agriculture Food and Marine, to support farmers to reduce stress and signpost them to health services.
- An advert and press release with Irish Cancer Society for Men's Health week to raise awareness of prostate cancer.
- A press release and promotion of the HSE SunSmart campaign to reduce risks of skin cancer.

IFA held a webinar on Farmer Health and Wellbeing in November on preventative measures to improve farmers physical and mental health.

## FAIR DEAL SCHEME

In March 2022, IFA partnered with the HSE for an online webinar on the Fair Deal scheme to provide an overview of the scheme, with a



IFA Farm Family and Social Affairs Chair Alice Doyle with Minister of State Martin Heydon TD and IFA President Tim Cullinan at the launch of Farm Safety Week 2022.

focus on requirements for farmers to qualify for the three-year cap on farm business assets.

## RURAL CRIME

IFA made a submission to An Garda Síochána's Older Person Strategy seeking increased community policing, crime prevention initiatives and community engagement in rural areas. It stressed that farmers want a greater visibility of An Garda Síochána especially in areas affected by rural crime, the development of a channel of communication and a register of older people in the community who may be vulnerable. IFA held a webinar on Rural Crime Prevention in October on measures to prevent crime, particularly in the winter months.

## EDUCATION

As part of the Agriculture Consortium Group IFA contributed to the development of three farm-based apprenticeship programmes; Farm Technician, Horticulture and Farm Manager. The apprenticeship programmes plan to accept students from September 2023. IFA met with and fed into the Teagasc review of the practical learning element of the Green Cert. As a result, several changes have been made including an increase to the student allowance, changes to timing of placements and a review of the host farm register. IFA recently made a submission to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) consultation on the development a Climate Action and Sustainable Development leaving certificate subject which will be launched in 2024.

Alice Doyle  
Committee Chair

Geraldine O'Sullivan  
Senior Policy Executive

Edel McEvoy  
Policy Executive



# Organisation



At the launch of IFA/ Bord Gais Energy Solar Solution Partnership; Martin Stapleton, IFA Member Services Chair, Teresa Purtill, Bord Gais Energy Director of Services and Solutions and James Kelly, IFA Director of Organisation

## MEMBER BENEFITS & SERVICES

The member benefits and services package associated with IFA Membership significantly outweighs the membership contribution cost. Our membership saving is worth up to €750 annually.

IFA Member Services continues to act as an important point of contact with members to thank them for their membership.

In addition, our customer service department which offers the opportunity to talk directly to an agent rather than to recorded messages, dealt with over 100,000 calls, member queries and other membership related issues in 2022.

A continuous effort is maintained around reviewing and improving the benefits package and services we have for our members.

In 2022, members continued to avail of the increased FBD voucher of €85, an improved Personal Accident Policy and an exclusive offer of 15% of a new policy which could be redeemed in addition to our member voucher.

## FARM & HOME BUSINESS

- Personal Accident Cover with FBD
- €85 off motor, home & farm insurance with FBD
- Exclusive savings on home phone/broadband & exceptional customer service with IFA Telecom
- High speed fibre broadband for members with IFA Telecom
- 20cf% off and €120 cash back with Bord Gáis Energy
- Exclusive discounts on price plans, a new exclusive farm family plan and a wide range of mobile handsets with Vodafone
- Competitive mobile broadband price plans with Vodafone
- Exclusive mobile upgrade offers with Vodafone
- Up to €300 off with IFAC
- Home security deal with Phone Watch
- Discounted Employment Service with HR Duo

## LEISURE/TRAVEL/LIFESTYLE

- 15% off Original Irish Hotels
- 15% off motorist fares with Stena Line
- 10% off global car hire and 15% off van hire with Hertz
- 12% off health screening with the Mater Private
- Member Education and Development

## MEMBER SUPPORT HELPLINES

As the needs of the Association's members grow, so do the range of free member helplines and support services. Some of the most popular services include:

- Legal helpline
- Direct Payments and Inspections
- Debt support service
- Pieta House helpline
- Health and safety
- Prime prevention
- Training and development

## MEMBERSHIP

The total number of voting members of the Association is 73,306. The total Association membership when taking all membership channels into account (main member, family, associate and countryside) was 77,000 at year end March 2022.

Membership income represented approximately 60% of operational income and supports a wide range of services for members including the local office support structure; member communications (membership card/pack, newsletters, web, social media); personal accident insurance; voluntary officer structure and participation; the member benefits programme; member supports (Debt Support Service, Direct Payments and Inspections, Legal Helpline, Pieta House); and all major activity on campaigns.

## EUROPEAN INVOLVEMENT FUND – IFA LEVY

The European Involvement Fund (EIF) income represents approximately 35% of the Association's operational income and contributes towards ensuring all farmer interests are professionally and comprehensively represented at European & international level.

The income from EIF is influenced by changes in price, volumes and efficiency levels.

IFA continued to engage with all levy collectors to introduce improved structures between the Association and collectors, and to maximise levy returns to the Association.

## MEMBER EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The IFA's training division, Farm Business Skillnet, provided training in 2022 to many farmers, including:

- IFA Executive Council – Leadership, Media, Management Development and Communications modules
- National Commodity Committees
- Officer Teams training

FBS also provided online Health & Safety training to over 800 farmers and Nitrate Derogation training to over 300 farmers. We had Discussion Groups and individual farmers engage in a diverse range of training such as Grassland Management, Financial Planning, Resilience, Hoofcare and the Poultry Passport programme.

## SOLAR

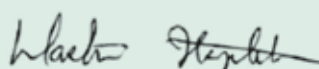
In 2022, IFA and Bord Gáis completed the solar energy pilot and shared the findings at a Stakeholder presentation the pilot was completed across all sectors and geographies. The results of the pilot ed establish what works commercially for farmers and also the challenges that create barriers to implementation. The farming community want to play an active part in the green agenda, and this is a very real demonstration of this commitment which also reduces cost inputs for farmers as well as helping Government deliver on the 2030 carbon reduction targets. IFA and Bord Gais are currently evaluating the next phase of the project.

## CRIME PREVENTION

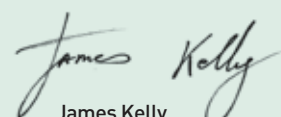
IFA's Crime Prevention Office had a busy 2022 helping members and rural communities. Through awareness campaigns, practical crime prevention tips were provided at critical periods to give IFA members a reminder and to encourage them to be to be proactive in security matters and to enable them to secure and their property.

IFA raised rural crime and security matters through a number of specific Member initiatives and engagements in partnership with An Garda Síochána including:

- National Community Engagement day
- Engagement with Rural crime prevention officers
- Joint Chairmanship of the National Rural Safety Forum



Martin Stapleton  
Chair Member Services



James Kelly  
Director of Organisation



# Communications

## MEDIA COVERAGE

2022 was a very busy 12 months on the media front, with climate action dominating coverage.

The debate came to a head in July when the Govt made a decision to set the sectoral emissions ceilings. During that time, our media campaign was focused on achieving an outcome that kept the reduction at the lower end of the range which was 22%-30%. It was ultimately set at 25%.

Our focus during 2022 has been to secure the maximum coverage of the IFA message across all media, including print, digital and broadcast.

## IFA.IE

IFA's central online resource - [www.ifa.ie](http://www.ifa.ie) - is updated daily with news on IFA campaigns, policies and market prices and reports along with providing a library of policy submissions, sectoral and cross-sectoral resources and membership benefits, supports and services.

We undertook a major redesign of IFA.ie this year to allow quicker and simpler access to key IFA resources, publications and the services available to IFA members. Technical work was completed on optimising site reliability and speed, so that even people with lower quality internet connection can still access and avail of the valuable supports and services IFA provide.

IFA has continued to operate online meetings, events and seminars as a valuable part of our membership outreach. IFA.ie facilitates the promotion and registration of these activities, allowing members to keep updated on the key policy topics that affect them.

There was a 30% increase in the people accessing the site from September 2021 to September 2022, with over 230,000 people visiting the site in that period. In total, the website was accessed 600,000 times, generating over one million page views.

The most popular content on the website during 2022 included: our #SaveIrishFarming campaign, market reports across all sectors, schemes and payments, sector-specific sections, and some of our resources such as our Taxation Guide and Master Lease template.

## IFA APP

The IFA app has over 15,000 downloads representing a year-on-year growth of 10%. In the last year, the app was accessed 106,000 times by 62,000 people. New features this year include the Milk Price Calculator and a dedicated videos section including recordings of seminars, meetings and general farming support and information videos.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

IFA has continued to develop its presence and impact on social media, increasing our followers on Twitter from 24,500 to nearly 26,000.

On average, 14,500 people view IFA tweets each day. IFA also maintains a Facebook account, which has grown to 10,600 followers.

## INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

IFA communicates with members via online and offline communications including via email, WhatsApp, text messaging, newsletters and advertising.

We launched a weekly newsletter this year which has an average reach of 40%, which is very high by industry standards. It gives a run down of our campaigns, our activities and the issues we are raising on behalf of farmers.

The IFA page in the *Farmers Journal* provides a weekly opportunity to highlight IFA activities and events.

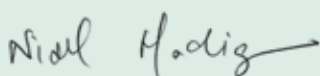
## APPOINTMENTS

RTÉ appointed Joe Mag Raollaigh as the Agriculture & Consumer Correspondent in January. He has covered a wide range of issues in his first year.

After 24 years with RTÉ, Damien O'Reilly is now working with ICOS in Brussels. He leaves a strong legacy of coverage of farming issues in a fair and balanced manner.

Countrywide is now presented by Philip Boucher-Hayes.

Sean Hennessy joined the IFA Press Office in January.



**Niall Madigan**  
Head of Communications



**Ethel Horan**  
Communications Manager



**Sean Hennessy**  
Communications Executive

IFA 67th AGM  
- Mansion  
House, Dublin -  
January 2022.





# Project Team Reports

## Organics Project Team

### ORGANIC FARM SCHEME

The IFA Organic Project Team continued to lobby for the Organic Farm Scheme (OFS) to be re-opened for new entrants and for increased payment rates under the new CAP. The OFS re-opened twice in 2022. The first re-opening saw 380 applicants to the scheme, a 20% increase in application numbers to the scheme in comparison to 2021. The scheme re-opened again in October with high interest anticipated. Following extensive lobbying, increased payment rates for the OFS scheme were announced in July. A new participation payment was also announced which will be amount to €2000 in the first year of conversion and €1400 thereafter. The new payment rates under CAP 2023 are outlined below.

	YEAR 1-2 (IN-CONVERSION) <<70HA €/HA	YEAR 1-2 (IN-CONVERSION) >70HA €/HA	YEAR 3-5 (FULLY CONVERTED) <<70HA €/HA	YEAR 3-5 (FULLY CONVERTED) >70HA €/HA
DRYSTOCK	300	60	250	30
TILLAGE	320	60	270	30
DAIRY	350	60	300	30
HORTICULTURE	800	60	600	30

### RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

The sector remains under resourced in terms of research & development, education and knowledge transfer. The Project Team continues to liaise with Teagasc to discuss future research for the sector, the provision of specialist organic advisors and knowledge transfer. It is positive that a number of Teagasc organic specialists will be appointed in January 2023.

## Horse Project Team

Chair of the IFA Horse Project Team (HPT) Richard Kennedy, held a number of meetings throughout 2022. Following the revival of the IFA HPT in September 2021, the priority objective was to ensure that equine farmers were included in future TAMS/on farm investment schemes by the Department of Agriculture.

The IFA Horse Project Team consists of representatives of both the thoroughbred and sport horse sectors, predominately involved in the breeding of horses. A 2017 Deloitte economic report commissioned by Horse Racing Ireland (HRI) showed that 92% of the country's registered horse breeders have 5 broodmares or less. The vast majority of this core of Irish horse breeders are involved in farming alongside their horse enterprise. The IFA has always strived to represent all sectors of the farming community and the HPT will work within IFA to influence policy makers in promoting and assisting all areas of the Irish equine sector.

Following initial meetings with DAFM officials, the IFA HPT intensified lobbying effects in 2022 and from local level, right up to Ministerial level, Richard Kennedy led the IFA campaign to get TAMS for all equine farmers. While not in place in 2022, it is widely anticipated that this IFA campaign will be successful, and see farmers with horses being eligible for grant assistance in 2023. The IFA HPT continue to engage with DAFM and other stakeholders, Horse Sport Ireland (HSI) in particular on details and investment items around this new scheme.

### MARKETS

IFA continue to liaise with Bord Bia on new market opportunities for the sector. Representatives from the project team travelled to BioFach – the world's largest trade fair for organic food and agriculture in February. IFA members took part in a trade mission with Bord Bia and Minister Hackett whilst abroad investigating market opportunities for the sector. IFA continue to engage with Bord Bia on market opportunities for the sector and IFA representatives on the Organic Forum raise the issue of markets at each meeting. IFA continue to lobby for Irish organic food to be included under public procurement sourcing policy.

### IFA ORGANIC FARM INFORMATION WALKS

IFA held three organic farming events to provide information to farmers on options available in organic farming. The three events took place ahead of the re-opening of the Organic Farm Scheme in October. The events took place in Donegal, Meath and Tipperary. Stakeholders including the Department of Agriculture, Teagasc, the Irish Organic Association, the Organic Trust and the Agriculture Consultants Association all contributed to the events. Over 400 farmers attended the three events.

The project team will continue to lobby for all aspects of organic farming and will engage with all Irish retailers regarding stocking more Irish organic produce. The organics project team will meet virtually and in person throughout 2023.

John Curran	Niamh Brennan
Chair Organics Project Team	Policy Executive

The HPT continue to engage with DAFM official on traceability and Brexit issues relating to transport of horses to and from the UK for breeding. The HPT have made a proposal to Horse Racing Ireland (HRI) to offer an innovative thoroughbred breeder incentive scheme and this campaign is ongoing.

The IFA Horse Project Team meeting Junior Minster for Agriculture Martin Heydon in Agriculture House, Kildare Street.

Right to left: Dan O'Loughlin, Minister Martin Heydon, Maurice Smiddy, Michael Doherty, Anne Marie Burke, Tom Lane, Chairman Richard Kennedy, (Missing from photo, Pat Todd James Murphy, Eamonn Sheehan)

Richard Kennedy	Robert Malone
Chair Horse Project Team	Policy Executive



1. IFA President Tim Cullinan, Former IFA Presidents and Officers, National Council Members and IFA Staff form a Guard of Honour at the funeral of former IFA President Alan Gillis (1990 – 1994) outside St. Mary's Church, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow in May.
2. IFA Sheep Chair Kevin Comiskey launches IFA's No Dogs Allowed Campaign
3. IFA Organic Beef and Lamb Farm Walk – Niamh Brennan IFA Horticulture Policy Executive, John Curran IFA Organic Project Team Chair and Minister of State, Senator Pippa Hackett
4. IFA President Tim Cullinan, IFA Director General Damian McDonald and IFA Director of Governance and Oireachtas Engagement Elaine Farrell meet with Sinn Féin President Mary Lou McDonald TD, Sinn Féin Agriculture Spokesperson Matt Carthy TD and Sinn Féin Climate Spokesperson Darren O'Rourke in Dáil Éireann.





# Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2022



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## Statement of National Council's Responsibilities

The constitution and rules of the Association require the National Council to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association and the results of the Association for that period. In preparing those financial statements, it is necessary to:

- Select suitable accounting policies for the Association Financial Statements and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and

- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Association will continue in business.
- The National Council is responsible for ensuring that the Association keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Association to be determined with reasonable accuracy and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Independent auditor's report to the National Council of the Irish Farmers' Association on the Consolidated Financial Statements

### REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### Opinion on the financial statements of The Irish Farmers' Association

In our opinion the consolidated financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the consolidated assets, liabilities and financial position of the group as at 31 March 2022 and of the consolidated profit of the group for the financial year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant financial reporting framework.

The financial statements we have audited comprise:

- the Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account;
- the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- the Consolidated Balance Sheet;
- the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity;
- the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows; and
- the related notes 1 to 20, including a summary of significant accounting policies as set out in note 1.

The relevant financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the group financial statements is FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council ("the relevant financial reporting framework").

### BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described below in the "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements" section of our report.

We are independent of the group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the councils' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the council with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

## OTHER INFORMATION

The National Council are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The National Council are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are expected to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are expected to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL COUNCIL

As explained more fully in the Statement of National Council's Responsibilities, the National Councils are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the National Council determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the National Council are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the National Council either intend to liquidate the Association's entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit

conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on IAASA's website at: [http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description\\_of\\_auditors\\_responsibilities\\_for\\_audit.pdf](http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

### Opinion on other matters

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion the accounting records of the group were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.
- In our opinion the information given in the National Council's report is consistent with the financial statements and the National Councils' report has been prepared accordingly

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the group and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the National Councils' report.

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Association's members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Association's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the group and the Association's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Richard Howard**  
For and on behalf of Deloitte Ireland LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
Deloitte & Touche House  
Earlsfort Terrace  
Dublin 2

Date: XXth XXX 2022



## Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2022

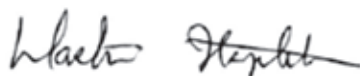
	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
<b>INCOME</b>	3	<b>15,717,873</b>	15,726,958
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	4	<b>(15,189,562)</b>	(14,183,071)
Exceptional items – Provision for restructuring costs	5	-	(428,628)
Profit on disposal of fixed and financial assets		<b>118,798</b>	154,885
Government subsidy income		-	274,250
Interest Receivable		<b>528</b>	327
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	6	<b>647,637</b>	1,544,721
Share of operating (deficit)/surplus in associate undertakings	11	<b>(123,060)</b>	424,582
Profit on financial assets through profit and loss	10	<b>2,156,890</b>	2,016,293
<b>SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION</b>		<b>2,681,467</b>	3,985,596
Taxation charge	8	<b>(808,853)</b>	(846,228)
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>1,872,614</b>	3,139,368

Results derive from continuing operations in the current and prior year.

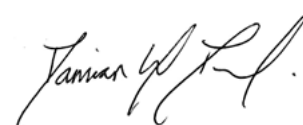
The financial statements were approved by the National Council on XXXXXX 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Tim Cullinan  
(President)



Martin Stapleton  
(National Treasurer/Returning Officer)



Damian McDonald  
(Director General)

## Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
Retained surplus for the year		<b>1,872,614</b>	3,139,368
Total surplus for the year		<b>1,872,614</b>	3,139,368

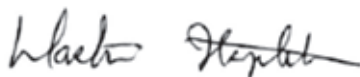
# Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	9	<b>609,727</b>	550,797
Financial investments	10	<b>14,037,311</b>	11,782,157
Other investments	11	<b>3,034,368</b>	3,159,333
		<b>17,681,406</b>	15,492,287
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	12	<b>931,239</b>	1,173,382
Cash at bank and in hand		<b>3,786,299</b>	3,170,897
		<b>4,717,538</b>	4,344,279
<b>CREDITORS:</b> (Amounts falling due within one year)	13	<b>(3,835,407)</b>	(3,742,999)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>882,131</b>	601,280
Provision for Liabilities	14	<b>(2,191,362)</b>	(1,594,006)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>16,372,175</b>	14,499,561
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>			
Accumulated surplus		<b>16,372,175</b>	14,499,561
		<b>16,372,175</b>	14,499,561

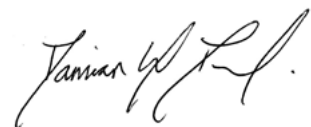
The financial statements were approved by the National Council on XXXXXX 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Tim Cullinan  
(President)



Martin Stapleton  
(National Treasurer/Returning Officer)



Damian McDonald  
(Director General)



## Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Accumulated surplus €
At 1 April 2020		11,360,193
Total Comprehensive Surplus for the year		<u>3,139,368</u>
At 31 March 2021		14,499,561
Total Comprehensive Surplus for the year		<u>1,872,614</u>
<b>At 31 March 2022</b>		<b><u>16,372,175</u></b>

## Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 €	2021 €
<b>NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	15	<u>660,821</u>	<u>256,812</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Interest received		528	51
Dividends and investment income received		150,823	101,195
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(222,284)	(201,711)
Payments to acquire investments		(1,510,606)	(2,279,449)
Receipts on disposal of investments		1,527,120	3,706,031
Receipts on disposal of fixed assets		9,000	1,500
<b>NET CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		<u>(45,419)</u>	<u>1,327,617</u>
<b>INCREASE IN CASH</b>		<u>615,402</u>	<u>1,584,429</u>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR</b>		<u>3,170,897</u>	<u>1,586,468</u>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR</b>		<b><u>3,786,299</u></b>	<b><u>3,170,897</u></b>

# Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2022

## 1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the financial year and the preceding financial year.

### GENERAL INFORMATION AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The objective of the Irish Farmers Association is to protect, foster and advance the interests of all farmers and to do all things necessary for, incidental or ancillary to the protection, fostering and advancement of the interests of such farmers or farming, and to have all the powers necessary or incidental or ancillary to the achievement of such objectives. The association's address is the Irish Farm Centre, Bluebell, Dublin 12.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS 102) issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

The functional currency of The Irish Farmers Association is considered to be euro because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the company operates.

### BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION

The financial statements of the Association incorporate the financial statements of all core activities and entities controlled by the Association, as outlined in Note 18, together with those of all county executives. Transactions between the General Fund and the other entities have been eliminated in the Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account and the Consolidated Balance Sheet.

The results of associates are included in the consolidation using the equity method.

### GOING CONCERN

The financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis. The Association had net current assets of €882,131 (2021: €601,280) and the Association remained in a net asset position of €16,372,175 (2021: €14,499,561) at the balance sheet date.

The National Council, having considered existing budgets and the ability to generate cash from special reserve fund assets, have a reasonable expectation that the Association and the group have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual financial statements.

### TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a reducing balance basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Office equipment	10% - 25%
Fixtures and fittings	10% - 20%
Motor vehicles	25%
Buildings	4%

### FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Group after deducting all of its liabilities.

#### (i) Financial assets and liabilities

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a finance transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Non-current debt instruments which meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method:

- Returns to the holder are (i) a fixed amount; or (ii) a fixed rate of return over the life of the instrument; or (iii) a variable return that, throughout the life of the instrument, is equal to a single referenced quoted or observable interest rate; or (iv) some combination of such fixed rate and variable rates, providing that both rates are positive.
- There is no contractual provision that could, by its terms, result in the holder losing the principal amount or any interest attributable to the current period or prior periods.
- Contractual provisions that permit the issuer to prepay a debt instrument or permit the holder to put it back to the issuer before maturity are not contingent on future events, other than to protect the holder against the credit deterioration of the issuer or a change in control of the issuer, or to protect the holder or issuer against changes in relevant taxation or law.
- There are no conditional returns or repayment provisions except for the variable rate return described in (a) and prepayment provisions described in (c).

Debt instruments that are classified as payable or receivable within one year and which meet the above conditions are measured at the undiscounted amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be paid or received, net of impairment.

Other debt instruments not meeting these conditions are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Commitments to make and receive loans which meet the conditions mentioned above are measured at cost (which may be nil) less impairment.

#### (i) Financial assets and liabilities (continued)

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when a) the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset

expire or are settled, b) the Group transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or c) the Group, despite having retained some significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party and the other party has the practical ability to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party and is able to exercise that ability unilaterally and without needing to impose additional restrictions on the transfer.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

## (ii) Investments

Investments in non-puttable ordinary or preference shares (where shares are publicly traded or their fair value is reliably measurable) are measured at fair value through profit or loss. Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, investments are measured at cost less impairment.

## (iii) Fair value measurement

The best evidence of fair value is a quoted price for an identical asset in an active market. When quoted prices are unavailable, the price of a recent transaction for an identical asset provides evidence of fair value as long as there has not been a significant change in economic circumstances or a significant lapse of time since the transaction took place. If the market is not active and recent transactions of an identical asset on their own are not a good estimate of fair value, the Association estimates the fair value by using a valuation technique.

## ASSOCIATES

In the Group financial statements investments in associates are accounted for using the equity method. Investments in associates are initially recognised at the transaction price (including transaction costs) and are subsequently adjusted to reflect the Group's share of the profit or loss and other comprehensive income of the associate. Goodwill arising on the acquisition of associates is accounted for in accordance with the policy set out above. Any unamortised balance of goodwill is included in the carrying value of the investment in associates.

The carrying value of the investment in associate undertakings represents investments in associate together with a share of the associates' (loss)/profit to date.

## IMPAIRMENT OF ASSETS

Assets, other than those measured at fair value, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each balance sheet date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

## TAXATION

Current tax, including Irish corporation tax, is provided at amounts expected to be paid (or recovered) using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. The current tax also comprises of capital gains tax based on the disposal of shares and deposit interest retention tax (DIRT) suffered on interest income.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events that result in an obligation to pay more tax in the future or a right to pay less tax in the future have occurred at the balance sheet date. Timing differences are differences between

the Group's taxable profits and its results as stated in the financial statements that arise from the inclusion of gains and losses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in the financial statements.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

When the amount that can be deducted for tax for an asset (other than goodwill) that is recognised in a business combination is less (more) than the value at which it is recognised, a deferred tax liability (asset) is recognised for the additional tax that will be paid (avoided) in respect of that difference. Similarly, a deferred tax asset (liability) is recognised for the additional tax that will be avoided (paid) because of a difference between the value at which a liability is recognised and the amount that will be assessed for tax. The amount attributed to goodwill is adjusted by the amount of deferred tax recognised.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for timing differences arising from investments in subsidiaries and associates, except where the Group is able to control the reversal of the timing difference and it is probable that it will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax is measured using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference. Deferred tax relating to property, plant and equipment measured using the revaluation model and investment property is measured using the tax rates and allowances that apply to sale of the asset.

The tax expense or income is presented in the same component of comprehensive income or equity as the transaction or other event that resulted in the tax expense or income.

Current tax assets and liabilities are offset only when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the amounts and the Group intends either to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset only if: a) the Group has a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities; and b) the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either the same taxable entity or different taxable entities which intend either to settle current tax liabilities and assets on a net basis, or to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously, in each future period in which significant amounts of deferred tax liabilities or assets are expected to be settled or recovered.

## INCOME

- (i) Affiliation fees are accounted for in the financial year during which they are received.
- (ii) All other income is accounted for in the financial year in respect of which it is receivable.

## RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The Association participates in a defined contribution scheme for certain employees which is funded by the payment of contributions to a separately administered fund. The assets of the funds are held separately from those of the Association. For the defined contribution schemes the cost of providing benefits is charged to operating profit as incurred.



## 2. Critical Accounting Judgements and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, which are described in note 1, the directors are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

### CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING THE GROUP'S ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following are the critical judgements that the directors have made in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies and

that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

### KEY SOURCE OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

#### Voluntary Member expense

Due to the nature of the voluntary member expense accruals and the time lag noted around members claiming expenses that they have incurred but not yet claimed; management note that there is a greater degree of estimation uncertainty associated with these expenses. Management estimates the expense based on estimated amounts incurred and historical claim patterns.

#### Legal claims and costs

Legal claims and their associated costs by their nature are uncertain, where there is a potential expense this is accrued based on consultation with legal counsel and their best estimate of settlement of such claims.

## 3. Income

An analysis of the Group's income by class of business is set out below.

Turnover:	2022 €	2021 €
Broadband and phone service sales	5,662,248	5,758,659
Membership Contributions	9,460,075	9,179,288
Trust fund contributions	330,000	330,000
Investment dividend income	108,329	46,804
Other income	157,221	412,207
	<b>15,717,873</b>	<b>15,726,958</b>

All group income was earned in the Republic of Ireland.

## 4. Expenditure

An analysis of the Group's expenditure is set out below.

Expenditure:	2022 €	2021 €
IFA Telecoms expenses (including staff costs)	5,491,612	5,605,052
Total staff costs	5,079,732	4,961,847
Voluntary costs	587,369	431,878
Premises	435,009	428,882
Communications	482,786	264,645
Research	2,785	18,054
Public relations	340,194	151,866
Professional fees	559,774	415,289
Affiliation fees	129,788	117,335
Financial charges	306,980	294,974
Foreign travel	10,733	(64)
Brussels office	477,327	442,760
Membership recruitment	390,433	226,760
Membership promotion	395,176	385,953
Other overheads	-	205,500
Other expenditure	499,864	232,340
	<b>15,189,562</b>	<b>14,183,071</b>

## 5. Exceptional Item

	2022 €	2021 €
Charge for restructuring	-	428,628

During the previous year, the association provided the above amount to support a restructuring program to reduce staff costs.

## 6. Surplus on Ordinary Activities Before Taxation

Surplus on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging/ (crediting):	2022 €	2021 €
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	159,306	192,833
Interest received	528	327

The analysis of the auditors' remuneration is as follows:

Auditors' remuneration for work carried out for the group In respect of the financial year is as follows:	2022 €	2021 €
Irish Farmers Association	32,000	30,000
IFA Telecom	16,520	16,520
ISGA	1,265	1,265
Total Group	<b>49,785</b>	<b>47,785</b>

## 7. Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The salaries and payments paid to key management personnel analysed under the headings required by company law are set out below:

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>President (Cullinan)</b>		
Gross Salary	54,591	90,430
<b>Net amount charged</b>	<b>54,591</b>	<b>90,430</b>

The Remuneration Committee agreed that the salary of the President should be €139,836. This amount is reduced by any directors' fees payable by outside bodies that came as a consequence of the IFA office.

<b>Deputy President (Rushe)</b>		
Gross Salary	16,280	20,373
<b>Net amount charged</b>	<b>16,280</b>	<b>20,373</b>

The Remuneration Committee agreed that the salary of the Deputy President should be €40,785. This amount would be reduced by any directors' fees payable by outside bodies that came as a consequence of the IFA office.

<b>Director General</b>		
Salary	193,012	185,350
Employer pension contribution	28,952	27,802
	<b>221,964</b>	<b>213,152</b>

<b>Executive Management</b>		
Salary	522,060	492,445
Employer pension contribution	94,806	114,653
Key Management compensation	616,866	607,098

In addition to the above remuneration, some of the prior year restructuring charge of €428,628, as set out in note 5 and totaling €275,000, were paid out during the current year.

<b>National Council</b>		
Labour replacement paid in Financial year	108,020	45,000
Effect of accrual release	(10,760)	(39,705)
<b>Net amount charged</b>	<b>97,260</b>	<b>5,295</b>

The average remuneration for the top 15 staff after the executive management was:

Salary	86,345	86,840
Employer pension contribution	10,493	14,388
	<b>96,838</b>	<b>101,228</b>



## 8. Tax on Ordinary Activities

The tax credit comprises: Current tax on profit on ordinary activities	2022 €	2021 €
Corporation tax	64,332	43,677
Debit movement in deferred tax liability (Note 14)	597,356	670,990
Other taxes incurred	147,165	131,561
Total tax charge on ordinary activities	<b>808,853</b>	846,228

The differences between the total tax charge shown above and the amount calculated by applying the standard rate of Irish corporation tax to the profit before tax is as follows:

	2022 €	2021 €
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	2,681,467	3,985,596
Tax if charged at standard corporation rate	335,183	498,120
Expenses not taxable in determining taxable profit	13,230	235,693
Impact of other tax rates	460,440	112,335
Group tax charge for the period	<b>808,853</b>	846,228

## 9. Tangible Assets

	Office Equipment €	Fixtures and Fittings €	Motor Vehicles €	Buildings €	Total €
<b>Cost:</b>					
At 1/04/2021	338,981	882,466	201,640	219,206	1,642,293
Additions	163,276	15,008	44,000	-	222,284
Disposals	(97,844)	-	(40,437)	-	(138,281)
<b>31/03/2022</b>	<b>404,413</b>	<b>897,474</b>	<b>205,203</b>	<b>219,206</b>	<b>1,726,296</b>
<b>Depreciation: At 1/04/2021</b>	221,398	740,363	103,431	26,304	1,091,496
Charge	72,639	43,359	34,540	8,768	159,306
Disposals	(97,844)	-	(36,389)	-	(134,233)
<b>31/03/2022</b>	<b>196,193</b>	<b>783,722</b>	<b>101,582</b>	<b>35,072</b>	<b>1,116,569</b>
<b>Net Book Amount: 31/03/2022</b>	<b>208,220</b>	<b>113,752</b>	<b>103,621</b>	<b>184,134</b>	<b>609,727</b>
31/03/2021	117,583	142,103	98,209	192,902	550,797

## 10. Financial Investments

	2022 €	2021 €
Quoted investments at market value	<b>14,037,311</b>	11,782,157
Opening balance	<b>11,782,157</b>	11,079,120
Net Additions/ (Disposals) during the financial year	<b>98,264</b>	(1,313,256)
Movement in the fair value of investments	<b>2,156,890</b>	2,016,293
Closing balance	<b>14,037,311</b>	11,782,157

Quoted investments represent shares held by the Group in publicly quoted companies or other publicly quoted investment funds. The cost of these investments was €6,746,905 (2021: €6,801,080).

### SPECIAL RESERVE FUND:

€10,957,893 (2021: €8,959,137) of the above balance relates specifically to the special reserve fund assets.

The Special Reserve Fund was established by the National Council in December 1985, to maintain a financial reserve for the organisation that could only be drawn down into the general fund under exceptional circumstances.

## 11. Other Investments

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Unquoted Investments:</b>		
Irish Farm Centre Limited (i)	<b>2,976,682</b>	3,099,741
Other Investments (ii)	<b>57,686</b>	59,592
	<b>3,034,368</b>	3,159,333

### (i) Irish Farm Centre Limited

	Holding	Business	Registered Office
Irish Farm Centre Limited	48.76%	The principal activity of the company is office rental and related services	Irish Farm Centre Bluebell, Dublin 12

During the year, the associate undertaking recorded an operating loss of €252,377 (2021: profit of €870,759) before a taxation charge of €0 (2021: €50,353). Included in the operating profit is an amount of €0 (2021: €699,459) in respect of a building revaluation. The associate undertaking had combined net assets of €6,104,762 at year end (2021: €6,357,140). The carrying value of the investment in associate undertakings represents investments in associate together with a share of the associates' profit/(loss) to date, being €2,976,682 (2020: €3,099,741).

### (ii) Other Investments

Other unquoted investments are held at cost less impairment because their value cannot be reliably measured.

## 12. Debtors: (Amounts due within one year)

	2022 €	2021 €
Debtors	902,884	1,135,597
Accrued income and other receivables	28,355	37,785
	<b>931,239</b>	<b>1,173,382</b>

## 13. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2022 €	2021 €
Trade creditors	791,247	607,825
Pension/ staff and voluntary expense accruals	1,042,367	1,028,088
Provision for restructuring	-	275,000
Professional/ Legal and other accruals	318,593	273,593
Trade Accruals	1,520,077	1,404,598
PAYE/PRSI/VAT	163,123	153,895
	<b>3,835,407</b>	<b>3,742,999</b>

## 14. Provision for Liabilities

Deferred tax is provided as follows:	2022 €	2021 €
The deferred tax balance is analysed		
Deferred tax arising in relation to quoted investments	2,191,362	1,594,006
Provision for deferred tax		
Opening balance	1,594,006	923,016
Movement for the current financial year (Note 8)	597,356	670,990
Balance at end of year	<b>2,191,362</b>	<b>1,594,006</b>



## 15. Reconciliation of Operating Surplus to Net Cashflow from Operating Activities

	2022 €	2021 €
Operating surplus	647,637	1,544,721
Interest received	(528)	(326)
Dividends and investment income received	(150,823)	(101,195)
Profit on disposal of fixed and financial assets	(118,798)	(154,885)
Depreciation	159,306	192,833
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	242,143	(281,938)
Decrease in creditors	(39,764)	(841,128)
Tax paid	(78,352)	(101,270)
Net cash flows from operating activities	660,821	256,812

## 16. Financial Instruments

The carrying values of the company's financial assets and liabilities are summarised by category below:

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Financial assets</b>		
<i>Measured at undiscounted amounts receivable</i>		
Trade and other debtors (note 12)	902,884	1,135,597
<i>Measured at fair value through profit or loss</i>		
Investments in listed equity instruments (note 10)	14,037,311	11,782,157
<i>Measured at cost less impairment</i>		
Other investments (note 11)	3,034,368	3,159,333
<b>Financial liabilities</b>		
<i>Measured at undiscounted amounts payable</i>		
Trade and other creditors (note 13)	791,247	607,825

The company's income, expense, gains and losses in respect of financial instruments are summarised below:

	2022 €	2021 €
<b>Financial assets</b>		
On financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss	2,156,890	2,016,293
Interest or other income on financial assets measured at amortised cost	528	326

## 17. Pensions

The Association operates a defined contribution pension scheme covering certain employees. The net assets of the scheme are held in a separate trustee administered fund. The amount payable to the scheme for the year was €557,229 (2021: €635,295). The amount owed to the scheme at year end is €0 (2021: €48,471).

## 18. Subsidiaries and Related Activities

The Association holds investments in or has an interest in subsidiary and related undertakings as follows:

- Fresh Milk Producers Association;
- B.V.G. Trustee Company Limited;
- Irish Salmon Growers Association Limited;
- Potato Fund;
- ICHA;
- IFA Telecom Limited; and
- Irish Farm Centre Limited

The Association has provided letters of support to certain subsidiaries indicating that it will provide financial assistance where necessary to ensure the going concern of that entity.

## 19. Comparative Balances

Where necessary, comparative balances have been reclassified on the basis of current year presentation

## 20. Ultimate Control

The group is controlled by its members as a group. In the opinion of the National Council there is no ultimate controlling party or parent.

# NOT COVERED BY THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

### BREAKDOWN OF RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	IFA 2022 €	SRF 2022 €	Others 2022 €	IFAT 2022 €	IFC 2022 €	TOTAL 2022 €
Operating Results		193,329	30,544	172,004	251,760	(123,060)	<b>524,577</b>
Tax		(150,345)	-	-	(61,152)	-	<b>(211,497)</b>
Operating (Deficit)/ Surplus		42,984	30,544	172,004	190,608	(123,060)	<b>313,080</b>
Movement in Investments		-	1,847,123	-	309,767	-	<b>2,156,890</b>
Deferred Tax		-	(522,748)	-	(74,608)	-	<b>(597,356)</b>
Net Result/ Retained Funds		42,984	1,354,919	172,004	425,767	(123,060)	<b>1,872,614</b>

# Supplementary Information

(NOT COVERED BY THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT)

	Notes	At 31 March 2022				At 31 March 2021			
		IFA 2022 €	IFA Telecom Limited 2022 €	Consolidation adjustment 2022 €	Total 2022 €	IFA 2021 €	IFA Telecom Limited 2021 €	Consolidation adjustment 2021 €	Total 2021 €
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>									
Tangible assets		456,828	152,899	-	609,727	387,893	162,904	-	550,797
Special reserve fund assets		10,957,894	3,272,609	(193,192)	14,037,311	8,959,137	2,909,479	(86,459)	11,782,157
Financial investments		3,034,368	-	-	3,034,368	3,159,333	-	-	3,159,333
		<b>14,449,090</b>	<b>3,425,508</b>	<b>(193,192)</b>	<b>17,681,406</b>	12,506,363	3,072,383	(86,459)	15,492,287
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>									
Debtors		691,131	3,436,362	(3,196,254)	931,239	926,389	3,542,396	(3,295,403)	1,173,382
Cash at bank and in hand		2,515,292	1,327,957	(56,950)	3,786,299	2,258,555	1,071,181	(158,839)	3,170,897
		<b>3,206,423</b>	<b>4,764,319</b>	<b>(3,253,204)</b>	<b>4,717,538</b>	3,184,944	4,613,577	(3,454,242)	4,344,279
<b>CREDITORS:</b> (Amounts falling due within one year)		<b>(6,397,693)</b>	<b>(884,111)</b>	<b>3,446,397</b>	<b>(3,835,407)</b>	(6,403,083)	(880,618)	3,540,702	(3,742,999)
<b>NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ ASSETS</b>		<b>(3,191,270)</b>	<b>3,880,208</b>	<b>193,193</b>	<b>882,131</b>	(3,218,139)	3,732,959	86,460	601,280
Provision for Liabilities		(2,191,362)	-	-	(2,191,362)	(1,594,006)	-	-	(1,594,006)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>9,066,458</b>	<b>7,305,716</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16,372,175</b>	7,684,218	6,805,342	1	14,499,561
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>									
Accumulated surplus		9,066,458	7,305,716	1	16,372,175	7,694,218	6,805,352	-	14,499,561
		<b>9,066,458</b>	<b>7,305,716</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16,372,175</b>	7,694,218	6,805,352	-	14,499,561



# IFA National Committees 2022\*

## ANIMAL HEALTH

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>T J Maher</b>	<b>Chair, Tipperary</b>	<b>Killenaule</b>
<b>Amanda Mooney</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Wicklow</b>	<b>Ashford</b>
Anthony Jackson	Carlow	Tynock-Kiltegan
Maurice Brady	Cavan	Laragh
Thomas Cooney	Cavan	Laragh
Michael Davoren	Clare	Carron-Noughaville
John Kingston	Cork (C)	Carrigaline
Derry Scannell	Cork (W)	Rossmore
Pat O'Keefe	Cork (N)	Kildorrey
Timmy Lane	Cork (N)	Fermoy
James Strain	Donegal	Fahan-Inch
Brendan O Donoghue	Dublin	St. Margarets
Maura Canning	Galway	Mullagh
Stephen Canavan	Galway	Corofin-Ballyglunin
Shane Mcauliffe	Kerry	Knocknagoshel
Joseph G Morrissey	Kildare	Manor Kilbride
Jim Fitzpatrick	Kilkenny	Mullinavat
James Walsh	Laois	Durrow
Patrick Farrell	Laois	Athy
Liam Gilligan	Leitrim	Manorhamilton
Pius Horgan	Limerick	Abbeyfeale
Tony Bohan	Longford	Ballinamuck
Edward O Malley	Louth	Ardee
Padraic Joyce	Mayo	Islandeady
Thomas Fitzpatrick	Mayo	Robeen
John McEnroe	Meath	Ballinacree
Lawrence Deery	Monaghan	Clones
George Grant	Offaly	Clareen-Fortal
Louis Martin	Roscommon	Kiltoom
Seamus Cummins	Sligo	Calry
Matthew Mounsey	Tipperary	Toomevara
Erica O'Keefe	Tipperary	Cashel
Joe Harty	Waterford	Dungarvan
James Fox	Westmeath	Kinnegad
Liam O Byrne	Wexford	Tagoat

## AQUACULTURE

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Michael Mulloy</b>	<b>Chair, Mayo</b>	<b>Aughagower - Westport</b>
<b>Kian Louet-Feisser</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Louth</b>	<b>Cooley</b>
Cliona Mhic Ghiolla Chuda	Waterford	Dungarvan
Lee Hunter	Donegal	Letterkenny
Mag Kirwan	Kilkenny	Thomastown
John Harrington	Cork	Bere Island
Liam Roche	Galway	Connemara
Gerry O'Donohue	Galway	Connemara
Catherine McManus	Donegal	Fanad
Finian O'Sullivan	Cork	Bantry
Patrick T Sullivan	Kerry	Cromane
Cindy O'Brien	Galway	Rahoon-Bearna

\* Members of IFA National Committees as of 31st December 2022

## DAIRY

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Stephen Arthur</b>	<b>Chair, Wicklow</b>	<b>Rathdrum</b>
<b>Seamus Dolan</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Cavan</b>	<b>Templeport</b>
<b>Keith O Boyle</b>	<b>Chair, Liquid Milk</b>	<b>Hollymount</b>
Jamie Kealy	Carlow	Ballon
Andrew Dundas	Clare	Parteen
Alan Jagoe	Cork (C)	Carrigaline
Gerard Lehane	Cork (W)	Timoleague
Noel Hurley	Cork (N)	Kildorrery
Ian Witherow	Donegal	Convoy-Raphoe
James Scully	Dublin	St. Margarets
Noel Murphy	Galway	Ballymacward
Stephen Byrne	Kildare	Kildare
Brendan Hickey	Kilkenny	Johnstown
James Barber	Laois	Rathdowney
Daniel Kelly	Leitrim	Drumahair
John Hannon	Limerick	Clarina
Padraig O Farrell	Longford	Longford
Thomas J Meegan	Louth	Knockbridge
Padraic Joyce	Mayo	Islandeedy
Denis Fagan	Meath	Kildalkey
Martin Mcelearney	Monaghan	Ballybay
Adrian Leonard	Offaly	Killoughey
Sean Connaughton	Roscommon	Boyle
Padraig Mulligan	Sligo	Templeboy
Michael Kennedy	Tipperary (N)	Nenagh
Darragh Scott	Tipperary (S)	Gortnahoe
Mark Connors	Waterford	Kilmacthomas
Enda Burke	Westmeath	Kinnegad
M J Scallan	Wexford	Ballymurn
Jack Keenan	Wicklow	Aughrim

## ENVIRONMENT &amp; RURAL AFFAIRS

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Paul O'Brien</b>	<b>Chair, Kilkenny</b>	<b>Graignamanagh</b>
<b>Eddie Mitchell</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Leitrim</b>	<b>Manorhamilton</b>
George Byrne	Carlow	Bennekerry - Tinryland
Paddy Denning	Cavan	Laragah
Kieran Woods	Clare	Tradaree
John Murphy	Cork (C)	Inniscarra
Tony Mullins	Cork (N)	Mitchelstown
Chris Hayes	Cork (W)	Roscarbery
Francis Burns	Donegal	Buncrana
Philip Maguire	Dublin	Enniskerry
Henry Walsh	Galway	Oranmore
Aidan Griffin	Kerry	Glencar
Austin Morrin	Kildare	Naas - Caragh
James Murphy	Kilkenny	Innistioige
Liam Delaney	Laois	Portlaoise
Barry Murphy	Limerick	Clarina
Emmet Duffy	Longford	Ballinallee
Breeda Tuite	Louth	Tullyallen
John G. Davitt	Mayo	Park - Burren
Seamus McGee	Meath	Ballinlough
Bernard Treanor	Monaghan	Tydavnet
Enda Bracken	Offaly	Killoughey
Ned O'Connor	Roscommon	Strokestown
Bernie Finan	Sligo	Achonry
Eamon Cleary	Tipperary (N)	Ardcrouney
Peter Farrell	Tipperary (S)	Cahir
John J. Byrne	Waterford	Cappoquin
Adrian Elliot	Westmeath	Tubberclair
Thomas Doyle	Wexford	Camolin
David Johnson	Wicklow	Barndarrig

# IFA National Committees 2022\*

## FARM BUSINESS

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Rose Mary Mc Donagh</b>	<b>Chair, Galway</b>	<b>Caherlistrane</b>
<b>Bill O'Keefe</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Kilkenny</b>	<b>Clara</b>
Deirdre Mongan	Galway	Kinvara
Gerard Fallon	Roscommon	Knockcroghery
Gilbert Smyth	Carlow	Bagenalstown
Owen Brodie	Cavan	Maghera-Mu'Connaught
Rosaleen O Reilly	Clare	Doora
Marie McCarthy	Cork (C)	Innishannon
Jeremiah O Sullivan	Cork (W)	Leap
Liam O Doherty	Cork (N)	Mitchelstown
George E Starrett	Donegal	Finn Valley
Padraic McMahon	Dublin	Rolestown-Oldtown
Helen O Mahony	Kerry	Castleisland
Robert Greene	Kildare	Athy
Pat Hennessy	Laois	Borris-In-Ossory
David Nottley	Leitrim	Annaduff
John Cremin	Limerick	Ardagh
Thomas Cribbin	Limerick	Shanagolden
Roy McCormack	Longford	Newtown Forbes
Riona Meehan	Louth	Kilsaran
Aidan Munnely	Mayo	Ardagh-Ballina
Martin Gilvarry	Mayo	Killala
David Hannon	Meath	Kiltale
Janet Hill	Monaghan	Mullyash
Noel Keyes	Offaly	Rahan
John P Cowley	Sligo	Easkey
Bernadette Quinn	Tipperary (S)	Fethard
Michael Leonard	Tipperary (N)	Ballingarry
James Power	Waterford	Kilmacthomas
Paul Slevin	Westmeath	Turin
John Kelly	Wexford	Camolin
John Mallick	Wicklow	Tinahealy

## FARM FAMILY & SOCIAL AFFAIRS

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Alice Doyle</b>	<b>Chair, Wexford</b>	<b>Camolin</b>
<b>Teresa Roche (Vice Chair)</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Galway</b>	<b>Abbey</b>
Michael Purcell	Carlow	Old Leiglin
Elizabeth Tilson	Cavan	Sheelin
Geraldine O'Connell	Clare	Parteen
Claire O'Keefe	Cork (C)	GlenSouth
Ann O'Connor	Cork (N)	K'Vullen-Ct'Roche – Shanballymore
Martina Casey	Cork (W)	Macroom
Mary Isabella Russell	Donegal	Letterkenny
Victoria Boyd	Donegal	Rosses
Elizabeth McCarthy	Dublin	Bohernabreena
Kathleen Herlihy	Kerry	Ballymacelligot
Caroline Farrell	Kildare	Athy
Marion Dunne	Kildare	Athy
Gemma Sherman	Kilkenny	Ballyragget
Mary Barber	Laois	Rathdowney
Mary McGovern	Leitrim	Carrigallen
Mary Breen	Limerick	Oola
Sheena Cassidy	Longford	Ballinamuck
Breda Brennan	Louth	Kilsaran
Amy Mulchrone	Mayo	Islandeady
Fiona Curran	Meath	Kells
Mary Deery	Monaghan	Clones
Richard Scally	Offaly	Kilmurray
Frances Keane	Roscommon	Dysart
Margaret Gormonly	Sligo	Tubbercurry
Margaret Mounsey	Tipperary (N)	Cloughjordan
Mary Jo Heffernan	Tipperary (S)	Tipperary
Elizabeth Coughlan	Waterford	Kinsalebeg
Mary Geraghty	Westmeath	Kinnegad
Mary Fitzharris	Wexford	Ballycullane
Anne Jennings	Wicklow	Arklow

\* Members of IFA National Committees as of 31st December 2022



## FARM FORESTRY

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Jason Fleming</b>	<b>Chair, Kerry</b>	<b>Annablaha</b>
<b>Simon White</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Limerick</b>	<b>Askeaton</b>
John Hanbidge	Carlow	Tynock - Kiltegan
Cathal Rudden	Cavan	Clifferna
Martin Murphy	Clare	Kilmihill
John O'Brien	Cork (C)	Barryroe
John Magner	Cork (N)	K'Vullen-Ct'Roche - Shanballymore
Tadhg Healy	Cork (W)	Clonakilty
Ross Buchanan	Donegal	Carndonagh
Christopher Keogh	Dublin	Bohernabreena
Enda Monaghan	Galway	Caherlistrane
Francis Foley	Kerry	Castlemaine
Karl Matuschka	Kildare	Moone
Andrew O'Carroll	Kilkenny	Clara
Thomas Cosby	Laois	Stradbally
Michael Lennon	Longford	Drumlisk
John Roche	Louth	Tullyallen
Kevin Carey	Mayo	Belmullet
Willie Fallon	Meath	Summerhill
James Corr	Monaghan	Smithboro
Murtagh Connor	Offaly	Walsh Island
Ambrose Kilcline	Roscommon	Roscommon
Walter Kivlehan	Sligo	Achonry
Padraic Stapleton	Tipperary (N)	Upperchurch
Dermot Ryan	Tipperary (S)	Hollyford
Francis Connolly	Tipperary (S)	Carrick-on-Suir
Gabriel Foley	Waterford	Dungarvan
Claudia Marl	Westmeath	Collinstown
Nicholas Sweetman	Wexford	Glenbrien
Charles Tottenham	Wicklow	Ashford
Vincent Nally	Westmeath	Sonna

## GRAIN

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Kieran McEvoy</b>	<b>Chair, Laois</b>	<b>Portarlinton</b>
<b>John Murphy</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Wexford</b>	<b>Monageer</b>
George Hatton	Carlow	Bennerkerry-Tinryland
David O'Brien	Cork (W)	Ardfield
Paul O'Brien	Cork (N)	Liscarroll
John Jeffrey	Cork (C)	Aghada
Peter Lynch	Donegal	Newtowncunningham
Patrick Dehaene	Dublin	Rolestown - Oldtown / Lucan
Mervyn Cooke	Galway	Aughrim
Kevin Leahy	Kerry	Causeway
Brian Lazenby	Kildare	Athy
James Brennan	Kildare/West Wicklow	Athy
Edward Delahunty	Kilkenny	Freshford-Gathabawn
Rory Doyle	Laois	Mountmellick
Shay Galvin	Limerick	Croom-Meanus
Anthony Reynolds	Longford	Edgeworthstown
Michael Kieran	Louth	Knockbridge
James Murray	Mayo	Balla
Thomas McKeown	Meath	Nobber
Mark Joesph Gilanders	Monaghan	Ardaghy
Joe Bracken	Offaly	Eglish - Drumcullen
Michael Beattie	Roscommon	Rahara
Philip Tierney	Tipperary (N)	Terryglass
Gavin Delaney	Tipperary (S)	Fethard
William Shanahan	Waterford	Kilmacthomas
Christopher Dolan	Westmeath	Sonna
Isaac Wheelock	Wexford	Davidstown
Mark Browne	Wexford	Caim
James Hill	Wicklow	Barndarrig

# IFA National Committees 2022\*

## HILL FARMING

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Cáillín Conneely</b>	<b>Chair, Galway</b>	<b>Connemara</b>
Michael Biggins	Chair Rural Development	Glencorrib
Stephen Walsh	Clare	Feakle
P.J. Conroy	Galway	Looscaun-Woodford
Neilie O'Leary	Cork (W)	Coomhola
David Boyd	Donegal	Rosses
Flor McCarthy	Kerry	Kenmare
Pat O'Shea	Kerry	Castlegregory
Kevin Hanlon	Kildare/Wicklow (W)	Manor Kilbride
Padraig McGowan	Leitrim	Manorhamilton
Peter Shields	Louth	Cooley
Pat Chambers	Mayo	Derrada
Benedict Gallagher	Sligo	Templeboy
Peter Hennessy	Waterford/Tipperary (S)	Kilross
Peter Behan	Wicklow	Tinahealy
Jay Kelly	Carlow/Kilkenny/Wexford	Borris

## LIQUID MILK

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Keith O Boyle</b>	<b>Chair, Mayo</b>	<b>Hollymount</b>
<b>Jane O'Connor</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Galway</b>	<b>Kiltullagh - Attymon</b>
Pat Coveney	Cork (C)	Glanmire
Dan Buckley	Cork (C)	Glanmire
Mervyn Helen	Cork (W)	Clonakilty
Gareth Porter	Donegal	Finn Valley
Charles McCandles	Donegal	Culdaff
Patrick Tuite	Dublin	Ardcath
Michael Freeney	Galway	Athenry
Austin Grealay	Galway	Clarinbridge
John Finn	Galway	Oranmore
Liam Grady	Galway	Gurteen
Walter Crowley	Kilkenny	Mooncoin
David Bennett	Laois	Abbeyleix
James Hurson	Monaghan	Smithboro
Padraig Mulligan	Sligo	Templeboy
Paul Merrick	Sligo	Riverstown
Kenneth J Bray	Westmeath	Delvin
John Stone	Westmeath	Moate
Kevin Maguire	Wexford	Ballycanew
Kevin Healy	Wicklow	Aughrim
John Wynne	Wicklow	Baltinglass
Willie Lennon	Kilkenny	Goresbridge-Paulstown
Edward Breen	Kerry	Abbeydorney
Dan Hegarty	Cork (C)	Glanmire
John Roche	Carlow	Clonmore-Hacketstown
James Kavanagh	Wicklow	Arklow

\* Members of IFA National Committees as of 31st December 2022

## FMP

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>John Wynne</b>	<b>Chair, Wicklow</b>	<b>Baltinglass</b>
<b>Patrick Tuite</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Dublin</b>	<b>Ardcath</b>
John Roche	Carlow	Clonmore-Hacketstown
Willie Lennon	Kilkenny	Goresbridge-Paulstown
Kenneth Bray	Westmeath	Delvin
Denis Fagan	Meath	Kildalkey
Eddie Bannon	Meath	Culmullen
Robbie Ennis	Kildare	Kildare
Henry Dunne	Wexford	Bree-Galbally
Jim Mulhall	Kilkenny	Kilkenny City
Derek Tierney	Kildare	Timahoe
Patrick Coveney	Cork	Glanmire
Seamus Killoran	Wicklow	Arklow
Pat O'Hanlon	Kilkenny	Kilmacow
Tommy Carberry	Louth	Collon

## LIVESTOCK

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Brendan Golden</b>	<b>Chair, Mayo</b>	<b>Kilalla</b>
<b>Declan Hanrahan</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Laois</b>	<b>Borris-in-Ossary</b>
Paul Balfe	Carlow	Rathvilly
Thomas Leonard	Cavan	Crossdoney
Joseph O'Connell	Clare	Parteen
Ivor Jeffery	Cork (C)	Cloyne
Kevin O' Flynn	Cork (N)	Kildorrey
Padraig O' Driscoll	Cork (W)	Skeagh
Frank McClean	Donegal	Letterkenny
Laurence Ward	Dublin	Rolestown-Oldtown
Michael Haverty	Galway	Clonberne
James Kieran O'Shea	Kerry	Beaufort
Tom Burke	Kildare	Moone
Paul McDonald	Kildare	Athy
Thomas Mulhall	Kilkenny	Kilkenny City
Adrian Kelly	Leitrim	Cloone
Denis Duggan	Limerick	Doon
Paul Molihan	Longford	Ardagh
Peter McEneaney	Louth	Tallanstown
Thomas Holmes	Mayo	Ardagh-Ballina
TJ Duffy	Mayo	Aughagower-Westport
Eamon Meade	Meath	Nobber
Michael Flood	Monaghan	Traugh Upper
Thomas Woulfe	Offaly	Brachnagh-Clonbullogue
John O' Beirne	Roscommon	Strokestown
Trevor Boland	Sligo	Skreen
Joseph O' Dwyer	Tipperary (N)	Upperchurch
Edmond Burns	Tipperary (S)	Kilross
Padraig Daly	Waterford	Kinsalebeg
Donal Kenny	Westmeath	Turin
JJ Kavanagh	Wexford	Ballywilliam-Templeudigan
Sean Cooney	Wicklow	Ashford



# IFA National Committees 2022\*

## PIGS & PIGMEAT

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Roy Gallie</b>	<b>Chair, Kildare</b>	<b>Cadamstown-Carbury</b>
<b>William Murphy</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Westmeath</b>	<b>Collinstown</b>
Dermot Healy	Carlow	Tulow
James Bogue	Cavan	Crossdoney
Shane Brady	Cavan	Redhills
Michael Caffrey	Cavan	Castlerahan-M'Nugent
Cathal O Donovan	Cork (W)	Timoleague
Maurice O'Brien	Cork (N)	Mitchelstown
Thomas Finn	Cork (N)	Mitchelstown
Tom O'Keefe	Cork (N)	Kildorrery
Richard Kingston RIP	Cork (N)	Lombardstown
Tom Sherman	Cork (N)	Mallow
Martin Doherty	Donegal	Clonmany
Jimmy Mooney	Donegal	Malin
Paul Tully	Laois	Ballinakill
Thomas Hogan	Limerick	Anglesboro
John Horan	Limerick	Glin
Jonathan Marry	Meath	Slane
Cormac Minnock	Meath	Cadamstown-Carbury
Christopher Brady	Monaghan	Aughnamullen
Mattie Moore	Offaly	Croghan
John Ryan	Tipperary	Ardfinnan-Grange
Richard Norton	Tipperary	Ballingarry
David N Tyndall	Tipperary	Roscrea
Michael O'Shea	Tipperary	Roscrea
Darren Brady	Westmeath	Killucan
Sinead Brady	Longford	Abbeysrule
Kevin Riordan	Wexford	Glynn

## POTATO

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Sean Ryan</b>	<b>Chair, Wexford</b>	<b>Ballywilliam-Templeudigan</b>
<b>Barry Mitchell</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Meath</b>	<b>Oristown</b>
Colin Buttimer	Cork (N)	Fermoy
John Griffin	Cork (C)	Carrigaline
Jimmy Rankin	Donegal	Newtown Cunningham
William Monagle	Donegal	Newtown Cunningham
David Garrigan	Dublin	Swords
John Stephens	Galway	Corofin-Ballyglunin
Bridget O'Connor	Kerry	Moyvane
Bart Maertens	Kildare	Clane-Prosperous
John Doody	Kilkenny	Mooncoin
Brendan Lynch	Louth	Ardee
Andrew Sheridan	Meath	Kilbeg
Shane Howell	Offaly	Killeigh
Michael Healy	Tipperary (N)	Moycarkey-Borris
Tom Delahunt	Wicklow	Ashford

\* Members of IFA National Committees as of 31st December 2022

## POULTRY

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Nigel Sweetnam</b>	<b>Chair, Cork</b>	<b>Kinsale</b>
<b>Brendan Soden</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Cavan</b>	<b>Lavey</b>
Ann Gernon	Dundalk	Louth Village
Thomas Fitzsimons	Cavan	Billis
Garret Bannon	Cavan	Templeport
David Abbott	Cavan	Killeshandra
Eugene McGinnity	Monaghan	Aughnalshavey
Andrew Keating	Monaghan	Newbliss
Enda Connolly	Monaghan	Clones
Nigel Flynn	Monaghan	Clones
Nigel Renaghan	Monaghan	Clontibret
Eamon Clerkin	Monaghan	Rockcorry
John McCabe	Monaghan	Three Mile House
Mark McElvaney	Monaghan	Three Mile House
James McKenna	Monaghan	Traugh Upper
Vincent Quinn	Monaghan	Tullycorbett
Robert McBride	Monaghan	Tyholland
Andrew Boylan	Monaghan	Donaghmoynce
Edmond Murphy	Waterford	Dunhill
Edward Keane	Waterford	Kinsalebeg
Michael Murphy	Waterford	Cappoquin
Derek Good	Cork (W)	Inishannon
Warren O Connell	Cork (C)	Carrigaline
Eoin Cunningham	Limerick	Broadford-Kantover
Pat O Connell	Limerick	Feoghanagh
Padraic Kiely	Mayo	Bekan-Brickens
Michael O Hea	Cork	Clonakilty

## RULES & PRIVILEGES

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Martin Stapleton</b>	<b>Chair, Limerick</b>	<b>Oola</b>
Brendan McLaughlin	Donegal	Newtowncunningham
Caroline Farrell	Kildare	Athy
Jim O'Connor	Roscommon	Boyle
James Gallagher	Leitrim	Kinlough
Billy Cotter	Cork	Castletownroche
Kevin Kiersey	Waterford	Kilmacthomas

## HORTICULTURE

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
Sean Ryan	Wexford	Ballywilliam - Templeudiga
Val Farrell	Dublin	North Fingal
James Kearns	Wexford	Ballindaggin
Gerard Reilly	Westmeath	Drumrainey
Cornelius Traas	Tipperary (S)	Cahir

# IFA National Committees 2022\*

## RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Michael Biggins</b>	<b>Chair, Mayo</b>	<b>Glencorrib</b>
<b>Denis Tuohy</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Clare</b>	<b>Whitegate</b>
Marian Dalton	Carlow	Tullow
John Beglan	Cavan	Mullahoran
Donal Howard	Cork (C)	Kilcorney
Tom O'Keeffe	Cork (N)	K'vullen-Ct'roche-Shanballymore
Cornelius Buckley	Cork (W)	Caheragh
Laura Boyd	Donegal	Ardara
Frank Hemeryck	Dublin	Lucan
Caillin Conneely	Galway	Connemara
Peter Gohery	Galway	Eyre Court
Dermot Kelly	Kerry	Kilcummin
Flor McCarthy	Kerry	Kenmare
Des Gray	Kildare	Castledermot
Richard Meaney	Kilkenny	The Rower
Henry Burns	Laois	Mountmellick
James Gallagher	Leitrim	Kinlough
Roger Keogh	Limerick	Cappamore
Philip Stewart	Longford	Killashee
Matthew McGreehan	Louth	Cooley
Patrick Egan	Mayo	Knock
Maria Ryan	Mayo	Shrule
Tom Finegan	Meath	Oristown
Brian Treanor	Monaghan	Traugh Upper
Pat Walsh	Offaly	Cloghan
John Hanley	Roscommon	Creggs
Gearóid O'Connor	Sligo	Castlebaldwin
Con Mackey	Tipperary (N)	Newport
Liam Coffey	Tipperary (N)	Toomevara
Simon Ryan	Tipperary (S)	Emly
Kieran Sullivan	Waterford	Kilmacthomas
Brendan Coffey	Westmeath	Turin
Anne Kehoe	Wexford	Ballycullane
Joe Gahan	Wicklow	Ballyconnell

## SHEEP

MEMBERS 2022		
Name	County	Branch
<b>Kevin Comiskey</b>	<b>Chair, Leitrim</b>	<b>Drumhair</b>
<b>Adrian Gallagher</b>	<b>Vice Chair, Donegal</b>	<b>Letterkenny</b>
Marion Dalton	Carlow	Bagenalstown
Bernard Lynch	Cavan	Castlerahan-M'Nugent
Tom Holmes	Clare	Corofin
Frank O'Driscoll	Cork (C)	Glanmire
Edmond Roche	Cork (N)	K'Vullen/Ctroche/Shanballymore
James Daly	Cork (W)	Kilrohane
Richard Ryan	Dublin	Bohernabreena
David Harney	Galway	Ahascragh
John Joe Fitzgerald	Kerry	Feothanach
Denis Halpin	Kildare	Manor Kilbride
Leeson Neale	Kilkenny	Castlecomber
Peter Luttrell	Laois	Vicarstown
Mark Gallagher	Leitrim	Kinlough
Edward P Moriarty	Limerick	Anglesboro
Luke Casey	Longford	Ballymahon
Ciaran Sheelan	Louth	Cooley
Martin Shaughnessy	Mayo	Hollymount
Ronan Delaney	Meath	Dunshaughlin
Marcus Stewart	Monaghan	Drumgole
Marita Phelan	Offaly	Croghan
Michael Glennon	Roscommon	Moore
Rose McDonnell	Sligo	Templeboy
JP Ryan	Tipperary (N)	Borrisoleigh
John Crosse	Tipperary (S)	Cashel
Frank Cunningham	Waterford	Kilrossanty
Jack Mills	Westmeath	Sonna
Patrick Murray	Wexford	Monaseed
Selena MacKenzie	Wicklow	Barndarrig



1. IFA President Tim Cullinan and Minister of State Patrick O'Donovan TD in front of the Lucan Gospel Choir at the Official Opening of the Crib in St. Stephen's Green
2. IFA Farm Family Chair Alice Doyle and IFA President Tim Cullinan are joined by Minister of State at the Department of Health Mary Butler TD launching IFA's Walk and Talk Campaign for Mental Health
3. IFA President Tim Cullinan, former IFA Presidents and IFA Colleagues form a Guard of Honour at the funeral of Con Lucey, IFA Chief Economist for 34 years at Christ The King Church, Ballycorick, Ballynacally, Co. Clare in August.











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YOUR VOICE.**

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