



IFA Annual Report 2021

Your Association. Your Voice



IFA

IFA Annual Report 2021



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President's Message

Policy Review & 2022 Priorities

2021 was the year that allowed us to resume some of our activities on behalf of farmers and bring our campaigns onto the streets.

COVID-19 continued to have a massive impact, but we remained determined to mobilise our members to fight for farming.

At our AGM in January, our focus was firmly on the critical issues of climate action and CAP. Both the Taoiseach Micheál Martin and the Minister for Agriculture Charlie McConalogue, TD, addressed the meeting and heard the concerns of our officers about policy proposals that would damage farm families.

Significant decisions that will have far-reaching implications for farmers were shaped during the year and we worked to have an influence on the final plans.

CAP

The CAP Strategic Plan was submitted to Brussels in December 2021. Beginning with our Day of Action in June, we pointed out to the Minister that the draft plan would seriously undermine a cohort of our most productive farmers.

That Day of Action sent a strong message that changes would be needed in order to have a plan that works for Irish farmers.

Our four regional rallies in Cavan, Roscommon, Portlaoise and Cork in October stepped up our campaign, before we held our Save Irish Farming rally in Dublin in November.

In 2022, our office in Brussels will continue working closely with the European umbrella body COPA and our European counterparts to ensure that the views of Irish farmers are put before policy makers in the European Commission.

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.

Following a strong campaign by IFA, the sectoral ceiling for agriculture was set at a range of 22%-30%, which will prove very challenging for our sector. Teagasc will have an important role in advancing technology that allows us to play our part in reducing emissions.

BUDGET 2022

Our priorities were the rollover of all farm schemes in CAP transition - ANC's, GLAS, TAMS, Suckler Cow (BDGP & BEEP-S), Sheep Welfare and Organic – and the renewal of all Farm Tax Reliefs.

Both of these priorities were achieved.

BREXIT

We used every opportunity to remind our politicians that a substantial part of the Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) 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.

We will continue to lobby our Government in 2022 to ensure that farmers' livelihoods are safeguarded in ongoing negotiations.

DAIRY

Markets were strong during 2021, 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 the quality product they sell.

On Dairy, we will continue our campaign under climate action to ensure that there is a balance between the three pillars of sustainability; economic, environmental and social.

LIVESTOCK/BEEF

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

The CAP proposals will see €52m per annum going to suckler farmers. Under the current BDGP and BEEP-S schemes, farmers get €80m annually. The Government must come forward with additional supports for this sector.

Whatever structure replaces the Beef Taskforce has plenty of challenges to address if we are to maintain viable beef production across the country.



IFA President Tim Cullinan meeting with Minister for Agriculture Charlie McConalogue TD at the IFA Brussels Office in June the morning of the EU Council of Agriculture Ministers meeting on CAP Reform 2023 – 2027.

SHEEP

Our main focus during 2021 was keeping pressure on processors to return the full value of the markets to sheep farmers.

In response to the growing problem of dog attacks, we initiated a campaign 'No Dogs Allowed', which banned dogs from farmland.

GRAIN

Global trends saw a lift in prices, which offset some difficult years and poor harvests. The CAP proposals will have a negative impact on tillage farmers and will put further pressure on a sector that we should be supporting.

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

PIGS AND POULTRY

While the year started well, it became challenging for pig farmers as price dropped. This coincided with rising input costs, putting further strain on businesses.

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

We held a protest in Portlaoise in October to remind the consumer about the need to be vigilant around how product is labelled.

Poultry farmers are also being hit by cost increases and retailers must increase retail prices for chicken and eggs.

FORESTRY

The licensing system remains a mess. We held a protest outside the Convention Centre before the summer recess of the Dáil to apply pressure on the political system.

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

HORTICULTURE

We organised two protests on behalf of horticulture growers who were concerned about the future of their sector.

In 2022, 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.

Seanad Éireann has done good work in progressing this issue and I want to acknowledge their time and interest.

ADAPTING THROUGH COVID-19

We finally resumed in-person meetings of our National Council in August, 2021. County Executives were also held in-person with strict guidelines in place.

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.

The Association worked closely with our elected officials to provide digital training and access, which meant that the majority of business was able to continue as usual.

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.

Finally, I want to thank all those County Chairs who are finishing their terms of office and I look forward to working with those who will be taking up their roles early in 2022.

Tim Cullinan
IFA President

Representation



IFA President Tim Cullinan and IFA Director General Damian McDonald meeting with Minister for Finance Paschal Donohoe TD and Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform Michael McGrath TD on IFA's Budget 2022 Submission.

NATIONAL COUNCIL - GOVERNING BODY

Includes Macra President, ICOS President & Irish Farmers' Journal Editor

19 National Committee Chairmen

National Committees

29 County Chairmen





29 County Executives

947 Branches






Each Branch elects 4 delegates to County Executive

Over 77,000 Members:
Organised Through Branches













National Officers' Committee

<p>Tim Cullinan President</p> 		
<p>Brian Rushe Deputy President</p> 	<p>Damian McDonald Director General</p> 	<p>Elaine Farrell Director of Governance and Oireachtas Engagement</p> 




















National Officers Committee

 <p>Harold Kingston Munster Chair</p>	 <p>Francis Gorman South Leinster Chair</p>	 <p>Martin Stapleton National Treasurer and Returning Officer</p>	 <p>Nigel Renaghan Ulster & North Leinster Chair</p>	 <p>Pat Murphy Connacht Chair</p>
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County Chairs

<p>CARLOW</p> <p>John Nolan</p> 	<p>CORK CENTRAL</p> <p>Conor O'Leary</p> 	<p>GALWAY</p> <p>Anne Mitchell</p> 
<p>CAVAN</p> <p>Elizabeth Ormiston</p> 	<p>CORK WEST</p> <p>Donal O'Donovan</p> 	<p>GALWAY 2ND REP</p> <p>Martin Murphy</p> 
<p>CLARE</p> <p>Tom Lane</p> 	<p>DONEGAL</p> <p>Brendan McLaughlin</p> 	<p>KERRY</p> <p>Kenneth Jones</p> 
<p>CORK NORTH</p> <p>Anne Baker</p> 	<p>DUBLIN</p> <p>James McGrane</p> 	<p>KERRY 2ND REP</p> <p>Mary Fleming</p> 

County Chairs

KILDARE Thomas O'Connor 	MAYO Jarlath Walsh 	TIPPERARY STH Erica O'Keeffe 
KILKENNY Jim Mulhall 	MEATH John Curran 	WATERFORD Kevin Kiersey 
LAOIS John Fitzpatrick 	MONAGHAN Patrick McCormick 	WESTMEATH Bernie McCarthy 
LEITRIM Desmond McHugh 	OFFALY Richard Scally 	WEXFORD Jer O'Mahony 
LIMERICK Sean Lavery 	ROSCOMMON James O'Connor 	WICKLOW Thomas Byrne 
LONGFORD Gavin White 	SLIGO Kathleen Henry 	
LOUTH John Carroll 	TIPPERARY NTH Imelda Walsh 	

Committee Chairs

DAIRY

Stephen Arthur



LIVESTOCK VICE-CHAIR

Declan Hanrahan



ANIMAL HEALTH

Patrick Farrell



ENVIRONMENT & RURAL AFFAIRS

Paul O'Brien



RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Michael Biggins




MACRA NA FEIRME

John Keane



FARM BUSINESS

Rose Mary McDonagh




SHEEP

Sean Dennehy




ICOS

Jerry Long



FARM FAMILY & SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Caroline Farrell




PIGS

Roy Gallie



IFJ

Justin McCarthy




FARM FORESTRY

Vincent Nally



POULTRY

Andrew Boylan



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

GRAIN

Mark Browne



POTATO

Thomas McKeown



OTHER REPS

AQUACULTURE

Michael Mulloy




LIQUID MILK

Keith O'Boyle




HORTICULTURE

Paul Brophy




FMP

William Lennon




LIVESTOCK

Brendan Golden



HILL FARMING

Flor McCarthy



Director of European Affairs Report



IFA President Tim Cullinan met with Frans Timmermans Executive Vice-President of the European Commission to discuss the challenges faced by the livestock sector regarding GHG emissions reduction and mitigation.

The CAP 2023-2027 regulation has entered into force and Ireland's National Strategic Plan was submitted to the European Commission at the end of December. Farmers however are enduring the effects of the energy crisis driving up input prices and ensuring that controlling costs, maintaining productivity and achieving a fair income will mark out 2022 as a difficult year to predict. Meanwhile, revision of existing legislation and new legislative proposals relating to the implementation of the Farm to Fork Strategy will drive the agenda in Brussels for the near future.

It is worth standing back and noting how quickly those directing policy change within the European Commission have shifted from a Common Agriculture Policy primarily concerned with guaranteeing food security to one that addresses the impact food production has had on the environment, not all of it good, and is committed to redressing the balance. It is unfortunate that in its desire to have cleaner air and water, healthier soil and more nutritious food, society often lays the blame for what is wrong with food production at the door of the farmer. And neither are citizens yet willing to pay more for their food nor is there sufficient defence and protection against other players in the food chain to ensure that farmers receive a sustainable and viable income. If food systems are to be fixed it must indeed be a systems wide approach, farmers are already playing their part.

TRADE

The implementation of the Brexit agreement and in particular the Northern Ireland protocol upset normal supply chains and we saw increases in direct trade from Ireland to the continent with significant disruption to the normal replenishment of Northern Ireland supermarkets shelves from Britain. The EU remained firm in negotiations to resolve blockages with an 80% reduction in sanitary and phytosanitary checks while preventing any leakage of goods into the EU single market. Nevertheless the import of seed potato from Scotland is not allowed and Irish growers face the full brunt of this in the spring. The resignation of Lord Frost underlines the politic sensitivities at play and it is welcome that Minister Coveney has previously worked with Liz Truss, the new UK Brexit Negotiator.



IFA President Tim Cullinan joined the Farming Associations of Hungary (Mr Balázs Gyórfy), Belgium Flanders (Mr Pieter Verhelst) and Belgium Wallonia (Madame Marianne Streeel) to protest opposite the European Parliament in Brussels on 25th June 2021 at the COPA Flash Action event.

Irish farmers' fears of UK trade deals leading to greater liberalisation of the market for the import of agriculture products are proving correct eg. UK/Australia – duty free tariff quota in beef of 110,000t after 10 years with zero quota thereafter. In September, the European Parliament gave the green light to the €5bn Brexit Adjustment Reserve of which €1bn is allocated to Ireland. Irish farmers will face indirect losses as a result of Brexit in the future and these may not yet be quantifiable. Meanwhile, opposition across the EU to deforestation in South America means that the political appetite is not there presently to agree on any legal instrument supporting the Mercosur agreement to reinforce sustainability standards relating to the environment, labour or human rights.

CAP 2023-2027

Disagreement over Eco scheme allocations, capping and redistribution delayed the political agreement on CAP until the final Agriculture Council meeting in Luxembourg under the Portuguese Presidency. President Tim Cullinan spoke at a COPA protest outside the European Parliament in Brussels highlighting the negative income impact to active productive farmers before travelling to Luxembourg to repeat this message to Irish Agriculture Minister Charlie McConalogue. While Eco schemes were agreed at 25%, compulsory redistribution (CRISS) became a mandatory measure at 10% and social conditionality was included in the CAP for the first time driven by the Socialists and Democrats political grouping in the Parliament. Farmers must now figure out whether a suitable Eco scheme is available to them while the Commission will be hoping for high farmer participation levels in order to calm concerns of environment and other protest groups whose demands include the withdrawal of the entire Common Agriculture Policy.

FARM TO FORK

Whether it is recommendations from the Parliament Committee of Enquiry into live animal transport (ANIT), the Organic Action Plan or the Biodiversity strategy, farmers will be faced with an increasing set of legislative proposals despite the efforts of the Commission towards simplification. Extreme views from MEPs with minority support and other

issues supported by broader society eg. 1.4m signatures from 18 Member States for End the Cage Age petition, mean that agricultural issues are being discussed in many venues around the city though frequently with more emotion than facts. IFA's efforts mean our organisation, best represented by our volunteer farmer leaders, must be actively engaged in person or more frequently now virtually in many debates, some technical and some political because society's demands are increasing and not diminishing.

2022

Continued lobbying of DG Trade in relation to the suspension of Anti Dumping duties on imports of UAN fertiliser into the EU and achieving a fairer European market for the purchase of fertilisers continues to feature on the IFA agenda in Brussels. The Nitrates Derogation is up for decision and in relation to Ireland's CAP National Strategic Plan the Commission have 6 months to authorise with some back and forth dialogue anticipated in the spring.

The Fit for 55 Climate and Energy Package is quite comprehensive and the agriculture sector will have to build on the success of a 20% reduction in GHG emissions by 2020 compared to 1990. The inclusion of the fertiliser sector and the exclusion of agriculture from the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism proposal means that farmers may face greater competition from imported agri food products. The Commission's observation that new genomic techniques can promote agricultural sustainability and contribute to more sustainable food systems demonstrates an openness to address the need for a toolbox that supports production and competitiveness.

Hopefully primary food produce prices will remain strong and that global demand for pigmeat will improve. Farmers are all too well aware how quickly higher returns from the market can be diminished by high costs, so markets will have to be watched closely next year.

Liam MacHale
Director of European Affairs

National Committee Reports



Irish Farmers' Association Annual Report 2021

Stand up to Irish Farming Rally in June.



Marts' Protests September.

Livestock

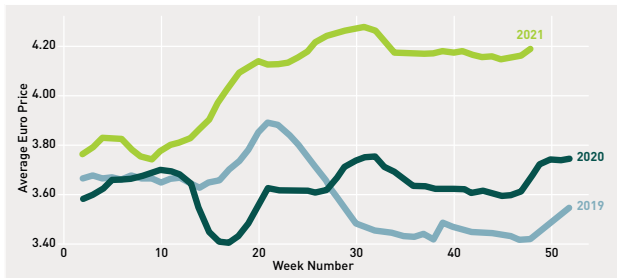


Livestock Chair Brendan Golden speaking with Minister for Agriculture Charlie McConalogue TD at Tullow Mart, Carlow.

CATTLE PRICES

To-date in 2021, the average price paid for R3 steers has been €4.28/kg which is 46c/kg higher than the same period in 2020. Steer prices are 14% higher than they were in 2020, and 21% above the corresponding week in 2019.

Irish Weekly R3 Steer Euro Prices for the current year and last year



Global prices are strong, and across Europe, average R3 young bull prices have seen very strong growth rates in recent weeks

The Prime Irish composite price to-date this year increased by 12.5% on 2020 to €3.99/kg excl. vat, (€4.21/kg vat incl.) The Prime Export Benchmark price increased by 12.7% to €3.99/kg

IFA monitor and report cattle prices on a tri-weekly basis. Beef price texts are sent to members who have opted to subscribe to price text information on a Monday and Thursday and are also available on IFA.ie. These are also distributed via Whatsapp to the Livestock Committee members for further distribution to County and Regional Groups. The factory cattle prices are collected and published on a weekly basis.

Supplies

Total cattle throughput has reached 1,574,691 up to week 48 of 2021. This is a 5% decline on 2020 figures. Steer production is down 2%, heifers reduced by 7%, cows by 3% and young bulls by 8%. The overall reduction in supplies of 78,768 is running below the Bord Bia predicted decrease in supplies for the year and indicate the earlier slaughter of some animals which should contribute to tighter supplies in the early part of 2022.

CUMULATIVE BEEF KILL			
	w/c 27/12/2021	w/c 21/12/2021	Difference
TOTAL	1574691	1653459	-78768

LIVE EXPORTS

There was a total of 244,131 live cattle exported out of Ireland for the first 50 weeks of 2021, which represents a decline of 4.6% in the same period in 2020.

Northern Ireland has experienced a strong increase in cattle imports from the Republic of Ireland since the beginning of the year, accounting for almost 30% of total exports, and reaching over 71,000 heads. This is almost 20% higher than the same period in 2020.

Live Exports End Nov.				
	2020	2021	Change - head	% Change
Total	255847	244131	-11716	-4.6

SCHEMES

BDGP

Funding for the BDGP scheme of €40m was provided in Budget 2022. 19,909 farmers participated in the 2021 scheme.

BEEP-S

Funding for the BEEP-S scheme of €40m was provided in Budget 2022. 27,409 farmers participated in the 2021 scheme.

Dairy Beef Calf Programme

Funding for the programme of €5m was provided in Budget 2022. 8,430 applications were made to the scheme in 2021

BEAM

IFA sought flexibilities with conditions of the scheme and the provision of up-to-date performance information for farmers in the scheme from DAFM. The Minister secured some flexibilities at EU level and provided farmers with the option of a new reference period to meet the 5% reduction condition. DAFM provided monthly statements to farmers in the programme throughout 2021, unfortunately this information was 6 weeks out of date. IFA continue to seek flexibilities within the scheme to ensure farmers can protect the monies received from clawback.

IFA made it clear to DAFM that the lack of detailed up-to-date information for farmers in meeting this requirement; the failure to appropriately recognise the impact of TB restrictions

on farmers trying to meet the 5% reduction; and the draconian penalties for farmers who just missed out on meeting the 5% reduction needed to be addressed and that flexibilities must be provided to farmers who attempted to meet the reduction target.

BUDGET 2022

IFA sought the provision of €300/suckler cow through increased funding in the BEEP-S scheme and the commencement of a cattle rearing and finishing scheme with payments of €50/animal in 2022 including weanlings and stores from/on suckler farms.

BEEF TASKFORCE

The Beef Task Force published its report on the progress made in fulfilling its remit of monitoring the implementation of the actions under the September 2019 agreement and has been wound up by the Minister for Agriculture

Key outputs included;

- The establishment of a suckler brand development oversight group; and the allocation of up to €6 million over a three-year period to progress the development of a suckler brand proposition
- The application for PGI status for 'Irish Grass Fed Beef', which was submitted to the European Commission in November 2020
- Three reports have been published; Price composition along the supply chain; An Independent Review of Market and Customer Requirements of Irish Beef; Competition Law in the Beef Sector

The Minister has announced the establishment of a new strategic forum for the beef sector

The new strategic forum must deliver on maximising returns to beef farmers from the market place and ensuring the sector is supported, given the market failures that are well documented in returning a margin to beef farmers.

IFA look forward to engaging in the new stakeholder group, but will be doing so on the basis that this group will be in a position to make a difference for suckler and beef farmers' incomes.

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;

- Internal convergence must be kept to the minimum.
- Eco-Scheme cuts must be set to the minimum. Every farmer must be provided with the opportunity to claim back at a minimum all of the money taken from their entitlement value by eco schemes
- GAEC 4: To avoid loss of grazing land and shelter for animals, buffer strips must not require fencing.
- GAEC 8: The minimum EU requirement must be applied. The livestock committee rejects the DAFM proposal to apply the 4% non-productive land requirement to all lands as this in turn raises the requirement levels for the eco scheme measure of 'Space for Nature'.

SUCKLER CARBON EFFICIENCY SCHEME

- The measures proposed lacks ambition to provide the opportunity for participants to generate €300/cow and must be amended through increased/updated costings and additional practical and beneficial measures for suckler farmers to deliver €300/cow to all participants
- The funding proposal's for suckler farmers in the scheme are a cut of €28m from the existing annual allocation to the sector
- The Minister must honour the commitment given publicly at the mart meetings to IFA officers that all applicants will be accepted into the scheme and all cows in the scheme will be paid on at the rates announced of €150 for the first 10 cows and €120 for all other cows.
- The requirement to be Bord Bia QA to eligible for the scheme must be removed, this is a market requirement and as such participation must be rewarded from the market place.

CATTLE REARING AND FINISHING SCHEME

- A scheme must be provided for farmers who rear and finish weanlings and stores with a 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.

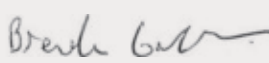
REPRESENTATION

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	Farmer's Charter	WP on Beef and Veal
Calf Stakeholder Group	WP on Breeding Animals	The Meat Market Observatory
Suckler Brand Oversight Group	EU Civil dialogue on Meat and Veal	

BOVINE PROJECT

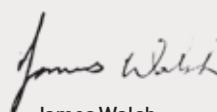
IFA is involved with Teagasc, farm organisations and research and advisory bodies across 10 EU member states in an EU funded Innovation network project focused on facilitating improved knowledge exchange and co-ordinated solutions on socio-economic resilience, animal health and welfare, production efficiency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



Brendan Golden
Chair National Livestock Committee



Anna Daly
Livestock Policy Executive



James Walsh
Livestock Policy Executive



Tómas Bourke
Senior Livestock Policy Executive

Dairy



Dairy and liquid milk committees at the *Save Irish Farming* Rally, Merrion Square, November

MILK PRICE REVIEW

Despite supply chain challenges amidst the global pandemic, the global dairy market was buoyant for much of 2021, showing monthly gains across most months with a slight dip in commodity prices over the summer. Compared to this time last year (28/11/21), EU commodity prices have risen sharply for butter, SMP and cheddar by, 52%, 45% and 7% respectively. The Ornuia PPI also rose by 26% to its latest price for November 2021 of 40.3cpl. Since the publication of the Ornuia Value Payment in July 2020, we can now begin to assess how much value added we are able to derive from the market place. (The Ornuia Value Payment reflects the members monthly bonus combined with the market premium.) From July to November inclusive, we can see that the value of this payment almost doubled from €23.9m to €44.12m between 2020 and 2022. Yet, the milk price received by farmers is more reflective of the PPI itself without the inclusion of the Ornuia Value Payment. Farmers cannot be expected to consistently produce a top standard product at commodity prices. We need a fair return of the market premium. .

DAIRY VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

In January we published a vulnerability assessment of the dairy sector. Within it we highlighted that the sector succeeded in meeting the targets outlined in Food Harvest 2020. Most notably, in the past decade dairy exports have grown by 134% which helped our rural economy bounce back from a significant economic recession. Since 2015, over €2.2bn has been invested by dairy farmers and over €1.3bn invested by milk processors in the dairy sector. This investment has had knock-on benefits to the broader economy. However, despite this success, we have not seen a corresponding increase in dairy farm returns. Dairy farm incomes in 2014 (€67,598) were marginally ahead of incomes earned in 2020 (€65,828). While the sector will always have to deal with market volatility it is evident that farm net margins have not kept pace with expansion. The expansion in milk production has delivered substantial economic benefits to the broader Irish economy, both in terms of employment and net foreign earnings associated with the processing sector, and the economic activity generated from the on-farm investment. However, it must be recognised that dairy farm incomes remain modest when compared with the average industrial wage. Furthermore, dairy farm margins are vulnerable to external market shocks such as increased fertiliser price which we are likely to experience in 2022.

MILK PRICE ANALYSIS

Last April the IFA dairy committee launched the IFA 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 2019 and 2020 are outlined below. It is intended to publish this analysis in Q1 every year to give farmers a clear indication of how their milk processor is performing compared to others in the business.

Processor	2019	
	Total Revenue (€)	Revenue/cow (€)
Drinagh Co-op	183,562	2,062
Bandon Co-op	182,884	2,055
Lisavaird Co-op	182,772	2,054
Barryroe Co-op	182,734	2,053
Kerry	174,440	1,960
Lakeland Dairies	172,034	1,933
Dairygold	170,727	1,918
Tipperary Co-op	168,723	1,896
Aurivo	168,161	1,889
Glanbia	167,101	1,878
Arrabawn	167,081	1,877

Processor	2020	
	Total Revenue (€)	Revenue/cow (€)
Drinagh Co-op	185,987	2,090
Bandon Co-op	185,400	2,083
Lisavaird 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.

NITRATES REVIEW

In 2021, the Nitrates Action Plan (NAP) was reviewed with actions for the next Programme to be agreed in March 2022. IFA ran an extensive campaign coinciding with the two public consultations ran by DAFM in January and September. This included nationwide meetings to explain the review process and the proposals being put forward. A guidance document was also prepared to assist farmers who wished to make their own submission to the consultation. While some of the proposals put forward by DAFM for the next NAP are beneficial, others will incur significant costs on farms with questionable benefits for water quality. We continue to negotiate with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government on these proposals.

WORK PERMITS

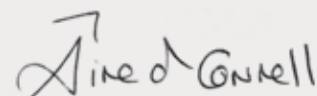
In November the dairy committee along with the horticulture and pig and poultry committees lobbied the Department of Trade, Enterprise and Employment for work permits given that each sector was vulnerable to labour shortages. To assist our lobby, we worked with farm recruitment agencies who provided us with information and figures that described the scale of the labour shortage. The lobby successfully secured 100 permits for dairy farm assistants which will allow workers from outside the EU to work on dairy farms here in Ireland which should alleviate the problem.

INTERACTIVE MILK PRICE CALCULATOR

In December, the committee launched the IFA milk price calculator. This easy to use application will allow farmers to assess how much their milk is worth in each milk processor every month based on their own constituents and milk quality standards.



Stephen Arthur
Chair National Dairy Committee



Aine O'Connell
Senior Dairy Policy Executive

Liquid Milk

Lidl and Aldi DID YOU KNOW?



**These farms,
creameries,
dairies and
bakeries do
not exist**



It's time to call retailers out. They are using their own brands to drive down the prices they pay to their suppliers.
Aldi and Lidl go a step further with their policy of inventing fake farms, dairies, creameries etc, which is capable of misleading consumers.
This has to stop. These products come from our farms, not the phantom farms created by Lidl and Aldi.
We will not be intimidated by the legal threat from Lidl.
The commitment we have secured from the Government will see the establishment of a Food Ombudsman/Regulator this year.

The Minister must ensure that this has real teeth. It must deliver full transparency on labelling and pricing. And it must show who is getting what from the food chain.
As farmers, we have to get a better return. Our food is produced by real farm families who are working around the clock and to the highest standards.

Tim Cullinan
Tim Cullinan, IFA President



IFA LIQUID MILK COMMITTEE CHALLENGE RETAILERS ON THEIR SALE OF MISLEADING MILK BRANDS.

In March, the liquid milk committee placed an advertisement in the Sunday Independent to highlight what IFA believe is the use of misleading brands by two leading retailers. The advertisement generated a lot of attention with, for the most part, very positive feedback from the general public. Following its publication, Lidl commenced legal proceedings against IFA seeking an injunction over its publication. Following the court hearing in May, Lidl failed to get a High Court Injunction with Mr Justice Senan Allen ruling that Lidl had not met the statutory threshold for granting the injunction sought under the Defamation Act 2009. As part of our evidence, we produced market research commissioned by the National Dairy Council which found 78% of people surveyed thought the milk was produced at Coolree Creamery. In addition, the judge ordered that Lidl pay IFA's legal costs associated with the case.

LIQUID MILK SECTOR AT A CROSSROADS.

The dominance of private label milk in the liquid milk market has rendered the liquid milk sector unsustainable in its current format. Since 1995, liquid milk producers have seen their share of the retail price fall from 43% to 34% (National Milk Agency). While this would be somewhat sustainable if the retail price increased over this time, the opposite has occurred. The average retail price of 2L of milk has fallen from €2 in 2008 to €1.68 in 2020 (National Milk Agency). Using figures published by the National Milk Agency in their annual reports, IFA estimate that the dominance of private label milk in the 2L milk category alone has cost the sector €114m in 2020. As a result, we have seen the number of registered liquid milk producers continue to fall and are now at a historical low of c. 1,300 suppliers. The wholesale price of fresh milk needs to rise to ensure a future sustainable liquid milk sector. IFA will continue to encourage consumers to protect the sector by encouraging them to purchase milk from farmer-owned brands over lower cost private labels.

Keith O'Boyle

Keith O'Boyle
Chair National Liquid Milk
Committee

Aine O'Connell

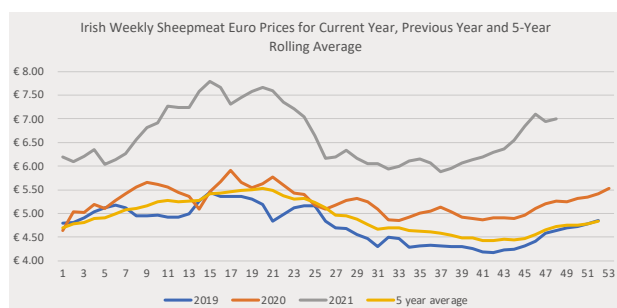
Aine O'Connell
Senior Policy Executive

PRICES

To-date lamb prices in 2021 are averaging €7.33/kg, up €1.48/kg on the 2020 average price for the first 48 weeks of the year or 27%.

Market demand for lamb in our key export markets has been strong due to the reduced volumes of New Zealand lamb. NZ imports to the EU are at the lowest levels in decades from a combination of focusing on the strong demand in China for sheep meat and shipping issues.

Lamb prices in all the key lamb producing countries have remained strong throughout the year.



SUPPLIES

Total throughput to week 52 is 2,720,467 head which is a 4% decrease when compared to the same period in 2020.

WEEK 52	2021		2020		DIFFERENCE		% Differences 2021 vs 2020	
	Weekly	Cumulative	Weekly	Cumulative	Weekly	Cumulative	Weekly	Cumulative
Lambs/Hoggets	18	698,136	153	792,622	-135	-94,486	-88%	-12%
Spring Lambs	33,491	1,670,162	36,261	1,672,306	-2,770	-2,144	-8%	0%
Ewes and Rams	2,788	352,036	3,456	383,049	-668	-31,013	-19%	-8%
Light Lambs	-	133	1	68	-1	65	-100%	96%
TOTAL	36,297	2,720,467	39,871	2,848,045	-3,574	-127,578	-9%	-4%

NO DOGS ALLOWED

Over 2500 'No dogs allowed' posters were provided to farmers across the country through their sheep committee representative as part of the ongoing dog control campaign. The campaign gained huge traction in the media and is a critical step in the process to get Government to put in place the appropriate legislation and controls for dog owners.



Sean Dennehy
Chair National Sheep
Committee

Anna Daly
Policy Executive

James Walsh
Policy Executive

Tómas Bourke
Senior Policy Executive

SHEEP WELFARE SCHEME

IFA secured an update to the reference period for farmers in the SWS, including recognition of the issues for new entrants allowing flock building while participating in the scheme. These changes required over €2m in additional funding for the scheme annually and it has been provided.

The new reference periods for the scheme provide established flocks with the higher of 2017, or the original 2014/2015 reference years, for payment calculations. New entrants can use 2019.

CAP

Sheep Improvement Scheme

IFA are seeking a funding allocation to deliver €30/ewe to all participant farmers in the scheme. The current proposal lacks ambition to provide the opportunity for participants to generate €30/ewe and must be amended through increased/updated costings and additional practical and beneficial measures.

IFA have sought the inclusion of shearing as an action in the scheme to address the collapse in the wool markets.

Lamb Imports

The IFA sheep committee highlighted the importation of lamb carcasses by a major processor, recording the delivery of a consignment of UK lamb. IFA have challenged the Minister for Agriculture to provide assurances to farmers this product is not mislabelled as Irish and does not carry the QA logo.

Electronic Transfer of Funds (EFT)

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

Left: Sheep Chair Sean Dennehy launching the IFA 'No Dogs Allowed' campaign with Offaly IFA Sheep Committee Representative Marita Phelan

Pigs & Pigmeat



Pigs Chair Roy Gallie leads a Pigs Committee protest in Portlaois in October, seeking universal support for the Irish pigmeat sector.

THE PIGMEAT MARKET

2021 has been dominated by a continual slide in pig prices from January down to today where the price is averaging at 1.46 / kg in ROI. While we are currently above the EU average, we are none the less now 30c below the cost of production per kilo. A number of factors have combined to create what is a calamitous situation for the pig industry.

CHINA

The collapse in the Chinese pig price leading to a glut of European Pigs on the market in Europe.

BREXIT

The effects of Brexit on the labour availability in the northern Irish slaughtering plants and the effects of COVID-19 and a return to home of a significant number of the Irish labour force. The consequence of these is an inability of the processing sector to kill the available pigs in a timely fashion.

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

The emergence of ASF in Germany precluded their ability to sell pig meat to China, compounded the collapse in pig prices.

FEED PRICE

The rise in global gas prices has led to an increase in most feed ingredient costs by 15%. Pigs are losing €30+ / head and sows are a give-away at €50/each in November 2021.

PIG COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Labour Shortage

The IFA Pigs Committee has engaged extensively with DAFM and DETE to gain access to labour from outside the EU which has been partly successful in the recent issuing of 1500 permits for the processing sector. Due to the onerous nature of the application process, none have been allocated to pig farming operatives yet.

Continuous Engagement

IFA has also engaged with AHI, FSAI, the EPA, Bord Bia, The Pig Roundtable as well as DAFM throughout 2021 on a range of issues surrounding animal health & welfare, AMR, The Nitrates Review, Emissions and the important issue of reducing imported pig meat into Ireland.

DNA Programme

IFA pig farmers highlighted at a demonstration on Portlaoise the prevalence of non-Irish pig meat on offer to consumers and the importance of choosing the Bord Bia quality assurance label when purchasing. At the same time, we launched our farmer led DNA testing programme of the catering, hospitality, public procurement and independent butcher sections. The results of this will guide the future DNA testing strategy for 2022.

EPA & Environment

The IFA Pigs Committee have ongoing discussions with county councils and the EPA on environmental issues and the backlog of EPA licencing of piggeries.

Roy Gallie
Chair Pigs & Pigmeat Committee

Sarah Hanley
Pigs & Poultry Policy Executive



IFA President Tim Cullinan and Grain Chair Mark Browne meet with Minister for Agriculture Charlie McConalogue TD on the CAP Strategic Plan in December.

HARVEST 2021

The planted cereal area increased by 3.71% or 9865ha in 2021, this follows on from an increase in 2020 relative to 2019, the first year-on-year increase in the tillage area in well over a decade. The harvest of 2021 was a very significant improvement on 2020, with the rare but desirable combination of good yields, agreeable harvest weather throughout July and August and very high grain prices. An increase in the planted area in combination with good grain yields overall saw the native cereal harvest produce approximately 2.3 million tonnes which is a rise of at least 400k tonnes on 2020.

MALTING BARLEY

2021 was a much more positive year for malting barley. Crop quality was excellent in 2021, with very low grain proteins leading to record low levels of rejections. The IFA malting barley committee were in regular dialogue with Boortmalt over the following:

- Green forward price offers of €185/t and €200/t in October 2020 and January 2021 respectively
- Outright rejection of the €205/t offer for surplus malting barley in September 2021

FERTILISER

In collaboration with Copa-Cogeca, IFA continued to campaign against the anti-dumping charges currently taxed on urea and UAN fertilisers originating outside of the European Union. In September 2021, IFA President, Tim Cullinan wrote to Commissioner Dombrovskis, Head of the EU Trade Commission to highlight the dysfunctional nature of EU fertiliser markets.

CAP SUBMISSION & ECO SCHEMES 2023

IFA made a detailed submission to the consultation on the CAP strategic plan. The Grain Committee made the following suggestions

- The straw incorporation scheme should be funded under Pillar 2
- A specific tillage scheme is needed to help recover income lost via Convergence and CRISS
- The budget for the Protein Aid Scheme must be doubled from €3 million to €6 million euro

Tillage farmers were presented with limited options in the initial eco scheme offering by DAFM. The Grain Committee made the following suggestions:

- Farmers growing 4+ arable crops annually should qualify for an eco-scheme payment.
- Sprayers with GPS section control should be a qualifying measure in addition to section control on fertiliser spreaders

NITRATES SUBMISSION

The Grain Committee made a number of suggestions which were incorporated into IFA's overall submission document to the Nitrates Consultation Programme. The main points are outlined below:

- The proposed seven-day interval between harvest and cultivation is impractical and unworkable. Instead, there must be a greater focus on natural regeneration for 28 days post – harvest.
- The new proposed closed period date of September 15th for the spreading of organic manures is far too restrictive and the current date of October 15th must be retained to encourage the continued use of organic manures on tillage land.
- Farmers practising establishment techniques such as strip tillage or zero-tillage should not be required to cultivate post-harvest.

Mark Browne

Mark Browne
Chair IFA Grain Committee

Max Potterton

Max Potterton
Grain Policy Executive

Farm Business



Farm Business Chair Rose Mary McDonagh and IFA President Tim Cullinan launching the IFA Budget 2022 Submission in July.

BUDGET 2022

The Farm Business Committee is responsible for developing and coordinating IFA's taxation policy. Full day pre-budget lobbying information session was held in the Mansion House, open to all Government Ministers, TD's and senators. This followed pre-budget information sessions and an address by the President. Pre-budget lobbying was also conducted throughout the country at a local level by IFA officers. Lobbying was also well documented on social media. The taxation measures below were delivered as part of Budget 2022, following consultation with the Departments of Agriculture and Finance:

- **Young Trained Farmers Stamp Duty relief:** extended until end December 2022.
- **Stock relief:** extended for 3 years at a rate of 25%. Partnership stock relief (50%) and Young Farmer stock relief (100%) extended until the end of 2022.
- **Earned Income Tax Credit:** for self-employed tax payers, has been increased by €50 to €1,700. There is also an increase of €1,500 in the income tax standard rate band for all earners to €36,800.
- **Carbon Tax:** increased by €7.50/tonne to €41/tonne from midnight 13th October 2021. This will add an extra 2c to the cost of a litre of agri-diesel from May 2021.

FARM INPUTS

The Committee undertook a number of initiatives throughout 2021 to create awareness of the on-farm challenges arising from escalating input costs, and continue to keep under review. A Fuel survey was completed in May and a number of press releases issued. The IFA office in Brussels, supporting Copa-Cogeca efforts, continue to advocate for a suspension on Anti-Dumping measures on imports of urea ammonium nitrate (UAN) into the EU.

SBCI SCHEMES

The Future Growth Loan Scheme closed for applications in the main pillar banks end Q1 2021.

Uptake of Covid-19 Credit Guarantee Scheme has been relatively low. Reasons include the restrictive eligibility criteria, coupled with the fact that the majority of farm businesses continued to operate unaffected by the pandemic. The scheme remains open for applications.

The €330m Brexit Impact Loan Scheme opened for applications in Q4 2021. The scheme, similar to predecessors, is 80% state guaranteed, offers discounted rates with 1-6yr loan terms available for €25,000 – €1.5m applications (up to €500,000 unsecured) for liquidity, investment or refinancing.

IFA will continue to highlight that low cost working capital and investment loans are required, particularly in light of reduced market competition (Ulster Banks exit) and national climate ambitions where products for investment in agri-environmental/ renewable energy/bioenergy projects are required.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS WITH BANKS

The Committee maintained regular contact throughout the year with AIB, BOI, UB and PTSB, prioritising issues relating to reduced competition (Ulster Bank exit; 88 Bank of Ireland branch closures in ROI), service provision, access to and the cost of credit. IFA has called on the Government to invest in the necessary resources and infrastructure to develop fully-serviced community lending involving An Post, Credit Unions etc.

IFA wrote a letter to all the Pillar Banks in November seeking their commitment to supporting the finance needs of the agri sector. This followed Green Party MEP correspondence asking them to review their lending policies concerning lending to young farmers to finance expanding herds given potential risk of stranded assets given climate ambitions.

Irish banking culture board and Credit Review office

IFA have a representative on the Irish Banking Culture Board and Credit Review Office.

BANKING FORUM

The Committee met with the Financial Services Union (FSU) end April to discuss possible establishment of a Banking Forum to produce recommendations to reform the banking sector. IFA agreed to participate in principle but needs more detail.

IFA DEBT SUPPORT SERVICE

The IFA DSS was established in response to the prevalence of farmers in arrears following the last recession. It comprises an experienced team of IFA volunteers. 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

In March IFA made a submission to the Joint Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform re Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the General Scheme of the Consumer Protection (Regulation of Retail Credit Firms) Bill. IFA advocated for more regular and detailed reporting on the lending which is carried out under PCPs, including loan amount and types across agri sub-sectors to provide greater transparency.

In July IFA made a Budget submission to the Department of Finance seeking roll-over of existing taxation relief's; sector schemes, and added funding for BEEP-S; Sheep Welfare Scheme; Area of Natural Constraints; Organics, etc. in addition to the introduction of a number of innovative measures, extensions and additions to existing schemes.

In November, IFA made a submission to the Department of Finance (DoF), challenging the proposed introduction of the Zoned Residential Land Tax within the 2021 Finance Bill. A meeting was held with DoF and Revenue. Engagement continues.

ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER

IFA wrote to Meat Industry Ireland (MII) and ICOS urging all meat processors and marts to introduce Electronic Funds Transfer to replace cheque payments.

CENTRAL BANK MEETINGS

IFA held meetings with the Central Bank in January and March, where amongst others, items discussed included the reintroduction of Covid-19 payment breaks (which ended Dec 2020); better communication/engagement with customers; turnaround issues; need for more competitive interest rates; solicitors fees; distressed loans; debt collection services; restructured debt; loan sales & credit register.

Property Registration Authority of Ireland

IFA continued to engage with the PRAI through its Customer Focus Group. The Committee also engaged strongly re Prescriptive Easements and in particular the 30th November deadline for registrations under the 1858 Act, writing to Minister Darragh O'Brien and lobbying his Department. The 30th November deadline was successfully removed by Government, with a review of proposals to begin in 2022.

STAFF

Shane Whelan started as Farm Business Policy Executive in November.

Rose Mary McDonagh
Chair Farm Business Committee

Robert Malone
Senior Policy Executive

Shane Whelan
Senior Policy Executive Farm Business

Environment & Rural Affairs



Environment Chair Paul O'Brien and a Cork IFA delegation meeting with Christopher O'Sullivan TD, Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on the Environment, Climate Action and Biodiversity on the 'Signpost farm' of Dermot Walsh, Barryroe to discuss the Climate Action and Low Carbon Bill.

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2021 has been a seminal year for climate action with the enactment of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, which set a legally binding target to achieve net-zero emissions no later than 2050, and a 51% reduction in emissions by the end of this decade. Prior to this, IFA mounted a multi-faceted campaign, which secured fundamental changes including that the removal of greenhouse gas emissions may be taken into account when developing the carbon budget.

The EPA provisional National Inventory Report 2021 on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) which showed that overall national emissions have decreased by 3.6%, however emissions from agriculture have increased by 1.4% and now account for 37.1% of national emissions.

The Climate Action Plan 2021 – Securing our Future was published on the 4th November 2021 and set an emission reduction target of between 22-30% for the sector, to reach 16-18 MtCO₂ by 2030. IFA lobbied and secured a lower emissions reduction target for agriculture in recognition of the economic and social importance of the sector, the technical challenges to reduce emissions as well as the timeframe required for adoption. In addition, the lower target acknowledges the potential of the sector to offset emissions in other sectors, through on farm renewables, as well opportunities to enhance carbon sequestration.

IFA will continue to engage with Government and all relevant stakeholders to make a plan for the sector to achieve the emissions reduction target that will minimise the impact on farmer's livelihoods and ensure that adequate funding to support farmers to implement climate action measures.

NITRATES ACTION PLAN

The draft Nitrates Action Programme (NAP) was published in December, however will not be approved by the Commission until the March 2022 meeting. It is IFA's position that the existing nitrates regulation (including the derogation) must be extended until the next NAP and accompanying derogation is in place.

Prior to the draft NAP publication IFA made two submissions to the public consultation process, hosted online-farmers meeting, maintained regular contact with relevant Departments, lobbied TD's and Senators and engaged with IFA County Executives and Commodity Committees as well as discussion groups to formulate responses.

IFA secured a number of key changes to the proposed measures as well as additional time allocated before measure is to be introduced and undertake. IFA will continue to lobby to secure grant aid and Accelerated Capital Allowance (ACA) schemes to support farmers implement new regulations and realise greater environmental standards, which would benefit the entire country.

GREENWAYS

IFA agreed a Draft Code of Best Practice and Guide for National Greenway Projects and compensation package with Transport Industry Ireland (TII). A key part of the Code is a new Greenway Sustainability Payment (a once-off goodwill payment for early-sign on and co-operation) paid to each farmer as part of a voluntary land acquisition agreement process and in addition to the payment for land purchase and the other impacts of the greenway on their farm. The Greenway Sustainability Payment rates are based on 5 band from less than 100 metres to 550+ metres, with payments ranging from €67.50 per linear metre in band 1 to €40.90 in band 5.

PEATLANDS CLIMATE ACTION SCHEME

IFA engaged with Bord na Móna's throughout 2021 on the Peatlands Climate Action Scheme (PCAS) initially hosting an online farmers meeting. Following on from this an IFA Bord na Mona Working Group was established to address farmers concerns and issues raised. This group has met 6 times during the year including two field days. In addition, 24 submissions were made the public consultation process under the Peatlands Climate Action Scheme (PCAS).

RENEWABLE ENERGY

The EirGrid Roadmap 'Shaping our Electricity Future' was published in 2021 and set an increased micro-generation target of 500MW by 2030. IFA made a submission to the Microgeneration Support Scheme seeking that the scope of the scheme is widened to make more farm and community-based microgeneration projects viable through support under the scheme.

In addition, the Climate Action Plan 2021 set a target to contribute agricultural feedstocks to the production of 1.6 TWh per annum of indigenous sustainably produced biomethane for injection into the gas grid by 2030

SMART FARMING

The farmers that participated in the 2021 Smart Farming programme identified average savings of €5,400 and an average potential reduction of farm emissions of 6.5% by improving their resource efficiency. Two Smart Farming seminars were held in 2021 which focussed on regenerative agriculture and rebuilding soil organic matter and restoring soil biodiversity – resulting in increased carbon and improved water quality. A series of short informational videos were launched for farmers share information on learnings from the Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advisory Programme (ASSAP), EPA Catchment maps to increase farmers awareness of Nitrogen and Phosphorous pressures in their areas and how they can increase soil carbon storage. Work is ongoing to develop a three-year vision plan for the programme with the Steering Committee and stakeholder consultations.

Paul O'Brien
Chair Environment & Rural Affairs
Committee

Geraldine O'Sullivan
Senior Environment & Rural
Affairs Executive



IFA President Tim Cullinan meeting with An Tánaiste & Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment Leo Varadkar TD on the implications of the EU-Mercosur Trade Agreement for Irish farmers.

Potato



Potato Chair Thomas McKeown and Minsiter of State at the Department of Agriculture Senator Pippa Hackett launching a Potato Chipping Initiative on the farm of Cyrus and Colin Buttimer North Cork IFA.

REVIEW OF 2021 SEASON

The planting and growing season was generally quite timely this year. Good ground conditions allowed for timely plantings, however late spring frost did cause some damage and have a knock-on effect on some yields early in the season. Most of the crop is out of the ground at this point, with the exception of some areas. In terms of markets, it has been a mixed year for growers due to the various restrictions imposed throughout the year. Retail sales were strong in the first half of the year before plateauing and levelling off towards the back end of the year. This trend also coincided with the reopening of the hospitality sector. Once again, growers supplying the food service sector had a very distorted year. Increased input costs are already on the radar for growers approaching the 2022 season. IFA continued to arrange meetings with all retailers and merchants to ensure that farmers receive a sustainable margin and to discuss irrational quality parameters.

SEED POTATO

IFA continues to lobby for a model for 2-way trade in seed potato between the UK and the EU. IFA wrote to the Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE) and continues to lobby on this matter.

PLANTED ACREAGE 2021

The area of planted maincrop increased marginally on 2020 acreage to 7,994.55 ha. There was a small decrease in early varieties planted. Yields are reported to be average at best, official yield dig figures will be released shortly.

EU POTATO PROMOTION

The second year of the 2nd EU funded potato promotions campaign is now nearing completion, following a number of

successful activations this year. 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. This information is also published in the Farmers Journal, along with information in relation to stocks and market trends.

NATIONAL POTATO DAY (NPD) 2021

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 on a key market opportunities project over the past three years, for chipping potatoes, on both the market and technical front. The initiative was launched at Meadowfresh facility in September, with Minister Pippa Hackett in attendance.

PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS

IFA led a major successful lobbying campaign to attain an emergency approval of Diquat for the 2021 harvesting season. The non-renewal of Diquat is causing grave concern for growers and IFA will continue to work an emergency approval for 2022 and the approval of alternative active ingredients.

Thomas McKeown
Chair Potato Committee

Niamh Brennan
Senior Potato & Horticulture
Policy Executive



IFA Poultry Committee protesting outside retailers in December to highlight the unfair prices being paid for meat and eggs, as costs of production continue to increase.

MARKET REPORT

While retailer demand for poultry, chicken in particular, surged during Covid-19 restrictions over the past 15 months, there has been little increase in the wholesale price that processors receive. This is despite the additional costs asserted 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.

The increase in commodity grain and protein feed costs has resulted in a squeeze on margins that has not been recouped through the food chain. Irish poultry farmers require justified increases as a matter of urgency. The need for a food ombudsperson with statutory powers of enforcement is critical to controlling the power of a small number of retailers that have reduced the viability of poultry Irish farmers. A Bord Bia quality assured 2kg whole chicken retails at €4.50 c/kg. This is not enough to pay sufficiently for all the transport, packaging, processing and most importantly the farmer for growing this chicken.

The egg market continues to be in over supply for certain grade classes. The importation of eggs continued until march 2021. This has resulted in a backlog of eggs. The construction of new units in recently has also exacerbated the problem.

Like other sectors the increase in input costs has been heavily felt. Packers have covered feed increases somewhat but it's the invisible cost increases that are causing the most

problems (replacement birds, electricity, labour etc). The retailers have been contacted regarding increasing prices on the shelf for eggs recently.

PWG DISEASE COMPENSATION FUND PROPOSALS

The PWG has made a draft proposal to tackle future disease incidents such as LPAI. These proposals will involve contributions from farmers and other industry stakeholders. Ongoing dialogue on the proposal are continuing between the PWG, farmers and DAFM. The fund, if it comes to fruition, will aim to compensate farmers for Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza, and Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium.

AVIAN INFLUENZA & ILT

ILT has been a major problem this year especially in Monaghan where a large number of flocks have been affected. A vaccination programme is underway, but it will be sometime before the effects are evident. Highly Pathogenic Avian Flu has appeared this year in the wild bird population and has dispersed right across the country. In recent weeks, cases were confirmed on commercial flocks which resulted in depopulation on those farms. It is paramount that strict biosecurity measures are implemented on all farms, and for processors & egg packers alike.

Andy Boylan
Chair Poultry Committee

Sarah Hanley
Pigs & Poultry Policy Executive

Aquaculture



IFA Aquaculture Chair & Clew Bay Oyster Co-op and CLAMS Group Chair Michael Mulloy with Alex Blackwell, Treasurer Clew Bay Oyster Co-op, Rory Campbell BIM Director Seafood Technical Services Business Unit, Paul Murray SFPA, Padraic Gannon Croagh Patrick Seafoods, and Pat & Andy Mulloy, Connemara Seafoods at 'Taste the Atlantic' event held at Padraic's oyster farm in Newport over the summer.

IFA AQUACULTURE AND THE SEAFOOD TASKFORCE

The final report of the Seafood Taskforce which was published in October 2021, which recommended a proposed €60m fund for Irish Aquaculture being made available for initiatives in the Irish Aquaculture sector. The report describes the Governments ambition to 'Develop Irish aquaculture to mitigate against the negative impacts of Brexit that have been most pronounced in other sectors of the Irish seafood industry.' This represents an opportunity to invest in developing the Irish Aquaculture industry and also offers mitigation against the negative impacts that have occurred in other sectors of the seafood industry due to Brexit.

The Taskforce proposed initiatives for Irish Aquaculture include:

- modernisation of production sites in line with international best practice
- increase resource efficiency and reduce environmental impact
- advance understanding of market opportunities and innovation capability
- develop technical, marketing and management capability

IFA Aquaculture was a member of the Seafood Taskforce attending 14 meetings, biweekly, since it was first convened in March 2021. Numerous discussions, proposals and submissions took place throughout that time. Further engagement between IFA Aquaculture, BIM and DAFM officials will be needed to progress the recommended initiatives, to establish appropriate funding schemes to support Irish Aquaculture.

IFA AQUACULTURE AGM TO TAKE PLACE ONLINE IN FEB 2022

It was hoped the IFA Aquaculture AGM would take place in person in February 2022 at a suitable venue should Government restrictions allow – in light of continued uncertainty of Covid restrictions, the IFA Aquaculture Committee has decided to host the IFA Aquaculture AGM online in February 2022. This is in order to facilitate ease of planning – should Covid restrictions allow for larger in-person events closer to the time we may look at that option as it is preferred to meet in person if at all possible.

The 2-year term of the current IFA Aquaculture Committee is currently coming to an end, and elections may be held for any vacancies on the committee that may arise. Notice of the AGM and all relevant documents will be circulated to members no later than 14 days in advance of the AGM as per IFA Aquaculture rules.

PIVOTAL LICENCE DECISION FOR SALMON FARMING

In July, IFA Aquaculture welcomed the decision of the Aquaculture Licensing Appeals Board (ALAB) to grant an aquaculture licence to MOWI Ireland at their site in Shot Head in Bantry Bay. The decision was seen as a pivotal moment for the aquaculture sector in Ireland. The licensing decision for this site was appealed to ALAB in 2015, so the licence determination arrived at by the board is a comprehensive one with consideration given to environmental objectives.

Michael Mulloy
Chair IFA Aquaculture

Teresa Morrissey
Senior Policy Executive Aquaculture

COMHAIRLE NA TUAITHE

Following on from IFA Hill Committee lobbying, Comhairle na Tuaithe launched a pilot insurance policy for two Mountain Access Project covering Ben Sleibhe, Co Galway and the MacGillycuddy Reeks, Co. Kerry. IFA insist that the insurance / indemnification be extended to include all walking access areas and that cover for all farmers is in place.

IFA Hill Committee participates in the National Outdoor Recreation Strategy which is currently being developed in conjunction with the Department of Rural and Community Development. Following IFA pressure, thirty-one new trails have been added to the Walk Scheme as part of an extension which was secured by IFA in the Budget. This brings the total number of trails on the scheme to eighty and eight new Rural Recreation Officer posts have also been created to support the new and existing Walks. IFA Hill Committee secured a commitment from the Department of Rural and Community Development that the labour rate for farmers participating in the walks scheme would be reviewed in line with TAMS reference costings.

EUROPEAN INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS (EIP'S) / LOCALLY LED SCHEMES & LIFE IPS

The Locally led schemes, of which 9 operate in Hill and Mountain areas, are worth approximately €10m annually. 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.

The Wild Atlantic Nature LIFE IP is focused on the blanket bog SAC's and associated lands from Galway Bay up to north Donegal. It is being piloted in the Owenduff/Nepin SAC area in Mayo for 2021 and 2022, with payments for both years. IFA Hill Committee met the Project Manager and eligible farmers in advance of the request for expressions of interest. Following IFA lobbying, an increased number of places on the project were allocated, with the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage and Department of Agriculture jointly contributing €680,000 towards the additional farmers. A total of 175 eligible farmers in the Owenduff/Nepin SAC received contract offers.

€7.4m, of which €5.7m million is EU LIFE Programme funding, was secured for LIFE On Machair project, covering approximately 3,500ha of coastlands from Galway Bay to Malin Head. The project will take a voluntary Results-Based Payment approach to habitat management, providing payments to landowners and thereby placing the landowner, their skills, expertise, and knowledge of their land, at the forefront of the project's development. The project will aim to target the improvement in conservation status and ecosystem functioning of the unique machair habitats. The project is due to commence in February 2022.

BURNING

IFA got a commitment from DAFM that if a farmer has evidence or a sworn affidavit that they did not burn the land the land themselves, penalties would be waived. DAFM claim the scarred area is ineligible for payment. IFA insists that farmers whose land was burned but not by themselves in the spring on or after March 1st must not be penalised either with a penalty or have area classified as ineligible due to the burning when it is clearly eligible again before the BPS application date. There are a number of reviews and appeals pending which will be monitored closely over the coming months.

CAP

The Hill committee is involved in CAP discussions within IFA. Direct payments account for a significant portion of farm income in hill area. IFA got clarification that GLAS 1,2 & 3 and EIP's will be rolled over for 2022. No extra costs will be imposed on farmers, including planning costs, in commonage areas.

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.


The NPWS Farm Plan Scheme opened for new applications in March, with 119 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.

€120 million was allocated in Budget 2022 to conserve and manage Ireland's heritage. An expanded NPWS Farm Plan programme is included, covering bog restoration and conservation of protected peatlands.

IFA Hill Committee continues to participate in the Designated Areas Monitoring Committee.

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


Flor McCarthy
Chair Hill Farming
Committee


Rachel Moloney
Graduate Policy Executive


Denis Griffin
Senior Policy Executive Rural
Development & Hill Farming

Rural development



Rural Development Chair Michael Biggins and Hill Chair Flor McCarthy and members of the IFA Rural Development & Hill Farming Committees meeting the Wild Atlantic Nature LIFE IP Project Management Team in Owenduff / Nephin SAC area, Co. Mayo.

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.

A draft on the Proposed Interventions of Ireland CAP Strategic Plan 2023-2027 was made available in July and closed for consultation on September 3rd. The Rural Development Committee participated in the preparation of IFA's submissions on the Proposed Interventions.

Ireland's draft CAP Strategic Plan 2023 – 2027 was published in November and was open for consultation until December 8th. The Rural Development Committee participated in the preparation of IFA's submissions on Ireland's CAP Strategic Plan 2023 – 2027

Throughout the year, the committee has participated in the EU Civil Dialogue meetings in Brussels which is inputting into the 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 18th October. The balancing 30% of BPS began to be issued on the 1st December. By December 1st, €1.12bn had been paid to approximately 121,000 farmers, which is over 98.5% of eligible applicants. 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.

Following the ANC review throughout the year 2018, the vital income support scheme was implemented effectively in 2019. As well as protecting existing areas, the review brought in an additional 2,154 townlands, with 4,000 farmers benefitting for the first time.

Payment rates for Category 1, 2 and 3 are as follows;

LAND CATEGORY	AREA	2021 RATE
Category 1	1st 12ha	€148
Category 1	13-34ha	€112
Category 2	1st 10ha	€111
Category 2	11-30ha	€104
Category 3	1st 8ha	€93
Category 3	9-30ha	€88.25

IFA campaigned to increase the allocation for the scheme to €300m per annum in the 2022 budget.

An 85% advance payment was issued to farmers in mid-September. The balancing payment of 15% was made in early December, with €239m* paid to 95,000* farmers

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

48,000 farmers are in the GLAS Scheme worth over €200m per annum. IFA worked to ensure that advance payments were made on time with nearly 40,000 paid in early November with the 15% balance to be paid in May 2022. Detailed discussions took place with the Department on many of the technicalities in the scheme to ensure problems with the scheme were ironed out. 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

TARGETED AGRICULTURAL MODERNISATION SCHEMES (TAMS)

45,555* farmers had applied for TAMS and received approval to proceed with work.

25,516* farmers who have completed work have payment applications submitted and 24,153* farmers have received payment worth €324m* up to the end of 2021.

An allocation of €80m has been secured for the scheme in the Budget 2022, 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 March and was based on analysis of the costs of completed works up to the end of March. The review was implemented from the opening of Tranche 23, which commenced on July 24th. Due to soaring inflation rates, IFA lobbied for a further review of reference costs and this review commenced in November.

In light of delays caused by COVID19, flexibility on TAMS completion deadlines were secured. All participants whose TAMS II approvals or COVID-19 extensions that expired between 1 April and 30 June 2021 were given the ability to apply for an additional three-month extension. Participants will have one year to complete the approval.

Investments for calf welfare, which were previously available under the Calf Investment Scheme, are now included under TAMS. GPS spreaders, which were previously only available for tillage applicants, are now available for all categories of applicants.

Tranche 25 is scheduled to open on January 15th 2022 and will close 8th April. Further tranches will continue for 2022.

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 2021. 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 2020 habitat season. Payments for 2021 are currently in progress. IFA insists that the maximum amount of funding goes to farmers and that farmers who are already in GLAS should also be eligible.

RESULTS BASED ENVIRONMENTAL AGRI PILOT PROGRAMME (REAP)

The new results-based agri-environmental pilot programme, REAP, launched in April this year. It is a two-year programme for 2021 and 2022. The initial maximum intake for the scheme was 2,000 farmers and almost 11,000 farmers in total applied. IFA called on the Minister of Agriculture Charlie McConalogue to increase the initial €10m budget to meet the demand to ensure all farmers who wish to participate in REAP were given the opportunity to do so. Following this IFA lobbying, this number was increased to approximately 5,000. The high level of application for the two-year pilot scheme demonstrates the demand for environmental schemes amongst farmers.

RDP 2014 – 2020

The Committee is represented on the 2014-2020 Rural Development Programme monitoring committee. IFA's main objective in 2021 was to ensure that there must be a simple process to transpose plans for the CAP Transition period in 2022.

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. In November 2021, 68.7% of funds had been spent compared to an EU average of 61%.

CHARTER OF RIGHTS

The Farmers Charter of Rights continued for 2021. 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 GLAS, were paid on time this year, with ANC being paid one week ahead of schedule. 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 2022.

LEADER PROGRAMME

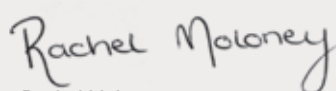
IFA is involved in the Leader structure through the LCDCs at local level.

The level of expenditure on the Leader programme has had a significant increase in activity for the last two years. To date 4,821 projects have been approved with a value of €200m, €112.3m has been paid out (€33.6m in 2021). This is out of a total allocation of €250m. A Transitional LEADER programme commenced in April 2021, with a total funding budget of €70m for 2021 & 2022

*Figure correct at time of writing (3rd December 2021)



Michael Biggins
Chair Rural Development Committee



Rachel Moloney
Graduate Policy Executive



Denis Griffin
Senior Policy Executive Rural
Development & Hill Farming

Fresh Milk Producers



Members of the FMP attend a farm seminar on 'Liquid Milk, In or Out'.

2021 was another year dominated by Covid-19 restrictions for FMP. In June, FMP held an on-farm milk quality meeting on the farmyard of Larry Hannon, Balitore, Co Kildare, to both highlight the frustration many FMP members have with the thermodynamic results and to collectively work together with the Glanbia Milk Quality Team to find solutions to on-farm thermodynamic problems.

The FMP management committee held an in-person meeting in Kilshee hotel in July and all other meetings of the FMP management and FMP Central Executive were held online in 2020. Interaction with Glanbia was also online in the main, but the FMP Negotiation Team kept communication lines with Glanbia management and Board members active throughout 2021.

Despite being postponed since 2020, FMP held a well-attended and very successful seminar day on two farms in September 2021. The event themed "Liquid Milk, In or Out" was held on the farm of Paul & Robbie Ennis in Kildare followed by the farm of Shane O'Loughlin in Monasterevin. Teagasc dairy advisory, Richard O'Brien facilitated an excellent debate on the merits of remaining committed to a liquid milk supply system, or focusing on a simpler spring-based production system. A well worthwhile day with

excellent interaction and feedback, and a simple message emerged. Whatever system you are in, liquid or spring milk production, do it well to maximise your own business. The greatest difference was within production systems as opposed to one system being far superior to the other.

Willie Lennon succeeded fellow Kilkenny supplier Jim Mulhall as FMP chair in February 2020 and the Covid 19-pandemic has been a constant throughout his two-year term. Despite the restrictions that everybody endured due to Covid-19, FMP under the chairmanship of Willie Lennon, was successful in gaining benefits for FMP members through negotiations with Glanbia.

2021 saw Jim Mulhall finish his term on the FMP Negotiation Team after serving for 8 years. John Roche from Hackettstown, Co Carlow was elected on to the Negotiation Team and joins Patrick Tuite, Vice Chair John Wynne and Willie Lennon to represent FMP liquid milk suppliers.

FMP Milk Quality Awards, were held in December 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 once again presented with the trophy for winning the FMP Liquid Milk Quality Award

Willie Lennon
Chair Fresh Milk Producers

Robert Malone
Senior Policy Executive Fresh Milk Producers



IFA President Tim Cullinan and IFA Deputy President Brian Rushe meet with Minister of State Peter Burke TD at an IFA Protest outside Dáil Eireann highlighting the ongoing challenges around harvesting horticultural peat and its central role in the sector.

HORTICULTURE REVIEW OF 2021 SEASON

Following an unprecedented year in 2020 with the knock-on effects of a global pandemic, 2021 has left many Irish growers in crisis mode as additional difficulties have further compounded the situation. Although European and Government policy all point towards the expansion of the Irish horticultural sector, unless high level issues are addressed it is likely that some growers will exit business in 2022. 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.

Throughout the difficult year, IFA continues to intensively lobby the government to implement policy to expand the sector. The Committee continues to engage with retailers to convey the precarious situation in relation to soaring input costs and the availability of labour. IFA are currently commissioning a study to evaluate the horticulture sector and to examine the long-term availability of local, sustainable produce if price increases are not achieved immediately.

As we approach 2022, 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 food ombudsman is established, IFA will be demanding that an independent retail regulator is established immediately.

LABOUR AND WORK PERMITS

Both the cost and availability of labour remain major issues in horticulture businesses. IFA has undertaken the following initiatives:

- Following an intensive lobby campaign and robust submission; the pilot work permit scheme re-opened in October 2021, with a further allocation of 1000 permits for the horticulture industry.
- IFA was involved in the Jobs Ireland event to attract workers from Ireland and Europe to work in the Irish horticulture sector.
- IFA continued to lobby for the introduction of a seasonal work permit scheme and will continue to do so in 2022.

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

IFA successfully lobbied for the €9 million budget for the Horticultural Investment scheme to be maintained following a 50% increase last year. The scheme is essential for the continued development and competitiveness of the Irish horticulture sector.

IMPORTANCE OF PEAT TO THE IRISH HORTICULTURE SECTOR

The industry is in a precarious situation in terms of the use of peat. IFA has conducted an intense lobby campaign on the issue and held two protests in Dublin as part of this. IFA members were fully engaged in the working group on peat convened by Minister Malcolm Noonan. 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 this year due to ongoing restrictions. The Green Cities promotion (which is 80% funded by the EU) began this year and the Committee are actively involved in the roll out of the successful initiative.

SOFT FRUIT

IFA was again involved in the organisation of "Celebrate Strawberry Season" along with Bord Bia and growers in the Soft Fruit sector. Overall consumer demand for Irish strawberries continues to increase, however, growers are fearful for their future due to increased input costs.

MUSHROOMS SECTOR

IFA lobbied for full compensation for any losses arising from Brexit, including Sterling volatility, for the mushroom sector.

Paul Brophy
Chair Horticulture Committee

Niamh Brennan
Policy Executive Potato & Horticulture

Farm Forestry



IFA President Tim Cullinan with Minister for Agriculture Charlie McConalogue TD and Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture Senator Pippa Hackett at the IFA protest on forestry licensing issues outside the Convention Centre, Dublin, where Dáil Éireann was sitting.

FOREST LICENCES CRISIS

In 2021, as of November, a total of 3,598 forest licences had issued. This is 80% of the 4,500 licences target set by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine for 2021. 2,245 or 62% of the total licences issued were for the private sector. The breakdown of the licence is as follows: 1,194 felling licences, 461 afforestation licences and 590 roads licenses. The scale backlog of licences continues to be unacceptably high, with 3,649 licences in the system. Project Woodland has defined backlog licences as a licence that is in the system for greater than 120 days.

IFA held a protest outside the Dáil on the 14th July to highlight the crisis in the forest sector and the need for emergency legislation to reform the licence system. IFA continues to campaign for the introduction of a single consent licencing system that actively supports farmers to plant and manage forests at farm scale and guarantees approval within the timeframe as set out in the legislation.

By the end of November 1,895 hectares of new forests were established, this represents a 22% decline on the area planted in 2020 and a 46% decline compared with 2019. The scale of the decline in the planting figures is a direct reflection of farmers frustration and unwillingness to plant under current licencing system due to excessive bureaucracy and costs.

REGULATORY REFORM OF FELLING LICENCE SYSTEM

IFA surveyed Private Forest Owner organisations across Europe, which showed that Ireland's felling regulatory system is more onerous. Elsewhere in Europe private forest owners have a proportionate regulatory burden that reflects the size, the type of operation, and which guarantees approval within an agreed timeframe. The survey gleaned that most have a permit system that guarantees a felling permit within a set timeframe and the appropriate assessment screening is undertaken by the forest authority.

As a result of this work undertaken by IFA the Department has taken responsibility for the appropriate assessment screening in the majority of licence applications for both roads and felling licences. In addition, consultants have been appointed by the Department to look at (i) 15km radius for appropriate assessments and (ii) introduction of single consent system.

PROJECT WOODLAND

As result of pressure from IFA, Project Woodland was established in February 2021 to improve the delivery of forest licence processes and an external Project Manager appointed to oversee delivery. IFA held an online meeting in March with Pippa Hackett, Minister of State for Land Use and Biodiversity with responsibility for Forestry providing farmers with an overview of the plan for Project Woodland. IFA is represented on the Forestry Policy Group, which monitors the implementation of Project Woodland and on the Working Group to deal with backlog of licences.

Since its initiation two interim reports have been published and thanks to the work undertake by IFA the Department now publishes weekly dashboards, backlog has been defined and most importantly an independent regulatory review is underway.

ASH DIEBACK RECONSTITUTION AND UNDERPLANTING SCHEME (RUS)

Despite changes introduced in 2021 to extend the eligibility of the scheme to ash plantations over 25 years old, the scheme totally inadequate. The scheme does not recognise the financial losses incurred by forest owners and is forcing farmers to continue to invest in a dying crop. IFA continues to lobby for the introduction of a new scheme that supports owners of all infected plantations to replant and have 15-year premiums reinstated. The option not to replant must be provided under certain circumstances.

Vincent Nally
Chair Farm Forestry Committee

Geraldine O'Sullivan
Senior Policy Executive Forestry

Rules, Privileges and Procedures



IFA National Returning Officer Martin Stapleton giving an update at the Count for the election of the Ulster / North Leinster Regional Chair in December.

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 Chair of the National Rules Committee and also give him responsibility for all IFA elections and election procedures

Bryan Barry retired from his position of Rules Secretary in March 2021 and John Mulhall was appointed to the position in July 2021.

REVIEW OF 2021

Following Rule Breaches and a breach of the Code of Conduct by a National Council Member, the Committee got advice from the IFA Audit Committee and Legal Counsel, the Rules Committee commissioned an Independent Report to examine the Rules and Code of Conduct breaches. The report was sent to the President and following this the President read a statement to Council regarding the National Councils members actions. This statement was agreed by National Council, following this the Audit Committee advised on a need for a structure to deal with disciplinary issues in the future as the current rules are unsatisfactory in this regard.

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:

- **Branch meetings:** The Rules Committee recommended that Branch AGM's resumed in 2021, some were held over the summer months outdoor, and were held and returned by the 12th of November, allowing for maximum flexibility as no branches had previously met in 2020. The newly elected branch officers took up their positions following the previous flexibility in the 4-year rule due to Covid restrictions.
- **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.
- **Ulster/North Leinster Chair Election:** This IFA election was held by using a postal ballot modelled on Seanad Eireann elections with safeguards for the secrecy and security of the ballot along with County debates where the completed Ballot return envelope could have been returned on the evening of the debate.
- **Commodity Management Committee Elections:** Voting was conducted by text message and was scrutinised by Ken Heade.

SUPPORT & GOOD GOVERNANCE

The National Treasurer/Returning Officer delivered dedicated induction training for new Council members. Ongoing advice and support was provided to officers and executives at county executive and national level

Martin Stapleton
Chair National Rules Committee National
Treasurer/Returning Officer

John Mulhall
Secretary Rules Committee

Animal Health



Members of the IFA Animal Health Committee meeting on the farm of Committee member Edward O'Malley, Co. Louth.

NEW EU VETERINARY MEDICINES REGULATIONS

IFA highlighted the key issues with the regulations which include anthelmintics becoming POM in 2022 and the facility to have medicines on farm in advance of diagnosis for emergency use.

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 on farm in advance of diagnosis of a condition.

Recognising the concerns raised by IFA, Licensed Merchants and veterinary pharmacies, implementation of the prescribing requirement for anti-parasitic products has been deferred until June 1st, 2022. This deferment is an opportunity to develop an approach that allows farmers avail of maximum competition in the supply chain and ensure that prescribing is not influenced by commercial interests.

ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION SYSTEM (NVPS)

DAFM are currently developing an Electronic Prescription System. The proposed system has advantages but IFA have raised data concerns with DAFM. The access electronic prescriptions could provide for DAFM and others to individual farmers medicines usage is a concern.

VCI PRESCRIBING GUIDANCE

The Animals Under Care Guidance is currently under review and IFA have made a detailed submission as part of the consultation process.

WILDLIFE

DAFM are continuing with the remapping of badger setts nationally and have recognised the significant information being provided to them by farmers. DAFM have agreed to implement the Wildlife Control Programme in areas in advance of major infrastructural works taking place.

€6m has been committed by the Minister in the Budget to the Wildlife Control Programme following IFA's submission seeking an increase in staff resources to implement the

programme. The TB Forum have also recognised the deer problem across the country and have announced the re-establishment of the National Deer Management Forum.

PURCHASE IN FACILITATION TO RESTRICTED HERDS

A new policy in relation to movements into restricted herds came into effect on the 2nd of August. This change allows restricted farms purchase in animals without the need for a clear herd test.

EU PRE/POST MOVEMENT TB TEST REQUIREMENT

DAFM proposed a phased introduction of the 30-day TB pre/post movement test starting with herds that have had TB in the previous 3 years. IFA have raised concerns in relation to the impact this will have on trade and have rejected the proposal.

IFA discussed focusing the requirement on higher risk animals (Cows) with senior DAFM officials in order to reduce the impact of the measure on trade. DAFM are considering this approach.

IFA has again clearly set out our objection to any changes in liability to pay for tests for farmers outside the current agreement.

INCONCLUSIVE POLICY

DAFM now remove historical inconclusive animals from herds with full compensation where the herd has a TB breakdown.

New Inconclusive animals, where the farmer chooses to hold on to these animals and retest them will undergo more intensive testing. These animals are restricted to the herd.

- GIF testing (blood testing) of the inconclusive animals 10 days after disclosure
- GIF testing (blood testing) at 6-month intervals

IFA has called on the Department to incentivise farmers to remove these animals from the herd by compensating farmers for inconclusive animals that go for slaughter at the end of the production cycle.



TB

National Bovine Tuberculosis Statistics 12 Month Rolling to end Q3 2021



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

12 month rolling

4,484 Herds
Restricted to end Q3 2021

4,508 herds restricted to end Q3 2020

2,796 Herds
Restricted on 03 Oct 2021

2,829 Herds
Restricted on 04 Oct 2020

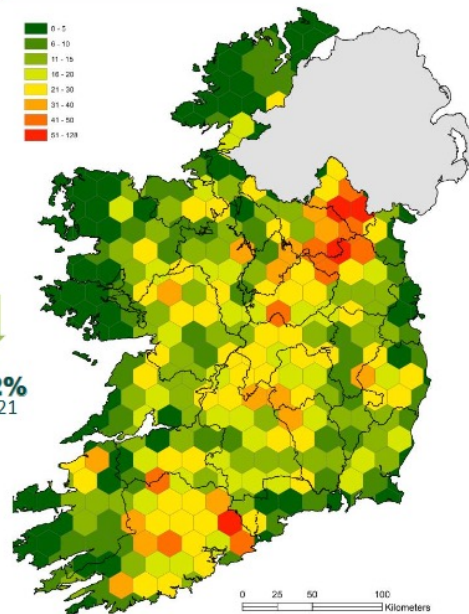
12 month rolling
21,470
Reactors Q3 2021
21,209 reactors Q3 2020

12 month rolling herd incidence per quarter
4.19% Q1 2021
4.25% Q2 2021
4.22% Q3 2021

5-year herd incidence

2020 - 4.38% 2019 - 3.72% 2018 - 3.51% 2017 - 3.47% 2016 - 3.27%

New restrictions in the last 12 months Q3 2021



CONTRACT REARING ARRANGEMENTS

Pre-August 2021

IFA objected to DAFM changes to contract rearing movements back to restricted farms that came into force in August that impacted on compensation eligibility for these animals. DAFM have accepted that females which moved out of their herd of birth prior to August 2021 and which subsequently move back into the herd of birth (i.e. contract rearing scenarios) during a restriction in that herd of birth will be eligible for compensation.

In cases where the rearing herd is restricted, females which moved out pre-August 2021 and which receive permission to move from the restricted rearing herd to their herd of birth will be eligible for OFMV if detected as reactors subsequently in the herd of birth.

Post August 2021

Contract rearing has become an integral part of dairy farm management and IFA has insisted that it must be facilitated in the TB programme. IFA has proposed an agreed protocol is established for farmers involved in contract rearing that reduces the risk of TB and sets clear best practise guidelines for farmers including setting out compensatory entitlements.

FACILITATION OF TRADE OF CALVES UP TO 120 DAYS OF AGE

The COVID TB Testing flexibilities which IFA secured in March 2020 ceased on 1st September. IFA sought a further extension which DAFM rejected. IFA have highlighted the positive impact the facilitation of calf sales up to 120 days old on the home market has had both in terms of calf welfare and

Animal Health (continued)

value for both the seller and buyer. DAFM recognise this and have committed to using the data from the past 15 months to again seek a permanent facilitation within the EU Trade Directive.

BVD

The enhanced BVD Programme began on January 1st 2021 with the objective of attaining EU recognised BVD Free Status for 2023. To achieve recognised Free status under the EU Animal Health Law a period of 18 months with no confirmed PI is required.

During the early stages of the new BVD programme IFA identified and raised a number of key issues with the programme including movement under permit, communication, tone and content of restriction letters and appropriateness of actions for restricted herds.

IFA have secured improvements on these areas the programme including higher levels of support payments where farmers lose larger numbers of calves as PI's. The 2022 programme will be a continuation of the 2021 programme

COMPULSORY BOVINE EID

DAFM have announced that it will be compulsory to EID tag all calves from July 2022.

From January 2022 all tag suppliers must supply an EID tag as part of the set with all new tag orders.

Following IFA's rejection to the imposition of this cost on farms the Minister for Agriculture Charlie McConalogue has

announced a €4.25m subvention scheme.

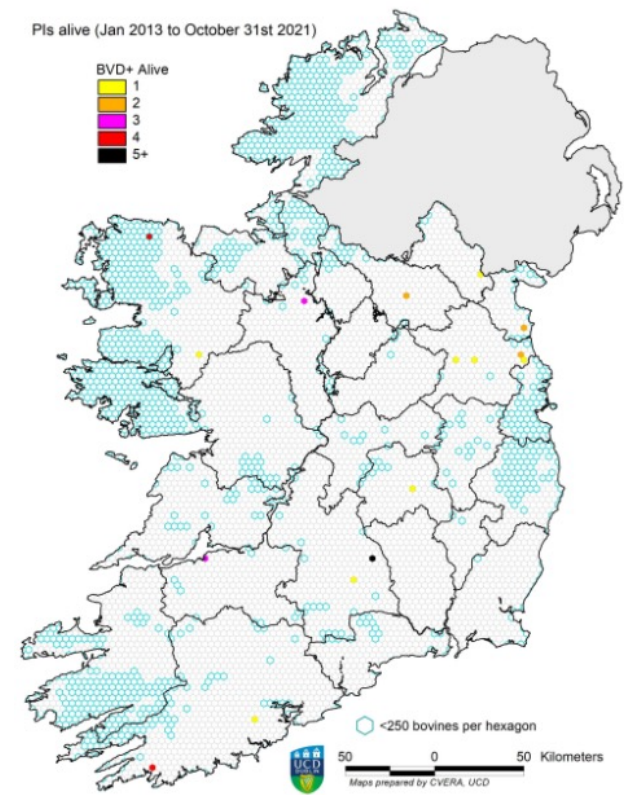
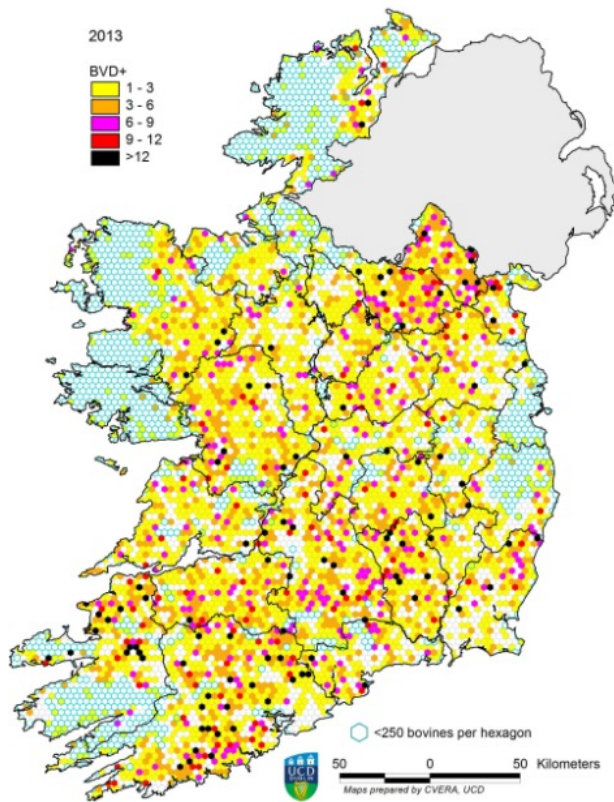
The scheme will operate over 3 years (2022 to 2024 inclusive) with the first payments scheduled to take place in Quarter 4 2022. Payments in 2022 will be calculated on the number of new EID tag sets purchased from 1st January 2022 at a rate of €1 per new EID tag set. There is a maximum payment of €100 per farmer over the life of the scheme and no application process will be required.

IFA have sought changes to the scheme including payment for tags purchased since the announcement to move to EID in 2022, payment for replacement tags and the provision of supports to purchase tag readers outside of TAMS

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



BVD Maps 2013-2021 showing reduction in numbers of PI's born

Pat Farrell

Pat Farrell
Chair Animal Health Committee

Anna Daly

Anna Daly
Policy Executive Animal Health

Tom Bourke

Tómas Bourke
Senior Policy Executive Animal Health

Farm Family & Social Affairs / Farm Safety



Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture Martin Heydon TD and his son John with Farm Family Chair Caroline Farrell and IFA President Tim Cullinan at the launch of IFA Farm Safety Week in July.

NURSING HOME SUPPORT SCHEME

After nearly a decade long campaign the Nursing Home Support Scheme, Fair Deal legislation was amended to introduce a 3-year cap on farm business assets subject to satisfying qualifying criteria. The amendment allows families to better plan and provide certainty around the cost of care for a loved one, while protecting the viability of the family farm for future generations.

The changes came into effect on the 20th October 2021. To qualify for the 3-year cap the person receiving care must meet the following criteria:

- The farmer, partner, spouse, or appointed successor must have worked on the farm for three out of the previous five years.
- A farm successor must be appointed and commit to farm for a period of 6 years.

The cap excludes farms that are leased to third parties as these are classified by the HSE as an investment asset rather than a productive asset.

Farmers who were in care under Fair Deal scheme before 20th October 2021 can still apply for the 3-year cap if they fulfil the qualifying conditions by submitting section 7 of the application form to their local Nursing Homes support scheme office before 20th April 2022.

SAFEGUARDING IRELAND

IFA is a representative organisation on the National Safeguarding Advisory Committee, which aims to promote safeguarding of adults who may be vulnerable and protect

them from all forms of abuse by persons, organisations and institutions. In 2021, the inaugural Adult Safeguarding Day was held on the 19th November other campaigns included safeguarding of adults with disabilities and coercive control.

FARM HEALTH & SAFETY

2021 marked the ninth annual Farm Safety Week. The collaborative campaign, initiated by the Farm Safety Foundation in the UK and led by the IFA within Ireland brings together farming organisations from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Northern Ireland Britain on the topic of farm safety. The message for the 2021 campaign was RETHINK SAFETY. Due to restrictions, it was not possible to host in person events around the country, therefore IFA redirected efforts on online with the launch of a new Farm Safety Hub on the IFA website, a video featuring a survivor story, two online Farm Safety Forums, which covered a range of safety topics as well as discounts from local co-ops on safety equipment and accessories.

IFA partnered with Agri Aware and AgriKids supported by FBD Trust to pilot Farm Safe Schools programme to Irish classrooms. The programme aims to engage and educate Irish children to become farm safety ambassadors to help create a safer future on Irish farms. Nearly 500 schools signed up to the programme with 21,268 kids participating in the programme.

In September, IFA in partnership with See Change, Coillte and Mental Health Ireland hosted a series of walks, throughout the country as part of the Green Ribbon campaign to raise awareness to improve mental and physical health.

Caroline Farrell
Chair Farm Family & Social
Affairs / Farm Safety Committee

Geraldine O'Sullivan
Farm Family & Social Affairs /
Farm Safety

Organisation



At the launch of the FBD 15% off a second policy offer for IFA members in September (l-r) Martin Stapleton, Chairman of IFA Member Service, John Cahalan, Chief Operations Officer FBD, Orlagh McNamara, IFA Head of Marketing and James Kelly, IFA Director of Organisation.

MEMBER BENEFITS & SERVICES

The member benefits and services package associated with IFA Membership significantly outweighs the membership subscription 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 2021.

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

In 2021, 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
- 10% off and €140 cash back with Bord Gáis Energy
- Exclusive discounts and a wide range of mobile handsets with Vodafone

- Competitive mobile phone and 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
- Crime prevention
- Training and development



Poultry farmer Robert McBride at the installation of the solar panels on his farm in Corbeg, Co. Monaghan in December.

MEMBERSHIP

The total number of voting members of the Association is 74,094. The total Association membership when taking all membership channels into account (main member, family, associate and countryside) was 77,000 at year end March 2021.

Membership income represented approximately 65% 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 & DEVELOPMENT

The IFA's training division, Farm Business Skillnet, provided training in 2021 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.

The vast majority of the training in 2021 was carried out online.

SOLAR PROJECT

In 2021, IFA partnered with Bord Gáis on a solar energy pilot. This important partnership with Bord Gáis Energy will see solar energy installations on up to 17 farms, across a number of sectors and geographies. The purpose of this pilot is to establish what works commercially and 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

CRIME PREVENTION

IFA's Crime Prevention Office had a busy 2021 helping members and rural communities combat the threat of loss and business interruption. Through awareness campaigns, practical crime prevention tips were provided at critical periods to give IFA members a reminder and to encourage them 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:

- 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



IFA President Tim Cullinan addressing the media at the *Stand up for Farming* Rally in Dublin in June.

MEDIA COVERAGE

2021 was a very busy 12 months on the media front, with climate action and CAP to the forefront of coverage.

The flexibility to meet in person allowed us to raise the profile of our campaigns and we secured valuable coverage across all channels, particularly since our Day of Action in June.

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

IFA.IE

IFA's central online platform - www.ifa.ie, is updated daily with news on IFA campaigns, policies and market prices and reports.

IFA.ie, which was redesigned and launched at the end of 2020, has a focus on providing quicker access to essential information that matters to our members, including new sections on the IFA resources, supports and contacts.

As the demand for the online delivery of meetings, events and seminars continued to grow, IFA.ie now facilitates the promotion and registration of these activities, allowing members to keep updated on the key policy topics that affect them.

Just under 300,000 people accessed the IFA website during 2021 – a 25% increase from 2019. In total, the website was accessed more than 590,000 times during the year, with nearly 1.5 million page views.

The most popular content on the website during 2021 included: our #SavelrishFarming campaign, market reports across all sectors, schemes and payments and some of our resources such as the Master Lease template.

IFA APP

The IFA app nearly has 14,000 downloads, representing growth of 15%. In the last year, the app was accessed 117,000 times by 72,000 people.

SOCIAL MEDIA

IFA has continued to develop its presence and impact on social media, increasing from 19,600 to 24,500 Twitter followers. This represents an increase of 30% during 2021.

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.

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

APPOINTMENT

The position of Agriculture & Consumer Affairs Correspondent with RTÉ has been vacant since March when Fran McNulty took up a role with Prime Time. The Agriculture & Consumer Correspondent role has been advertised, but RTÉ has yet to make an appointment.

The contraction of resources in daily newspapers means specialist correspondents no longer exist, which poses a challenge for coverage of our issues.

Niall Madigan
Head of Communications

Ethel Horan
Communications Manager

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
- Developing a good working relationship with Oireachtas Committee Chairmen/Clerks
- Ongoing liaison with Press Offices, researchers and advisers of political parties

Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015 – IFA Compliance

Since 2015, IFA is a registered lobbyist and has published 1,897 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 2021 included:

- Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) - minimise the impact of the eco-scheme on farmers' Basic Payment; 75% Internal Convergence; maximise national co-financing of Pillar II farm schemes; €1.5bn of carbon tax revenue for agri-environmental measures; practical implementation of Good Agricultural Environmental Conditions (GAECs) / cross compliance; phasing out of long-term leasing of entitlements, with appropriate definition of genuine farmer; trilogues negotiations European Parliament; Strategic Plan 2023-2027 Public Consultation
- Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021
- UK/Ireland Trading Relationship Post Brexit
- Budget 2022
- Nitrates Action Plan Review
- Food Vision 2030 Strategy
- Live Exports
- EU Directive on Unfair Trading Practices (UTPs) transposition / National Food Ombudsman / Enforcement Authority
- An Taisce's Appeal of the Planning Permission for the Glanbia Cheese Plant
- Aquaculture Sector - COVID-19 financial supports
- Straw Incorporation Measure (SIM)
- COVID-19 - Essential Construction Works on Farms
- Forestry Licensing Crisis
- Work Permits for Horticulture Sector
- EU Veterinary Medicines Regulation
- Lead in Gunshot.
- Results Based Environment Agri Pilot Project (REAP)
- Organic Farm Scheme



IFA President Tim Cullinan meeting with Sinn Féin Spokesperson on Agriculture, Food and the Marine Matt Carthy TD at IFA's briefing of Oireachtas members on Budget 2022 Submission.

- Commission on Taxation and Social Welfare
- Nursing Home Support Scheme (Amendment) Bill 2021
- BEAM – Beef Emergency Aid Measure
- Rewetting of Peatlands
- Scheme of Investment Aid for the Development of Commercial Horticulture Sector
- Mental Health - 'Let's Talk and Walk' Campaign
- Work Permits for Non-EU Nationals
- Veterinary Medicines
- Competition in the EU Fertiliser Market
- Sheep Welfare Scheme
- Greenways
- TB Eradication Programme
- Organics Farm Scheme
- Zoned Land Tax

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

- Rewetting of Bogs and the Impact on Drainage for Surrounding Farmland
- Eradication of Bovine TB
- Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) negotiations.
- Proposed amendments to the Good Agricultural & Environmental Conditions (GAEC) 2
- Challenges Facing the Organic Farming Sector

IFA made a submission to the Joint Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform Re: Pre-Legislative Scrutiny of the General Scheme of the Consumer Protection (Regulation of Retail Credit Firms) Bill.

Elaine Farrell

Elaine Farrell
Director of Governance and
Oireachtas Engagement

Project team reports

CAP and Brexit

The CAP & Brexit Project Team met on a regular basis throughout 2021 and prepared numerous policy recommendations for Council for further consideration. While Brexit remained high on the agenda, as 2021 progressed the primary focus of the project team related to CAP due to the ongoing negotiations at EU level to agree the next 2023-2027 CAP Programme. The project team met on 10 occasions in 2021 via both virtual and in-person settings.

Thankfully, the worst potential impacts of Brexit were alleviated following the signing of the Trade and Co-operation Agreement (TCA) between the European Union and the United Kingdom. However, the shadow of a hard Brexit continues to linger with ongoing tensions clearly evident between the EU and the UK.

IFA has continued to engage with stakeholders in Ireland, Northern Ireland, Britain and the EU to ensure the impact on Irish farmers is minimised. This included engagements with the Ulster Farmers Union, the National Farmers Union, the European Commission among others. IFA also continued to participate in the Brexit Consultative Group using this forum to highlight the challenges Brexit continues to present. In December, the President addressed the members of the European Parliament Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development where he emphasised the ongoing challenge and impact of Brexit on Irish and European Agriculture. The President outlined the need for swift political solutions on the ongoing challenges Brexit presents, to ensure farmers are not left carrying the can and absorbing the full cost of Brexit," he said.

IFA made strong representations at European level to maximise Ireland's allocation from the EU €5bn Brexit Adjustment Reserve (BAR) Fund. In tandem, IFA also

engaged with the Irish Government on Ireland's BAR allocation highlighting the need for a substantial allocation to be made to Irish farmers from this fund.

Following lengthy negotiations, The Trilogue parties (European Commission, European Council and European Parliament) reached agreement at European level in June on the next CAP Reform programme. Following agreement at European level, the focus moved to Ireland and the development of its CAP Strategic Plan, which firstly outlines how this agreement will be implemented in Ireland, and secondly sets out what level of Exchequer funding will be assigned to CAP for the 2023-2027 period.

Throughout the CAP negotiation process, IFA worked tirelessly to ensure that this CAP reform agreement did not make any further farmers unviable. Working with the CAP project team, IFA developed numerous policy positions relating to the CAP proposals including costed co-financing proposals, active farmer definition, support for the vulnerable sectors, design of eco schemes, and the reform of leasing of entitlements. IFA also engaged heavily with public representatives at National and European level throughout the year to minimise the damaging impact of the CAP reforms proposals could have on family farm incomes.

Tim Cullinan
Chair

All National Committee
Chairs & Executives

Horse Project Team

Chair of the IFA Horse Project Team (HPT) Richard Kennedy, held a number of meetings in 2021, both in person and online. The revived HPT held a meeting in September where the objectives for the immediate future were agreed and the main priority areas that the IFA HPT would focus on making progress for the circa 5000 farm families involved in the horse industry.

The 2021 IFA HPT 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.

On the priorities, the HPT will lobby to get financial supports for the equine sector through the Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme (TAMS). This has been included in the IFA submission on the overall CAP Strategic plan submitted to the Department of Agriculture in December 2021. The HPT met with senior DAFM officials involved in Tams and the job of work to get Ministerial approval for this request for the equine sector was made clear.

Other areas that the IFA HPT will focus on in the coming months are engaging with relevant authorities on Brexit implications for the sector and maintaining and safeguarding the high welfare status of Irish horse sector.

Through the IFA membership of the EU COPA Horse Working Party, currently chaired by HPT member James Murphy, IFA will raise horse policy issues to the highest levels in Europe.

Richard Kennedy
Chair Horse Project Team

Robert Malone
Senior Policy Executive
Horses

Organics

ORGANIC FARM SCHEME

The organic farm scheme (OFS) re-opened in March 2021 and a further 317 farmers applied to join the scheme. IFA continued to lobby for applicants who were unsuccessful in their applications in 2020 to be prioritised in this tranche of the scheme.

The project team successfully secured increased funding under the new CAP of €256 million. This funding will allow for more farmers to transition into organic farming under the new CAP. The project team continues to lobby for increased payment rates in the organic farm scheme.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

The sector remains under resourced in terms of research & development, education and knowledge transfer. The project team met with Teagasc in May to discuss future research for the sector, the provision of specialist organic advisors and knowledge transfer. The project team will continue to lobby for more resources for the sector.

MARKETS

IFA continue to liaise with Bord Bia on new market opportunities for the sector.

IFA ORGANIC FARM SCHEME INFORMATION EVENING

IFA held an information evening for farmers who were considering joining the scheme in March. The Department of Agriculture, Teagasc, IOA and Organic Trust were in attendance.

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 2022.

Nigel Renaghan
Chair National Organics
Project Team

Niamh Brennan
Senior Policy Executive
Organics

Direct Payments

PROGRESS ON DIRECT PAYMENTS IN 2021

- IFA pressed strongly for the timely delivery of all direct payments in 2021
- Participation in 4 Charter of Farmers Rights meetings were crucial, with the Department answerable to the commitments laid out in the Charter.
- A 70% higher advance payment under BPS was secured and paid in mid-October. The 30% balancing payment commenced on the 1st December, with €1.12* billion paid to 121,000* farmers to date
- 4,300* young farmers received €10m* under the Young Farmer Scheme. Payments commenced on 1st December
- Under the National Reserve, up to 886* applicants qualified for either full or top up payments, worth approx. €3.2m*.
- ANC advance payments (85%) commenced in the 3rd week of September with the balancing 15% issued in early December. ANC payments will be issued weekly for farmers as they meet the required stocking density and retention period required as per the ANC terms and conditions. Over 95,000* farmers received their full ANC payment, totalling €238* million.
- GLAS advance payments (85%) commenced in the 2nd week of November with the balancing 15% payment due in 2022. Over 39,000* farmers received their advance GLAS payment, totalling €138m*.

- TAMS payments are issued weekly as farmers submit payment claims. Average weekly payments range between €1.2-€1.4 million.
- The BDGP scheme payments commenced in mid-December to approximately 19,992 farmers, worth up to €35.9 million.
- BEEP-S payments began to be issued in the first week of December. €40 million is expected to be paid out to 27,500 farmers.
- Advance payments under the Sheep Welfare Scheme were issued the last week of November. 17,700* farmers received payments totalling €15.6m*
- Payments under the REAP scheme were issued in mid-December

IFA has been involved at both EU and National level on details on all farm schemes to ensure farmers could fully avail of them to support farm income.

IFA DIRECT PAYMENTS UNIT

IFA assisted thousands of cases of farmers who have individual direct payment problems across all schemes. The specialised unit dealing with queries is headed by Anna Daly.

*Figures correct at time of writing

Brian Rushe
Deputy President

Michael Biggins
Chair National
Rural Development
Committee

Brendan Golden
Chair National
Committee

Anna Daly
Policy Executive

Tómas Bourke
Senior Policy
Executive

Denis Griffin
Senior Policy
Executive

Financial Statements





Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

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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 group financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the consolidated assets, liabilities and financial position of the group as at 31 March 2021 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 2021, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the National Council.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the National Council use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity (or where relevant, the group) to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying

transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the business activities within the group to express an opinion on the (consolidated) financial statements. The group auditor is responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. The group auditor remains solely responsible for the audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that the auditor identifies during the audit.

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:

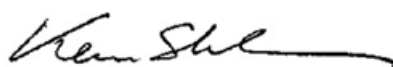
- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion the accounting records of the group were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with 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 groups's members, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the groups'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 groups's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Kevin Sheehan
For and on behalf of Deloitte Ireland LLP

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

Date: 14th December 2021

Consolidated Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2021

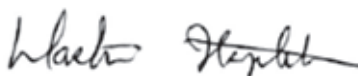
	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
INCOME	3	15,726,958	15,191,778
EXPENDITURE	4	(14,183,071)	(16,269,252)
Exceptional items – Provision for restructuring costs	5	(428,628)	(1,134,628)
Profit on disposal of fixed and financial assets		154,885	239,656
Government subsidy income		274,250	
Interest Receivable		327	426
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	6	1,544,721	(1,972,020)
Share of operating surplus in associate undertakings	11	424,582	85,153
Profit/(Loss) on financial assets through profit and loss	10	2,016,293	(2,430,155)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) BEFORE TAXATION		3,985,596	(4,317,022)
Taxation (charge)/credit	8	(846,228)	763,326
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		3,139,368	(3,553,696)

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

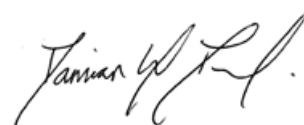
The financial statements were approved by the National Council on December 14th 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Tim Cullinan
(President)



Martin Stapleton
(National Treasurer/Returning Officer)



Damian McDonald
(Director General)

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
Retained surplus/(deficit) for the year		3,139,368	(3,553,696)
Total surplus/(deficit) for the year		3,139,368	(3,553,696)

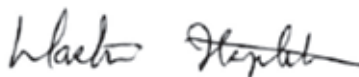
Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	9	550,797	541,919
Financial investments	10	11,782,157	11,079,120
Other investments	11	3,159,333	2,719,244
		15,492,287	14,340,283
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	12	1,173,382	891,444
Cash at bank and in hand		3,170,897	1,586,468
		4,344,279	2,477,912
CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)	13	(3,742,999)	(4,534,986)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		601,280	(2,057,074)
Provision for Liabilities	14	(1,594,006)	(923,016)
NET ASSETS		14,499,561	11,360,193
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Accumulated surplus		14,499,561	11,360,193
		14,499,561	11,360,193

The financial statements were approved by the National Council on December 14th 2021 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 2021

	Notes	Accumulated surplus €	Total €
At 1 April 2019		14,913,889	14,913,196
Total Comprehensive Deficit for the year		<u>(3,553,696)</u>	<u>(3,553,696)</u>
At 31 March 2020		11,360,193	11,360,193
Total Comprehensive Surplus for the year		<u>3,139,368</u>	<u>3,182,646</u>
At 31 March 2021		<u>14,499,561</u>	<u>11,360,193</u>

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	15	<u>256,812</u>	<u>(1,209,095)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Interest received		51	436
Dividends and investment income received		101,195	362,442
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(201,711)	(211,180)
Payments to acquire investments		(2,279,449)	(4,271,649)
Receipts on disposal of investments		3,706,031	3,701,312
Receipts on disposal of fixed Assets		1,500	
NET CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		<u>1,327,617</u>	<u>(418,638)</u>
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND BANK OVERDRAFT		<u>1,584,429</u>	<u>(1,627,734)</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR		1,586,468	3,214,202
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF THE YEAR		<u>3,170,897</u>	<u>1,586,468</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2021

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 17, 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 €644,956 (2020: net current liabilities of €2,057,074), and the association remained in a net asset position of €14,543,238 (2020: €11,360,193) at the balance sheet date.

During the current year and prior year, the National Finance Committee, on the direction of National Council, agreed to set aside some of the reserves of the Association to fund a program to reduce staff costs. It is anticipated that these exceptional costs will generate ongoing savings to the Association which, coupled with other measures, will restore the organisation to a position of surplus. The Association has also assessed the impact of the global Covid19 Pandemic on the going concern assumption. Since February, the association has continued to function and deliver services to members, particularly as agricultural activity is deemed an essential service by Government. Although the full impact of Covid19 cannot be fully assessed, management are satisfied that any negative experience to date, and expected future impact on the financial impact to the Association is not sufficient to cause any significant risk over the ability of the Association to continue as a going concern. The National Council, having considered financing arrangements currently

in place, the ability to generate cash from special reserve fund assets, likely funding requirements in the short term and 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.

- (d) 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' profit/(loss) 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 estimate 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:	2021 €	2020 €
Broadband and phone service sales	5,758,659	5,723,071
Affiliation fees	6,364,980	5,663,000
European involvement fund levies	2,814,308	2,775,361
Trust fund contributions	330,000	330,000
Investment dividend income	46,804	296,577
Other income	412,207	403,769
	15,726,958	15,191,778

All group income was earned in the Republic of Ireland.

4. Expenditure

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

Expenditure:	2021 €	2020 €
IFA Telecoms expenses	5,605,052	5,402,638
Total staff costs	4,961,847	5,585,739
Voluntary costs	431,878	1,131,997
Premises	428,882	437,151
Communications	264,645	496,872
Research	18,054	23,278
Public relations	151,866	549,009
Professional fees	415,289	301,548
Affiliation fees	117,335	70,144
Financial charges	294,974	260,352
Foreign travel	(64)	63,173
Brussels office	442,760	424,681
Membership recruitment	226,760	326,416
Membership promotion	385,953	408,153
Other overheads	205,500	141,120
Other expenditure	232,340	646,981
	14,183,071	16,269,252

5. Exceptional Item

	2021 €	2020 €
Charge for restructuring	428,628	1,134,628

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

6. Surplus/(Deficit) on Ordinary Activities Before Taxation

(Surplus)/Deficit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging/ (crediting):	2021 €	2020 €
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	192,833	104,552
Interest received	(327)	(426)

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:	2021 €	2020 €
Irish Farmers Association	30,000	26,500
IFA Telecom	16,520	16,520
ISGA	1,265	1,265
Total Group	47,785	44,285

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:

	2021 €	2020 €
President (Cullinan)		
Gross Salary	90,430	21,310
President (Healy – Up to 31 December 2019)		
Gross Salary	-	48,358
Net amount charged	90,430	69,668

The Remuneration Committee agreed that the salary of the President should be €120,000. This amount would be reduced by any directors' fees payable by outside bodies that came as a consequence of the IFA office.

Deputy President (Rushe)		
Gross Salary	20,373	6,506
Deputy President (Kennedy – Up to 31 December 2019)		
Gross Salary	-	19,192
Net amount charged	20,373	25,698

The Remuneration Committee agreed that the salary of the Deputy President should be €35,000. This amount would be reduced by any directors' fees payable by outside bodies that came as a consequence of the IFA office.

Director General		
Salary	185,350	185,350
Employer pension contribution	27,802	27,802
	213,152	213,152

*Includes one extra person and cross over period in Financial Controller role.

Executive Management		
Salary	492,445	412,989
Employer pension contribution	114,653	106,204
Key Management compensation	607,098*	519,193
National Council		
Labour replacement paid in Financial year	45,000	209,370
Effect of accrual release	(39,705)	(66,642)
Net amount charged	5,295	142,728

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

Salary	86,840	100,235
Employer pension contribution	14,388	21,413
	101,228	121,648

8. Tax Credit on Ordinary Activities

The tax credit comprises: Current tax on profit on ordinary activities	2021 €	2020 €
Irish corporation tax	43,677	52,908
Debit movement in deferred tax liability (Note 14)	670,990	(841,723)
Other taxes incurred	131,561	25,489
Total tax credit on ordinary activities	846,228	(763,326)

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

	2021 €	2020 €
Profit / (Loss) on ordinary activities	3,985,596	(4,317,022)
Before tax 12.5 % (2020: 12.5%)		
Tax if credited at standard corporation rate	498,200	(539,628)
Capital allowances in excess of depreciation	-	1,919
Income/Expenses not taxable in determining taxable profit	235,693	(311,781)
Impact of other tax rates	86,163	86,164
Group tax credit for the period	846,228	(763,326)

9. Tangible Assets

	Office Equipment €	Fixtures and Fittings €	Motor Vehicles €	Buildings €	Total €
Cost:					
At 1/04/2020	259,466	904,669	121,140	219,206	1,504,481
Additions	114,401	6,810	80,500	-	201,711
Disposals	(34,886)	(29,013)	-	-	(63,899)
31/03/2021	338,981	882,466	201,640	219,206	1,642,293
Depreciation:					
At 1/04/2020	194,857	679,474	70,695	17,536	962,562
Charge	61,426	89,902	32,736	8,768	192,833
Disposals	(34,885)	(29,013)	-	-	(63,899)
31/03/2021	221,398	740,363	103,431	26,304	1,091,496
Net Book Amount:					
31/03/2021	117,583	142,103	98,209	192,902	550,797
31/03/2020	64,609	225,195	50,445	201,670	541,919

10. Financial Investments

	2021 €	2020 €
Quoted investments at market value	11,782,157	11,079,120
Opening balance	11,079,120	13,032,320
Net (Disposals)/ Additions during the financial year	(1,313,256)	476,955
Movement in the fair value of investments	2,016,293	(2,430,155)
Closing balance	11,782,157	11,079,120

Quoted investments represent shares held by the Group in publicly quoted companies or other publicly quoted investment funds. The cost of these investments was €6,801,080 (2020: €8,119,630).

SPECIAL RESERVE FUND:

€8,959,137 (2020: €7,677,976) 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

	2021 €	2020 €
Unquoted Investments:		
Irish Farm Centre Limited (i)	3,099,741	2,658,152
Other Investments (ii)	59,592	61,092
	3,159,333	2,719,244

(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 profit of €870,759 (2020: profit of €174,638) before a taxation charge of €50,353 (2020: €39,345). Included in the operating profit is an amount of €699,459 (2020: €0) in respect of a building revaluation. The associate undertaking had combined net assets of €6,357,140 at year end (2020: €5,451,502). 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 €3,099,741 (2020: €2,658,152).

(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)

	2021 €	2020 €
Debtors	1,135,597	848,962
Accrued income and other receivables	37,785	42,482
	1,173,382	891,444

13. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2021 €	2020 €
Trade creditors	607,825	481,171
Pension/ staff and voluntary expense accruals	1,028,088	1,141,168
Provision for restructuring	275,000	1,134,628
Professional/ Legal and other accruals	273,593	123,593
Trade Accruals	1,404,598	1,312,719
PAYE/PRSI/Vat	153,895	341,707
	3,742,999	4,534,986

14. Provision for Liabilities

Deferred tax is provided as follows:	2021 €	2020 €
The deferred tax balance is analysed		
Deferred tax arising in relation to quoted investments	1,594,006	923,016
Provision for deferred tax		
Opening balance	923,016	1,764,739
Movement for the current financial year (Note 8)	670,990	(841,723)
Balance at end of year	1,594,006	923,016

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

	2021 €	2020 €
Operating deficit	3,183,046	(3,553,696)
Interest received	(326)	(436)
Dividends and investment income received	(101,195)	(362,442)
Profit on disposal of investments	(154,885)	(253,580)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	13,924
Depreciation and amortisation	192,833	104,552
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(264,969)	384,657
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(137,689)	97,230
Fair value movements on financial assets	(2,440,875)	2,345,002
Tax paid	24,550	15,694
Net cash flows from operating activities	<u>256,812</u>	<u>(1,209,095)</u>

16. Financial Instruments

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

	2021 €	2020 €
Financial assets		
<i>Measured at undiscounted amounts receivable</i>		
Trade and other debtors (note 12)	<u>1,118,628</u>	<u>848,962</u>
<i>Measured at fair value through profit or loss</i>		
Investments in listed equity instruments (note 10)	11,782,157	11,079,120
<i>Measured at cost less impairment</i>		
Other investments (note 11)	<u>3,159,333</u>	<u>2,719,244</u>
Financial liabilities		
<i>Measured at undiscounted amounts payable</i>		
Trade and other creditors (note 13)	<u>607,825</u>	<u>481,171</u>

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

	2021 €	2020 €
Financial assets		
On financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss	2,016,293	(2,430,155)
Interest or other income on financial assets measured at amortised cost	<u>51</u>	<u>436</u>

17. Pensions

The Association now 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 €635,295 (2020: €614,081). The amount owed to the scheme at year end is €48,471 (2020: €72,728).

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
- Buywayz 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.

In the prior year, the Remuneration Committee decided that it was reasonable to allow outgoing President Joe Healy to retain his car at the end of his tenure. The value of the car in the books of IFA was €13,921

Under normal circumstances the Association would provide a new vehicle for the incoming President at the start of his tenure. As an alternative, the Remuneration Committee agreed to purchase a vehicle already in use by the President. Tipperary Milling Company Limited of which Tim Cullinan is a director, were therefore paid €45,000 to acquire the car based on an independent valuation.

20. Events After Reporting Date

Since year end as reported in note 5, the voluntary headcount program was substantially completed. There were no other significant events since the financial year end.

21. 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.

Supplementary Information

(NOT COVERED BY THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT)

	Notes	At 31 March 2021				At 31 March 2020			
		IFA 2021 €	IFA Telecom Limited 2021 €	Consolidation adjustment 2021 €	Total 2021 €	IFA 2020 €	IFA Telecom Limited 2020 €	Consolidation adjustment 2020 €	Total 2020 €
FIXED ASSETS									
Tangible assets		387,893	162,904	-	550,797	411,067	130,852	-	541,919
Special reserve fund assets		8,959,137	2,909,479	(86,459)	11,782,157	7,677,976	3,500,359	(99,216)	11,079,120
Financial investments		3,159,333	-	-	3,159,333	2,719,244	-	-	2,719,244
		12,506,363	3,072,383	(86,459)	15,492,287	10,808,287	3,631,212	(99,216)	14,340,283
CURRENT ASSETS									
Debtors		926,389	3,542,396	(3,295,403)	1,173,382	736,628	2,241,313	(2,086,500)	891,441
Cash at bank and in hand		2,258,555	1,071,181	(158,839)	3,170,897	1,160,844	572,696	(147,069)	1,586,471
		3,184,944	4,613,577	(3,454,242)	4,344,279	1,897,472	2,814,009	(1,051,114)	2,477,912
CREDITORS: (Amounts falling due within one year)		(6,403,083)	(880,618)	3,540,702	(3,742,999)	(6,350,785)	(516,989)	2,332,788	(4,534,986)
NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)/ ASSETS		(3,218,139)	3,732,959	86,460	601,280	(4,453,313)	2,297,020	99,219	(2,057,174)
Provision for Liabilities		(1,594,006)	-	-	(1,594,006)	(923,016)	-	-	(923,016)
NET ASSETS		7,694,218	6,805,342	1	14,499,561	5,431,958	5,928,232	3	11,360,193
CAPITAL AND RESERVES									
Accumulated surplus		7,694,218	6,805,342	(1)	14,499,561	5,431,961	5,928,232	-	11,360,193
		7,694,218	6,805,342	(1)	14,499,561	5,431,961	5,928,232	-	11,360,193

Breakdown of Results for the year ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	IFA 2021 €	SRF 2021 €	Others 2021 €	IFAT 2021 €	IFC 2021 €	TOTAL 2021 €
Operating Results		1,018,491	(45,976)	170,774	289,097	424,582	1,859,968
Tax		5,326	-	-	(43,677)	(24,552)	(62,903)
Operating (Deficit)/ Surplus		<u>1,023,819</u>	<u>(45,976)</u>	<u>170,774</u>	<u>245,419</u>	<u>400,030</u>	1,797,065
Movement in Investments		41,559	1,343,043	-	631,691	-	2,016,293
Deferred Tax		-	(446,507)	-	(224,483)	-	(670,990)
Net Result/ Retained Funds		<u>1,065,376</u>	<u>850,560</u>	<u>170,774</u>	<u>652,628</u>	<u>400,030</u>	3,139,368

IFA National Committees 2021*

ANIMAL HEALTH

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Patrick Farrell	Chair, Laois	Athy
T J Maher	Vice Chair, Tipperary (S)	Killenaule
Anthony Jackson	Carlow	Tynock-Kiltegan
Maurice Brady	Cavan	Laragh
Michael Davoren	Clare	Carron-Noughaville
John Kingston	Cork (C)	Carrigaline
Derry Scannell	Cork (W)	Rossmore
Pat O Keffe	Cork (N)	Kildorrey
James Strain	Donegal	Fahan-Inch
Brendan O Donoghue	Dublin	St Margarets
Stephen Canavan	Galway	Corofin-Ballyglunin
Shane Mcauliffe	Kerry	Knocknagoshel
Joseph G Morrissey	Kildare	Manor Kilbride
Jim Fitzpatrick	Kilkenny	Mullinavat
James Walsh	Laois	Durrow
Liam Gilligan	Leitrim	Manorhamilton
Pius Horgan	Limerick	Abbeyfeale
Tony Bohan	Longford	Ballinamuck
Edward O Malley	Louth	Ardee
Padraic Joyce	Mayo	Islandeady
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
Joe Harty	Waterford	Dungarvan
James Fox	Westmeath	Killegad
Liam O Byrne	Wexford	Tagoat
Amanda Mooney	Wicklow	Ashford
Bert Stewart	Co-Opted	Drumgole
Paddy Donnelly	Co-Opted	Sonna
Declan Hanrahan	Livestock Committee Rep	Borris-In-Ossory
Sean Connaughton	Dairy Committee Rep	Boyle

AQUACULTURE

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Michael Mulloy	Chair, Mayo	Westport
Kian Louet-Feisser	Vice Chair, Louth	Cooley
Cliona Mhic Ghiolla Chuda	Waterford	Dungarvan
Ed Gallagher	Donegal	Rosses
Mag Kirwan	Kilkenny	Thomastown
John Harrington	Cork	Bere Island
Liam Roche	Mayo	Fahy Kilmeena
Jan Feenstra	Donegal	Fanad
Gerry O'Donohue	Galway	Connemara
Finian O'Sullivan	Cork	Bantry
Emmet Casey	Kerry	Cromane
Patrick T Sullivan	Kerry	Cromane

DAIRY

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Stephen Arthur	Chair, Wicklow	Rathdrum
Seamus Dolan	Vice Chair, Cavan	Templeport
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
Michael O Dowd	Kerry	Castlemaine
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
Keith O Boyle	Mayo	Hollymount
Michael Leo Morrin	Mayo	Cross
Denis Fagan	Meath	Kildalkey
Martin Mcelearney	Monaghan	Ballybay
Adrian Leonard	Offaly	Killoughey
Sean Connaughton	Roscommon	Boyle
Padraig Mulligan	Sligo	Templeboy
Pat Carroll	Tipperary (S)	Cahir
Michael Kennedy	Tipperary (N)	Nenagh
Mark Connors	Waterford	Kilmacthomas
Enda Burke	Westmeath	Kinnegad
M J Scallan	Wexford	Ballymurn
Jack Keenan	Wicklow	Aughrim

ENVIRONMENT & RURAL AFFAIRS

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Paul O'Brien	Chair, Kilkenny	Mullinavat
Chris Hayes	Vice Chair, Cork (W)	Roscarbery
George F. Byrne	Carlow	Bennekerry - Tinryland
Paddy Denning	Cavan	Laragh
Kieran Woods	Clare	Tradaree
Tony Mullins	Cork (N)	Mitchelstown
John Murphy	Cork (C)	Inniscarra
Francis Burns	Donegal	Buncrana
Philip Maguire	Dublin	Enniskerry
Henry Walsh	Galway	Oranmore
Aidan Griffin	Kerry	Glencar
Austin Morrin	Kildare	Naas - Caragh
James Murphy	Kilkenny	Mullinavat
Liam Delaney	Laois	Portlaoise
Eddie Mitchell	Leitrim	Ballinamore
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	Kiltoom
Bernard Finan	Sligo	Achonry
Eamon Cleary	Tipperary (N)	Ardcrouney
Peter Farrell	Tipperary (S)	Cahir
John J. Byrne	Waterford	Cappoquin
Adrian Elliott	Westmeath	Tubberclair
Thomas Doyle	Wexford	Camolin
David Johnson	Wicklow	Barndarrig

IFA National Committees 2021*

FARM BUSINESS

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Rose Mary Mc Donagh	Chair, Galway	Caherlistrane
Bill O'Keefe	Vice Chair, Kilkenny	Clara
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 McMahan	Dublin.	Rolestown-Oldtown
Helen O Mahony	Kerry	Castleisland
Robert Greene	Kildare	Athy
Pat Hennessy	Laois	Borris-In-Ossory
David Notley	Leitrim	Annaduff
John Cremin	Limerick	Ardagh
Roy McCormack	Longford	Newtown Forbes
Riona Meehan	Louth	Kilsaran
Aidan Munnelly	Mayo	Ardagh-Ballina
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 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Caroline Farrell	Chair, Kildare	Athy
Alice Doyle	Vice Chair, Wexford	Camolin
Michael Purcell	Carlow	Old Leighlin
Elizabeth Tilson	Cavan	Sheelin
Geraldine O'Connell	Clare	Parteen
Clare 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
Elizabeth McCarthy	Dublin	Bohernabreena
Teresa Roche	Galway	Abbey
Grace O'Sullivan	Kerry	Waterville
Marion Dunne	Kildare	Athy
Gemma Sherman	Kilkenny	Mullinavat
Mary Barber	Laois	Rathdowney
Mary McGovern	Leitrim	Carrigallen
Mary Breen	Limerick	Oola
Sheena Cassidy	Longford	Ballinamuck
Breda Brennan	Louth	Kilsaran
Diane Petrie	Mayo	Islandeady
Fiona Curran	Meath	Kells
Mary Deery	Monaghan	Clones
Mary Parlon	Offaly	Aghancon
Frances Keane	Roscommon	Dysart
Margaret Gormonly	Sligo	Tubbercurry
Kathleen Hogan	Tipperary (N)	Toomevara
Mary J Heffernan	Tipperary (S)	Tipperary
Elizabeth Coughlan	Waterford	Kinsalebeg
Mary Geraghty	Westmeath	Kinnegad
Ann Jennings	Wicklow	Arklow

FARM FORESTRY

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Vincent Nally	Chair, Westmeath	Sonna
Nicholas Sweetman	Vice Chair, Wexford	Glenbrien
John H Hanbidge	Carlow	Tynock-Kiltegan
Cathel Rudden	Cavan	Clifferna
Martin Murphy	Clare	Kilmihill
Tadhg Healy	Cork (W)	Clonakilty
John Magner	Cork (N)	K'Vullen - Ct'Roche - Shanbalymore
John O'Brien	Cork (C)	Barryroe
Ross Buchanan	Donegal	Carndonagh
Christopher Keogh	Dublin	Bohernabreena
Enda Monaghan	Galway	Caherlistrane
Jason Fleming	Kerry	Annablaha
Karl Matuschka	Kildare	Moone
Andrew O'Carroll	Kilkenny	Clara
Thomas Cosby	Laois	Stradbally
James Brennan	Leitrim	Kinlough
Simon White	Limerick	Askeaton
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
Francis Connolly	Tipperary (S)	Tipperary
Gabriel Foley	Waterford	Dungarvan
Claudia Marl	Westmeath	Collinstown
Charles Tottenham	Wicklow	Ashford

GRAIN

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Mark Browne	Chair, Wexford	Caim
Kieran McEvoy	Vice Chair, Laois	Portarlinton
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
Shay Galvin	Limerick	Croom-Meanus
Anthony Reynolds	Longford	Edgeworthstown
Michael Kieran	Louth	Knockbridge
James Murray	Mayo	Keelogue / Balla
Dermot Ward	Meath	Navan
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
John Murphy	Wexford	Monageer
James Hill	Wicklow	Barndarrig

IFA National Committees 2021*

HILL FARMING

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Florence McCarthy	Chair, Kerry	Kenmare
Stephen Walsh	Clare	Feakle
Neilie O'Leary	Cork	Coomhola
David Boyd	Donegal	Rosses
Caillin Conneely	Galway	Connemara
Patrick O'Shea	Kerry	Castlegregory
Kevin Hanlon	Kildare / West Wicklow	Manor Kilbride
Padraig McGowan	Leitrim	Drumshanbo
Peter Shields	Louth	Cooley
Patrick Chambers Jnr	Mayo	Derrada
Peter Hennessy	Tipperary (S)	Kilross
Peter Behan	Wicklow	Tinahely
Jay Kelly	Carlow/Kilkenny/Wexford	Borris
Benedict Gallagher	Sligo	Templeboy
Michael Biggins	Co-Opted NMA	Glencorrib

LIQUID MILK

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Keith O Boyle	Chair, Mayo	Hollymount
Laurence Hannon	Vice Chair, Kildare	Moone
Pat Coveney	CLMP	Glanmire
Dan Buckley	Clona & FMP	Glanmire
Mervyn Helen	Clona	Clonakilty
Gareth Porter	Aurivo	Finn Valley
Charles Mccandles	Aurivo	Culdaff
Patrick Tuite	FMP	Ardcath
Michael Freeney	Arrabawn	Athenry
Austin Grealay	Aurivo	Clarinbridge
John Finn	Arrabawn	Oranmore
Liam Grady	Arrabawn	Gurteen
Kenneth Jones	Lee Strand	Tralee
Walter Crowley	FMP	Mooncoin
David Bennett	FMP	Abbeyleix
Tom Treanor	Lakeland	Clones
Padraig Mulligan	Co-Opted (NMA)	Templeboy
Paul Merrick	Aurivo	Riverstown
Kenneth J Bray	FMP	Delvin
John Stone	Aurivo & NMA	Moate
Kevin Maguire	FMP	Ballycanew
Kevin Healy	FMP	Aughrim
John Wynne	FMP	Baltinglass
Willie Lennon	FMP	Goresbridge-Paulstown
Edward Breen	Lee Strand	Abbeydorney
Dan Hegarty	Clona	Glanmire
John Roche	FMP	Clonmore-Hacketstown
Jane O'Connor	Arrabawn	Kiltullagh

FMP

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Willie Lennon	Chair, Kilkenny	Goresbridge-Paulstown
John Wynne	Vice Chair, Wicklow	Baltinglass
Patrick Tuite	Dublin	Ardcath
John Roche	Carlow	Clonmore-Hacketstown
Kenneth Bray	Westmeath	Delvin
Denis Fagan	Meath	Kildalkey
Eddie Bannon	Meath	Culmullen
Larry Hannon	Kildare	Moone
Henry Dunne	Wexford	Bree- Galbally
Jim Mulhall	Kilkenny	Kilkenny City
Derek Tierney	Kildare	Timahoe
Patrick Coveney	Cork (C)	Glanmire
Seamus Killoran	Wicklow	Arklow
Pat O'Hanlon	Kilkenny	Kilmacow
Tommy Carberry	Louth	Collon

LIVESTOCK

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Brendan Golden	Chair, Mayo	Killala
Declan Hanrahan	Vice Chair, Laois	Borris-in-Ossory
Paul Balfe	Carlow	Rathvilly
Thomas Leonard	Cavan	Crossdoney
Joseph O Connell	Clare	Parteen
Ivor Jeffery	Cork (C)	Cloyne
Pdraig O Driscoll	Cork (W)	Skeagh
Kevin O Flynn	Cork (N)	Kildorrery
Frank McClean	Donegal	Letterkenny
Laurence Ward	Dublin	Rolestown-Oldtown
Michael Haverty	Galway	Clonberne
James Kieran O Shea	Kerry	Beaufort
Thomas Burke	Kildare	Moone
Thomas Mulhall	Kilkenny	Kilkenny City
Adrian Kelly	Leitrim	Cloone
Denis Duggan	Limerick	Doon
Paul Molihan	Longford	Ardagh
Peter Mceneaney Jnr	Louth	Tallanstown
Thomas Holmes	Mayo	Ardagh-Ballina
Eamonn Meade	Meath	Nobber
Michael Flood	Monaghan	Traugh Upper
Thomas Woulfe	Offaly	Bracknagh-Clonbullogue
John O Beirne	Roscommon	Strokestown
Trevor Boland	Sligo	Skreen
Edmond Burns	Tipperary (S)	Kilross
Joseph O Dwyer	Tipperary (N)	Upperchurch
Pdraig Daly	Waterford	Kinsalebeg
Donal Kenny	Westmeath	Turin
Jj Kavanagh	Wexford	Ballywilliam-Templeudigan
Sean Cooney	Wicklow	Ashford

IFA National Committees 2021*

PIGS & PIGMEAT

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
George Roy Gallie	Chair, Kildare	Cadamstown-Carbury
William Murphy	Vice Chair, Westmeath	Collinstown
Dermot Healy	Carlow	Tullow
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	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 (S)	Ardfinnan-Grange
Richard Norton	Tipperary (S)	Ballingarry
David N Tyndall	Tipperary (N)	Roscrea
Michael O'Shea	Tipperary (N)	Roscrea
Darren Brady	Westmeath	Killucan
Sinead Brady	Longford	Abbeyshrule
Kevin Riordan	Wexford	Glynn

POTATO

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Thomas Mckeown	Chair, Meath	Nobber
Sean Ryan	Vice Chair, Wexford	Ballywilliam-Templeudigan
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
Barry Mitchel	Meath	Oristown
Shane Howell	Offaly	Killeigh
Michael Healy	Tipperary (N)	Moycarkey-Borris
Tom Delahunt	Wicklow	Ashford

POULTRY

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Andrew Boylan	Chair, Monaghan	Donaghmoyne
Brendan Soden	Vice Chair, Cavan	Lavey
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
Edmond Murphy	Waterford	Dunhill
Edward Keane	Waterford	Kinsalebeg
Michael Murphy	Waterford	Cappoquin
Derek Good	Cork (C)	Inishannon
Nigel Sweetnam	Cork (C)	Kinsalebeg
Warren O Connell	Cork (C)	Carrigaline
Eoin Cunningham	Limerick	Broadford-Kantoher
Pat O Connell	Limerick	Feoghanagh
Padraic Kiely	Mayo	Brickens
Michael O Hea	Cork (W)	Clonakilty

RULES & PRIVILEGES

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Martin Stapleton	Chair, Limerick	Oola
Matthew McGreenan	Louth	Cooley
Pat Hennessy	Laois	Borris in Ossory
Patrick Donnelly	Westmeath	Sonna
James Gallagher	Leitrim	Kinlough
Billy Cotter	Cork	Castletownroche
Kevin Kiersey	Waterford	Kilmacthomas

HORTICULTURE

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Paul Brophy	Chair, Kildare	Naas-Caragh
Thomas McKeown	Meath	Nobber
Val Farrell	Dublin	North Fingal
James Kearns	Wexford	Ballindaggin
Gerard Reilly	Westmeath	Drumrainey
Cornelius Traas	Tipperary	Cahir

IFA National Committees 2021*

RURAL DEVELOPMENT & LFAS

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Michael Biggins	Chair, Mayo	Glencorrib
Denis Tuohy	Vice Chair, Clare	Whitegate
Marian Dalton	Carlow	Tullow
John Beglan	Cavan	Mullahoran
Cornelius Buckley	Cork (W)	Caheragh
Tom O'Keefe	Cork (N)	K'vullen-CT'Roche - Shanballymore
Donal Howard	Cork (C)	Kilcorney
Laura Boyd	Donegal	Ardara
Frank Hemeryck	Dublin	Lucan
Peter Gohery	Galway	Eyrecourt
Dermot Kelly	Kerry	Kilcummin
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
Maria Ryan	Mayo	Shrule
Tom Finnegan	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
Simon Ryan	Tipperary (S)	Emly
Kieran Sullivan	Waterford	Kilmacthomas
Brendan Coffey	Westmeath	Turin
Anna Kehoe	Wexford	Ballycullane
Joseph Gahan	Wicklow	Ballyconnell
Pat Murphy	Co-option SACS	Ardrahan
Flor McCarthy	Co-options	Kenmare

SHEEP

MEMBERS 2021		
Name	County	Branch
Sean Dennehy	Chair, Cork	Crookstown
Kevin Comiskey	Vice Chair, Leitrim	Drumahair
Joe Nolan	Carlow	Tullow
Frank O Driscoll	Cork (C)	Glanmire
James Daly	Cork (W)	Kilrohane
Edmond Roche	Cork (N)	K'vullen/Ctroche/ Shanballymore
Adrian Gallagher	Donegal	Letterkenny
Richard Ryan	Dublin	Bohernabreena
David Harney	Galway	Ahascragh
Francis Foley	Kerry	Castlemaine
Denis Halpin	Kildare	Manor Kilbride
Leeson Neale	Kilkenny	Castlecomer
Peter Luttrell	Laois	Vicarstown
Edward P. Moriarty	Limerick	Anglesboro
Luke Casey	Longford	Ballymahon
Ciaran Sheelan	Louth	Cooley
Martin Shaughnessy Jnr	Mayo	Hollymount
Bernard Lynch	Meath	Castlerahan-M'Nugent
Marcus Stewart	Monaghan	Drumgole
Marita Phelan	Offaly	Croghan
Rose McDonnell	Sligo	Templeboy
John Crosse	Tipperary (S)	Cashel
Jude P. Ryan	Tipperary (N)	Borrisoleigh
Frank Cunningham	Waterford	Kilrossanty
Jack Mills	Westmeath	Sonna
Patrick Leonard	Westmeath	Kiltoom
Patrick Murray	Wexford	Monaseed
Selena Mackenzie	Wicklow	Barndarrug
Tom Holmes	Clare	Corofin
Ronan Delany	Meath	Dunshaughlin



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IFA Budget 2022 briefing of Oireachtas members in the Mansion House in September

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