

Teagasc Dairy KT Department
Tom O'Dwyer, Head of Department
July 2018

Overview of presentation

- ✓ Dairy KT dept. strategic focus
- ✓ Our objectives
- ✓ Who are we
- ✓ Our activities
 - ✓ Joint Programmes
 - ✓ Grass10
 - ✓ Dairy Expansion Service
- ✓ Our impact
 - ✓ Practice adoption
 - ✓ Discussion groups

Teagasc Dairy KT department

Research

Advisory
plus
farmers
(end users)



Our strategic focus

To increase the uptake of research proven technologies through our leadership of relevant knowledge exchange programmes and/ or campaigns

Objectives

- To facilitate better use of existing and new knowledge/ technologies
- To enable behaviour change
- Specifically, our objectives are
 - To increase grass utilisation to 10t DM/Ha/year and 10 grazings per paddock per year
 - To increase six week calving rate towards 90%
 - To reduce costs of production towards €2.75/kg MS (approx. €0.20/ litre)
 - To improve milk quality through the reduction of bulk milk SCC (target 75% of milk supplied in 2020 < 200,000 cells/ml) and residues

Who are we?

Head of Dept.

Tom O'Dwyer

Dairy specialists

George Ramsbottom, Joe Patton,
Martina Gormley, Stuart Childs

Ruminant Nutrition specialist

Brian Garry

Grass 10

Campaign Manager
Advisers

John Maher
Catherine Egan, John Douglas

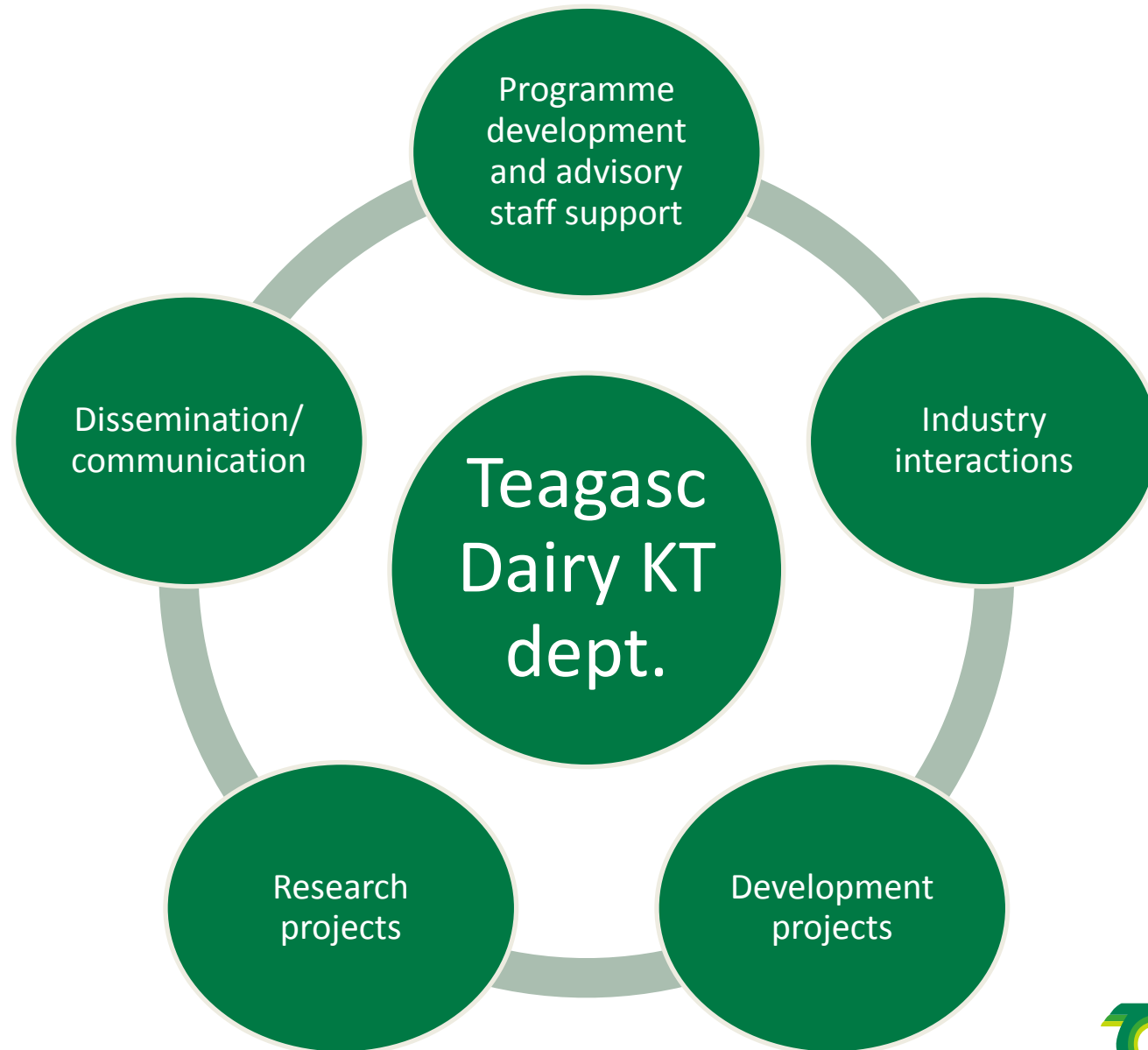
Dairy Expansion Service

Patrick Gowing

Technician

Padraig O'Connor

Our activities: what we do



Some recent examples

| | |
|--|--|
| Programme development and advisory staff support | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Comprehensive programme of in-service training for advisors ✓ Mentoring ✓ CECRA training ✓ Development of training modules e.g. Dairy StartUp and Managing Labour courses |
| Industry interactions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Collaborative programmes with all of the major milk processors ✓ Collaboration with external bodies e.g. ICBF, AHI, Farm Relief Services, IGA, ASA |
| Development projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The Grass10 campaign ✓ Dairy Expansion Service |
| Research projects | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ H2020 funded projects, including AgriDemo, NEFERTITI, ✓ Co-supervision of KT Walsh Fellows ✓ Winter milk systems trial (Johnstown Castle) |
| Dissemination/ communication | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Teagasc Dairy Manual, Teagasc Labour Manual ✓ Teagasc Dairy Roadmap ✓ Annual conferences, farm walks, events ✓ Monthly newsletter ✓ Technical updates/ articles ✓ Grassland Farmer of the Year (GFOY) competition ✓ The Dairy Edge podcast |

Why Joint Programmes?

- ✓ Industry perspective for advisory programmes
- ✓ Improved relationships between Teagasc and industry partner
- ✓ Uniformity and consistency of advice
 - ✓ vital for effective knowledge transfer
- ✓ Increased impact
- ✓ Funding for additional staff

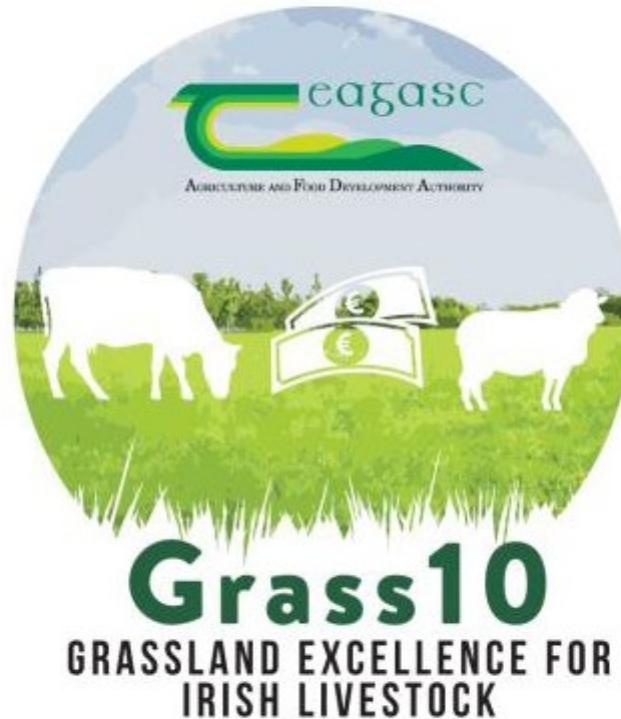
Our partners





Grass10 objectives

- ✓ To increase grass utilisation on Irish livestock farms, enabling more farmers to achieve 10 grazings/ paddock/ year utilising 10 tonnes grass DM/Ha
- ✓ To roll-out a data driven, tailored, grassland advisory service using PastureBaseIreland and our network of Teagasc Advisers



Grass10 delivery

- ✓ Delivering best practice
- ✓ Building capacity
- ✓ Building awareness
- ✓ Setting standards



Dairy Expansion Service

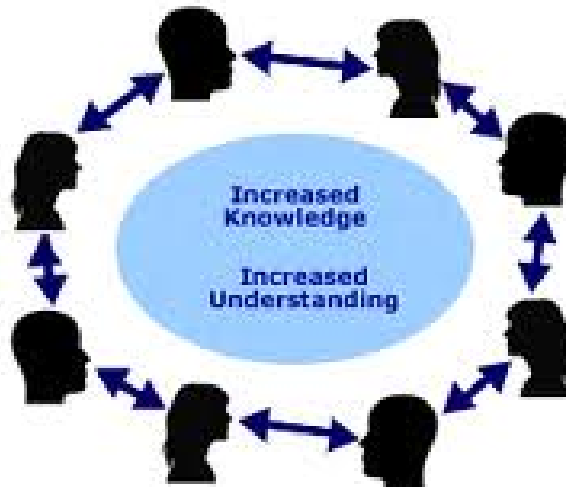
- ✓ Established in response to Milk Quota removal
- ✓ To lead and influence the sustainable expansion of individual dairy farms
- ✓ Three elements:
 - ✓ Dairy Grow (*Patrick Gowing*)
 - ✓ *Tailored, one-to-one advisory service offered to rapidly expanding and dairy start up farmers*
 - ✓ Dairy Start Up (*Abigail Ryan*)
 - ✓ *Short training course plus academy offered to dairy start-up farmers*
 - ✓ Dairy Step Up (*Paidi Kelly*)
 - ✓ *Support for people following an alternative career path into dairying, through partnership, leasing or share farming*

Impact (1)

| Target | | Progress | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | 2010 – 2012 | 2011 - 2013 | 2012 - 2014 | 2013 - 2015 | 2014 - 2016 |
| Practice Adoption | | | | | | |
| Increase grass utilisation by 0.5 tDM/Ha year on year | Teagasc clients | 7.04 | 7.13 | 7.20 | 7.53 | 7.83 |
| Increase EBI by €10 per cow per year | All farmers | -1 | 15 | 31 | 41 | 49 |
| Improve compact calving with a target of 90% dairy herd calved in six weeks | All farmers | 53 | 55 | 56 | 57 | 57 |
| Reduce the level of bulk milk SCC on Irish dairy farms so that 75% of milk supplied by 2020 is 200,000 cells/ml or less | Teagasc clients | 240 | 229 | 212 | 196 | 178 |
| Impact Indicators | | | | | | |
| Increase milk solids production to 1,250 kgMS/Ha | Teagasc clients | 728 | 752 | 761 | 786 | 795 |
| Reduce total production costs to less than €2.75/kgMS (spring milk) | Teagasc clients | 3.32 | 3.51 | 3.61 | 3.42 | 3.15 |

Impact (2)

- Discussion Groups are central to behaviour change
- Membership is worth €125/cow (2.5 cent/ litre or €247/Ha)



For More Information Contact

Dr. Tom O'Dwyer
Head of Dairy Knowledge Transfer
00 353 (0)25 42499
00 353 (0)87 2373293
tom.odwyer@teagasc.ie

Thank You