



# Food Industry Development Department

# Our Focus

Supporting innovation to improve the competitiveness of the Irish food industry through:

- The provision of specialist commercial services and
- The transfer of research knowledge and technology

Working with food businesses across the sector from international companies to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and food entrepreneurs.



# Our Staff



**Ciara McDonagh**



**Kevin Brennan**



**Shivani Pathania**



**Eddie O'Neill**



**Carol Griffin**



**Ita White**



**Tara Heffernan**



**Gerard Barry**



**Karen Hussey**



**Niamh O'Brien**

# Food Industry Supports and Services:

Product and Process Development

Specialist Training and Seminars

Food Assurance Consultancy

Technology/Knowledge transfer

Enhanced industry support through collaboration



# Product and Process Development

- Recipe Development
- Product Formulation
- Scaling and Pilot Processing
- Packaging Development
- Sensory and Product Analysis



# Specialist Training and Seminars

- **Core Training Programmes:**

- » New Product Development
- » Processing Technologies
- » Legislation
- » Food Assurance Standards

- **Public and In-Company Courses & Seminars:**

Tailored training and seminars to address specific industry needs and skill gaps identified





# Consultancy – Food Assurance Systems

- **In-company consultancy**
- **Technical standards development**
- **Technical audits**
- **Benchmarking against best practice**



Integrated farm to fork assurance is a commercial requirement and retailer technical standards (BRC, Bord Bia) are being continually refined.

# Technology Transfer to Industry

Supporting the implementation of the Teagasc Food Technology & Knowledge Transfer Strategy through:

- **Food Innovation Gateways Events**
- **Teagasc Food Technology Portfolio**
- **CRM System**
- **Technology Centre Initiatives**





# Recent Department Outputs

- Launch of Prepared Consumer Foods Centre (Oct 2018) with a €6.5million investment in capital equipment and upgrade of the Food Development Facilities at Ashtown.
- Completion of the fifth Food Works programme [www.foodworksireland.ie](http://www.foodworksireland.ie) in conjunction with Enterprise Ireland and Bord Bia, providing the necessary support for 9 new companies to launch their products on national or international markets.
- Delivery of Better Training for Safer Food Programmes, an initiative of the European Commission, to regulatory personnel in all member states across Europe and in countries exporting in to the EU.
- Food Innovation Gateways 'Beyond Brexit' event was held in June 2018 with over 250 delegates in attendance.

# Recent Department Outputs

- Continued work with leading companies to ensure their ongoing compliance with food safety and quality standards.
- Appointment of a Food Formulation Scientist and recruitment of a Food Process Engineer to develop these areas of research within the Food Programme.
- FID staff facilitated the major meat companies in the country to obtain and maintain their certification to the Bord Bia Meat Processing Quality Assurance Standard through auditing and training.
- Delivery of Animal Welfare Officer Training, a legal requirement for meat companies, to companies across Ireland. We are the only national provider of this training.