Crops & Spreaders 2019



Ecological Focus Areas

Potential Benefits of EFAs

For the Farmer





- · Enhanced crop pest control (natural predators)
- Increased pollination
- · Decreased soil erosion
- · Prevention of soil nutrient leaching

For Biodiversity







- · Increased species diversity
- · Increased habitat and landscape diversity
- · Maintenance of 'wildlife corridors'

Social & Tourism







- Public goods (Ecosystem Products and Services)
- · Maintenance of historical features and heritage
- · Clean, green image





Fig 1: Hedgerows are currently <u>eligible</u> as EFAs in Ireland



Fig 2: Drains are currently <u>eligible</u> as EFAs in Ireland



Fig 3: Buffer strips are currently <u>eligible</u> as EFAs in Ireland



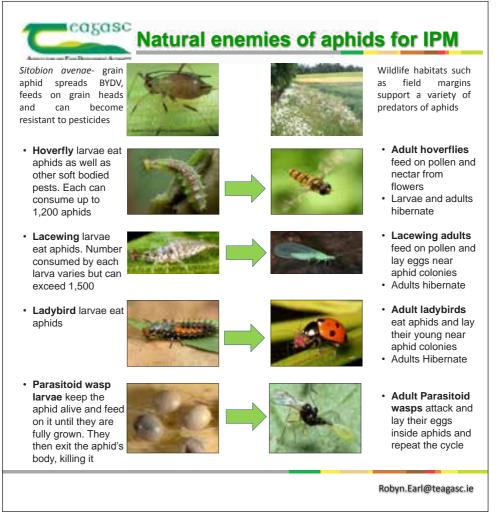
Fig 4: Fallow land is currently <u>eligible</u> as EFAs in Ireland



Fig 5: Field Margins are eligible as EFAs under EU prescriptions but are currently <u>not eligible</u> under Irish regulations

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