

Agroforestry Grants, Rules & Funding

Current options for farmers

‘Teagasc – The Sign Post Series’

Friday 24th September 2021
(on line event)

Mr. Eugene Curran,

Department of Agriculture , Food and the Marine

Skibbereen, Co. Cork. Ireland.

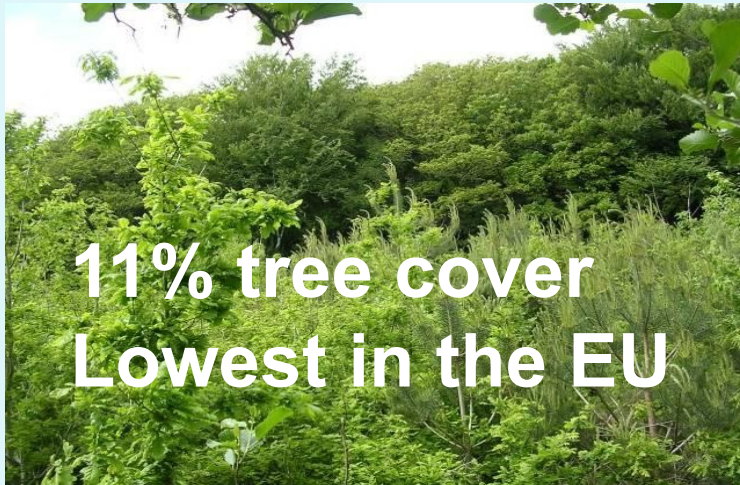
Mobile – 00 353 (0) 872536576

Email - eugene.curran@agriculture.gov.ie



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Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Grass + Animals + Trees ?



Loughgall (NI)

Research plots set up by Professor Jim McAdam



8 Yr Old



16 Yr Old



19 Yr Old



It appears to work

1st Demonstration Plot



Liam Beechinor planted 1.89 hectares of silvopasture with ash at 5 x 5 metre spacing (400 trees/ha) in Liscubba , Co. Cork In 2012



Establishment Grants & Annual Premiums

Grant and Premium Category (GPC)	Previous Total Grant Available per hectare (€/ha)	INCREASED 1st Grant (€/ha)	INCREASED 2nd Grant (€/ha)	INCREASED Fencing Allocation (IS436), 140m/ha	INCREASED Total Grant Available (€/ha)	INCREASED Annual Premium for planted areas less than 10 ha	INCREASED Annual Premium for planted areas greater than 10 ha	Premium Duration (years)
GPC 1 – Unenclosed	€2,600	€1,605	€535	€600	€2,740	€185	€190	15
GPC 2 - Sitka spruce / Lodgepole pine	€3,545	€2,330	€775	€600	€3,705	€440	€450	15
GPC 3 – 10% Diverse Conifer/Broadleaf	€3,650	€2,410	€805	€600	€3,815	€510	€520	15
GPC 4 – Diverse Conifer e.g., Scots pine, Douglas Fir	€3,965	€2,785	€925	€600	€4,310	€590	€600	15
GPC 5 – Broadleaf e.g. sycamore	€5,435	€3,960	€1,320	€600	€5,880	€605	€620	15
GPC 6 – Oak	€5,750	€4,215	€1,405	€600	€6,220	€645	€660	15
GPC 7 – Beech	€5,750	€4,215	€1,405	€600	€6,220	€645	€660	15
GPC 8 – Alder / Birch	€3,860	€2,695	€900	€600	€4,195	€605	€620	15
GPC 9- Native Woodland Establishment (oak-birch-holly-hazel)	€5,750	€4,215	€1,405	€600	€6,220	€665	€680	15
GPC 10- Native Woodland Establishment (alder-oak woodland)	€5,435	€3,960	€1,320	€600	€5,880	€665	€680	15
GPC 11 - Agroforestry	€4,450	€4,215	€1,405	€600	€6,220	€645	€660	5
GPC 12 – Forestry for Fibre	€2,450	€2,410	€805	€600	€3,815	€510	€520	15



Can be part of a larger plan !



Target

200 hectares of newly-created agroforestry by 2020



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Main Rules

- **Stocking – 400 to 1000 trees /ha (will be thinned over time)**
- **Area – Minimum area of 0.5 hectares.**
- **Width – Plots should be a minimum of 20 metres wide.**
- **Fruit & Nut trees – 15% of the area can be allocated.**
- **Protection – Against browsing with shelters and fencing.**
- **Plant size – 90cm plus, exit tubes earlier.**



Specifications cont.

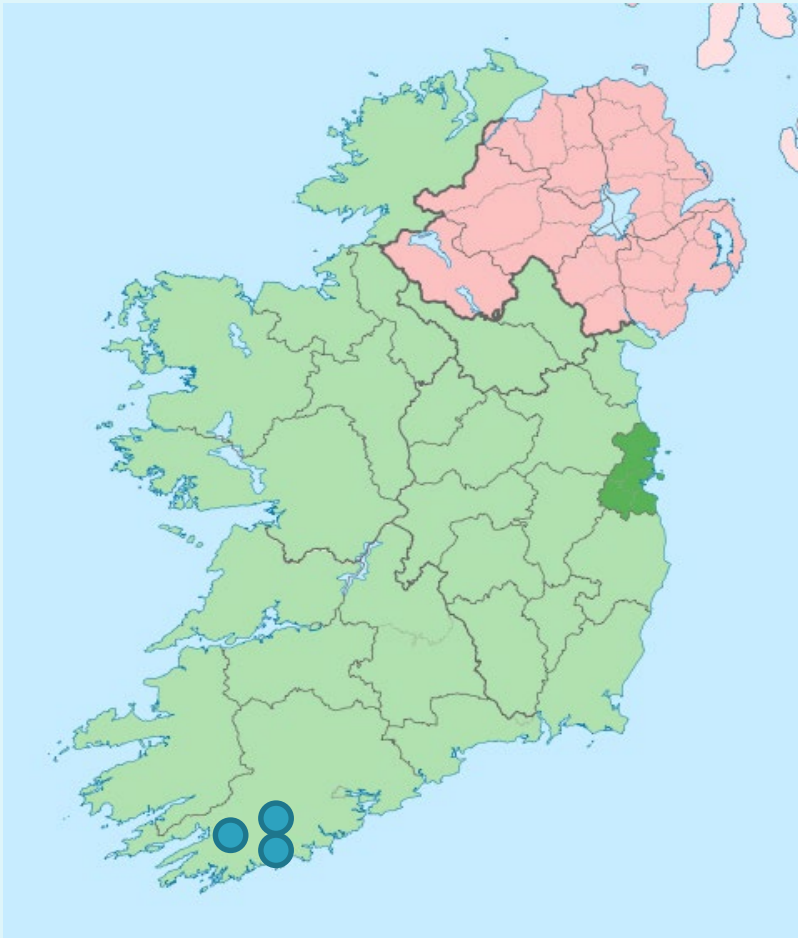
- **Soil – Well drained, no mound drains.**
- **Fertilizer – 100 kg/ha of nitrogen for grass.**
- **Cultivation – Pit plant or use an auger.**
- **Tree shelter – rigid 1.5m tall.**
- **Posts – Two 1.5m tall (7cm diameter),
one with flat surface. Prevent crushing.**
- **Herbicides – avoid or spot spray area to be planted.**
- **Species – Oak, sycamore, birch, cherry , Norway maple,
Walnut, Scots pine, red oak, (others)**



New Applications

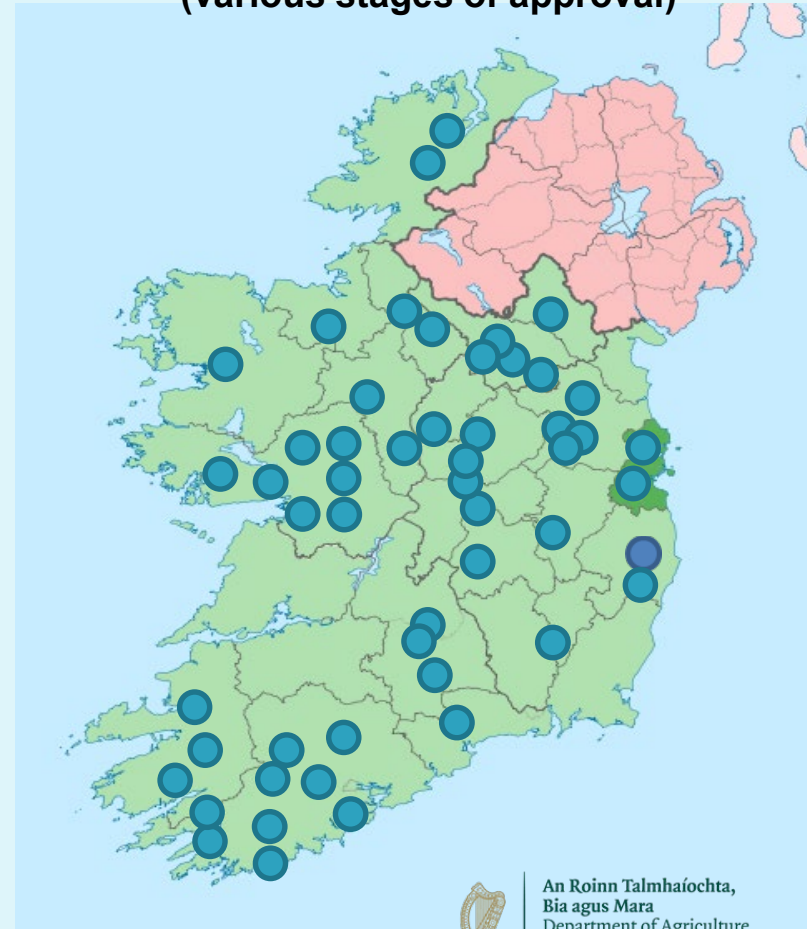
2015

5 ha demonstration, 3 farmers



2021

226 ha in the system 71 farmers
(various stages of approval)

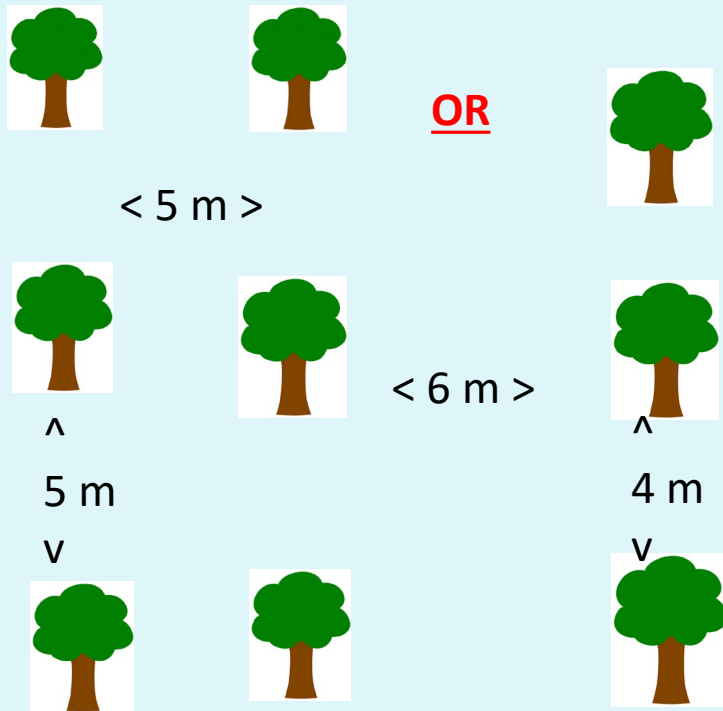


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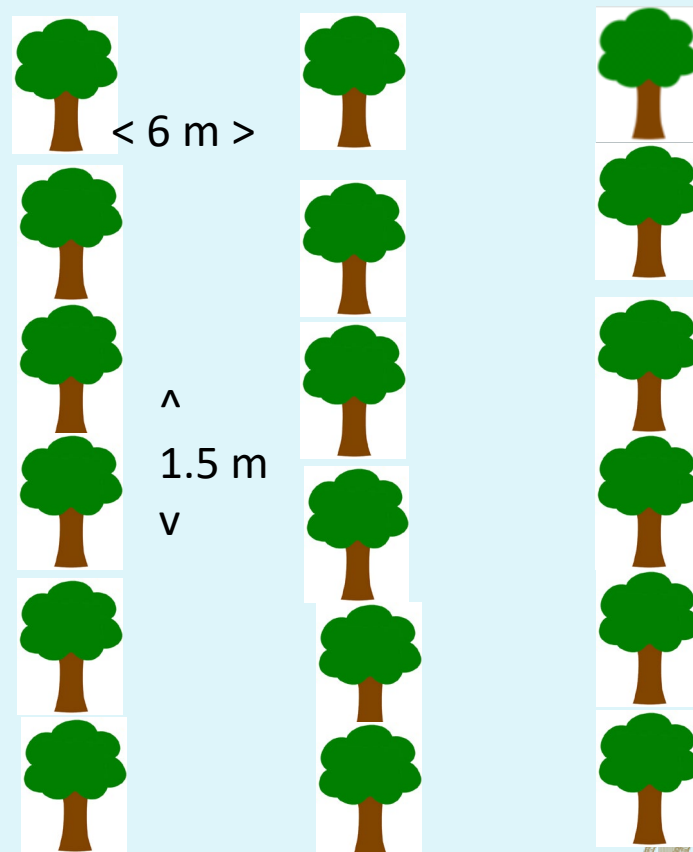
Designs

(400 -1000 trees/ha)

400 plants/ha
poultry/sheep/Silage

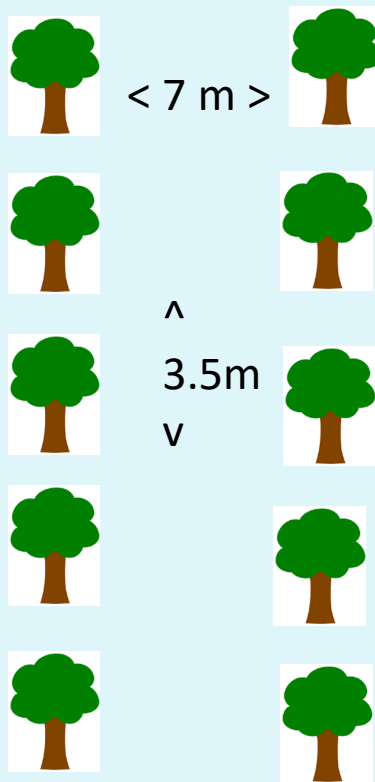


1111 plants/ha
Poultry/sheep/silage/hay

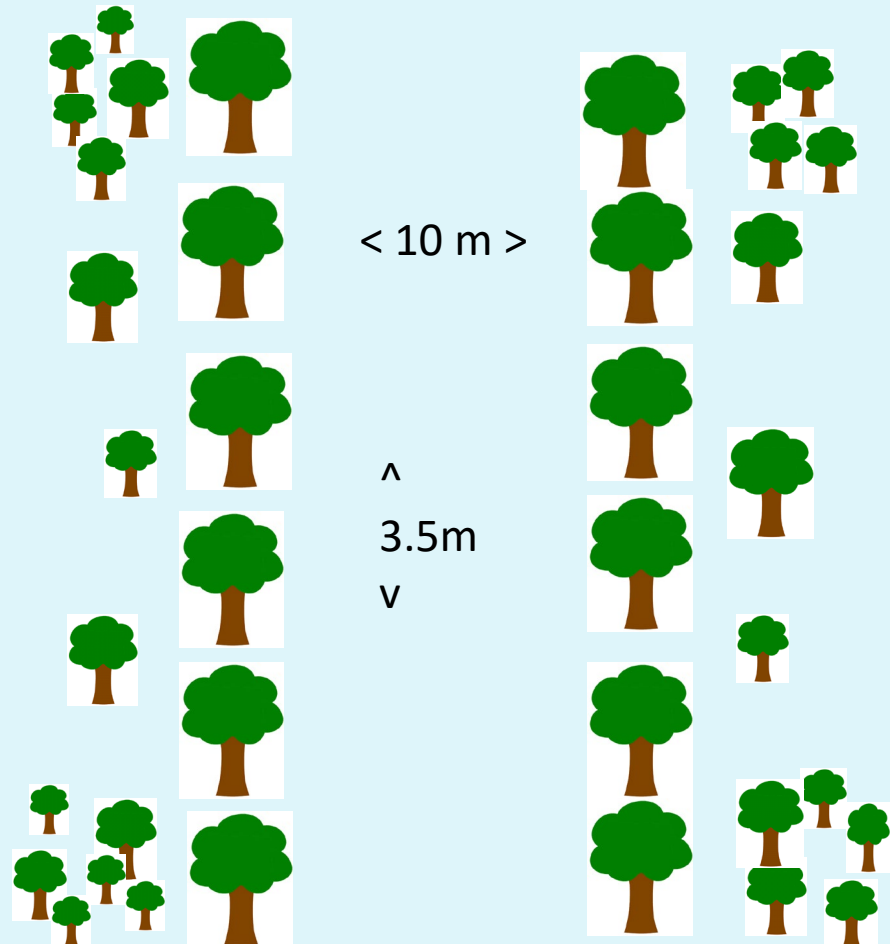


Designs cont.

408 plants/ha
(poultry/sheep/silage)



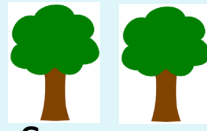
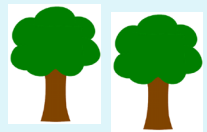
285 plants/ha (115 hedges/corners)
(poultry/sheep/silage)



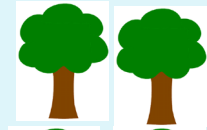
Designs cont.

Mixtures

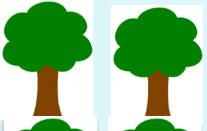
poultry/sheep



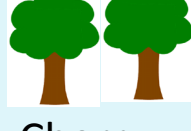
Sycamore



Birch



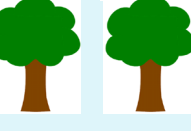
Cherry



Cherry



Sycamore

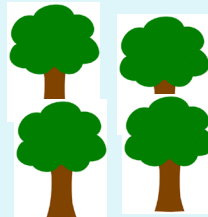


Birch

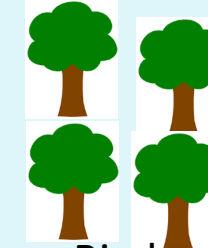
Single tree 5m x 5m



Scots pine



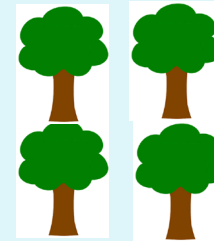
Cherry



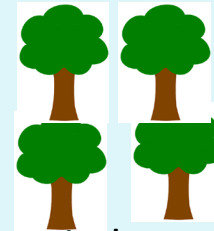
Birch

Conifers ?

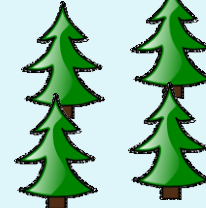
poultry/sheep



Cherry



Birch

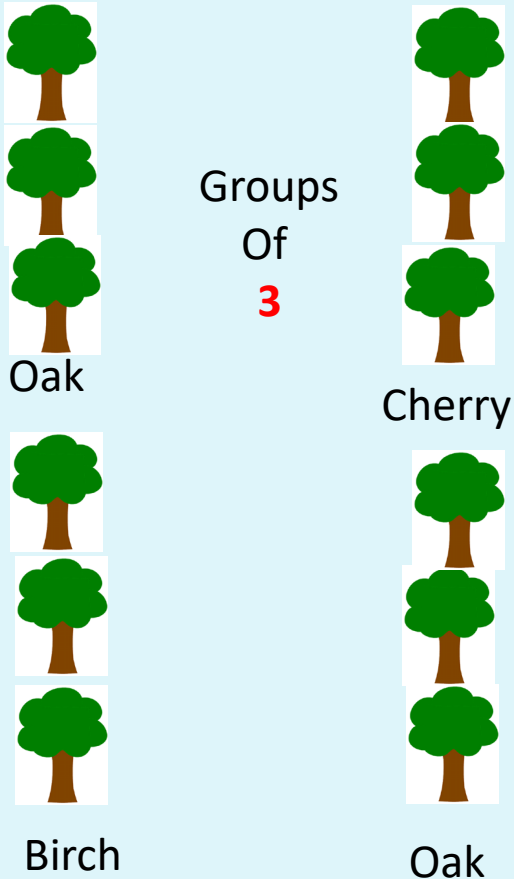


Scots pine

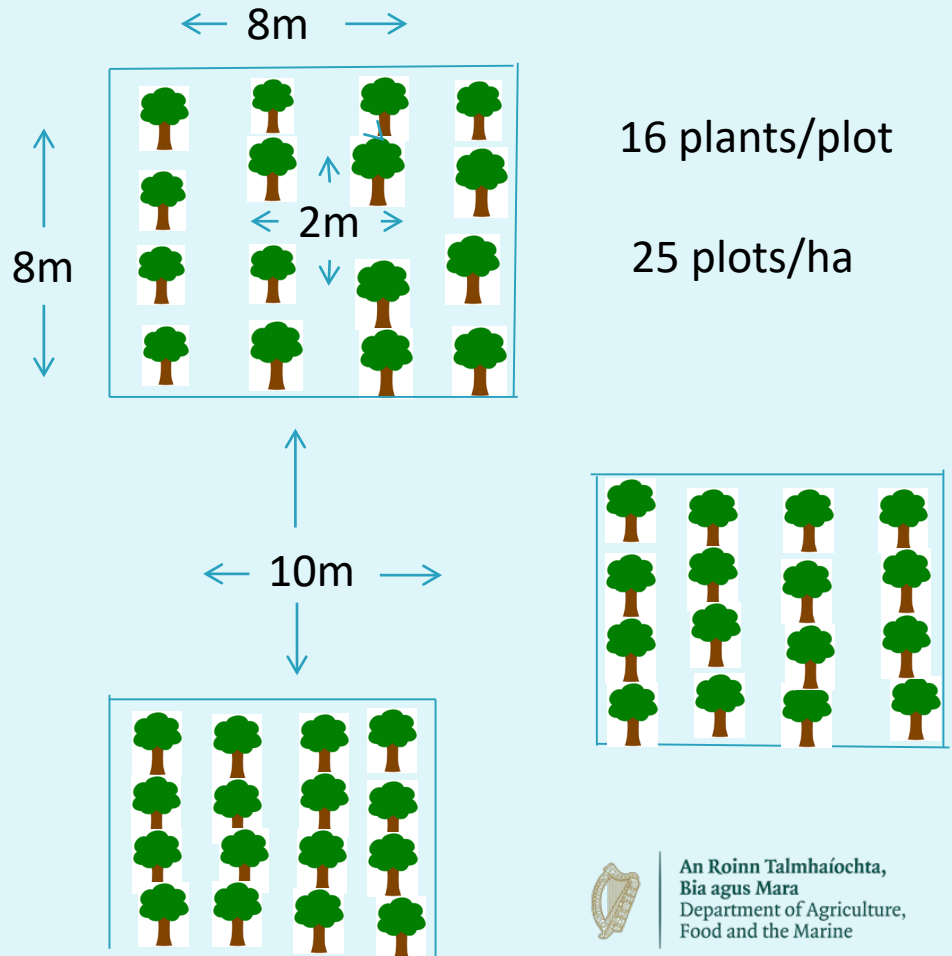


Designs cont.

Rows & Alleys poultry/sheep



Groups (400 trees/ha) Cattle



Tree Protection



Square stake



Half Round



Wire through one side



Protection



Plastic mesh



Stock /sheep fencing



Spiral guards



Metal mesh



Individual enclosure



Easy wraps



Electric Fencing

Currently not acceptable on its own by the Department



Creating Paddocks ?



Stiles



Elaborate



Less elaborate



Basic



New Plantations



Leo Murphy, Co. Kildare .



Christoph Eisele, Co. Cork.
3-4 metre plants/no shelters



New Plantations Continued.



Poultry – ‘Freedom Food’

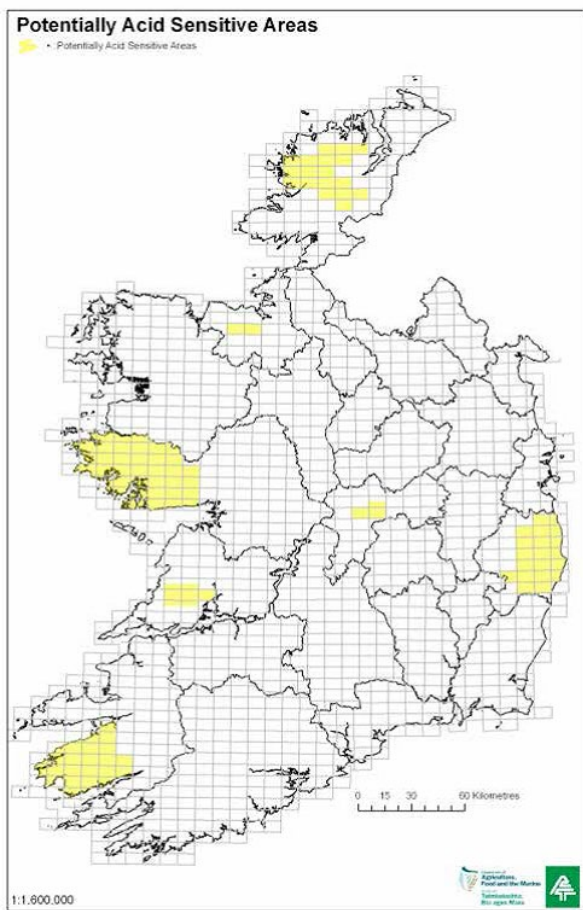


Allshires – Pig/sheep/poultry production



Opportunities

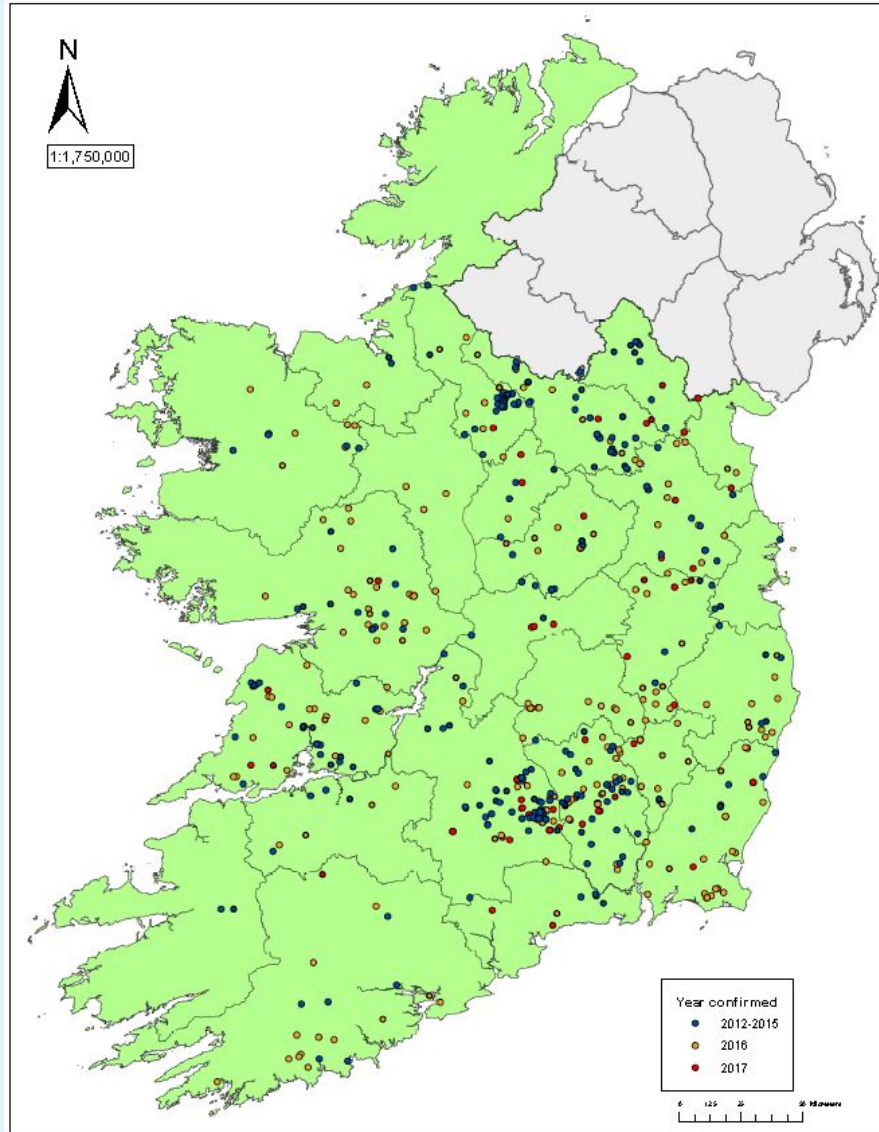
Acid Sensitive Areas/EPA



Organic Farming



Ash Die Back



- Sheep like to eat the leaves
- Ash in Agroforestry ?



Practical Aspects

- Headlands / Machinery
- Hedgerows (incorporate/expand).
- Animal Welfare (shelter ? Nutrition ?)
- Woodland improvement grant (pruning)
- Deer Fencing Upgrade grant (plastic mesh?)



Thank You



Further information-

DAFM = www.gov.ie/en/publication/642e6-forestry/

European Agroforestry Federation (EURAF) = <https://euraf.isa.utl.pt/>

Farm Woodland Forum = <https://www.agroforestry.ac.uk/>



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