

16th agri benchmark Beef and Sheep Conference 2018



Galway, Ireland

June, 15-20

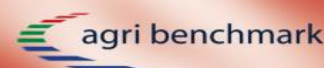












		<p>Prof. Gerry Boyle has been Director of Teagasc - Ireland's Agriculture and Food Development Authority - with responsibility for agriculture and food research, extension and farmer education for 10 years. Teagasc's annual budget is €180 m and it has a staff of 1200 plus 280 students undertaking doctoral research. Prior to becoming CEO of Teagasc, Professor Boyle was Head of the Economics Department at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth and during the mid 1990s he was Economic Adviser to the Irish Prime Minister. He has also served as a senior consultant with the World Bank in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Professor Boyle is a member of the Royal Irish Academy and a recipient of the Chevalier Des Palmes Academiques from the Government of France.</p>
Gerry Boyle, Ireland		
		<p>Anne Kinsella, an economist, specialises in the area of production economics and farm level analysis. She works in the Rural Economy and Development Programme (REDP), Teagasc. Her research interests include land-use economics, with a particular interest on the impact of policy and taxation on decisions in relation to succession, inheritance and land mobility. Anne complements her economics research with her qualification as a chartered certified accountant and also holds a masters of science. She retains a keen research interest in multidisciplinary projects, having completed her thesis on area specific environmental policy. Farm safety is another research area that she remains actively involved in. Anne is the Irish representative on the OECD International network for farm level analysis and is the Irish representative in the international agri benchmark beef and sheep network. She is a member of numerous national advisory groups, steering committees and board member.</p>
Anne Kinsella, Ireland		
		<p>Koen Dillen is a member of the Global Issues team at the European Commission's Directorate General for agriculture. In this role he provides insights and analysis to the negotiation teams in different trade negotiations. Before this role he worked on economic (trade) modelling and foresight in the agri-food sector in the same department. He started his career in the European Commission in the Joint Research Centre in Sevilla where he worked as a research fellow. Koen holds a PhD in agricultural economics of the University of Leuven.</p>
Koen Dillen, Belgium		
		<p>Michael Maloney is the Director of Bord Bia's Origin Green Programme. Bord Bia has responsibility for the promotion and marketing of Irish food and drink in Ireland and abroad. The Origin Green Programme has been in operation since 2012 and 90% of all Irish food & drink exports come from members of the programme.</p>
Michael Maloney, Ireland		
		<p>Scott Tolmie is the Market Intelligence Manager at Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) where he manages their supply of market information, insights and analysis for Australian red meat industry. He is recently new to the industry and joining MLA in August 2017. His role focuses on integrating supply and demand drivers to inform of MLA and industry strategy. Scott has a strong commercial background with a Bachelor of Accounting, Majoring in International Business. He has held a number of roles focused on commercial and macro-economic analysis across various functions including supply chain, new product development, financial reporting, competitor and strategy, across both Australia and New Zealand.</p>
Scott-Tolmie, Australia		
		<p>Claus Deblitz is an agricultural economist and works with the Thünen Institute of Farm Economics in Braunschweig, Germany. Claus is specialised in the analysis of beef and sheep production systems, their economics, drivers and perspectives world-wide. In this context, he has been the coordinator of the global research network, agri benchmark Beef and Sheep for more than 10 years. Claus contributes more than 20 years professional experience in international production system analysis, benchmarking and policy analysis. He deepened his experience during long-term research stays in South America, USA, New Zealand and Australia.</p>
Claus Deblitz, Germany		
		<p>Ernesto is a livestock economist. He holds a first degree in Veterinary and a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics and Management from Reading University, UK. He has worked in Latin America in technical Cooperation programs related with livestock services, information systems and technical and socio-economic analysis. Last 10 years, he was developing the national livestock network program for Spain, in charge of the analysis of the production systems, competitiveness, efficiency, profitability, drivers and perspectives for the main livestock regions, covering dairy, beef, sheep and goats. Ernesto is currently the Manager of the Livestock International Institutions at the agri benchmark Beef and Sheep Network. Since 2014, he is a member of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock (Partnership-FAO initiative), representing agri benchmark within the initiative, and currently holds the position of Chairman of the Focus Area, called Natural Resource Use Efficiency. He is involved in livestock sustainability projects with organizations such as WWF (beef land use projects), and IFCN Dairy Network and Global Dairy Platform (Dairy Development Sector Lead).</p>
Ernesto Reyes, Spain		
		<p>Catherine Moreddu is a Senior Agricultural Policy Analyst working in Trade and Agriculture Directorate at Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). She holds diplomas in Agricultural Science and Economics from Agrocampus Ouest and in International Economics and Finance from Dauphine University in Paris. She is currently evaluating the performance of agricultural innovation systems and policies to improve productivity and sustainability in the food and agricultural sector. She is also the animator of the OECD Farm-Level Analysis Network, which was created in 2008. The main objectives of the network are to support OECD policy analysis through the use of farm-level data, and to share experiences and to demonstrate how micro-level analysis can be used for policy analysis. She is co-editor of EuroChoices, a Journal that disseminates the latest research, ideas and policy deliberations on agri-food and rural resource issues.</p>
Catherine Moreddu (French), Ireland		

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 	<p>Brendan Dunford originally from a farming background in Co. Waterford, joined the Burren in 1998 to complete a doctoral study on the impact of farming on the heritage of the Burren, later published by Teagasc as 'Farming and the Burren'. He led the award-winning BurrenLIFE Project (2005-2010) and currently manages the Burren Programme, a locally-led, farmer-centered, results-based, agri-environment scheme. Along with his late wife Ann O'Connor, Brendan co-founded Burrenbeo Teo and is secretary of its successor, the Burrenbeo Trust, Ireland's only landscape-based charity which focusses on fostering stronger connections between people, their places and their role in caring for them. Brendan is a former board member of the Heritage Council of Ireland, Ireland's EPA Advisory Committee and former Director of the European Forum on Nature Conservation and Pastoralism. He is an Ashoka Fellow for Ireland in acknowledgement of his work in supporting entrepreneurial practice in rural sustainability.</p>
 	<p>Kevin is a postdoctoral researcher based at the Rural Economy and Development Programme (REDP), Teagasc. Kevin is currently working on the Department of Agriculture funded FOROWN project. This project explores the factors that influence private forest owners' engagement in forest management, and in particular, the role played by advisory services, knowledge transfer events and the social networks of owners. Kevin has previously worked as a lecturer at the Plant and Agri-Biosciences Centre in the National University of Ireland Galway and has held the role of Chief Economist with the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA). Kevins' research interest is in agricultural, environmental and natural resource economics.</p>
 	<p>Catherine is an agricultural advisor working on the Grass 10 Project with Teagasc.. The aim of the Grass 10 Project is to increase grass utilisation on Irish livestock farms (dairy, beef and sheep). She is involved with developing and extending grassland management resources, tools, farm walks and providing training to farmers and advisors. She teaches farmers the skills to help improve profitability and technology adoption on their farms in grassland management. Catherine graduated with a degree in Agricultural Science from University College Dublin, and completed a Masters. Her study focused on the attitude of farmers and advisors to the promotion of a low cost grass based system on beef and sheep farms. Previously she was a Beef BETTER Farm programme advisor working with beef farmers in the North-West of Ireland operating different beef systems on various land types. She comes from a beef and sheep farming background in Co. Roscommon.</p>
 	<p>Trevor is a Principal Research Officer in the Agricultural Economics and Farm Surveys Department. He is a member of the FAPRI-Ireland modelling team which undertakes economic analysis of agricultural markets and policy issues affecting the agri-food sector. He has 20 years' experience in modelling dairy, pigs and input markets. Policy issues he has examined have included Brexit (2016, 2017), CAP Reform (2012), WTO Trade reforms (2001, 2006, 2008) the Medium Term Review of the CAP (2003, 2004) and the Fischler reforms (1999, 2000). He also studies the environmental impacts of the agricultural sector, particularly the area of Greenhouse Gas emissions and is a member of the Royal Irish Academy Climate Change and Environmental Sciences Committee. He has worked extensively on a range of EU funded international projects exploring issue associated with the economics of the agri-food sector.</p>
 	<p>Kevin is the Head of Teagasc Rural Economy Development Programme. Kevin was previously a principal research officer in Teagasc's Agricultural Economics and Farm Surveys Department. Kevin studied economics at Trinity College Dublin and has a PhD in Agricultural Economics from the University of Missouri, USA. Kevin's research is mainly focused on the development and use of partial equilibrium models of Irish and EU agriculture. These modelling systems have been used to analyse issues arising in agricultural, environmental and agricultural trade policy. The analysis of the implications of Brexit for the Irish agri-food sector is an important component of the research programme of Teagasc's Rural Economy Development Programme.</p>
 	<p>Sven Anders is Professor of Agricultural Economics in the Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology at the University of Alberta. His research focuses on the economics of agri-food supply chains. Sven has published extensively on topics ranging from consumer and firm behaviour to retail competition and the impacts of quality and safety certification system in domestic and international agri-food markets and trade. One of Sven's current projects investigates producers' perceptions and farm management strategies around-farm climate change mitigation in livestock and crop production. Particularly interested in better understanding the barriers to the adoption of climate smart agricultural practices in Canada. The goal is to develop strategies that allow farmers to take advantage of the latest production technologies while helping to mitigate-farm greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
 	<p>Joe Healy was elected President of the Irish Farmers' Association (IFA) in April 2016 by the 75,000 Membership of the Association. He is a dairy (90 cows) and livestock farmer from Athenry, Co. Galway. He is married to Margaret and has three daughters. He currently holds the following positions: President of the Irish Farmers' Association; Chairman of the COPA; Food Chain Working Party; Member of the COPA Praesidium; Board Member of Bord Bia; Board Member of FBD Plc. He previously held the following positions: President of Macra na Feirme; Vice-President of CEJA; Chairman of the Commonages Implementation Committee (Ireland); Board Member of Agri Aware (Ireland); Manager and Chairman Athenry Mart.</p>
 	<p>Dr. Torsten Hemme is the managing director of the IFCN Dairy Research Center in Kiel, Germany. He studied agricultural economics at the University of Göttingen in Germany and Texas A & M University in the USA. His Ph.D. thesis set the basis for the International Farm Comparison Network (IFCN). IFCN is a global network of researchers and company to create a better understanding of the dairy world. The research focus lies on benchmarking milk production costs, monitoring dairy sector developments and forecasting the short and long term future. Annually the results are summarized in the "IFCN Dairy Report." He has a long list of publications, presentations at international dairy conferences and experiences in various research/consulting projects.</p>