



General News

Fodder Crisis Update



The next Inter Association fodder meeting will be held on 13th September 2018 in Tullamore. The main item on the agenda will be preparations for the September fodder survey.

Members are asked to forward suggestions / questions for inclusion in this survey.

During August the Department of Agriculture in conjunction with the Commission has provided the following flexibility / advance payments under GLAS. Firstly a derogation to pay up to 70% of advances for direct payments and up to 85% for rural development measures including GLAS is permitted.

Secondly flexibility in the rules are specifically designed to add to the stocks of winter forage for Irish farmers and will be:

- **Low Input Permanent Pasture:** An amendment to the specifications for 2018 to provide for the use of Low Input Permanent Pasture parcels for silage/hay production in the period 1 September 2018 to 1 December 2018 has been sought. There are 37,800 GLAS participants with the LIPP action covering an area of over 269,000 hectares
- **The Environmental Management of Fallow Land:** For 2018 it is proposed that of- takes be permitted on a once off basis for 2018 in the period 1 September 2018 (after the nesting season) to 1 December 2018.

All GLAS participants with these relevant actions as well as their advisors will be notified by the Department in advance of the flexibilities becoming operational.

In addition €4.2 million has been made available for fodder imports. This measure is being introduced to reduce the cost to farmers of imported forage (hay, silage, haylage, alfalfa etc.) from outside the island of Ireland. The measure will operate through Co-operatives/registered importers and will cover forage imported from 12th August 2018 to 31st December 2018 and will be subject to EU State Aid (de-minimis) rules. The Department has published the application forms and a Question and Answer sheet on their

website see [link](#). The Canadian Embassy has supplied an initial list of Canadian operators interested in shipping to the EU (instead of the USA) **please contact IGFA deirdre.webb@eorna.ie for the list.** **Hay has not been included in the measure as it has not been requested by the industry and it does not cover Lucerne / alfalfa meal or pellets.**

Funding Advisory Service Workshop

Intertrade Ireland will hold a Funding Advisory Service aimed at SMEs who are looking for new or alternative sources of funding to finance business growth on 11th September in Waterford. This short workshop will be delivered by Grant Thornton on behalf of InterTradeIreland.



The workshop will give you the opportunity to find out about the main sources of funding for growth suitable for your business and will include information on both traditional bank funding and the newer types of funding that are now available in the market.

The workshop will provide an:

- ✓ overview of the current funding landscape including active funders
- ✓ information on how providers of funding make their funding decisions a
- ✓ discussions around the types of SMEs that have been funded
- ✓ advice on how to make your business ready for funding.

The event is now open for registration with light breakfast at 8am, the formal seminar will end around 10:30am followed by a networking opportunity with funders. Whilst the event is **FREE to attend**, you must register in advance see [link](#)

WBAE views on CAP

The WBAE (**Scientific Advisory Council on Agricultural Policy and Consumer Health in Germany**) has produced its briefing document on the future of CAP. It makes the point that today, 73% of payments under CAP are direct land-based payments.

These payments cannot be justified under the pillar of income support and equalisation, as their distribution is primarily targeted towards the large farmers.

The policy document goes on to say that the payments are not geared to supporting the social function of farming (rural employment / diversification) and play a major role in land values. The report overall considers that the CAP payments are not targeted sufficiently to provide the public with either value for money or public goods. The report goes on to say that *“Instead of continuing to spend a large amounts of EU funding on EU wide direct payments, that are not geared to need and public service, there is an urgent need to develop adequate governance and financing instruments to deliver public goods”*.

The Council claims that ecological focus areas (EFAs) for example have proven to be ineffective in delivering environmental benefits. The German policy paper supports the **reduction of direct payments** and other non-social payments over a ten-year period. It supports instead an **expansion of measure to support environmental, climate and welfare services of agriculture**.

Deforestation in the Major Soybean growing Areas.



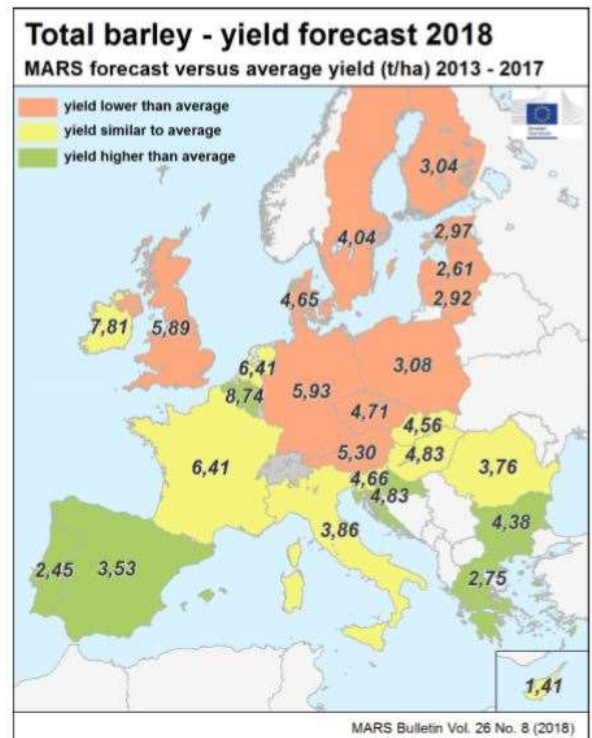
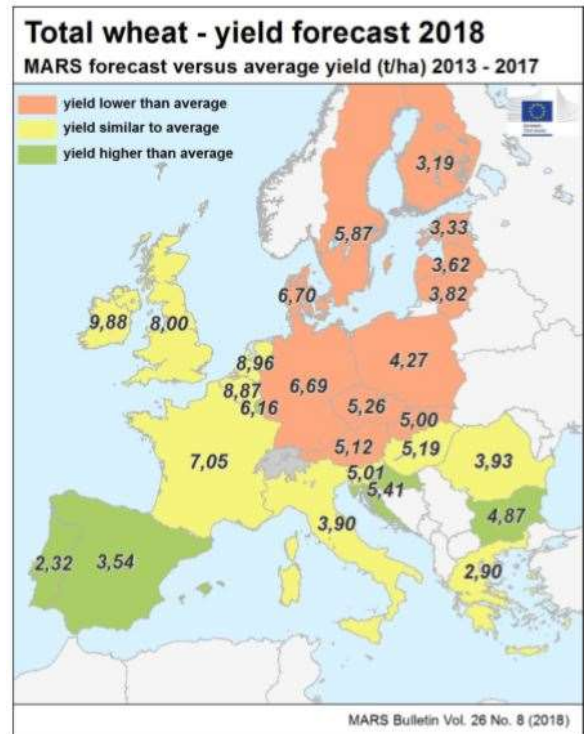
This month a call for action was circulated by [mighty earth](#) against the involvement by (some) companies in the purchasing soybean from farmers involved with illegal deforestation. The areas involved were the Cerrado, regions, the Bolivian Amazon, and the Grand Chaco (Argentina and Paraguay). The letter was sent to all Feed Associations across the EU and many companies. The letter points out that the Brazilian government has found some companies engaged in purchasing of soybean from areas that have been deforested illegally. **At this stage IGFA has not responded to the request to cease dealing with these companies.** Members are asked to inform IGFA if they receive similar letters or are contacted by their upstream customers. **Our latest information is that the companies have refuted the allegations with the Brazilian Environment Ministry.**

Crop Monitoring in Europe



Yield forecasts of winter and spring cereals were revised further downwards at EU level, mainly due to continued warm weather.

The diagrams below explain the situation for wheat and barley. See [link](#) for full report



GMP + International

GMP has published its non GMO module on its website (GMP + M1 105). GMP + Feed Safety assurance (focuses on feed safety) and GMP + Feed Responsibility Assurance (FRA) focuses on responsibly produced feed.

FRA certification seeks to address the sustainability issue around sustainable sourcing of ingredient and in particular soybean meal. The main focus of FRA documentation is to meet market requirements. It is within the FRA framework that the Non GMO module GMP + MI 105 has been developed. MI 105 standard has been developed in collaboration with VLOG in order to facilitate the demand within the EU for Non - GMO feed.

The standard covers:

- [The production of GMO controlled compound feed \(CF\) and feed materials \(FM\).](#)
- [The trade of GMO controlled CF and FM](#)
- [The storage and transshipment of GMO controlled CF and FM.](#)

Companies holding equivalent feed safety system certification may apply for GMO controlled status but must combine both GMP + MI 105 and GMP + B 100 Feed Responsibility Management in one control system.

Dates

Sept 12th	Teagasc Farm to Fork Short value chains Galway
Sept 18th-20th	National Ploughing Championships
Sept 26th-28th	Feed Additives Amsterdam 2018
Sept 25th	Feed Committee Meeting
Sept 28th	European Researchers Night Cork
Oct 1st / 2nd	Microbiomes underpinning agriculture Cork
Oct 3rd	Feed Forum and Feed Mills operatives workshop (Combined) Killeshin Hotel
Oct 5th	Teagasc Walsh Fellowship Wexford
Oct 25th	iNAP Implementation Committee
Dec 11th	Feed Committee Meeting

RASFF Summary 1st Aug – 31st Aug

Total	251	<i>Feed Premixtures</i>	0
		<i>Feed additives</i>	0
Food	236	<i>Feed material</i>	8
		<i>Fats and Oils</i>	1
Food contact materials	9	<i>Compound Feed</i>	0
		<i>Herbs & Spices</i>	0
Feed Total	11	<i>Pet food</i>	2
		<i>nuts, nut products and seeds</i>	0

Consultations/ Websites

[Fodder import scheme](#)
[EU Crop Monitoring and Yield Forecasts bulletin](#)
[Commodity Price Dashboard](#)

[DAFM Trader Notices](#)
[DAFM Registered & Approved FBO's](#)

[DAFM FBO Forms](#)
[DAFM Meat Market Weekly Figures.](#)

Technical News

AMR

Antibiotics have made a major contribution to improving the health and welfare of food-producing animals for decades. They are vital medicines for the treatment and control of bacterial infections both in the animal health and human health setting. Resistance to antibiotics is a serious increasing threat to animal and human health. The therapeutic arsenal of vets and doctors is becoming more and more limited as serious incidence of antibiotic-resistant infections become more and more common.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has listed certain antibiotics as critically important antibiotics (CIAs) based on their importance in treating life-threatening infections in humans. Given the importance of CIAs in human health these antimicrobials should NOT be used as first line of treatment in animals and they should only be used when there are no effective alternative antimicrobials available for the respective target species and indication. The highest priority CIAs as listed by WHO are cephalosporins (3rd, 4th and 5th generation), glycopeptides, macrolides and ketolides, polymyxins, quinolones.

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is currently devising a policy on Critically Important Antimicrobials used in Animal Health. Advice on use of the CIAs will be outlined in the Policy document, which is due to be published this Autumn by DAFM.

Wheat Breeding Toolbox Expanded



In August the IWGSC (International Wheat Genome Sequencing Consortium) published a detailed description and analysis of the bread wheat genome (red wheat). Wheat contains 21 chromosomes and is the most complex genome to be sequenced so far. It took 12 years of work and collaboration between 73 institutions worldwide. This high-quality reference genome sequence will allow academics and breeders to study, identify and develop new traits for farmers.

This work paves the way for crops better adapted to climate change, higher yields, enhanced nutritional profiles and improved sustainability. Wheat is a staple crop for over one third of the world's population, it is expected advanced breeding will allow developing countries to focus on delivering higher protein grains to

small farmers. The IWGSC is a non-for-profit organisation consisting of scientific institutions, wheat farmers and private and public plant breeders. The IWGSC wheat reference genome sequence is publicly available and can be found [here](#)

Dublin hosted the International association for plant [Biotechnology Congress in August](#) . The conference brought together plant biotechnologist from across the globe to discuss cutting edge research in this area. The organisers did provide opportunity for discussion around the acceptance by the public of new plant breeding techniques and GMO technologies in the food chain. The Irish researchers noted the absence of public consultation by the Government in on the recent legislation opting out from the cultivation of GM crops in Ireland. **Increasingly the question is being asked, if the Irish tillage farmer can survive in the face of hazard-based pesticide legislation and no access to modern wheat or barley varieties.**

USA GMO disclosure Rule Update

July 29th was the deadline for the USDA to finalise legislation to implement the National Bioengineered Food Disclosure Law. The agency held a public consultation on the implementation rule and received 14,000 replies. Under the rule food manufacturers will be able to choose three ways of disclosing if food ingredients are bioengineered.

1. Use the text on the product package.
2. Include a symbol, developed by USDA
3. Add an electronic QR code or smart label to provide the information.

The USDA now must decide (a) if it will proceed with the wording bioengineered (preferred by industry and farmers or genetically engineered (preferred by organic sector and NGOs)., (b) choose a symbol (c) most controversially, decide if highly refined ingredients. sugar, or corn oil should require disclosure. Many highly refined ingredients do not contain any bioengineered DNA or protein and are biologically and chemically identical to ingredients manufactured from non-bioengineered crops. Farmers and the USDA support non-disclosure of highly refined ingredients while consumer and NGOs want full disclosure even if these ingredients cannot be tested and confirmed as containing genetically modified DNA.

Finally, the USDA must decide if products and ingredients from the process of gene-editing will be covered by the disclosure rule. According to the proposed legislation the date for implementation is January 1st 2020. If the final rules had been published on July 29th this would provide the food industry with 17 months to adjust. The food industry is now requesting an implementation period of between 24 - 36 months from publication of the final rule see [link](#)

Proposed Symbols

Symbol 1: Alternative 2-A

Color	Black and White	Color with "Bioengineered" text	Color with "May be" text
RGB color codes Yellow: 255 253 61 Blue: 168 220 265 Light green: 195 26 265 Green: 0 148 68		CMYK color codes Yellow: 2.21 3.45 87 0 Blue: 32.61 1.45 0 0 Light green: 28.56 4.08 100 0 Green: 86.17 16.53 100 3.24	

Symbol 2: Alternative 2-B

Color	Black and White	Color with "Bioengineered" text	Color with "May be" text
RGB color codes Orange: 247 148 29 Light orange: 251 176 64 Yellow: 255 204 31 Light yellow: 255 229 43 Light green: 215 228 35 Green: 57 181 74		CMYK color codes Orange: 0.05 49.44 98.58 0 Light orange: 0 34.95 84.23 0 Yellow: 0.12 18.96 93.29 0 Light yellow: 3 4.58 92.77 0 Light green: 19.84 0.07 98.32 0 Green: 74.66 0 99.77 0.01	

Symbol 3: Alternative 2-C

Color	Black and White	Color with "Bioengineered" text	Color with "May be" text
RGB color codes Orange: 247 148 29 Light orange: 251 176 64 Yellow: 255 204 31 Light yellow: 255 229 43 Green: 0 148 68		CMYK color codes Orange: 0.05 49.44 98.58 0 Light orange: 0 34.95 84.23 0 Yellow: 0.12 18.96 93.29 0 Light yellow: 3 4.58 92.77 0 Green: 86.17 16.53 100 3.24	

Reminder to members Poultry Litter Spreading

Outbreaks of botulism have occurred in cattle and waterfowl in Ireland in recent years often involving significant numbers of animals. Outbreaks tend to occur typically between March and November and are often associated with warm weather. Winter cases have been associated with contaminated silage.

Poultry carcasses can produce particularly high levels of toxins and inappropriate storage or disposal of poultry litter or poultry carcasses can pose a risk of Botulism for animals. Farmers planning to use poultry litter are advised to read and adhere to the DAFM codes of practise for the spreading of poultry litter. Ideally it should only be used on tillage ground and livestock kept away from the litter at all times. A copy of the Code is available [here](#).