

## Reducing Emissions from Agriculture: Advisor Workshops

### Background:

Ireland's *Climate Action Plan 2019* identifies key areas, including changes in agricultural practices, in order to meet its environmental obligations.

While significant investment continues to be made to provide environmental improvements in the sector, dairy processors and farm advisors can play a key role in supporting farmers with the introduction of improvements at farm level in order to mitigate and ensure we have a sustainable industry.

**Food Drink Ireland Skillnet, Teagasc and Dairy Sustainability Ireland** have teamed up to develop an educational initiative that explores key practices that can significantly improve nitrogen efficiency, improve profitability while also lowering GHG emissions and ammonia from entering the atmosphere. Participants will build on existing knowledge, gain an understanding of the challenges faced in the Agri-sector and explore the most current practices and technologies available to best control gaseous emissions.

### Target audience:

This session is designed for all those in the agri-food industry, who are interacting with farmers and are in a position to positively influence decisions made by farmers to adopt mitigation technologies.

### Key learning outcomes from programme:

- To build on existing knowledge and develop a rich understanding to **confidently advise farmers on best practice for achieving GHG and ammonia targets.**
- To develop a comprehensive **understanding of the current GHG and Ammonia challenges** faced in agriculture and the significance of employing sustainable measures.
- To gain an understanding of the **MACC measures** and demonstrate the ability to adopt the most and least cost-effective approaches to mitigation.
- To investigate why **nitrogen efficiency** is key to decreasing agricultural GHG and ammonia emissions.
- To gain the knowledge and skills to be able to **develop a strategic approach to managing Nitrogen.**
- To evaluate the functional importance of using **protected Urea and adopting LESS technologies** to reduce Nitrogen loss and increase profitability.
- To inform participants of **new developments** and current measures available for pollution control when managing land.

## Programme Content:

<b>Session 1 – Understanding the Issues</b>		
<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Introduction and Context</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Gaseous Emissions Targets from the National Climate Action Plan</li> <li>• CAP Reform and Gaseous Emissions</li> </ul>	<b>Philip Blackwell</b>
<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Explaining the MACCS's-</b> Reducing GHG and Ammonia in Irish Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Profile of Agricultural GHGs</li> <li>• Measure in the MACCS</li> </ul>	<b>Pat Murphy</b>
<b>10.40am</b>	<b>Operationalizing the MACC-Importance for Industry</b>	<b>Joe Crockett/Conor Mulvihill</b>
<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Coffee</b>	
<b>Session 2-Nutrient Management and Efficiency</b>		
<b>11.20am</b>	<b>Managing N to reduce emissions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protected Urea</li> <li>• Delivering advice on protected UREA, how to incorporate it into your client's farm</li> <li>• "More of LESS"-Slurry Management and Application, strategies for reducing N loss from Slurry</li> <li>• Soil Fertility to improve N efficiency-new development in NMP on-line</li> </ul>	<b>Mark Plunkett/ Andy Boland</b>
<b>12.20pm</b>	<b>Break out session</b>	
<b>1.20pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
<b>Session 3-Land Management</b>		
<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>GHG Emissions-Role of Forestry</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial Forestry</li> <li>• Native Woodlands</li> <li>• Trees and hedgerows on the farm</li> </ul>	<b>Tom Houlihan</b>
<b>2.30pm</b>	<b>Energy efficiency, Generation and Energy Crops</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving energy on the farm</li> <li>• Solar PV</li> <li>• Potential role of energy crops</li> </ul>	<b>Barry Caslin</b>
<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>Land Management</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role of Dariange</li> <li>• Rewetting of high Organic Matter soils</li> </ul>	<b>Pat Tuohy</b>
<b>3.30pm</b>	<b>Take home messages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking the opportunities that present themselves</li> <li>• Survey-Further training needs</li> </ul>	<b>Mark Gibson</b>
<b>4.00pm</b>	<b>Close</b>	