

# “Your education, your future, just better”

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**Welcome to the weekly newsletter for October where we give an overview of college and farm activities. More detailed information on any aspect of the newsletter may be obtained by contacting us directly by phone or email.**

## Careers and College Open Day

Our careers and college open day took place on Friday in bright sunny conditions. After a two year absence due to Covid19 it was great to be back meeting and welcoming visitors face to face. People travelled from near and far, from Castletownbere in Co. Cork, Charlestown in Co. Mayo and Gorey in Co. Wexford.



It was great to chat to the man from Co. Laois who attended with his grandson. He himself was a student at Salesian Agricultural College in 1956.

Visitors on the day had a total of nine stations to visit as they toured the college farmyard.

Station 1: College Principal, Derek O’Donoghue and staff member Thea Broderick welcomed people to the Open Day.

Stations 2, 3 and 4: College mechanisation staff, Shane Ryan, John Davern, Colm Egan, Jer Enright and Tadhg

Brosnan gave an outline of our Teagasc Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Agriculture – Mechanisation course, our Higher Certificate in Agriculture – Mechanisation and Bachelor in Engineering courses, the latter two which we deliver in association with TUS (Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest).

Station 5: Rachel Clancy spoke about the options of studying at the college on our Distance Education and Part-Time courses. Rachel also discussed work placement which forms an important part of our full time courses.

Station 6: College teachers John Flannery and Cillian Ferris gave an account of the drystock enterprise on the farm and how the colleges 550 acres and 700 livestock are used on a daily basis in our teaching on the Teagasc Level 6 Advanced Drystock Management course.



Station 7: College teachers Richard Williams and Cian Haddock outlined the Teagasc Level 6 Advanced Dairy Herd Management course to visitors on the day. An account of the recent development in the dairy farmyard was also given. Visitors were treated to a milking demonstration in the new rotary milking parlour.



Stations 8 and 9: College teachers Eamonn O’Flaherty and Niall Blake gave a practical demonstration on animal husbandry and grass production skills. Our courses have a very significant practical element to them and when possible we deliver much of our courses on the farm, in the farmyards and in the workshops.

Visitors on the day had an opportunity to win our new college jacket by guessing how many balloons were in the John Deere Gator. There were two lucky winners on the day who correctly guessed 134 balloons.



Thanks also to Dairymaster, Smithform Construction Ltd, Grasstec, O’Donovan Engineering and Michael Barrett Contracting for supporting and attending our open day.

**Dairy Herd**

Dairy cows are housed by night in order to keep grass in the diet for the month of October. Our incalf dairy heifers returned to the college farm on Saturday having been contract reared in Co. Roscommon since March 2020. These heifers have an average EBI of €220.



Cows with EBI	380	0			€ 52	€ 93	€ 38	€ -17	€ 16	€ 2	€ 4	
Missing EBI*	2	8.7	0.15	2.6	23.4%	41.6%	17%	-7.8%	7.4%	0.9%	1.9%	€ 189
Total Cows	382	5.8	0.1	-4.8								

<b>2. Dairy Youngstock</b>												
2021 Calves	113	52			€ 74	€ 116	€ 39	€ -16	€ 14	€ 2	€ 6	
Missing EBI*	2	12.5	0.18	3.0	27.7%	43.6%	14.5%	-6%	5.2%	0.7%	2.4%	€ 235
Total Calves	115	8.9	0.13	-6.3								
2020 Calves	98	22			€ 62	€ 108	€ 44	€ -16	€ 15	€ 3	€ 5	
Missing EBI*	0	10.0	0.16	2.8	24.5%	42.9%	17.6%	-6.4%	5.8%	1.1%	1.8%	€ 220
Total Calves	98	7.3	0.11	-5.9								



**Drystock Enterprise**

Finishing cattle are on 3Kgs / Day of a 16% CP nut from Roche’s Feeds.

Breeding in the ewe flock is now entering the third week and on Monday the Drystock Management students will apply a different colour raddle to the four rams.



## Student Visits & Activities

Further visits and sporting activities are planned for the coming week. On Wednesday our students will compete in a football competition with the other agricultural colleges. An account will be given in next weeks newsletter.

## Farm and Farmyard

Farmyard manure was land spread during the week. It was spread on paddocks that have been targeted for reseeded in 2022.

## Group Visits

We are now open to accepting visiting groups, be that schools, groups of farmers or individuals. Contact Mary in admin at 061-393100 and we will be happy to tailor a package to suit your needs. On Wednesday and Thursday the Farm Relief Services delivered a milking training course at the college.

## Social Media

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Insatgram and TikTok for daily updates on college and farm activities.

## Photo of the Week



College teacher Eamonn O'Flaherty giving a practical demonstration on Body Condition Scoring as part of Fridays Open Day.

## Contact Details

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