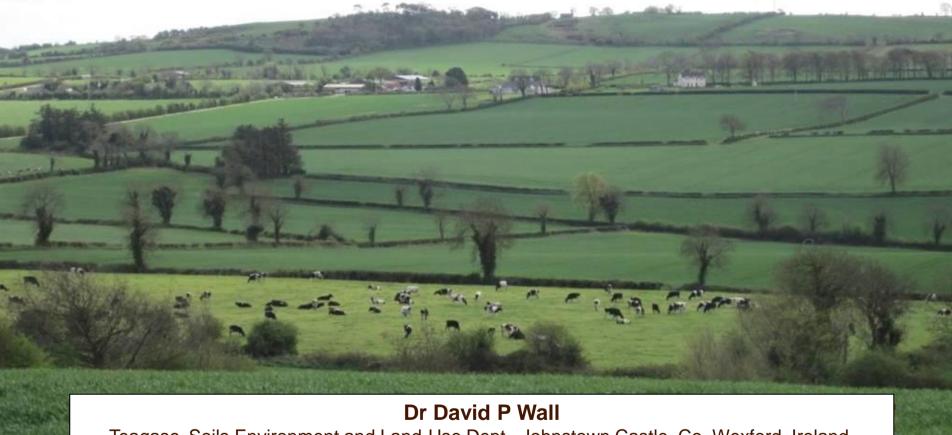
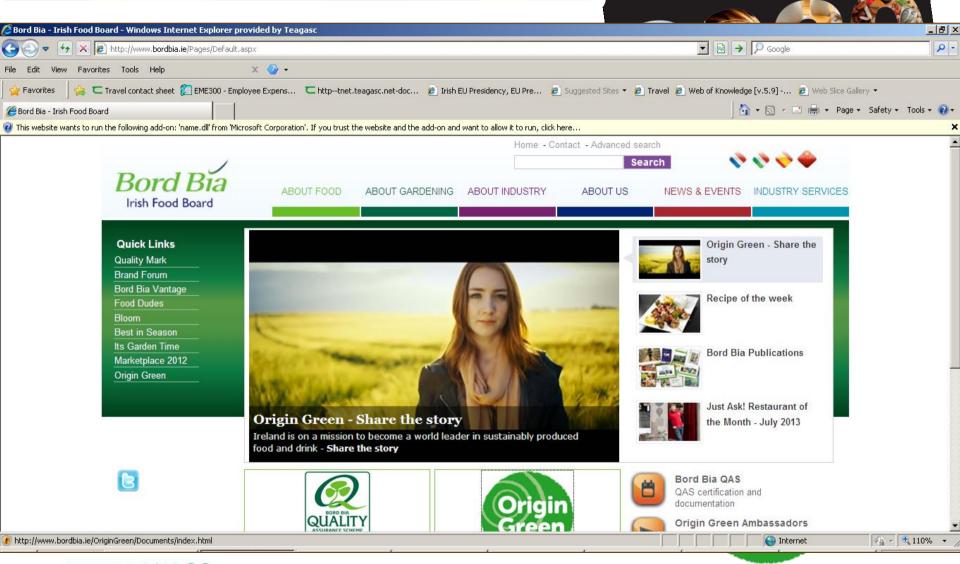
# "Addressing nutrient surplus at farm level" Encouraging cooperation between multiple stakeholders in Ireland



Teagasc, Soils Environment and Land-Use Dept., Johnstown Castle, Co. Wexford, Ireland. <a href="mailto:david.wall@teagasc.ie">david.wall@teagasc.ie</a>



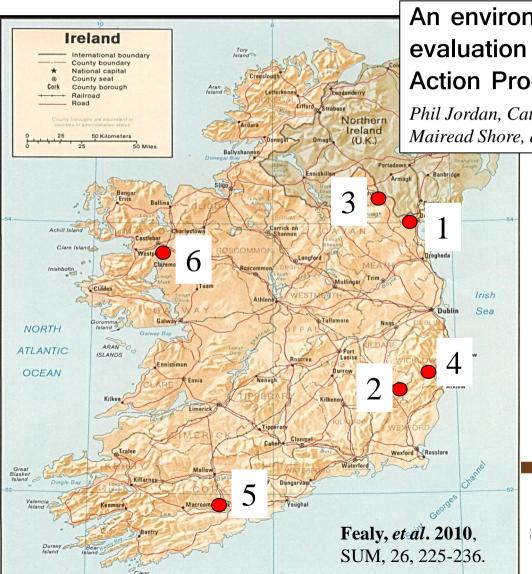
### Drivers





# Research Partnerships with farmers





An environmental and socio-economic evaluation of the Nitrates Directive National Action Programme in Ireland

Phil Jordan, Cathal Buckley, Per-Erik Mellander, Noeleen McDonald, Mairead Shore, and Ger Shortle

#### **Intensity factors Hydrology factors**

- 1. Arable P risky [9 km²] 2. Arable – N risky [11 km²]
- 3. Grassland P risky [6 km<sup>2</sup>]
- 4. Grassland P risky [10 km<sup>2</sup>]
- 5. Grassland N risky [8 km<sup>2</sup>]
- 6. Grassland Karst P risky [30 km<sup>2</sup>?]





# Data collection driven by a science, extension and technical partnership with farming stakeholders







Wall et al., 2011 ES&P 14, 664-674.

# Understanding Farmer Behaviour

## **Nutrient management practices on catchment farms (N=271)**

Nutrient Management Practice of farms in 2010 (baseline)	Numbers Adopting	% Adopting	
Chemical fertiliser recording at field level	201	74%	
Springtime organic manure application	191	70%	
Soil testing	180	66%	
Chemical fertiliser field calibration	170	63%	
Organic manure recording	156	58%	
Liming	140	52%	
Organic manure field calibration	130	48%	
Estimation of nutrient content of organic manures	128	47%	
Nutrient management plan	72	27%	
Org. manure application – Trailing shoe, band, injection.	14	5%	



# Teagasc Sustainability Demo Farm









Kildalton Agricultural College, 2014



#### Mission

# "To develop a sustainability demonstration farm that is transformational in its ambition"

#### **Sustainability**

- Environmental
- Economic
- Social
- Incl Animal Welfare

#### **Demonstration**

- Train / immerse the next generation of farmers
- "Proof of technologies" operational farm as a test-bed

#### **Transformational**

- Over and above compliance
- Anticipate future policies, e.g. WFD, Climate Bill, Energy Independence

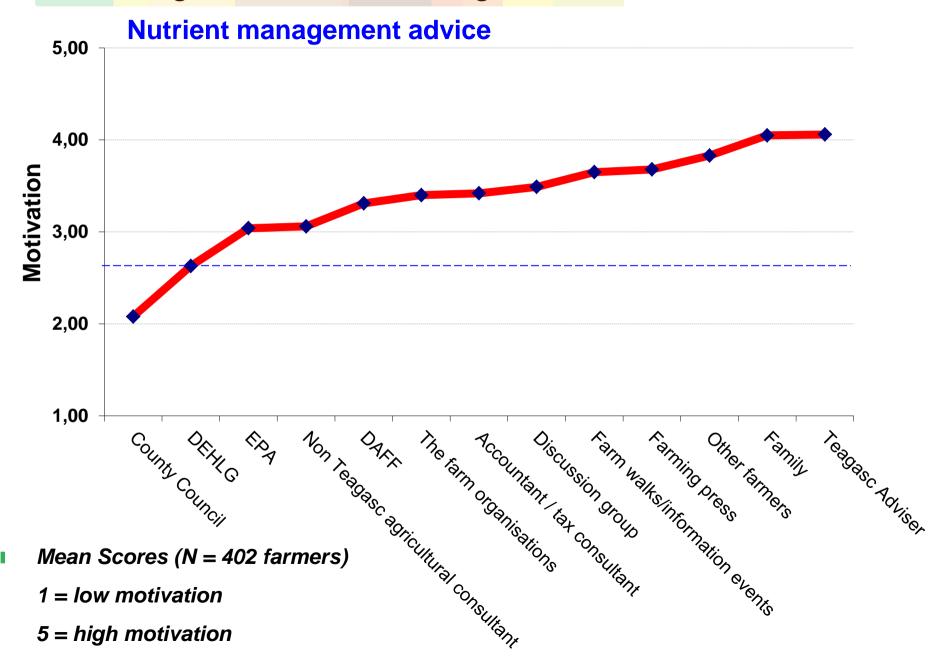




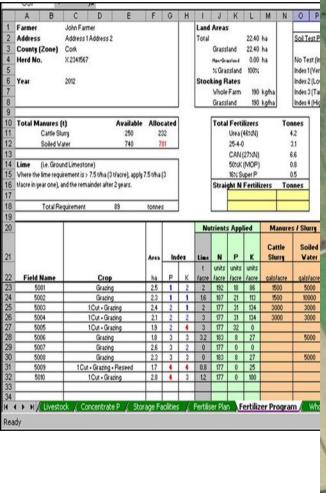




# Motivating farmers - Knowledge Transfer/ Advice



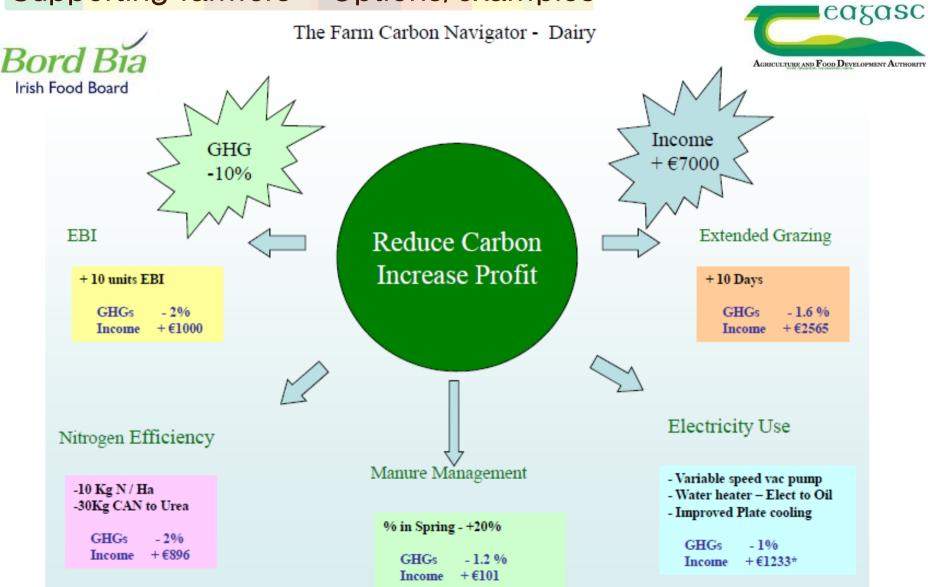
# Supporting farmers







# Supporting farmers - Options/examples



#### Bord Bia Teagasc Carbon Navigator

This facility will apply Farm Enterprise Information collected at the last audit to the Carbon Navig

Herd 51111199 \*

Update Download Excel File

Potential impact of meeting all targets

-20.0%

+€13445

Year 2010		Current	Target	Chart	GHG change	€ benefit
Grazing season - suckler cows	Turnout Date	24/Mar	10/Mar	Current Target  Low Good Excellent	-2.5%	+€1509
	Housing Date	01/Nov	15/Nov			
Grazing season - yearlings/followers	Turnout Date	24/Mar	10/Mar	Grazing Season Yearlings Followers  Current Target  Low Good Escellent	-1.9%	+€2208
	Housing Date	01/Nav	15/Nov			
Age at first calving	Age at first calving (months)	30.2	28.0	Age At First Calving  Current  Target  Low Good Excellent	-0.7%	+€773
Calving Rate	Calving rate (calves/cow)	0.8	0.9	Calving Rate  Current- Target- Low Good Excellent	-8.3%	+€3010
Live weight performance	System	Steers & Heifers	Steers & Heifers	Current Target Low Good Escellent	-0.4%	+€4497
	Lifetime live weight per day of age (g)	860.00	946.0			
Nitrogen Efficiency	Total CAN and equivalent N in Compounds (t)	18.0	7.0	Current Target Low Good Excellent	-1.9%	+€1300
	Total urea used (f)	0.0	5.0			
	Total concentrate fed (t)	12.0	12.0			
	Output kg beef live / ha	473.8	500.0			
Slurry Spread Timing	% in Spring	30 ⋅	70 💌	Manure Management	-4.3%	+€148
	% Summer following 1st cut	30 💌	30 -	Current- Target		
	% Later in Summer	40 🔻	0 -			
	Application Method	Splash Plate 💌	Splash Plate 💌			

## Managing Expectations – Timelines for policy to take effect

#### Using the nutrient transfer continuum as an evaluation framework

**SOURCES** 

**Mobilisation** 

**Pathways** 

**DELIVERY** 

**IMPACT** 



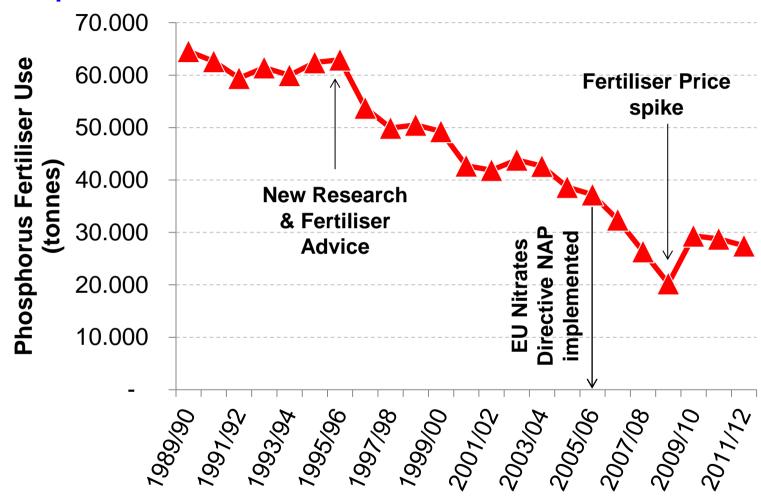
•Non-synchronicity issues (lag-times)!

Fenton et al, 2011, ES&P; Wall et al. 2011 ES&P



## Assessing change

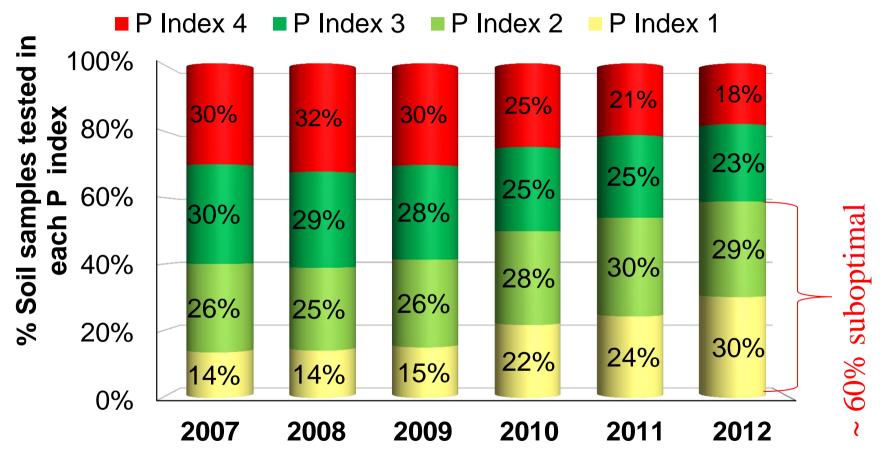
### Phosphorus fertiliser use in Ireland 1990-2012

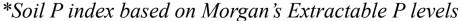




## Measuring Success

### **National soil P fertility trends**







# Thank you

www.teagasc.ie

www.teagasc.ie/agcatchments

David.wall@teagasc.ie

