**Sent:** Friday 20 August 2021 13:27

**To:** CAP Strategic Plan

**Subject:** Draft interventions for CAP Strategic Plan

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Dear Minister McConalogue,

Thank you for the opportunity to have a say on the next Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). The low level of recognition and promotion for the role of women in agriculture has been an ongoing issue.

The Department of Agriculture's own SWOT analysis states: "In Ireland, less than 12% of landholders are women presumably as a result of traditional cultural bias towards male successors, resulting in women rarely inheriting land." In fact, I was one of those 12% until we formed a limited company. We decided that my husband would be the herd keeper as I was busy with other things and now I feel my farming identity has disappeared. His is the only name on the animal passports and I'm assuming as a co-director of the company, I am no longer one of those 12%.

Currently, article 6(1) point (h) of the next CAP plan at European Commission level states countries must promote women in farming and gender equality in their plans for CAP between 2023 – 2027.

In addition, the Irish Government's own Food Vision 2030 has stated that a National Dialogue on Women in Agriculture should be held.

I would like to know:

- · What funding will be provided to support women in the next CAP and specifically what form will it take? (eg, Knowledge Transfer scheme, TAMS funding, etc.) Funding needs to be provided for women discussion groups and training. For example, women are often hesitant with working machinery. Receiving training with other women would boost their knowledge and confidence and let's face it, should result in safer practice too.
- · How much funding will be given to support women in establishing a Women in Agriculture forum to address the historic low representation of women?
- · When will a National Dialogue on Women in Agriculture take place?

Yours sincerely,



Sent: Thursday 26 August 2021 08:02

**To:** CAP Strategic Plan **Subject:** To whom it may concern

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The breeding of five star suckler cows has been in place for well over 10 years and the dafm argument is there was very little take up on it. Multi suckler scheme is to make suckler farms more profitable while releaving the over populated dairy calf's to a better quality beef. It's a system that could suit some suckler farmers but not all, but if it improves beef quality and increase suckler farmer income it's worth a try. If all the different sectors buy into it will work.

Sent from my iPhone

Sent: Thursday 26 August 2021 08:02

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The breeding of five star suckler cows has been in place for well over 10 years and the dafm argument is there was very little take up on it. Multi suckler scheme is to make suckler farms more profitable while releaving the over populated dairy calf's to a better quality beef. It's a system that could suit some suckler farmers but not all, but if it improves beef quality and increase suckler farmer income it's worth a try. If all the different sectors buy into it will work.

Sent from my iPhone

**Sent:** Sunday 22 August 2021 15:18

To: CAP Strategic Plan Subject: Cap Submission

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# Dear Sir/ Madame

I am dairy farming since I was 14 I'm 49 now,I have seen many changes over the years,some good some not so good,I am concerned at the way agriculture in this country is being messed about with under the current government and I mean messed about with blindly,I believe that most farms are not polluting but all farms are perceived to be polluting by this government,so we are being asked to reduce stock numbers and increase slurry storage.Why? The government don't know whether this will help in reducing global warming,I suggest that all farms should be monitored individually for both air and water quality continually and only those that are polluting are required to take action. Building more slurry tanks to hold dairy washings and soiled water creates its own problems,it adds to the amount of slurry etc to spread in a reduced spreading period( the reduced spreading period is not thought out) I suggest the department of agriculture should work with MET Éireann to predict the most ideal weather conditions for spreading or not spreading over the whole year and allow slurry or dairy washings to be spread over a longer period of time instead of large volumes over a short period of time,farmers could have an App on their phones to receive the most up to date information.

Farmers should be highly grant aided to erect solar panels on the roofs of their sheds or milking parlours and also wind turbines and all excess electricity to be sold into the national grid, also biodigesters should be encouraged.

If the department of Agriculture's current proposals are put through dairy farmers like me who produce a lot of milk and with a small BPS in comparison to the new dairy entrants might decide to forfeit the payments because the buildings will cost too much and increase cow numbers to make up the difference and that is what's coming if you proceed with this.

I believe the suckler herd should not be interfered with, absolutely makes no sense and those farmers should stand their ground and reject the departments proposals.

Kind Regards

Sent from my iPad

**Sent:** Sunday 22 August 2021 21:33

**To:** CAP Strategic Plan

**Subject:** Common Agricultural Policy Submission

**CAUTION:** This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie.

Dear Minister McConalogue,

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The Department of Agriculture's own SWOT analysis states: "In Ireland, less than 12% of landholders are women presumably as a result of traditional cultural bias towards male successors, resulting in women rarely inheriting land."

Currently, article 6(1) point (h) of the next CAP plan at European Commission level states countries must promote women in farming and gender equality in their plans for CAP between 2023 – 2027.

In addition, the Irish Government's own Food Vision 2030 has stated that a National Dialogue on Women in Agriculture should be held.

# I would like to know:

1 What funding will be provided to support women in the next CAP and specifically what form will it take? (eg, Knowledge Transfer scheme, TAMS funding, etc.)

2 How much funding will be given to support women in establishing a Women in Agriculture forum to address the historic low representation of women.

As a member of **Wexford Women Who Farm**, I am more than aware of the issues that affect the lives of farm women and of the totally unrecognised contribution that these women make to Irish society and the economy.

Our group, established in 2012, in response to recognised needs within the sector, strives to provide a platform to reduce isolation and foster social networking, highlight issues, provide support, information and training to a cohort of farming women in County Wexford.

We are aware that there are many more woman that we could reach out to; however our group is limited and restricted by lack of dialogue at national level and funding. We are a self help and self funded group. We ask you Minister,

when will a National Dialogue on Women in Agriculture take place?

Yours sincerely,

**Sent:** Tuesday 24 August 2021 09:44

**To:** CAP Strategic Plan

**Subject:** suckler

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For the attention o ...

Question . Would Dept consider using the LCA approach rather than IPCC approach as recommended by following Teagasc research when contemplating a cap on sucklers .

An unintended consequence of a cap on sucklers would be that sucklers would be replaced by male offspring from the dairy herd..

This research suggests that this offspring will have a very high carbon footprint as it is in essence a confinement based system i.e. milk replacer ,soya bean in calf rearer, were the LCA approach to be used.

# Evaluation of the effect of accounting method, IPCC v. LCA, on grass-based and confinement dairy systems' greenhouse gas emissions



Free article

# **Abstract**

Life cycle assessment (LCA) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guideline methodology, which are the principal greenhouse gas (GHG) quantification methods, were evaluated in this study using a dairy farm GHG model. The model was applied to estimate GHG emissions from two contrasting dairy systems: a seasonal calving pasture-based dairy farm and a total confinement dairy system. Data used to quantify emissions from these systems originated from a research study carried out over a 1-year period in Ireland. The genetic merit of cows modelled was similar for both systems. Total mixed ration was fed in the Confinement system, whereas grazed grass was mainly fed in the grass-based system. GHG emissions from these systems were quantified per unit of product and area. The results of both methods showed that the dairy system that emitted the lowest GHG emissions per unit area did not necessarily emit the lowest GHG emissions possible for a given level of product. Consequently, a recommendation from this study is that GHG emissions be evaluated per unit of product given the growing affluent human population and increasing demand for dairy products. The IPCC and LCA methods ranked dairy systems' GHG emissions differently. For instance, the IPCC method quantified that the Confinement system reduced GHG emissions per unit of product by 8% compared with the grass-based system, but the LCA approach calculated that the Confinement system increased emissions by 16% when off-farm emissions associated with primary dairy

**production were included.** Thus, GHG emissions should be quantified using approaches that quantify the total GHG emissions associated with the production system, so as to determine whether the dairy system was causing emissions displacement. The IPCC and LCA methods were also used in this study to simulate, through a dairy farm GHG model, what effect management changes within both production systems have on GHG emissions. The findings suggest that single changes have a small mitigating effect on GHG emissions (

# Similar articles

• The influence of strain of Holstein-Friesian cow and feeding system on greenhouse gas emissions from pastoral dairy farms.



Sent: Tuesday 24 August 2021 20:47

To: Subject: CAP Strategic Plan NATIVE BREEDS

**CAUTION:** This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie.

I, as a small farmer with Dexter cattle would like to see more support for native rare breeds.

Regards,

Sent from Mail for Windows

Sent: Wednesday 25 August 2021 00:14

To: CAP Strategic Plan Subject: CAP SUBMISSION

**CAUTION:** This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie.

Dear Sir/Madam

- 1. I would like to see the cohort of farmers that are choosing to out-winter 100% their cattle be supported These farmers are not over-stocked
- 2. There is less stress on the animals that are not housed
- 3. No cases of pneumonia, scour etc recorded in animals that at outwintered 100%
- 4. As a result of practically no illness, then there is limited amount of antibiotics / antiparasitic / prescription only medicine required for treatment of same.
- 5. Cattle are happier being out-wintered as long as they have supply of forage / silage / feedstuff etc.
- 6. Rotational Ring Feeding must be allowed for this cohort of farmers due to reduced stocking density.
- 7. Watercourses. Ensure watercourses are fenced Grant Aid the putting in place of nose pumps / piped water.
- 8. Educate what is the best way of ensuring clean ample water throughout farm.
- 9. Grant Aid the putting in place Rain Water Harvesting for power washing cattle handling facilities.
- 10. When it comes to the payment of grants it would be helpful if Grants were paid quarterly rather than annually in some cases. It is very difficult to have to wait until Nov / Dec for a Grant to be paid out, having already expensed the majority of work on the farm over the previous 10 months. The financial balancing is a worry.
- 11. Replace the existing Piecemeal Grant Aiding such schemes as BEAM, BEEP, KTP, BGDP, with one proper Suckler related Scheme whereby farmers can choose from a suite of measures that they can realistically achieve and manage. Farmers farm many are overwhelmed with all the paperwork of such schemes as in some cases paperwork / online may be beyond some leading to stress, anxiety and not being able to keep on top of it all thereby missing deadlines for returns etc. If a farmer profile was set up whereby one could choose measures I think it would be better.
- 12. Reward Farmers that are not over-stocked, apply little or no chemical fertiliser.and revere the land.
- 13. Recognise that hedgerows and trees on farms are carbon sequestration and allow farmers apply for credits for same.
- 14. Ensure that the tagging of cattle will include the genotyping from birth rather than having to genotype when they are older and handling is dangerous and difficult, and ensure that the cost is absorbed in the initial tag price. Once is enough to have to tag any animal given that farming nowadays is practically a one person job.

Thanks for allowing me to have my say.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email.

Kind regards

Sent: Wednesday 25 August 2021 13:25

**To:** CAP Strategic Plan

**Subject:** Draft interventions for CAP Strategic Plan

**CAUTION:** This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie.

Dear Minister McConalogue,

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The Department of Agriculture's own SWOT analysis states: "In Ireland, less than 12% of landholders are women presumably as a result of traditional cultural bias towards male successors, resulting in women rarely inheriting land."

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In addition, the Irish Government's own Food Vision 2030 has stated that a National Dialogue on Women in Agriculture should be held.

I would like to know:

- · What funding will be provided to support women in the next CAP and specifically what form will it take? (eg, Knowledge Transfer scheme, TAMS funding, etc.)
- · How much funding will be given to support women in establishing a Women in Agriculture forum to address the historic low representation of women?
- · When will a National Dialogue on Women in Agriculture take place?

Yours sincerely,

Sent: Thursday 26 August 2021 12:44

To: Subject: CAP Strategic Plan CAP 2023-2027

**CAUTION:** This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie.

Dear Dept officials/Minister,

May I please take a few minutes of your time to outline my views on the next CAP plan.

The level of convergence should be at least 85% if not 100%, we are all supplying food to the same standards so it is high time we were all treated equally.

Eco schemes can be used to direct money from the high entitlement/high stocking rate farmers towards the small family farms( under 30ha) with lower value entitlements.

Payments should definitely be capped at maximum of 66000 euro ,this is almost twice the average industrial wage, There is an awful lot of disquiet over 15% of the farmers some of them beef barons ,stud farmers and meat processors etc receiving 80% of the total pot of money.

I believe funds should be evened out between farmers using CRISS so that at the end of 2027 all farmers are treated equally out of the CAP on a per hectare basis and the intensive farmers will have to forgo the money from the environmental schemes to continue farming intensively

May I also draw your attention to a group of farmers who have got a rotten deal-the Forgotten Farmers, these are farmers who through no fault of their own were not in a position to farm their land in the reference years(in my case I was looking after elderly parents)In 2006 the dept allowed stacking of entitlements earned from leased land on to the farms of the person leasing the land(against the advice of the European Court of Auditors ,they advised that it was contrary to the spirit of the Lisbon Treaty) Most of these farmers have been forced to sell or lease their land because of this but the few remaining who are farming 'naked land' should be given an entitlement per hectare to help them continue farming ,by the way all of these farmers will be over 40 so applying to the national reserve isn't an option I am available on to discuss these points at any time.

**Kind Regards** 

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject:	Thursday 26 August 2021 22:49 CAP Strategic Plan Gender and part time farming in CAP
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Following ag cothe bank refused i assum gende counter so income is not exactly have a sure gender is dealt with under ca "we would never let any of our da Farms should never be left to a so	lage I went on to work in the ag business sector and bought 26 acers myself. After to lend me the money after promising the sun the moon and stars and my was the issue. I am not high up in the agri business sector just simply behind the high after tax to be exact.  and its been a hard slog for me. While most women that conly child or partner has died I am the exception so I plead with you to please make up and we insure that women are encouraged to farm. Someone else said to me nughters farm". If men had to fight as hard as I have things would be very different. In because he is a son but should be left to the person most interested in it. While yethey would love to farm but couldn't because they had bothers. Another thing my
should get a higher rate and inher be looked at as for me being singl farmers and the new legislation o farmers and women or simply jus	. Tams would be a great place to start women ritance tax should be lowered. KT is not accessible to part time farmers this need to e income wise its all a struggle. Dep of ag is also not very accessible to part time in prescriptions will be problematic. Our main farm organisation both fail part time it want nothing to do with us. So I please plead with you to do something about to hearing the out come. If I can help in further please don't hesitate to contact me.

**Sent:** Thursday 26 August 2021 07:03

To:

CAP Strategic Plan

**Subject:** To whom it may concern,

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Please find a suckler farmers part solution to an over prescribed dairy sector's problem, part solution that will work for all concerned creating a high end value for both sectors, and thanks once again for the opportunity to reply,

Multi suckling has been part of the heritage of rural Ireland's farmer skill set that has been forgotten about, has not been mentioned included or chartered for within new AG strategic plan, which is a shame, brand new scheme can be formed and built all around multiple suckling including buy in from Teagasc as promotion and re training young farmers, Teagasc research into multiple suckling facilities reducing labour, time all through AG Collige to rejuvenate the suckler sector in a more meaningful sustainable profitable way as greater number of calves weaned per cow if the farmer so chooses to go that road with very little expense,

## Multi suckler scheme

Payment to suckler farmers for the rearing of dairy calf's.

Following conditions,

- 1 Only purebred and AI beef sire calf's.
- 2. Jersey, Holstein kiwi and their cross excluded.
- 3 Premium paid by processors for the grass fed suckler dairy calf's when finished.

If the suckler farming sector are to be used to reduce the emissions and nitrates of the dairy sector they need to be paid to do so,, if that were to happen the scheme will work.

The plan is to force the dairy farmer to produce a quality calf for the scheme, pedigree approved and AI bread stock should be sufficient with a greater emphasis on improved dairy cow beef Quality's, either way it is quality beef calves the suckler sector want to produce and paid for it.

Sent from my iPhone

**Sent:** Friday 27 August 2021 14:25

**To:** CAP Strategic Plan

**Subject:** CAP Consultation - Miscanthus Growers

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# A Chara

As one of the many farmers who planted Miscanthus and got very little reward out of it I request that Miscantus and similar energy crops be recognised for their special place as regards climate change and duly be incentivised/rewarded in the upcoming CAP. These crops have considerable value in relation to climate change and deserve due recognition in the next CAP.

Regards

**Sent:** Friday 27 August 2021 21:15

**To:** CAP Strategic Plan **Subject:** Nitrates bands

**CAUTION:** This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie.

Hi,

I am writing to express my dismay with the ridiculous nitrate bands which are proposed for dairy cows.

My cows supply approx 6600 litres and 540kg solids. I have no outside block of land and so I will be cut to a stocking rate of under 2.5 cows/Ha.

Meanwhile my neighbour owns an outside block of land so he is able to stock his milking platform @ 5 cows/Ha. How the department of agriculture thinks this is going to improve water quality is beyond me.

I am basically being encouraged to milk my cows once a day, milk beef cows or go high input. I'll probably go with the latter and import more soya and drive my smaller herd up to 9000 litres of output.

If the department of agriculture isn't willing to tackle milking platform stocking rate I believe they are doing more harm than good with the current proposals. It is ridiculous that my cows go from 85kg to 106 over such a short timeframe. And a 10k litre cow is also 106kg.

Mise le meas.

**Sent:** Monday 30 August 2021 23:38

**To:** CAP Strategic Plan

**Subject:** Farmer Submission Re. CAP Strategic Plan.

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## Dear Sir/Madam,

It is with despair that I write a submission to you re. The future CAP Reform. Your Department held a virtual consultation at which we, as farmers were silenced and railroaded rather than consulted. It was a lecture rather than a listening exercise. It seems the ambition of this CAP Reform is to replace "greening" with "reddening" – it seems to penalise productive farmers, thereby creating even more part-time farmers and reducing every farmer to subsistence level, rather than pursuing excellence and viability. It is utterly regressive in its tone. In the tillage sector we have had the same grain prices for about 40 years. The CAP budget, which is designed to be our compensation for artificially low market prices, has not been realistically increased since its inception nearly 40 years ago. Like "Tied Aid", we as farmers have had to satisfy ever increasing bureaucratic conditions in order to qualify for this aid – all-the-while the consumer has had the cheapest, best quality, food, in real-terms, that they have ever had – meanwhile the producer is becoming increasingly unviable. Industrial farming, with low animal welfare and related standards is emerging = even though CAP is meant to be there to protect the family farm – as no other structure is able to withstand the economic climate.

I understand that your Department wants feedback on 6 key questions –

- 1. Convergence This is regressive, anti-productive and should be at a minimum. Entitlements were earned or bought and are to compensate farmers for high cost production at a low product price.
- 2. Eco-scheme funding should not go beyond 25%. It should be reduced further (due to our high level of spending in Pillar 2).
- 3. Capping CAP is meant to nurture a family farming structure and so I think it sounds reasonable to cap payments at 100,000.
- 4. CRISS Derogation should be used to reduce CRISS. Why make commercial farmers more unviable by increasing support to part-time farmers who are not so reliant on agriculture for their income. Why not support professional full-time farmers?
- 5. Fairness of payment mechanisms Direct payments are not like "doling out sweeties at the county fair" we are not in kindergarten... it is not about fairness! These payments are compensation for low world market prices inflicted on producers producing food in a high cost economy. The payments were earned or bought and so should be respected and not just given away. Agriculture is a business CAP is not meant to be social welfare!
- 6. Gender equality Forced, fast change is bad and unsustainable. Gender balance is evolving at its own pace and in its own way and I don't think should be forced though the blunt instrument of law or bribes. Many women are training in agriculture and not that many are choosing to farm (as with a huge proportion of trained males). There are far better wages and returns of investment to be gained from working in the wider industry then actually through farming. Women like all young people are voting with their feet and are reluctant to enter such an unlucrative industry...and a little more "dole money" won't do the trick!

CAP has been warped by urban naïve MEPs who know nothing about rural life or agriculture and simply want more perceived environmental value to justify the CAP budget in their constituencies...totally ignoring its basis and the fact that they have all been reared so cheaply and healthily for decades on its benefits....albeit in ignorance of its value. Having been locked into this low margin production model for decades it is no wonder farmers are dying out.....old farmers are getting badly hurt in accidents because they work way beyond normal retirement and they

can't afford help.....young people won't enter this industry....and now family farms are being swallowed up by industrialised agriculture with poor animal welfare standards, resulting in even more pressure on the environment. The very thing MEPS are trying to avoid in designing the new CAP!

I wish Europe would acknowledge the existence of inflation......try paying MEPs what they were paid 30 years ago----agriculture has been totally left behind – our return of investment is less than half of 1%...what businessman would invest commercially in a family farm! We are now a vocation....and are being left to die a slow painful death.

Yours faithfully,

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From: Sent:

Tuesday 31 August 2021 22:22

To:

CAP Strategic Plan

Subject:

Submission on CAP Strategic Plan

**CAUTION:** This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie.

- 1. It makes no sense to cut the herd in Ireland whilst Brazil are intending to increase their herd to 200 million. The problem with a target setting approach in one country is that it results in off shoring of emissions to other countries. The focus needs to be on habitat protection not emissions. Moreover, the focus should be on habitat protection worldwide. Huge swarths of the Amazon rainforest was cleared last year, equivalent to the size of Mayo and Galway. In a world with free trade, setting herd reduction targets in Ireland simply results in the destruction of the Amazon. There are also emissions from shipping.
- 2. The Irish government plans to increase the population of Ireland. This will drive an increase in demand for beef and farming produce. If Ireland will not supply this demand, then it will be supplied by imports from Brazil and elsewhere.
- 3. Dairy calves all calves should be looked after as a matter of animal welfare. The industrialisation of the dairy industry needs to be balanced with the needs of cows and calves.
- 4. Local food production and supply chains are key. Farmers markets and organic farming should be encouraged.

What is needed now is good judgement, not simply meeting targets. Target based policy on biofuel means the destruction of orangutan habitat. Target based policy on electricity generation has meant the threat of blackouts and habitat loss. Target based policy on farming means the destruction of the amazon.

Regards

Monday 30 August 2021 16:36 Sent:

To:

**CAP Strategic Plan** 

draft interventions for CAP Strategic Plan Subject:

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# **Dear Sirs**

We would like to have the following noted for Organic Farming and CAP.

- 1. Organic Farming need extra support both from a conversion and an ongoing support framework. The full costs of conversion and ongoing maintenance should be taken into consideration when planning out payments for Farmers
- 2. As Organic Farmers lead the way in sustainability it is key that they get priority access to Reap, and Glas. These farmers are leaders in this field and should be encouraged and not penalised
- 3. Full support for infrastructure and Cap ex should be considered. Encouraging efficient, effective organic farming will help all stakeholders in the industry and that should be encouraged.
- 4. As an Organic producer we wish to see greater access to schemes for Organic farmers, specifically for us the Dairy Sector. Increasing Dairy volumes will lead to increased exports and further growth in this industry that has shown great promise at home and abroad over the last 5 years.

Thank you for considering our proposals





To whom it Concerns

I wish to make a submission to CAP proposals in relation the Forgotten Farmer.

I have been recently increasing my farming area to provide a better future for myself and my family. I have been doing this since the last CAP changes.

I now find myself farming extra land but having to lease entitlements as I only have a small number of owned entitlements. I am no longer a young farmer and the proposals don't give any allowance or access to more entitlements to balance against the land I am farming. This leaves me in a situation, having to continue leasing, but having to adhere to new conditions and eco-schemes to claim them, while the lessor doesn't have to do anything. This Leaves farming for me very unsustainable into the future.

I ask why there has been no Provision for farmers like me to access extra entitlements to balance up entitlements with Ha of land being farmed. I hope that this should be considered for all farmers in my situation.

There should be a second reserve for farmers stuck in limbo with no access to entitlements as we are over the age threshold of the national reserve. Having a small number of entitlements has excluded us from the Scottish derogation in the past which left us at an unfair disadvantage.

I would hope this scenario does not arise again.

I await your reply and Comment on the matter

Regards

Sent: Wednesday 1 September 2021 15:40

To:

CAP Strategic Plan

Subject:

Input from The Urban Co-op Retail sector for organic farmers

**CAUTION:** This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie.

To whom it concerns,

As a growing social enterprise that supports the retailing of local and organic food from Irish suppliers we have seen the surge in demand in recent years for quality produce that supports the health of the community. We have many small suppliers that we co-operate with who are curtailed in their own development by minimal CAP support. There are many small farmers that are providing very valuable resources into this retail sector and meeting the need of a growing community. Our aim to provide the support by encouraging the customer to value the true worth of this national resource. Many larger retail operations as a route to market for organic farmers are placing many unsustainable demands on farmers that prevent them getting this stock to market unless it is in huge volumes. To encourage more farmers to make the transition to organic we would welcome reforms to the CAP agreement that sees more resources allocated for the smaller farmer. Efforts to build the local economy in this way can be a real incentive for farmers to be more innovative and in turn stimulate local economies as part of the larger efforts to support regional hub development.

If you require further information or clarification please get in touch.



8 Eastway Business Park, Ballysimon Road, Limerick V94N7D3

For More on The Urban Co-op visit our website by clicking the logo below:



You can also connect with us through social media by clicking the icons below:

