

Irish Rare Breeds Society (Steering Committee,  
and Dexter Cattle Society (ROI group) 4/10/19  
c/o Sean Flannery

To

CAP Rural Development Division  
DAFM  
4C Agriculture House  
Kildare St. D02 WK12

Swot Analysis Submission

Objective 1 support viable income.

DAFM have a duty to support farmers in achieving a viable income in creating conditions that insures that the producer received a fair share of the consumer price.

The position taken by the Competition authority regarding the protest for better prices for beef farmers was totally unjust. Contrast this with allowing the meat industry to further amalgamate thus strengthening the monopoly in the beef market.

Both the Minister & the government have a duty to regulate so that fair play prevails.

I attended the DAFM meeting in Portlaoise where price was the first & only item discussed in the 3 hour meeting. This was because of the injustice meted upon the beef farming community. Radical action needs to be taken by the Minister.

Objective 6. Contribute to the protection of biodiversity etc.

S.10. There are 4 native breeds of cattle including Kerry Dexter Dromieann & Irish Moile. Native bovine breeds need support in order sustain viable herd numbers.

The headage on these breeds should be increased from 10 to 25 cows per herd in order to encourage sustainability.

These breeds are suitable to thrive on marginal land <sup>can</sup> play a part in the maintenance of the landscape especially in the tourist regions of the country.

Coastal Islands should be encouraged to farm these native indigenous cattle & should replace the Cherdais etc. i.e. one breed per island.

The meat should be promoted especially on the islands to the tourist industry emphasising local native indigenous food.

Native breeds a suitable for conservation grazing especially in our National Parks & an arrangement with herd owners & NPWS should be facilitated around the country as well as other government lands.

The Irish Rare Breed Society needs to be encouraged & supported to be in a position to represent Irish native breeds. Sean Flannery