

## **CAP Submission**

### **Objective 5 Sustainable Development, efficient management of natural resources. Water , soil, air**

**Eco schemes** need to be attractive to large scale farming to have a desired outcome on a higher % of land

**Grant aid, capital investment**, under TAMS, Dairy Equipment Scheme (DES).

for large scale dairy production should be capped to herds of somewhere in the region of Under 150 LU's

**Zero grazing**, a developing trend, has a negative effect on the environment. All year round zero grazing will damage our green image, increase GHG's, increase and puts pressure on slurry storage ..... and may cause animal welfare issues, ie cut the grass, draw the grass in sometimes bringing it long journeys, and then draw the slurry out, is not sustainable and is certainly going in the wrong direction. Can it be curtailed?

**LA's need to measure their " contribution" to Water Quality.**

I have not the number, but a high % of Waste Water treatment plants are "working " over capacity . They are ran by Local authorities under a SLA from Irish Water, and generally police themselves

Wastewater from your home comes from human waste, soaps, detergent, food remnants, fats, acids/ drain cleaners, oils and greases and any other items that may find their way into the sewage system. When when plants have not the capacity to cope, those go directly into water courses

**Once used plastic** is leaving very damaging residues in our seas and oceans. Milk processors should have to phase out plastic containers used for retail milk sales.

### **Objective 3 Improve the farmers position in the value chain**

**Payments need to move to active farmers** reflecting the farm activity and the production of food. Too much payment is still historic going back to eg slaughter premium.

All **produce coming into Ireland / EU** should be required to be of the same standard of that required from Irish producers. Ireland must fight this in Europe.

**Beef producer groups** need to be encouraged more- it is difficult. Generally farmers are not paid for quality.

**Geographical Indication** for Irish whiskey has no requirement for Irish ingredients to be included in the product. All ingredients may be imported, some GM products and most at a much lower standard than required of malting barley growers in Ireland. Generally This is not Irish Whiskey. This may happen for other products, it needs to be stopped now.

**Labelling** has improved. Needs to improve more .

Would love to see Food miles on labels ie eg local meaning under eg 200Klms / Irish, or even country of origin in a specific type size, at least 12 and in black or a dark bold colour

(Out of seasons Scallions last few years came from Mexico) Particularly fruit and VEG. labeling is very poor. Produce coming from Brazil, S. Africa, and ....and one often has to search hard to find country of origin – not always found.

In several retail outlets and in most catering establishments, it is impossible to establish where beef and chicken originated / where it comes from. What can be done?

Some Pillar II Funding goes to **Partnership** now integrated into LA's . Projects funded under Partnership should be required to be best environmental practice, and be sustainable.

#### **Objective 4 Climate Change**

**Derogations**, as of present, must be managed, eg reduce stocking rate gradually, .1 per year for a few years? Produce evidence of where it is exported to.

There is a requirement that slurry be exported, it is not being done and when found out will have serious consequences for Ireland

Schemes that grant aid animal housing should in future, **increase the requirement for slurry storage, 20% more.?**

**Soil nutrition** must be a requirement of schemes, soil sampling, NMP

Evidence is that high percent of farms could **halve their N requirement** by rectifying their Lime status.

**Renewable Energy at Farm level** be incentivized in schemes particularly solar energy. Put it on roofs –not in fields

Education required so stakeholders and public in general understand **Anaerobic Digesters**

---

**Not CAP related** –just a comment

Public sector milage allowance incentivizes bigger cars

Should the higher milage rate be paid on the more efficient cars ?

---

Very good presentations and meeting in Portlaoise last week. Excellent Chairman

Well done

---

Sent in by

Mary Walsh, [REDACTED]

