

AFBI News & Views

Welcome to the latest edition of AFBI News & Views, we hope you are continuing to enjoy reading about our activities.

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News & Views

from the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute

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AFBI's 2020 Strategy

AFBI has carried out a review of its scientific functions, capabilities and platforms as part of a strategy to 2020 and beyond to allow AFBI to achieve its vision of providing world class science to all its government and private sector customers

[Full story here](#)

[AFBI's 2020 Strategy in full](#)



Dr Conrad Ferris (AFBI) who has already started planning the rescheduled Dairy Open Day

AFBI Dairy Open Day Postponed

AFBI have announced the postponement of the Dairy Open Day at Hillsborough which was scheduled to take place on 16th September. Announcing the postponement, Dr Sinclair Mayne from AFBI explained that "a single beef steer was identified as a TB reactor during a recent routine herd test ".....

[Full story here](#)



Professor Jim McAdam preparing to "go-live" to the Falkland Islands

AFBI Researcher guest speaker at Falkland's agricultural event

Professor Jim McAdam, Head of Crops, Grassland and Ecology Branch at AFBI was the guest speaker at the annual "Farmer's Week" event in the Falkland Islands in July run by the Rural Business Association. Jim was invited to speak on "Climate Change and Agriculture, Potential impacts and Adaptations" and did so via video link

[Full story here](#)



Uruguayan agricultural advisors visiting AFBI Hillsborough in a rare moment of sun!

Visits to AFBI Hillsborough

Two very different groups visited AFBI Hillsborough recently. The Dairy Unit and Renewable Energy Unit were the focus of both groups, the first of which was a group of farmers from the North Pembrokeshire Grassland Society in Wales, followed by a group of agricultural advisors from Uruguay

[Full story here](#)



Some of the hill lambs used by AFBI for the outdoor trials as part of the RamLamb project

AFBI and Teagasc collaborate in new 'RAM Lamb' research

AFBI and Teagasc researchers met in Teagasc Athenry, Co Galway recently to discuss initial results of an ongoing collaborative research project entitled 'RamLamb'

[Full story here](#)



Constructed wetlands

AFBI Researcher outlines guidelines for constructed wetlands

AFBI researcher Greg Forbes accompanied by Martin Mulholland (Senior Dairy Technologist, CAFRE) recently attended the Farmers club, Whitehall, London for the launch of a new guidelines document for the integration of constructed wetlands on farms in England

[Full story here](#)



Holstein-Friesian and Swedish Red crossbred cows grazing at Hillsborough

AFBI research examines the performance of 'three-way' crossbred dairy cows in key European Research Programme

Until relatively recently, genetic selection programmes within the Holstein breed focused mainly on milk production, with less emphasis on functional traits. The subsequent decline in these functional traits within the Holstein breed, especially fertility and health, has now been well documented. Crossbreeding has been suggested as one option to overcome some of these problems

[Full story here](#)



Worms in a healthy patch of soil at AFBI

AFBI Research proves – Slurry is good for worms

In a field on a low standing hill outside Hillsborough, Co Down are a criss cross of lines marked on the grass dividing the field into neat rectangles. Look a little closer and you can see that the grass is greener/yellower or longer/tuftier in some of these rectangles. These are the long term slurry plots at AFBI Hillsborough and represent a unique experiment funded by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

[Full story here](#)



Did you know?

There are only 3 days left to register for attendance at AFBI's Open Meeting, registration closes on Tuesday 1st September

AFBI is holding an Open Meeting at AFBI Hillsborough, Co Down on Thursday 3rd September 2015. The theme of the event is "AFBI Research for Sustainable Expansion of the Agri-Food Sector

[Full story here](#)

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