

AFBI News & Views

Welcome to Issue 17 of AFBI News and Views, the first issue for 2016! Everyone at AFBI hopes that you have a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

We hope you are continuing to enjoy reading about our activities. If you have any thoughts regarding AFBI or News & Views please use the feedback link located at the bottom of the page.

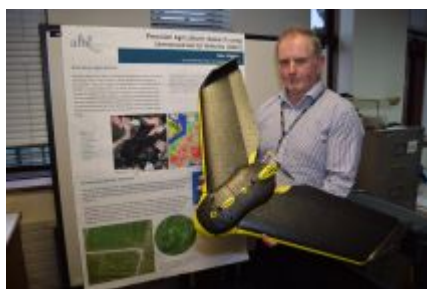


News & Views

from the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute

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<http://www.afbini.gov.uk>



Mr Alex Higgins (AFBI) holding AFBI's fixed-wing UAV.

AFBI Flying High!

AFBI has commissioned an unmanned aerial vehicle, commonly known as a drone, to assist in research on grassland productivity and the environment

[Full story here](#)



John and Jo-Anne Dobson (MLA) with Dr Trevor Gilliland (AFBI Hillsborough).

AFBI Research on show at the RUAS Winter Fair – celebrating 30 years in the dairy industry

AFBI highlighted its scientific work at the recent RUAS 30th Anniversary Winter Fair held at the new Eikon Centre, Balmoral Park

[Full story here](#)



Cutting grass trials at AFBI Loughgall

AFBI unveils Moira and Fintona – two new perennial ryegrass varieties for Spring 2016

AFBI have announced the release of two new perennial ryegrass varieties, Moira and Fintona, from the Department of Agriculture (DARD) funded grass breeding programme at AFBI Loughgall

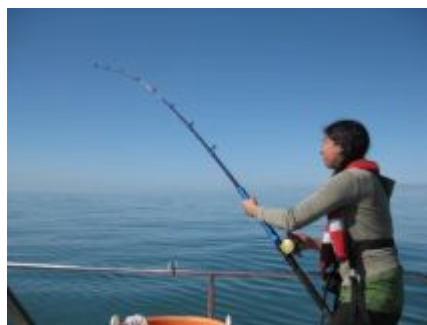
[Full story here](#)



Alice Clark pictured with Ian McCausland (AFBI)

AFBI partner with Titanic Belfast for the NI Science Festival 2016

As part of the 2016 NI Science Festival (18-28 Feb) AFBI will partner with Titanic Belfast to offer a Maritime Scientific Trail. The Trail will include free tours aboard AFBI's RV Corystes, moored alongside the SSE Arena (for two days only), as well as an exhibition of the work of Alice Clark within the main Titanic Building. For full details of the NI Science Festival please ([see here](#)) and for information on AFBI's participation please ([see here](#)).



A fine day for recreational sea angling

Sea Angling 2016 – A major new UK-wide study of sea angling

Sea angling is of huge economic and social importance in the UK, and information is required to help sea angling bodies and government to make better informed decisions on policies for promoting the long-term conservation of four valuable fish stocks. In 2016 the UK is conducting surveys to find out more about the importance of sea angling

[Full story here](#)



Dr Jonathan Birnie (Dunbia) who will be presenting a seminar in AFBI in January

AFBI Lunchtime Seminar

January's AFBI Lunchtime Seminar will be a guest seminar and will be given by Dr Jonathan Birnie, Head of Agriculture and Research at Dunbia on the subject of "Facilitating change within the red meat chain through knowledge transfer, feedback and technology uptake."

[Full story here](#)

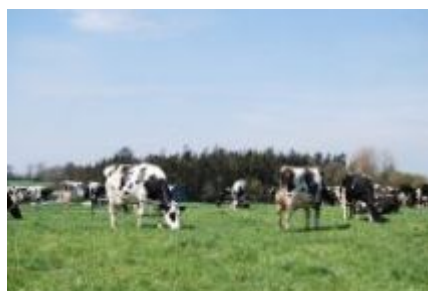


Dr Louise Cosby (pictured far right) and Dr Steven Morrison (AFBI) with Ms Handan Sahin from the International Project Office of Turkish Ministry of Food Agriculture & Livestock.

AFBI Scientists attend Horizon 2020 Event in Brussels

Recently a number of AFBI scientists travelled to Brussels to attend the Horizon 2020 Societal Challenge 2 Infoweeek

[Full story here](#)



Many herds took advantage of late season grazing opportunities in 2015, with weather conditions remaining excellent well into late October

GrassCheck 2015 – A challenging year ends with an exceptional autumn!

The period of warm sunny weather during September and October and the accompanying excellent late season growth will be remembered by many grassland farmers as the highlight of 2015

[Full story here](#)

Recruitment Competition for AFBI CEO

The recruitment competition to appoint a successor to Professor Seamus Kennedy current AFBI CEO has just been launched

[Full story here](#)





Publication of the AFBI Annual Report 2014-2015

AFBI 's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015 is now available to read on the AFBI Internet ([read here](#)). You can find financial and management information as well as scientific highlights from the year under report. All of AFBI's previous Annual Reports are also available and can be accessed on the AFBI website ([read here](#)).



Did you know?

AFBI will have a new website which goes live on 1 February

Watch this space and the next issue of News and Views for further information

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