Agricultural Sustainability Support and Advisory Programme (ASSAP) – delivering better environmental outcomes using a collaborative approach

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Overview of Presentation

- What?
- Why?
- Where?
- How? – ASSAP on the ground
- ASSAP within Teagasc and the broader AKIS
- Questions.

How? – Overview of ASSAP

ASSAP advisory programme

- Teagasc Programme Manager
- Dairy Sustainability Ireland Co-ordinator
- 20 Teagasc ASSAP Advisors
- 10 Co-op ASSAP Advisors

ASSAP co-ordination team (ASSAP + LAWSAT)

KEY Operating principles of ASSAP

- **The ASSAP programme provides farm advice and support only**
- **It is voluntary and collaborative**
- **There is no connection to the regulatory and compliance mechanisms of the state.**

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Example Breagagh River

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LAWSAT “on the ground” assessments

Where possible Non-Agr and Agr related issues are “marked” on the maps

Bad
Breagagh B1 - Agr.
Breagagh B2 - Non Agr.

Poor
Breagagh P1 - Agr.
Breagagh P2 - Non Agr.

Moderate
Breaghagh M1 - Non Agr.
Breaghagh M2 - Agr.

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Agricultural Issues

- Referred to ASSAP
- Locations marked with notes provided
- List of land owners identified

Breagagh B1(Agr)

Breagagh M2 (Agr)

Breagagh P1 (Agr)

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How? – In each catchment area

Public Engagement

Led by LAWCO

Farmer and Advisor

Engagement led by ASSAP

Engaging with farmers through
Local Teagasc and Non Teagasc Advisors

1. Farm Yard

2. Land Management

3. Effective NMP

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Example Advisory Reports

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Farm Advice Summary

EXAMPLE 1

Farmer: JOHN FARMER
~~e-mail:~~ ~~client no:~~ BREAGAGH

Date: 14/5/18.
Visit ✓ Consultation | Phone: | Office: | Group Meeting Summary

Current Production: | Grass/ Soils/ Pesticides: | Breeding/ Fertility/ Nutrition: | Environment/ CAP/ Compliance: ✓ | Financial/ Farm Plan: | Other – eg Animal Health Farm Safety, etc:

1. FARM YARD

(i) FYM BESIDE MAYSHED TO BE MOVED TO POSITION AS DISCUSSED IN "TOP FIELD"

(ii) SILAGE EFFLUENT LEAKING FROM NORTH END OF PIT. REPAIR KERBING AND PIPE.

2. FARM LAND

(i) STOP CATTLE ENTERING RIVER AT "REILLYS FIELD" IDEALLY PUT IN A NOSE PUMP OR BRING WATER TROUGH INTO THE FIELD.

(ii) AVOID SEVERE POACHING IN "THE TOP FIELD" NEXT YEAR. HOUSE ANIMALS OR MOVE FEEDER AND LIMIT NUMBERS TO 10 WEANLINGS.

3. NMP

(i) PADDOCK 1 & PADDOCK 2 TO GET SLURRY MAX 3,000 GALLONS PER ACRE

(ii) NO SLURRY ON THE HOUSE FIELD OR THE WELL FIELD OR THE RIVER FIELD (ALL INDEX 4 FOR P OR PRONE TO FLOODING.

Adviser: Patrick Adviser 14/5/2018

Advice above is provided under the Teagasc Terms of Engagement – see www.teagasc.ie 2018 – 94101
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Farm Advice Summary

EXAMPLE 2

Farmer: Patrick Farmer
e-mail: client no: BREAGAGH

Date: 15/5/18
Visit ✓ Consultation | Phone: | Office: | Group Meeting Summary

Current Production: | Grass/ Soils/ Pesticides: | Breeding/ Fertility/ Nutrition: | Environment/ CAP/ Compliance: ✓ | Financial/ Farm Plan: | Other – eg Animal Health Farm Safety, etc:

1. FARM YARD

OPTIONS FOR EXTRA SLURRY STORAGE

POSSIBLE LOCATION NEW TANK
30m x 4m x 2m DEEP

= 240m³

= 16 weeks storage for 40 cows

2.

ESTIMATED COST: €100 /per m³
= €24,000

3.

GET VAT BACK
GRANT ?
TAX ALLOWANCES ?

Adviser: Seamus Adviser 15/5/18.

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NMP Online - Example reports

Fertiliser plan for the Farm

Manure Allocations			
Fertiliser	Estimated T	Applied T	Balance T
Cattle Slurry	378	382	0
Total P in Manures			287
Manure P allocated			306
Manure P remaining			0
Total Manure P on Index 1&2			287
Total Manure P on Index 3&4			0
Total Available P (kg)			144
Total Unavailable P (kg)			144

Planned Fertilisers	
Fertiliser	Tonnes
Urea(46%N)	8.51
16% Super P	2.42
20-0-15	4.69

Nutrient Balance			
	N(kg)	P(kg)	K(kg)
Chemical Recommended	5,034	504	0
Max Chemical Allowed			
Chemical Usage			

Plot	Crop	Area(Ha)	Soil Sample	Index N|P|K	Nutrients Applied (Units/Acre) N | P | K	Organic Manures	Chemical
1	Grazing	4.9	GAF 1	1|1|1			
2	Grazing	4.2	GAF 2				
3	Non- Farmed Area	8.0					
4	2 Cut + Graz						
5A							
5B							

Overview Teagasc ASSAP Advisor Role

- Part of wider Teagasc programme
- Experienced group of staff
- Highly trained and specialised – technical and communications
- Learning from early pilots and agr. catchments experience

- Collaborate with others – awareness and action

- Direct contact with farmers and their advisors
- Work on a farm level action plan – Farm Yard / Farm Land / NMP
- Add to the work that's ongoing (not replace)

- Initial focus on water.

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Collaboration within Teagasc

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Collaboration with the wider AKIS

(Modified from) Standing Committee on Agricultural Research (SCAR) Collaborative Working Group AKIS (2012)

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Teagasc supports the wider AKIS through its ConnectEd programme

Why Support the AKIS

- Question ?
- How many different people have an influence o
  fertiliser onto the right field at the right tim

1. Farmer
2. Person who takes the soil sampl
3. Advisor who does NMP
4. Other advisor(s) that u
5. Supplier sales pe
6. Supplier sto anager
7. Contra
8. Cont
9. Weathe
10. Person wi ins the fertiliser spreader

What could possibly go wrong !

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Summary

- New programme
- Targeted
- Collaborative
- Time bound
- Exciting !

End.