



DairyCon
DAIRY HEALTH & NUTRITION
CONFERENCE

Advancing Dairy Health Together

.....

20-21 May 2026
Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny

Welcome!

www.farmlab.ie/dairycon



KNOWLEDGE
INNOVATION
COLLABORATION



Contents

.....

01	Welcome	4
02	Conference Agenda	5
03	Speaker Profiles	7
04	Sponsors	11
05	Company Profiles	12
06	Conference Venue	17
07	Kilkenny City	18
08	Social Event	19



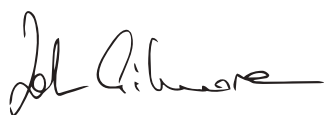
Welcome

Welcome to DairyCon 2026

Welcome to DairyCon 2026, a two-day conference focused on dairy health, nutrition, and herd management.

Bringing together industry experts and professionals from across the sector, the conference offers practical insights, current research, and valuable discussion on the challenges and opportunities facing modern dairy farming.

We hope you enjoy the programme, make valuable connections, and find the event both informative and rewarding.



CONNECT
with industry
experts



DISCOVER
the latest
research



DRIVE
positive change
together



Conference Agenda

Day 1 – Wednesday 20th May 2026

.....

11:30 Arrival & Registration
12:00 Lunch & Meet Sponsors

Infectious Diseases Session

12:45 Conference Open
Patrick Donoghue, CEO Animal Health

13:00 Something Wicked This Way Comes...
Diseases Winging Their Way Towards Ireland
Ronan O'Neill

13:30 TB – New Challenges with an Old Disease
Damien Barrett

14:00 GIF Testing – The What, The How and The Why
Damien Barrett & John Gilmore

14:30 Q Fever – A Disease with Underestimated Consequences
Mark Little
Kindly sponsored by CEVA Animal Health Ireland

14:50 Questions & Answers

15:00 Tea/Coffee & Meet Sponsors

15:15 Johne's Disease – The Disease and Its Control
Conor McAloon

15:45 Depart for Racecourse
(Buses from Newpark Hotel)

17:00 Gowran Park Races
Hospitality Suite, 4-Course Meal & Racing



Conference Agenda

Day 2 – Thursday 21st May 2026

.....

Calf Health Session

- 09:15** Calf Health Session Commences
- 09:30** Summer Scour Syndrome – What We Know Now
Donal Murphy
- 10:00** Management of Respiratory Diseases in Calf Production Systems
Eamonn O'Connell
- 10:30** Vaccination of Young Calves – Immunological Considerations
Sioned Timothy
Kindly sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim
- 10:50** Questions & Answers
- 11:00** Tea/Coffee & Meet Sponsors

Nutrition & Management of the Dairy Herd

- 11:30** The Replacement Heifer in Ireland –
Statistics, Genetics & Management (2018–2026)
Doreen Corridan
- 12:00** Feed to Breed: Optimising Nutrition to Optimise Fertility
Joe Patton
- 12:30** Temporal Variation of Pasture Mineral Concentrations
Mike Dineen
- 13:00** Lunch & Meet Sponsors
- 14:00** Vitamin E, Selenium & Antioxidant Status in Transition Cattle –
Implications for Cow and Calf Health
Julia Moorhouse
Kindly sponsored by Agrimin
- 14:20** Diagnostic Solutions
John Gilmore
- 15:20** Questions & Answers
- 15:30** Conference Close

Speaker Profiles



Mark Little

Veterinary Specialist | Researcher | Nuffield Farming Scholar

Mark has over 20 years' experience across veterinary practice, industry, and research. A UCD graduate, he spent a decade in mixed practice before moving into animal health and nutrition roles. He holds a PhD in dairy cow immunity and is a Nuffield Farming Scholar focused on sustainable herd health.



John Gilmore

Founder, FarmLab Diagnostics | Veterinary Surgeon

John Gilmore is a veterinary practitioner with extensive experience in large animal practice. He is founder of FarmLab Diagnostics, an ISO-accredited laboratory providing animal health testing services. His interests include mastitis control, herd nutrition, parasitology, tick borne disease and veterinary diagnostics .



Julia Moorhouse

Head of Veterinary Services | Dairy & Beef Nutrition Specialist

Julia Moorhouse is Head of Veterinary Services at Map of Agriculture, specialising in dairy and beef nutrition, herd health, and welfare. She also provides consultancy to farms, supporting feeding strategies and performance. Her work focuses on mineral nutrition, youngstock management, and data-driven decision making.

Speaker Profiles



Ronan O'Neill

Head of Virology Division | Department of Agriculture

Ronan O'Neill is Head of the Virology Division at the Department of Agriculture. After beginning in practice, he completed a PhD in vaccine genetics and moved into research. His work focuses on emerging disease threats, bovine respiratory disease, and laboratory biosecurity within Ireland's livestock sector.



Eamonn O'Connell

Partner, Summerhill Vets | Dairy Herd Health Specialist

Eamonn O'Connell is a partner at Summerhill Vets in Co. Tipperary. A UCD graduate, he specialises in dairy herd health and preventative medicine. He is a regular contributor to the Farming Independent and is known for his practical, proactive approach to improving on-farm herd performance.



Damien Barrett

Head of Ruminant Animal Health Programmes | DAFM

Damien Barrett is Head of the Ruminant Animal Health Programmes Division at the Department of Agriculture. He leads scientific input into the TB eradication programme and other regulated diseases. A UCD graduate, he is also an adjunct associate professor and has authored over 60 peer-reviewed papers.



Speaker Profiles



Donal Murphy

Veterinary Surgeon | Sliabh Luachra Vet Centre

Donal Murphy graduated from UCD and has been in practice in Co. Kerry since 1984. He runs Sliabh Luachra Vet Centre, focusing on farm animal work. His areas of interest include surgery and bull breeding examinations, bringing decades of practical experience to dairy and livestock health.



Joe Patton

Head of Dairy Knowledge Transfer | Teagasc

Joe Patton leads the Dairy Knowledge Transfer programme at Teagasc. A UCD graduate, he completed a PhD in dairy cow fertility and has extensive experience in dairy nutrition and production systems. He works closely with industry to support farmer education and improve on-farm performance.



Mike Dineen

Senior Research Officer | Teagasc

Dr Michael Dineen is a Senior Research Officer in animal nutrition at Teagasc Moorepark. His research focuses on improving dairy efficiency while reducing environmental impact. He holds a PhD from Cornell University and is involved in both laboratory and farm-based research programmes.



Speaker Profiles



Sioned Timothy

Livestock Technical Manager | Boehringer Ingelheim

Sioned Timothy is a veterinary surgeon with an MSc in Veterinary Infectious Disease. She works with Boehringer Ingelheim in technical roles across the UK and Ireland. Her interests include calf health, immunology, parasitology, and disease prevention within modern livestock systems.



Conor McAloon

Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology | UCD

Conor McAloon is Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology at UCD and Director of CVERA. A specialist in cattle health, he holds a PhD in Johne's Disease and a Masters in epidemiology. His work focuses on disease control, herd health, and improving animal welfare in dairy systems.



Doreen Corridan

CEO, National Cattle Breeding Centre | Veterinary Surgeon

Doreen Corridan is CEO of the National Cattle Breeding Centre, Ireland's largest AI breeding organisation. With over 30 years' experience, her career spans veterinary practice, consultancy, and leadership. She has played a key role in advancing breeding programmes, herd performance, and sustainability.

Our Sponsors



Thank you to our sponsors for their support and commitment to the industry.



Company Profiles



Agrimin

Agrimin Limited – Supporting Animal Health, Sustaining the Future. With over 45 years of expertise, Agrimin Limited is a global leader in the development and manufacture of controlled delivery devices for ruminants. Operating at the forefront of animal nutrition, our trusted bolus ranges—including ALL-TRACE®, 24·7 SMARTRACE®, ESey and 24·7 range including Calcium, Copper and Magnesium—are scientifically formulated to support optimal animal health, welfare, and productivity. Driven by our mission “To be world leaders in the field of controlled delivery devices, developing scientifically proven products manufactured to the highest quality and supported by a valued team of employees,” Agrimin proudly serves veterinary professionals worldwide.

Our work is built on three core pillars:

- Environmental Stewardship
- Animal Welfare
- Efficiency & Resource Utilisation

With a strong emphasis on research and innovation, our in-house R&D team are continually innovating product performance and developing new technologies to meet the evolving needs of modern agriculture.



Boehringer Ingelheim

Founded in 1885 and family-owned ever since, Boehringer Ingelheim takes a long-term perspective on livestock health. We are among the global leaders in vaccines, therapeutics and parasiticides that combat production-limiting diseases in livestock. Boehringer Ingelheim is a trusted partner for vets and farmers around the world.

Company Profiles



Ceva

Ceva Animal Health Ireland is a subsidiary of Ceva Sante Animale, a global leader in animal health committed to delivering innovative solutions that care for and protect animals. Our dedicated team in Ireland supports veterinary practices and their clients by providing expert technical guidance and ensuring access to the wide range of Ceva products.



FarmLab Diagnostics

FarmLab Diagnostics works with veterinary practitioners to improve animal health on Irish farms through the use and interpretation of advanced diagnostic testing methods.



Animal Health Ireland

Animal Health Ireland (AHI) is a not-for-profit, public–private partnership established between private agri-sector stakeholders and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM). AHI aims to provide the knowledge, education, and coordination required to establish effective control programmes for important livestock diseases that are not subject to international regulation. In doing so, it contributes to an economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable farming and agrifood sector through improved animal health and welfare.



Bimeda

Bimeda is a leading global manufacturer, marketer, and distributor of veterinary pharmaceuticals and animal health products. With headquarters in Dublin and a strong international presence in over 80 countries, the company offers a wide portfolio including parasite control, nutrition and medicinal additives for livestock and companion animals.



Company Profiles



Chanelle

Chanelle Pharma is Ireland's largest indigenous manufacturer of generic medicines for human and animal health. For over 40 years, we have developed and manufactured high-quality veterinary medicines, supplying trusted and affordable solutions to veterinary practices nationwide. In Ireland, we also operate a leading veterinary wholesale business, supporting practices with reliable supply and service. Globally, we partner with pharmaceutical companies and export to over 90 countries worldwide. Find out more at www.chanellepharma.com



Duggan Veterinary Group

Duggan Veterinary Group is a family owned, Guaranteed Irish and ISO accredited business of over 40 years, and is a leading provider of veterinary medicines, human medicines, instruments, equipment and consumables to the veterinary market. Duggan Veterinary Group has a direct presence in the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom markets with various other collaborations with partners in other EU and Non-EU markets. Coupled with our unique product offering, our growing team of 50 highly skilled staff also offer a full suite of services such as CPD training, warehousing and 3PL, and engineering and repairs.



Glenbio

Glenbio provides a complete solution for laboratory testing in veterinary clinics and hospitals, serving over 100 customers in the Irish and UK markets. Glenbio has developed over 30 reagents through its R&D, along with OEM reagents which have been quality assured. Key assays include SAA, Fibrinogen, T4 and Equine IgG. Glenbio has a proven track record with distribution partnerships including Thermo Fisher, Dako, Biomerieux, and Quantimetrix.

Company Profiles



HIPRA

Hipra

Hipra is an animal pharmaceutical company that develops and produces unique vaccines for the prevention and treatment of diseases in farm animals.



IDEXX

IDEXX

IDEXX is a global leader in veterinary diagnostics. For more than 40 years, we have helped laboratories, veterinarians, and farmers around the world make confident decisions to support herd health and productivity. With more than 43 new livestock tests launched since 2015, our mission remains to deliver trusted diagnostic solutions that support animal health and contribute to a safe, abundant food supply.



ifac

IFAC

Ifac is Ireland's leading professional services firm focused on farming, food, agri-related and family businesses. For over 50 years, we have supported business owners across rural Ireland with practical financial advice grounded in deep sector knowledge. Our multidisciplinary teams provide accounting, tax planning, finance support and strategic business advisory, helping clients plan confidently for the future.



MSD
Animal Health

MSD Animal Health

MSD Animal Health helps keep animals healthy by delivering innovative medicines, vaccines and technology. For over 130 years, we have pioneered groundbreaking science and partnered with veterinarians, farmers and those who care for animals to support easier, more effective animal care.



Company Profiles



Norbrook

Norbrook is a leading global provider of veterinary pharmaceuticals, enhancing the health of farm and companion animals from its headquarters in Northern Ireland. We provide a wide range of large animal products including anthelmintics, NSAIDs, antibiotics, and teatseal, along with companion animal and equine solutions. We are also the exclusive distribution partner for Provita products in the Republic of Ireland.



Phibro

Phibro Animal Health Corporation is a global animal health and nutrition company focused on advancing herd health, productivity, and welfare through science-based solutions. We develop and market a broad portfolio of sustainable products designed to support veterinarians, nutritionists, and producers across multiple livestock sectors.



Zoetis

Zoetis is a world leader in discovering, developing, manufacturing and marketing veterinary medicines and vaccines, as well as complementary diagnostics and services. With a singular focus on animal health, we strive to support veterinarians and livestock producers in meeting the growing global demand for animal protein and care.

Newpark Hotel

4* Hotel - Castlecomer Rd, Kilkenny



Located just minutes from the heart of Kilkenny City, the Newpark Hotel provides a modern and comfortable setting for DairyCon 2026. This four-star venue offers a spacious conference environment, excellent facilities, and a welcoming atmosphere for delegates.

The hotel combines contemporary design with high-quality service, ensuring a smooth and enjoyable experience throughout the event. With dedicated conference spaces, on-site dining, and ample parking, it is

ideally suited to hosting both formal sessions and networking opportunities. Guests can enjoy the hotel's range of amenities, including comfortable accommodation, leisure facilities, and convenient access to Kilkenny's vibrant city centre.

We are delighted to host DairyCon 2026 at the Newpark Hotel and look forward to welcoming you.

Visit: www.newparkhotelkilkenny.com



Conference
Facilities



On-Site
Dining



Free
Parking



Delux
Rooms



Leisure
Facilities



City
Access

Kilkenny City

Kilkenny is one of Ireland's most vibrant and historic cities, known for its rich heritage, lively atmosphere, and strong connection to agriculture and rural life. Blending medieval charm with a modern cultural scene, the city offers a welcoming backdrop for DairyCon 2026.

Visitors can explore Kilkenny Castle, stroll through its cobbled streets, and enjoy a wide range of cafés, restaurants, and traditional pubs. The compact city centre makes it easy to navigate, with a unique mix of history, hospitality, and local character at every turn.

Kilkenny's strong ties to farming and agribusiness make it a fitting location for this year's conference, providing both context and connection to the themes explored throughout DairyCon.



Historic
Landmarks



City Centre
Location



Restaurants
& Cafés



Cultural
Attractions



Local
Hospitality



Easy to
Explore

Discover more
during your stay in Kilkenny city.

Social Event

Gowran Park Races

Enjoy an evening at Gowran Park Racecourse, featuring live racing, a four-course meal, and a private hospitality suite.

This relaxed social event offers the perfect opportunity to network and connect with fellow delegates.

Transport will be provided from the Newpark Hotel.



Wednesday
20th May 2026



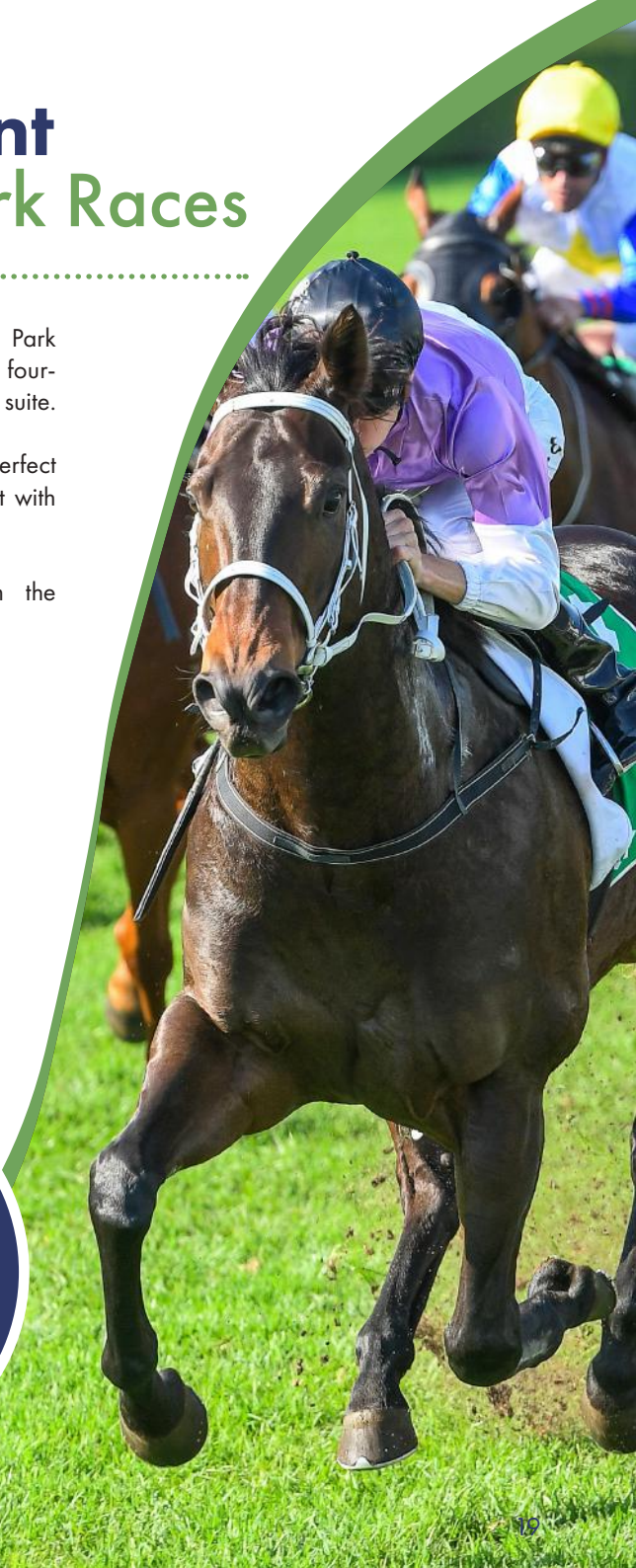
5:00 pm



Gowran Park
Racecourse



FOOD
RACING
NETWORKING



Notes

Notes

Notes



DairyCon

DAIRY HEALTH & NUTRITION
CONFERENCE

Bringing Knowledge, Innovation & Collaboration to the Dairy Industry

.....

DairyCon brings together leading experts,
industry professionals, and innovators to
drive the future of dairy health and nutrition.

Welcome to DairyCon!



www.farmlab.ie/dairycon