



ASA CONFERENCE 2006

# Global Climate Change and Energy Supply

Opportunities for Irish Agriculture?



Friday 8th September,  
Radisson Hotel, Sligo



# Introduction to the 2006 ASA Annual Conference



**JAMES FITZGERALD**  
**PRESIDENT**

The Agricultural Science Association (ASA) works hard to keep members informed of the key issues facing the Agri-Food sector. We are constantly seeking to put new information in front of our members, who represent the entire spectrum of the agri industry, so that the sector as a whole may benefit. The ASA annual conference is a key vehicle to achieving this and is now recognised as the learning and networking opportunity in the Agri-Food sector's year.

For the past number of years there has been a constant public debate on the topics of increasing energy costs and global warming. To a large degree there has been a gap between Ireland's national and international commitments in the area of energy supply and climate change and the effective practical implementation of policies on the ground. In general agriculture has been on the sidelines of these debates. This year the annual ASA conference seeks to explore these topics with a wide range of international and national experts addressing the question "do the problems of increasing energy costs and climate change offer opportunities for Irish agriculture?"

Energy and fuel crops such as Miscanthus, Willow and Oilseed Rape and animal by-products and organic waste offer solutions to declining fossil fuel supplies. Is it now time for Irish farmers to embrace renewable energy crops? Are they viable? What are the constraints and prospects?

On climate change we hear much about the impact of livestock on the environment, the role of forestry in carbon sequestration and a more recent debate about who really owns carbon credits, the state or the landowner. How are carbon credits traded and should the Agri-Food sector be more assertive in this area? What are the on-farm practical solutions and who will pay for these?

In assembling our panel of speakers, the ASA aims to address some of these issues from a national, international, public and private perspective. Our intention is to highlight the role of the agri-food sector and its potential contribution to providing solutions.

The ASA annual conference includes an important social dimension with golf at County Sligo Golf Club on Thursday 7th September and our annual banquet following the conference on Friday night. We are delighted that Dr Eddie O'Connor, Chief Executive of Airtricity has agreed to be our after-dinner speaker. Both the golf and the banquet offer a great opportunity to meet colleagues and further develop your network of key players in the Agri-Food sector.

Organising an event of this magnitude would not be possible without the support of many companies and organisations. On behalf of the membership of the ASA, I want to extend sincere thanks to all our supporters and in particular to our overall sponsor FBD.

I look forward to meeting you in Sligo on September 7th and 8th.

James Fitzgerald  
**President**

# Programme at a glance



## Thursday 7th September

### Pre-Conference Golf

**The President's Prize** County Sligo Golf Club, Rosses Point

**Ladies Golf Outing** County Sligo Golf Club, Rosses Point

**Presentation of Prizes** 9.30pm, Memory Harbour, Radisson SAS Hotel

## Friday 8th September

**Conference Registration** 9am on, Radisson SAS Hotel

**ASA National Conference** 10am to 4.00pm, Benbulbin Room

**Guided Partners' Tour** Historic Sligo

Depart 9.45am, Foyer Radisson SAS Hotel  
Return 5.00pm

**ASA Annual General Meeting** 4.15pm, Bricklieve Room

### BAgrSc Class Reunion

Class of 1966  
Class of 1989 7.30pm, Memory Harbour

### ASA Black Tie Conference Banquet

**Pre-Banquet Reception** 7.30pm, Radisson SAS Hotel

**ASA Conference Banquet** 8.30pm, Benbulbin Room

**Entertainment** Peter Byrne and the Glass Onion Band

# Conference Programme

10.00AM

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

*James Fitzgerald, ASA President*

10.10AM

## OFFICIAL OPENING

*Mary Coughlan T.D., Minister for Agriculture and Food*

10.25AM

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

*The Strategy for the Agri-Food Sector to 2013*

*Tom Moran, Secretary General, Department of Agriculture and Food*

## SESSION 1

SUPPORTED BY



10.45AM – 11.30AM

## SETTING THE SCENE

*Chairperson: Andy Doyle, Irish Farmers Journal*

### PROSPECTS AND DRIVERS FOR GLOBAL ENERGY MARKETS

*Job Langbroek, Energy Analyst, Davy Stockbrokers*

### REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY - CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES?

*Owen Ryan, Principal Officer, Air Quality and Climate Change Section,*

*Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government*

Coffee Break



## SESSION 2

SUPPORTED BY

12.00PM – 1.30PM

## CARBON MARKETS - DOWN TO EARTH OR UP IN THE AIR?

*Chairperson: Padraig Walshe, IFA President*

### THE CARBON MARKETS - THE STORY SO FAR

*Paul Harris, Head of Energy and Emissions, Bank of Ireland Global Markets*

### DELIVERING EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS - A BUSINESS PROPOSITION FOR AGRICULTURE

*Leo Perkowski, Head of Regulatory Affairs, AgCert*

### POSSIBILITIES FOR REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM IRISH FARMS

*Professor Frank O'Mara, UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine*

Conference Lunch

## SESSION 3

SUPPORTED BY



2.30 – 4.00PM

## RENEWABLE ENERGY – THE NEW CASH COW FOR IRISH FARMERS?

*Chairperson: Mairead McGuinness, MEP*

### AGRICULTURAL MARKET IMPACTS OF FUTURE GROWTH IN THE PRODUCTION OF BIOFUELS

*Dr Martin von Lampe, OECD, Directorate for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries*

### THE POTENTIAL FOR NON-FOOD USES OF CROPS IN IRELAND

*Professor Jimmy Burke, Head, Teagasc Tillage Research Centre, Oak Park*

### DEVELOPING RENEWABLE CROP BASED TECHNOLOGY - THE UK EXPERIENCE

*Dr Ian Law, Technology Transfer Manager, The National Non-Food Crops Centre, UK*

Coffee Break

## ASA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4.15PM – 4.45PM

BRICKLIEVE ROOM

## ASA CONFERENCE BANQUET

7.30PM

RECEPTION

8.30PM

BANQUET

# Speaker Profiles



**JAMES FITZGERALD**

James Fitzgerald graduated from UCD in 1989 with a BAgSc qualification in General Agriculture. He started his working career with a farm input supply business in Co. Laois, returning to his native Roscommon to take over the family farm when his parents retired in 1994. He established his own agricultural consultancy business in 1995 and runs a successful REPS planning agency covering the counties of Roscommon, Mayo and Galway. James is currently acting as a Farmers Liaison Officer on major infrastructural projects. He is also involved in Nutrient Management Planning for industry. James has served on the council of the ASA since 2001 and also serves on the council of the Agricultural Consultants Association (ACA).



**MARY COUGHLAN**

Mary Coughlan was appointed Minister for Agriculture and Food on 29th September, 2004. Previously she had been Minister for Social and Family Affairs and Minister of State at the Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands. She has been a member of the Dail since 1987 where she has held a number of positions including spokesperson on Educational Reform (1995 – 1997), chairperson of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on the Irish Language (1993 – 1995) and a member of the British-Irish Parliamentary Body (1991 - 1992).

Mary Coughlan was born in County Donegal in 1965. She is a daughter of the late Cathal Coughlan, Dail Deputy for Donegal South-West (1983 – 1986). She was educated at the Ursuline Convent, Sligo and University College Dublin (BSocSc).



**TOM MORAN**

Tom Moran is Secretary General of the Department of Agriculture and Food. Born in 1955 in Dublin, Tom was educated in St Josephs CBS, Fairview and attended University College Dublin (MA and Higher Diploma in Education) and the Institute of Public Administration.

He joined the Department of Agriculture and Food in 1980 as an Administrative Officer and served in a variety of posts. He also served in the Irish Embassy in Paris as Agricultural Attaché to France and to the OECD from 1989 to 1992 (he was seconded to the Department of Foreign Affairs for this period). He acted as Assistant Secretary General with responsibility for Policy in Livestock Production between 1997 and 2004 before being appointed Secretary General in January 2005.



**ANDY DOYLE**

Andy Doyle is Tillage Editor of the Irish Farmers Journal. A native of county Wexford, Andy completed a BAgSc degree in 1978 and a MAgrSc in 1980. He then became involved in the crop research programme at UCD for the following ten years. He joined the Irish Farmers Journal in 1990 where he has since worked as tillage editor. He takes a keen interest in all things to do with crops and sees the renewed demand for renewable energies as critical to the future of farming as a whole.



**OWEN RYAN**

Owen Ryan is Principal Officer in the Air Quality and Climate Change Section of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. He has significant experience in national and EU policy areas within the Department. His current section is responsible for national and EU policy and legislation on air quality and climate change, as well as coordinating and leading Irish input in related international negotiations.



**JOB LANDBROEK**

Job Langbroek is a senior resource analyst with Davy Stockbrokers. He graduated with a degree in geology from Trinity College and after initial experience in the oil industry he joined Davy, where he has research and specialist sales responsibility for oil and gas and mining stocks traded on the Dublin and London exchanges.



**PADRAIG WALSH**

Padraig Walshe is the 12th President of the Irish Farmers' Association. He was elected in December 2005 and took up office in January 2006. A native of Durrow in Co Laois, he and his wife Ella run a dairy and beef farm. They have four children.

He is a member of the Board of FBD, the Agricultural Trust and Bord Bia and leads the IFA Social Partnership negotiating team. Padraig Walshe was Chairman of the IFA National Dairy Committee (1998-2002) and IFA National Treasurer (2002-2006). He also served as Chairman of Laois IFA. He is a former President of Macra na Feirme (1987-1989).



**PAUL HARRIS**

Paul Harris is head of the newly-established Energy and Emissions Desk at Bank of Ireland Global Markets. He has responsibility for structuring risk management solutions for companies with exposure to gas, oil coal and emissions. He is also a leading voice in the area of financial structures associated with renewable energy, in particular wind energy and biofuels. Paul has over twenty years experience across the full range of treasury risk instruments in both trading and sales capacities, with a specialisation in derivative instruments.



**LEO PERKOWSKI**

Leo Perkowski is Director of Climate Change Programs with AgCert International. AgCert is a leader in the production and sale of agriculturally derived greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions. Headquartered in Dublin, AgCert was founded to generate emission reductions from livestock farms to reduce the adverse impacts of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions related to global warming and climate change. The GHG emission reductions are pooled and sold to industrial emitters, governments, funds and energy traders. Leo has been associated with Global Warming Climate Change activities for four years. He is bilingual and holds a Masters Degree in Business Administration and Bachelors of Science Degree in Management of Technical Operations from Embry-Riddle University.



**FRANK O'MARA**

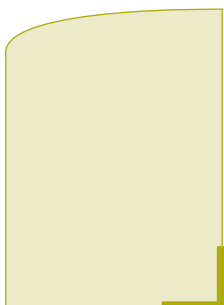
Professor Frank O'Mara has lectured on animal nutrition in UCD since 1995. He is an active researcher and his interests include feed evaluation, energy and protein rationing systems, and nutritional requirements of dairy and beef cattle. He has an extensive research programme on livestock methane emissions ongoing at UCD, with national and international collaborators. He is currently a Lead Author of the forthcoming Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change - Fourth Assessment Report (Chapter on Mitigation in Agriculture).



**MAIREAD MCGUINNESS**

Mairead McGuinness, Fine Gael MEP for Ireland East, serves on the European Parliament's Agriculture and Rural Development Committee and on the Budgets and Petitions Committees. She also chairs the European Parliament Committee of Inquiry into the demise of Equitable Life where thousands of pensioners lost out on their investments. Her other involvements include membership of the EU Parliamentary Delegations for Romania and New Zealand.

Mairead was elected an MEP in June 2004. Prior to becoming an MEP she was a well-known journalist, broadcaster and commentator. She is a long-time member of the ASA.



**MARTIN VON LAMPE**

Dr Martin Von Lampe is an economist and works in the Markets and Trade Division of the OECD based in Paris. He has had special responsibility for cereal market policy analysis in EU and world markets and he has developed a macroeconomic model to estimate the evolution of prices for agricultural products over time. His job involves close contact with all sectors of the cereal industry and he is well known for his expert analysis.



**JIMMY BURKE**

Professor Jimmy Burke is Head of the Teagasc Crops Research Centre at Oak Park, Carlow. He graduated from University College Dublin in 1976 and was awarded his Master degree in 1977 and Doctorate degree in 1980. Following the award of his PhD he was a researcher at the University of California at UC Davis, USA and in 1986 was appointed Head of the Crop Sciences Department of the Oak Park Research Centre in Carlow. In 2002 he was appointed Head of the Oak Park Research Centre. He is well known nationally and internationally for his research work on tillage crops.



**IAN LAW**

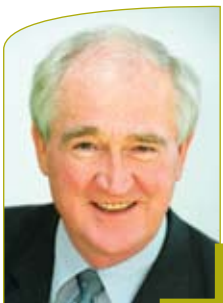
Dr Ian Law is a Technology Translation Manager with the National Non-Food Crops Centre (NNFCC), which is based in York. The NNFCC's purpose is to provide a single, independent and authoritative source of information on the use and implementation of non-food crop products and technologies in the United Kingdom. Ian's role is to assist individuals, SME's and multi-nationals who share the common goal of identifying and producing plant-based compounds which have the potential to enter existing commercial supply chains, or become new products in their own right.

Ian holds a Bsc (Hons) degree in Environmental Chemistry from the University of Edinburgh and a PhD from the University of Birmingham for his work on the adsorption of heavy metals by humic acids. He has previously worked in the pharmaceutical sector.

# ASA Conference Banquet

This year's ASA Black Tie Banquet will take place on Friday 8th September in the Radisson SAS Hotel after the annual conference. Don't miss the industry social event of the year. BAgSc class reunions for the classes of 1966 and 1989.

<b>PRE-DRINKS RECEPTION</b>	<b>7.30PM</b>
<b>CLASS REUNIONS</b>	<b>7.30PM, MEMORY HARBOUR</b>
<b>BLACK TIE BANQUET</b>	<b>8.30PM, BENBULBEN ROOM</b>
<b>GUEST SPEAKER</b>	<b>DR EDDIE O'CONNOR</b>
<b>ENTERTAINMENT</b>	<b>PETER BYRNE AND THE GLASS ONION BAND</b>



**EDDIE O'CONNOR**

Dr Eddie O'Connor is Chief Executive of Airtricity - the leading independent supplier of wind-generated energy in the Irish marketplace.

Airtricity is a world leading renewable energy company, developing and operating wind farms in Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales and the United States. As an integrated utility, the company is both a generator and supplier of green electricity and currently supplies green electricity to over 45,000 commercial customers in Ireland. Airtricity develops and constructs wind parks and trades in renewable electricity and green credits.

Eddie was appointed World Energy Policy Leader by Scientific American Magazine in 2003.

His track record has been built on broad experience in the energy sector. He was Managing Director of Bord na Mona, the state owned Irish biomass company for nine years. He holds a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering and a Masters in Industrial Engineering and has an honorary Doctorate in Business Administration from the International Management Centres, Europe.

He is Secretary of the European Wind Energy Association.



# ASA Golf Outing

THURSDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER



## COUNTY SLIGO GOLF CLUB, ROSSES POINT

Play one of Ireland's greatest championship links. The ASA have exclusive access to this classic course designed by H.S. Colt in 1927. Some of the world's greatest golfers have pitted their skills against these Championship links. The course offers a challenge to the most experienced golfer, and will hone the skills of the novice.

### ASA PRESIDENT'S PRIZE

### LADIES GOLF OUTING

Presentation of prizes 9.30pm, Radisson SAS Hotel

To Book your Golf Tee Times

**Contact** Ann Henry or Mary Conway, Teagasc Ballymoate

**Tel:** 071 9183369

The ASA Golf Outing is generously supported by



# Guided Partners' Tour

FRIDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER



## HISTORIC SLIGO

- 9.45am** Assemble at main entrance of Radisson SAS Hotel
- 10.00am** Depart for Drumcliff Church – burial place of W.B. Yeats
- 11.00am** Coffee
- 11.15am** Depart for Lissadell House and Gardens, childhood home of Countess Constance Markievicz and her sister Eva Gore-Booth and immortalised in the poetry of William Butler Yeats
- 1.00pm** Lunch at Niland Gallery, where home cooked organic food is served. Visit to Niland Gallery to view the permanent exhibition of Jach B. Yeats paintings
- 2.30pm** Depart for guided tour of Parkes Castle
- 3.30pm** Late Isle Tour on Wild Rose Water Bus taking in Lake Isle of Innisfree and other isles
- 5.00pm** Return to Radisson SAS Hotel

# Accommodation

## RADISSON SAS HOTEL RATES

The ASA has negotiated the following conference rates:

One night (either Thursday 7th or Friday 8th Sept.)	€99 single room €140 double room
Two nights (Thursday 7th and Friday 8th Sept.)	€198 single room €260 double room
Saturday 9th Sept - limited availability	€170 double room

Contact Radison SAS Sligo 071 9140008 – Be sure to mention you are attending the ASA conference.

## ALTERNATIVE SLIGO HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

<b>The Sligo Park hotel</b>	071 9160291
<b>The Clarion hotel</b>	071 9119000
<b>The Southern hotel</b>	071 9162101
<b>The City Hotel</b>	071 9144000
<b>The Riverside hotel</b>	071 9148080

## B&B'S IN ROSSES POINT AREA

<b>Coral Reef B&amp;B</b> Rosses Point Sligo Tel: 071 9177245 Contact: Lorna Brady	<b>Sea Park House</b> Rosses Point Road Sligo Tel: 071 9145556 Contact: Mr & Mrs Fullerton
<b>Stonecroft B&amp;B</b> Off Donegal Road Kintogher Sligo Tel: 071 9145667 Contact: Mary Conway	<b>Philmar House</b> Ballincar Rosses Point Road Sligo Tel: 071 9145014 Contact: Mary Scallon
<b>Walrey B&amp;B</b> Cregg Rosses Point Rd Sligo Tel: 071 9177327 Contact: Margaret Reynolds	<b>Kilvarnet House</b> Rosses Point Sligo Tel: 071 9177202 Contact: Cait Gill

**Iorras B&B**  
Ballincar  
Rosses Point Road  
Sligo  
Tel: 071 9144911  
Contact: Eta Connolly

**Saniud B&B**  
Ballincar  
Rosses Point  
Sligo  
Tel: 071 9142773  
Contact: Marian Nealon

**Oyster View B&B**  
Rosses Point  
Sligo  
Tel: 071 9177201  
Contact: Ann Soden-Pudh

**Ardenode B&B**  
Old Cartron  
Rosses Point Road  
Sligo  
Tel: 071 9147790  
Contact: Marie Mullan

## SELF CATERING COTTAGES IN ROSSES POINT

<b>3* Cottage</b> Monica Mc Ternan Ballincar Rosses Point Sligo 071 9145987	<b>4* House</b> Catherine Mc Manus Ballincar Rosses Point Sligo 071 9177386
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# Booking

ASA Member Conference ticket	€80
Non-Member Conference ticket	€180
Student/Honorary Member Conference ticket	€50
Black Tie Conference Banquet	€55
Combined Conference and Black Tie Banquet ticket special rate	
ASA Member Conference ticket plus Banquet ticket	€120
Non-Member Conference ticket plus Banquet ticket	€220

## BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!

Conference, Banquet Tickets and Class Reunion 1966 and 1989

Contact Rebecca Daly, ASA Office, Irish Farm Centre, Bluebell, Dublin 12

**Tel:** 01 4603682

**Email:** [secretary@asaireland.ie](mailto:secretary@asaireland.ie)

## GOLF TEE TIMES

Contact Ann Henry or Mary Conway, Teagasc Ballymoate

**Tel:** 071 9183369

## PARTNERS' TOUR

Contact Rebecca Daly, ASA Office, Irish Farm Centre, Bluebell, Dublin 12

**Tel:** 01 4603682

**Email:** [secretary@asaireland.ie](mailto:secretary@asaireland.ie)

## ACCOMMODATION – RADISSON SAS SLIGO

**Tel:** 071 9140008

**Be sure to mention you are attending the ASA Conference.**



# ASA Supporters

The ASA would like to gratefully acknowledge the support of all its sponsors.

## Main Conference Sponsor



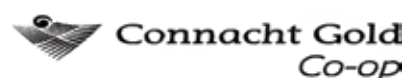
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## ASA Golf Outing Sponsor



## Supporting Sponsors



We appreciate the generosity of many other companies and organisations whose support has contributed to the success of the event. These will be acknowledged at the Conference.