



Burren Winterage School 2018

Farming for Nature

25th -27th Oct 2018

Gort & Kinvara, Co. Galway

Pre-conference event on Thursday 25th October:

9.30am -4pm Teagasc National Agri-environment conference

From Burren Beginnings to Locally Led EIP's

Venue: Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort.

Entry free but booking required - see

www.teagasc.ie/news--events/national-events/events/national-agri-environment.php

Thursday, 25th October 7.30-10pm Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort

6pm – 7.30pm Burren Winterage School - Registration & Welcome

7.30- 9.30pm **Session 1:** HNV LINK – sharing European innovations

Chair: James Moran (Galway Mayo Institute of Technology - GMIT)

Presentations: High Nature Value (HNV) Landscapes from across Europe (Sweden, France, Romania, Croatia, the UK) present a brief insight into their region, some HNV innovations that have worked for them, and the challenges that they most urgently need to address in future. See www.hnvlink.eu for more information.

Followed by a chaired discussion and a drinks reception.

Friday, 26th October, 9am-5pm Starting from Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort

9am-10am Welcome and Field Trip Briefing. (Registration desk also open)

10am- 5pm **Session 2: HNV Field Trips to the Burren and Slieve Aughty regions**

Visits to two 'locally led' agri-environment schemes, both of which include a results-based payments approach

Leaders: Burren Programme – Sharon Parr www.burrenprogramme.com

Hen Harrier Project – Caroline Sullivan www.henharrierproject.ie

Includes coach transfers and lunch in Gort (1-2pm). All delegates will have a chance to visit both projects.

Friday, 26th October, 7.30 – 9.30pm Gort Livestock Mart, Gort

7.30pm -9.30pm

Session 3: Farming for Nature Innovation Fair

A hands-on look at innovations in animal health, breeding and nutrition as well as discussion and demonstrations on the use of new technologies in managing livestock on high nature value farmland.

Chair: Michael Davoren (Burren Farmer)

Themes: Livestock breeding and management for rough pastureland
Animal nutrition – supplementary feeding options to optimise foraging
High Tech solutions to livestock management on HNV farmland
and much more...

10pm - late

Farming and nature - songs from the land
An unforgettable night of songs at Whelan's Pub, Shanaglish, Gort.

Saturday, 27th October 9am – 5pm Kinvara Community Centre, Kinvara

9 - 11am

Session 4: Farming for Nature: the broader context

Chair: (Burren Farmer)

Speakers: Annabelle Williams (RISE Foundation) – *A Safe Operating Space for Livestock Farming in Europe*
Kevin Hanrahan (Teagasc) – *Brexit: Potential Implications for High Nature Value farmers*
John Sweeney (NUI Maynooth) – *Winners and Losers in Agriculture as Climate Changes.*
Liam McHale (Irish Farmers Association, Brussels Office): *Global trade deals, evolving CAP discussions and the potential impact for HNV farmers*

11 – 11.30am

Tea & Coffee Break

11.30 - 1pm

Session 5: 'Understanding farmers' views about things.'

Chair: Aine Macken Walsh (Teagasc)

Speaker: Frank Vanclay, Department of Cultural Geography, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

Followed by a Q&A with Frank Vanclay and a panel of invited guests, chaired by Dr. Aine Macken Walsh (Teagasc)

1- 2pm

Lunch provided at Merriman Hotel, Kinvara.

2 – 3pm

Session 6: Farming for Nature – Stories from the land

Chair: Brendan Dunford (Burren Programme)

Format: *Five short films on farming for nature followed by a chaired Q&A session with some 2018 Farming for Nature Award Nominees*

3.15 – 4.45pm

Session 7: Networks for Nature

Chair: (Burren Farmer)

Speakers: Fabrice Gouriveau (HNV LINK Project) – *HNV-Link: Networking for High Nature Value farming innovation*
Liam Lysaght (National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC)) – *How the work of the NBDC can support farming for nature.*
Tilman Disselhoff (European Land Conservation Network- ELCN) - *Farmers and conservation organisations as partners – lessons from two continents*

4.45 - 5pm

Conference Summary and Close

Brendan Dunford, James Moran, Michael Davoren

7 - 8pm

Community event featuring children's art competition
Includes music, wine reception and light refreshments

8 - 9:30pm

Bord Bia National Farming for Nature Award 2018
Visit www.farmingfornature.ie for more information
Compere: Ella McSweeney
Guest Speaker: Mairead McGuinness (MEP)

9.30pm

Option to enjoy – and participate in! - entertainment in local hostelrys

Post-conference events:

11am - 4pm Sunday 28th October

The Annual Burren Winterage Cattle Drive
The Burren Food Fayre

Additional Event (tbc): HNV LINK and ELCN delegates' Closing Workshop

Review of learnings over the Burren visit and planning of next steps

Time and venue tbc, subject to delegate availability

