

Lough Carra Catchment Association – 01-11-2021

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Background Numbers (Farmers) - 13 PAAs in Mayo

Ballinglen	245	Bunowen	174
Bundorracha	136	Conn-Cullin	390
Carrowmore	100	Deel	243
Castlebar	884	Mask-Carra	1242 (400 Carra)
Nephin Beg	484	Newport	93
Charlestown	320	Glore-Cloonlavis	540
Glenree	100	TOTAL	5000 approx

Census of Agriculture 2010

No. of Farmers in Mayo 12450

Say 10000 now

So 50% of Mayo Farmers in PAA's

Carra Farmers $400/10000 = 4\%$ (8% of PAA Farmers)

ASSAP Work Programme in Carra

- ❖ **Catchment Study / IST (Karst) / LCCA / LIFE**
- ❖ **Catchment Walks – with Lawpro and Others**
- ❖ **Community & Farmer Meetings**
- ❖ **Awareness Programme – Radio/Press/Newsletter/Groups**
- ❖ **Farm Visits 75 (Relatively high proportion of my visits)**
- ❖ **Farm Plans 69**

Farm Visits and Referrals - Carra

	No.	KgN/Ha	Dairy
Ballintubber Stream	23	88	2
Annies	20	110	6
Cloondaver	18	119	5
Carra Shore	10	96	4
Portroyal	4	72	0
TOTAL	75	97	17

Problem Issues – Dairy (17)

Slurry Storage	6	Short or very tight
	8	Could do with an extra month for safety
	4	Adequate
Collecting Yards	Nearly all have issues on approach	
	Not all dirty water being collected all of the time	
Farm Roadways	All have issues	
	Camber away from drains	
	Drain/Stream crossing – Culvert/Bridge	
	Use of Public Road (5)	

Problem Issues – Dairy (17)

Nutrient Management	15	165 KgN/Ha plus
	8	Wettish land
	9	Karst Features
	17	CSA's / Drains / Wet Bottoms

More Slurry

More Chemical Fert

More Silage

More Meals (P)

- ❖ P Loss through Overland Flow
- ❖ Nitrate Loss on shallow soils / Karst features - (an issue?)
- ❖ Right Fertiliser – Right Rate – Right Place – Right Time - **Soil Sampling**
- ❖ Adhere to Buffer Zones Use LESS

Problem Issues – Dairy (17)

Land Reclamation

12

**Undertaken substantial works in
previous 5 years and still ongoing**

- ❖ **New block of land - Leased or Bought or Inherited**
- ❖ **More direct pathway for nutrient and sediment to get to waterbody**
- ❖ **Faster flows – risk of flooding downstream**
- ❖ **Huge loss of Biodiversity – natural grasses & plants / trees / shrubs / hedgerows**
- ❖ **Reclaimed ground now subject to higher stocking levels – more slurry/fert/sprays**
- ❖ **Reclaimed ground tends to be high risk – esp. for P run-off**
- ❖ **More Buffer Zones to watch**
- ❖ **Often see Field drains filled to surface with stone**

Drystock Farms

Less intensive but can still have issues

- ❖ **CSA's (Wet bottoms and Turloughs) – Grazing takes place and then they flood. May get some chemical fertiliser**
- ❖ **Fencing – Streams / Lakes / Drains & Dry Drains / CSA's**
- ❖ **Cattle Access Points (50% have an issue)**
- ❖ **Buffer Zones**
- ❖ **Out-Wintering – Ring Feeders, Poaching**
- ❖ **Round Bale Storage**
- ❖ **FYM Storage**
- ❖ **Rush Sprays**

Areas of concern

Additional Slurry Storage

Cracked Yard Surfaces

Round Bale Storage

Stream Access

Drinking Points

Lakeshore Drinking Points

Stream Fenced

Move Watertroughs 20m back from Drain

Land Reclamation

Stone Filled Drains

Cambering Road away from stream

Flash flooding

Solar Pump

