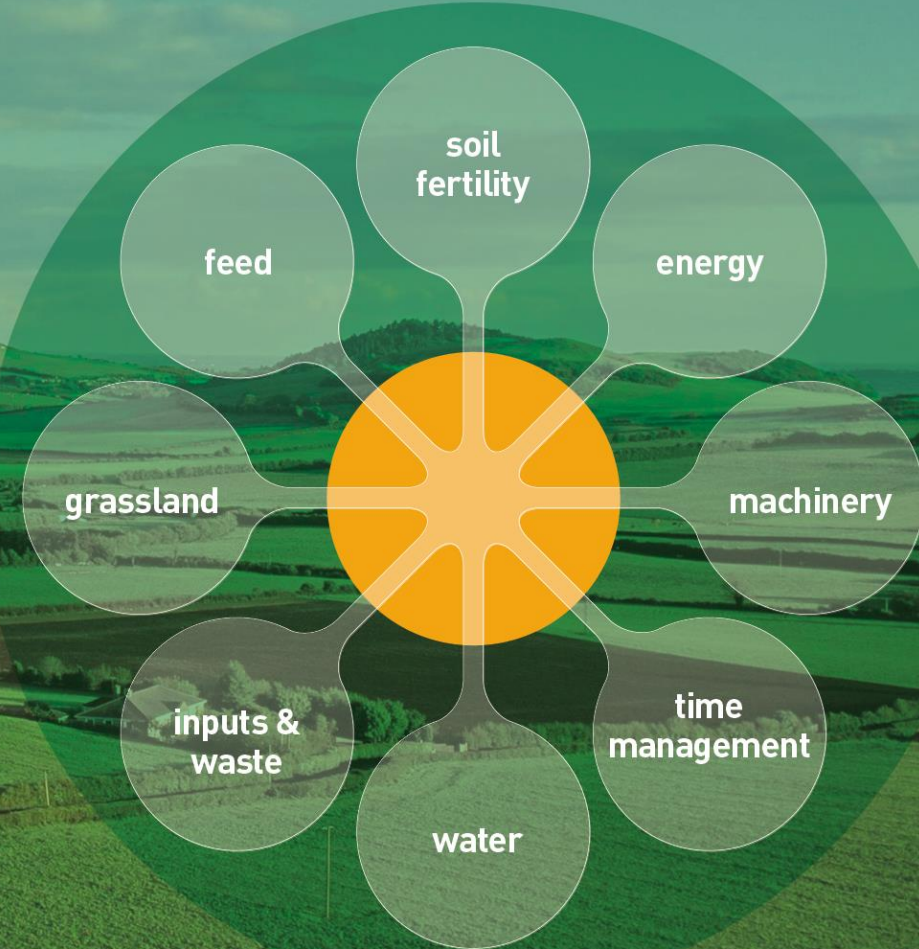


Thomas Ryan
Smart Farming
Programme Manager



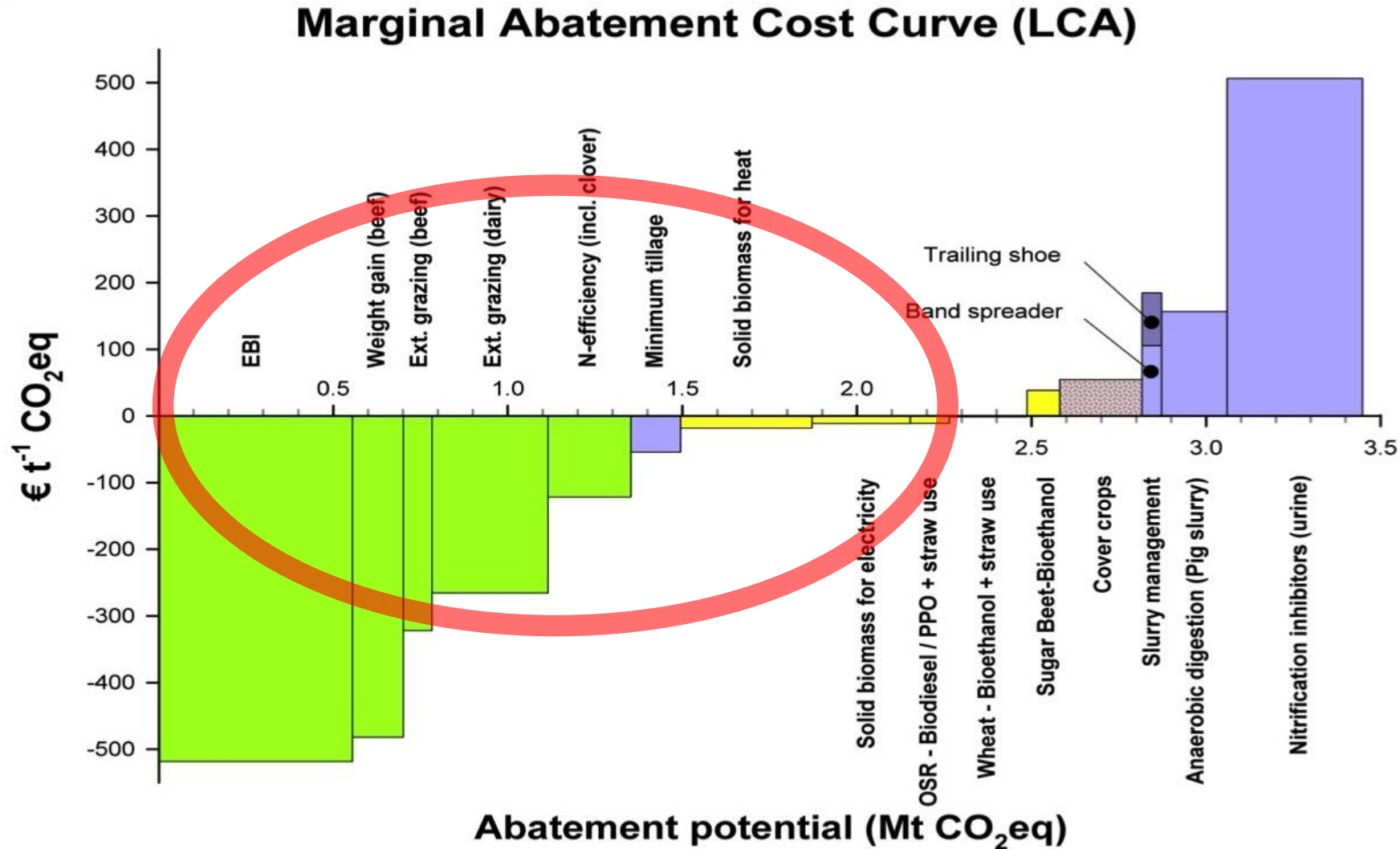
1

What is Smart Farming?

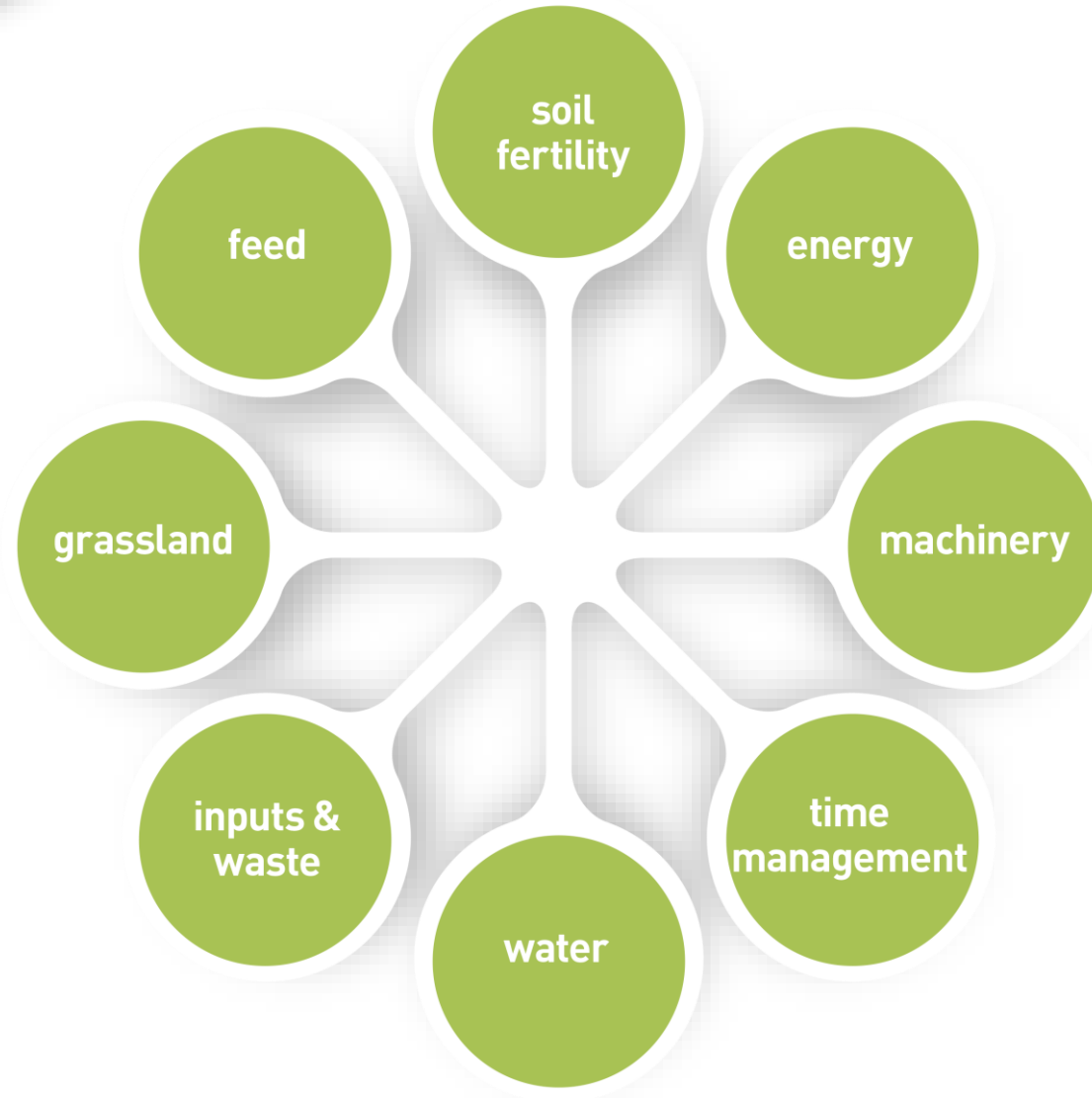


What is Smart Farming?

- * Smart Farming is a **voluntary** resource efficiency programme led by the Irish Farmers' Association, in conjunction with the Environmental Protection Agency.
- * The programme collates existing knowledge and expertise from Ireland's leading academic and advisory bodies, state agencies and technical institutions. It communicates this knowledge in a targeted way, to deliver on the double dividend of improving farm returns and enhancing the rural environment through better resource management.



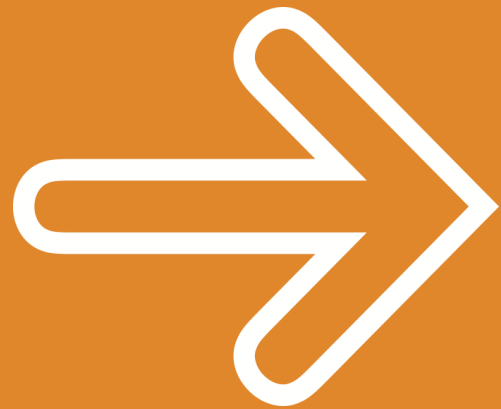
Smart Farming focus areas



Smart Farming experts who developed the *Smart Farming* cost savings guide and provided the technical data for the eight themes:

- * Tommy Boland, University College Dublin
- * Harold Kingston, Irish Farmers' Association
- * Jane Brogan, Environmental Protection Agency
- * Stan Lalor, Grassland AGRO
- * Thomas Ryan, IFA Environment Executive
- * Brian MacDonald, National Federation of Group Water Schemes
- * Gary Ryan, Farm Tractor Machinery & Trade Association
- * Padraig French, Teagasc Moorepark
- * Ivan Sproule, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
- * Jim Dockery, Farm Relief Services





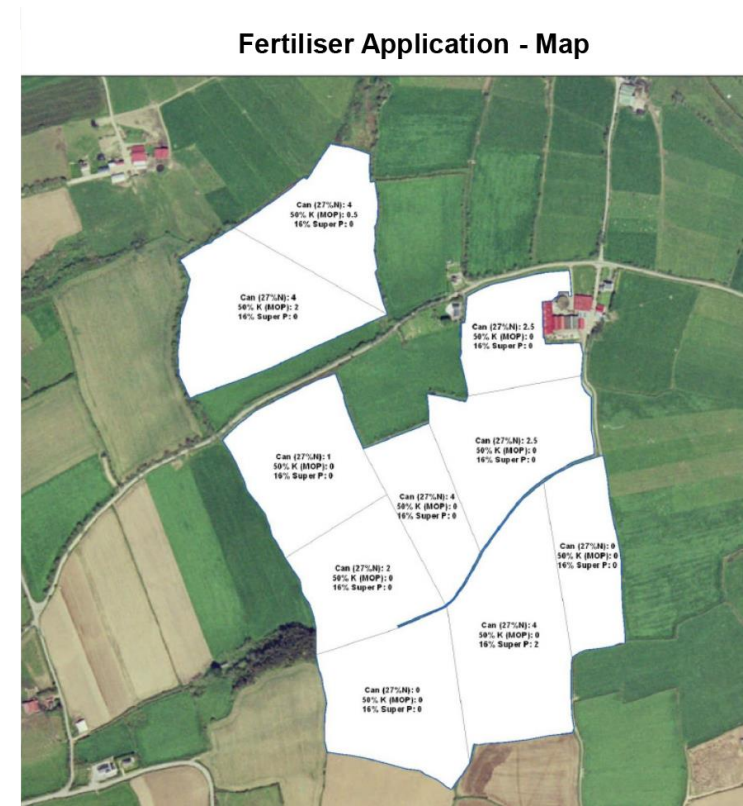
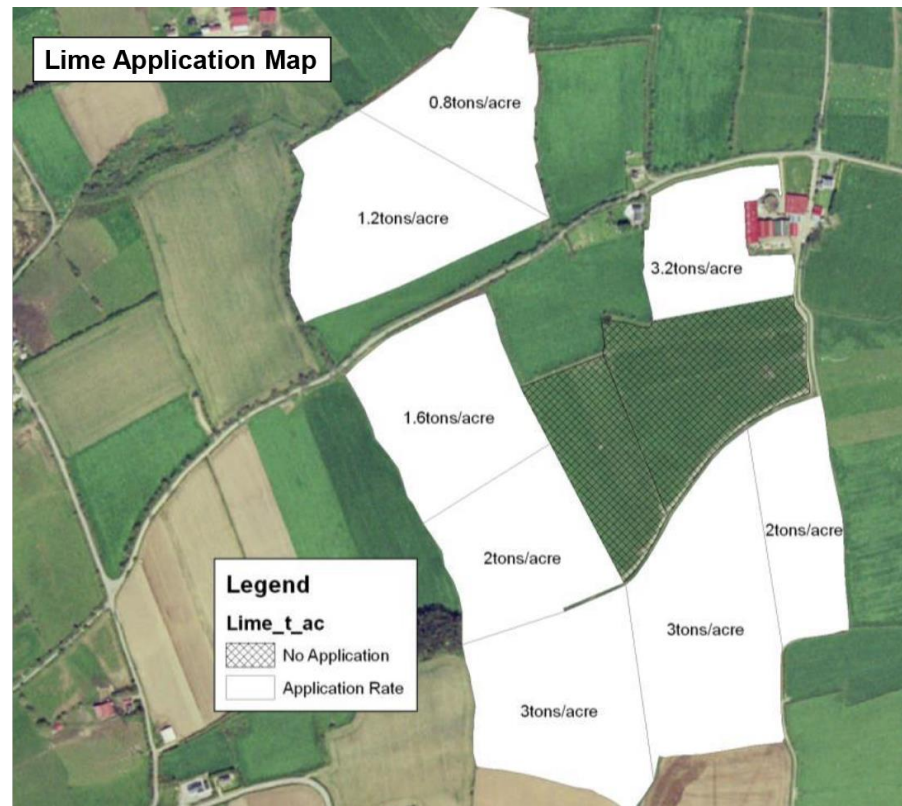
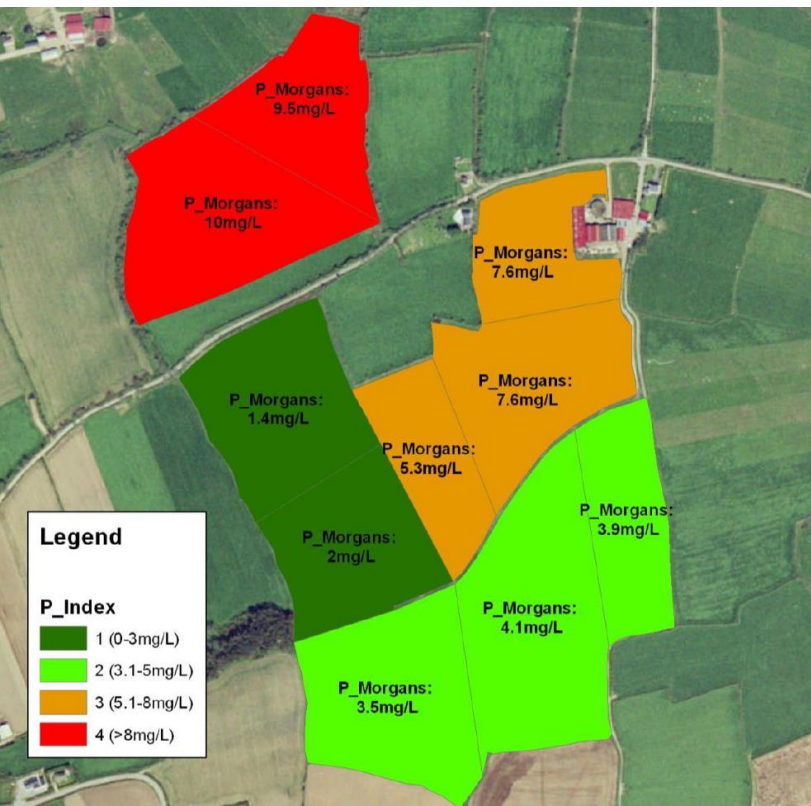
The *Smart Farming* objectives :

- * identify savings of €5,000 on each participating farm
- * Identify ways to reduce climate impact by 5-7%

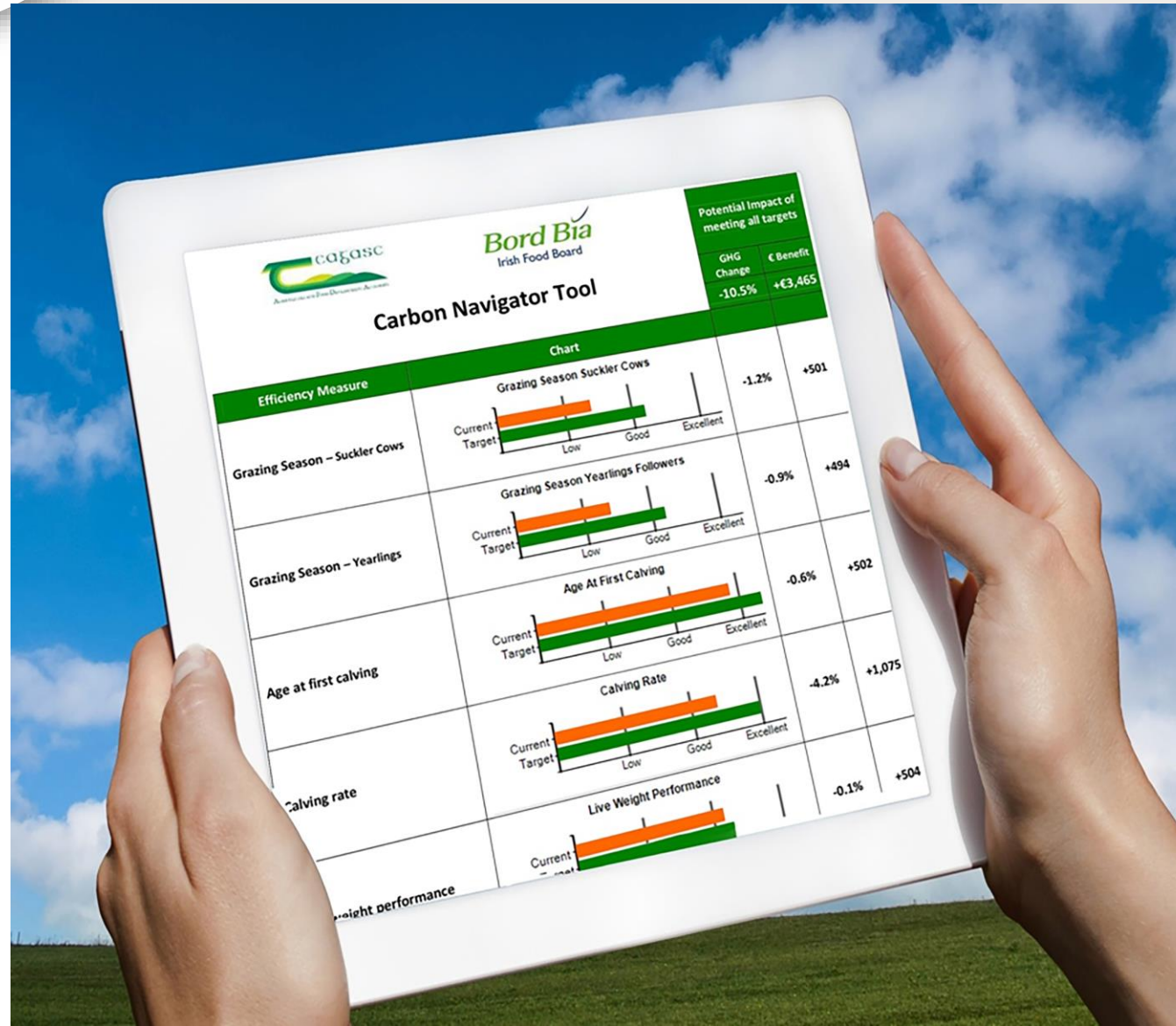
Completing a Resource Efficiency Assessment (Cost Saving Study)

- * House / farm electricity & fuel bills (heating & diesel) for the previous 12 months.
- * Results of soil samples that may have been taken in recent years and the farm map showing where they were taken.
- * Any nutrient management plan completed in the last 2 – 3 years.
- * Copy of the most recent Basic Payment Scheme application form (without details of the value of the Basic Payment, as this is not required).
- * Copy of BPS maps sent from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- * Land Parcel Identification Numbers.
- * Water:
 - Water bills for previous 12 months (if using water supply other than own well).
 - Results of any water quality tests.
- * Feed - dockets for the previous 12 months.
- * Results of the most recent silage tests.

Nutrient planning maps



Teagasc & Bord Bia Carbon Navigator



2

2017 Highlights



Smart Farming

Improving farm returns.
Enhancing the environment.



€8,700

Average cost savings identified on the participating farms.



10%

Average greenhouse gas emissions reduction.



€10,200

Dairy farms represented the largest average cost savings of the participating farms.



€6,900

Cost savings identified on participating livestock farms.



47%

Overall savings due to addressing soil fertility.



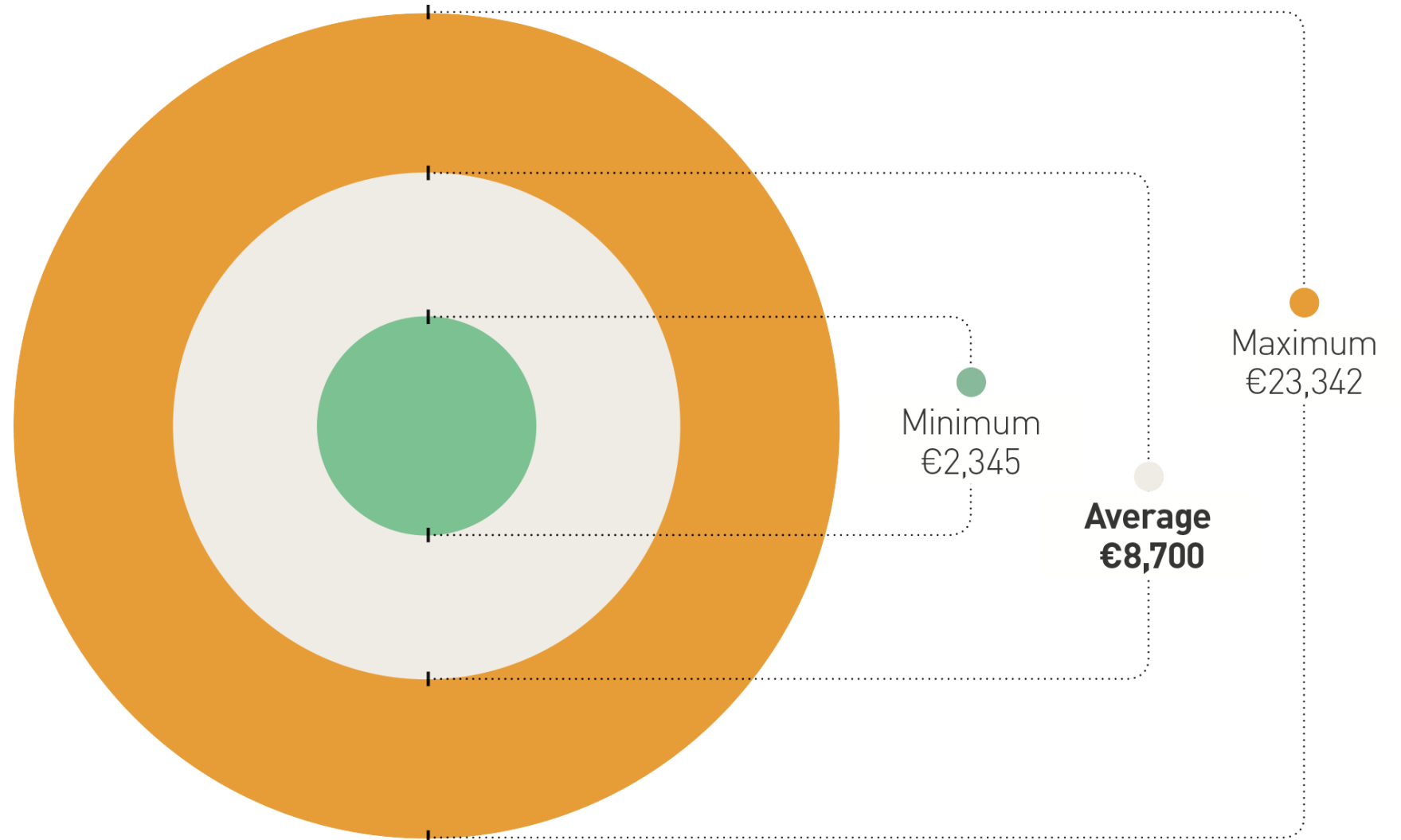
21%

Overall savings due to good grassland management on participating farms.

Studies completed in 2017



Cost savings range



Cost savings by enterprise type

Farm enterprise	Average savings per farm (€)
Livestock (beef & sheep)	€6,900
Dairy	€10,200
Overall savings	€8,700



The Smart Farming studies identified that addressing soil fertility represents the largest (47%) cost savings across all farm types.

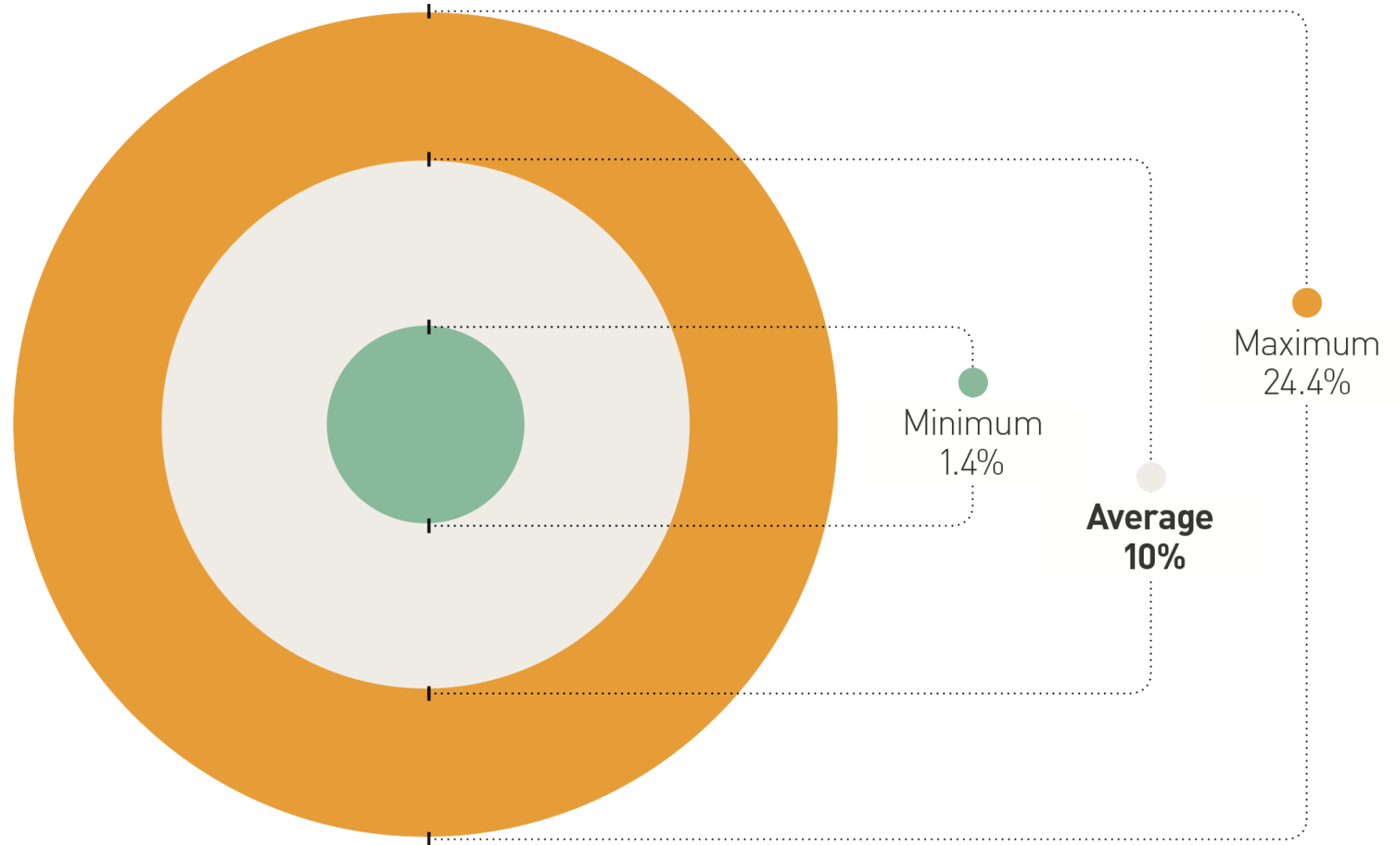


Good grassland management was also identified as an important area to reduce costs representing 21% of the overall savings.



The management of feed costs represents 16% of the remaining cost savings identified.

Greenhouse gas emissions reduction – range



3

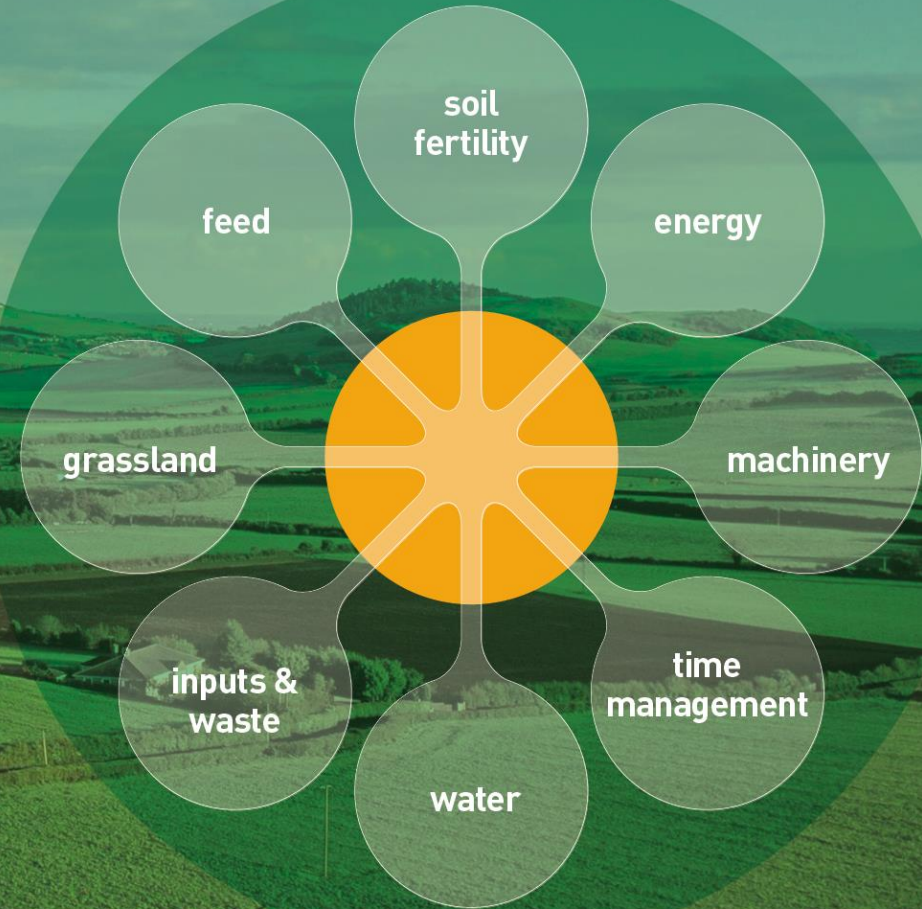
*What to expect in
2018*



What to expect in 2018

- * Improved farm return
- * Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- * Nutrient planning
- * Water quality
- * Decision support tools for farmers
- * Biodiversity
- * Case studies

Thank You



Improving Farm Returns with Smart Farming

