

Ludlow (1651) *Of this barony it is said that it is a country where there is not water enough to drown a man, wood enough to hang one, nor earth enough to bury them. This last is so scarce that the inhabitants steal it from one another ...*



... and yet their cattle are very fat. The grass grows in tufts of earth of two or three foot square which lies between the limestone rocks and is very sweet and nourishing ’



Winterage – an ancient system of reverse-transhumance

Winterage – innovation in response to the local environment

Inscribed in Ireland’s list of Intangible Cultural Heritage in 2019



Tinsmithing and winterage on the first list of Irish intangible heritage

Hurling and uilleann piping also included in list of cultural activities unique to Ireland

© about 4 hours ago

Ronan McGreevy



Fr Colm Cantillon blessing the herd of cattle passing through Carron village on their way to the winterage pastures, recalling a centuries old tradition that is unique to the Burren. Photograph: Eamon Ward

Winterage – critical in sustaining the Burren’s biodiversity



Burren in Bloom 2019
Supported by the EPA & The NBDC





Burren Winterage Weekend

Celebrating our Farming Heritage

25-27 OCTOBER 2013  www.burrenwinterage.com

The Burren Winterage Weekend - showcasing the 'ecosystem services' delivered by farming

Undergrazed, no 'result' payment



Overstocked, no 'result' payment



10/10



Well managed, 'result' payment (€180/ha)



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

THURSDAY: EIP-AGRI (Including 'Paying for Results' Projects)



'The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas'.



Riailtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Courtesy J. Moran GMT

1 The Burren Programme (2010-2021)

Target Area: The Burren region 720km², includes Natura 2000 site. Calcareous grassland and heath, limestone pavement, wildlife

Ecosystem Services: Biodiversity/habitat quality; water quality; landscape and cultural heritage

Indicators: 10 point scoring system, 9 different criteria indicative of overall 'health' of ecosystem. Includes vegetation structure/grazing levels, plant litter, bare soil and erosion, negative plant indicators, scrub encroachment, damage to natural water features, evidence of other damaging activities and overall ecological integrity based on visual assessment of plant community.

Scope: RDP 2014-2020 budget €12.5 million + funding for local team under technical assistance. 350 farmers; 25,000 Ha

Website: <http://burrenprogramme.com/>

3 Hen Harrier (2017 - 2022)

Target Area: Natura 2000 Sites for the protection of Hen Harrier. Peatland, heathland, scrub/woodland and semi-natural grassland.

Ecosystem Services: Biodiversity/habitat quality; water quality and quantity; Carbon storage

Indicators: 10 point scoring system. Ecosystem specific scorecards of ecosystem 'health'. Indicators include positive and negative plant indicator species, vegetation structure/grazing levels, soil integrity, hydrological integrity and evidence of other damaging activities. Population of Hen Harrier monitored and used to calculate additional Hen Harrier bonus payment

Scope: EIP budget €25 million. RPS hybrid model with complementary supporting actions. Includes additional innovations on meat marketing, animal nutritional, use of technology (HH project app) to aid RPS administration and monitoring. 1500 farmers; 38,000 Ha 66% of farmland in target Natura area.

Website: <http://www.henharrierproject.ie/>

5 Biodiversity Regeneration in a Dairy Environment (BRIDE) (2018 - 2022)

Target Area: Intensive Dairy Farming area in River Bride Valley, Co Cork. Targets High Nature Value features e.g. field margins, hedgerows, ponds

Ecosystem Services: Landscape scale approach to Biodiversity/habitat quality

2 Pearl Mussel (2018-2023)

Target Area: Natura 2000 Sites for the protection of Freshwater Pearl Mussel. Peatlands, scrub/woodlands and grasslands.

Ecosystem Services: Biodiversity/habitat quality; water quality and quantity; Carbon storage

Indicators: 10 point scoring system. Ecosystem specific scorecards of ecosystem 'health'. Indicators include positive and negative plant indicator species, vegetation structure/grazing levels, soil integrity, hydrological integrity and evidence of other damaging activities. Overall farm score for watercourse condition, farm nutrient balance and farmyard management used to weight final results based payment (e.g. poor x 0.3, excellent x 1.2)

Scope: EIP budget €10 million. RPS hybrid model with complementary supporting actions. 350 farmers; 21,500 Ha.

Website: <http://www.pearlmusselproject.ie/>

4 Blackstairs Farming Future (2018 - 2022)

Target Area: Upland heathland, peatland and grassland includes Blackstairs Mountain Natura 2000 site. Common land and privately owned High Nature Value farmland.

Ecosystem Services: Biodiversity/habitat quality; water quality and quantity; Carbon storage; cultural/landscape.

Indicators: 10 point scoring system. Upland scorecards of ecosystem 'health'. Indicators include positive and negative plant indicator species, vegetation structure/grazing levels, bare soil/erosion, hydrological condition, cultural/hydrological features and evidence of other damaging activities.

Scope: EIP budget €1.5 million. RPS hybrid model with complementary supporting actions. Common land governance structure to enable RPS and engagement, education, training farmers and wider community. Overall size of area is 1,000Ha but RPS bordered with approximately 50-75 farmers on 1,000-1,500 Ha.



Friday: Farming for Nature across Europe (and beyond)

With speakers from Austria, Iceland, Northern Ireland, Romania, Scotland, Slovenia



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Innovation and efficient knowledge transfer

Farmers and food artisans ...



Researchers, educators, students ...

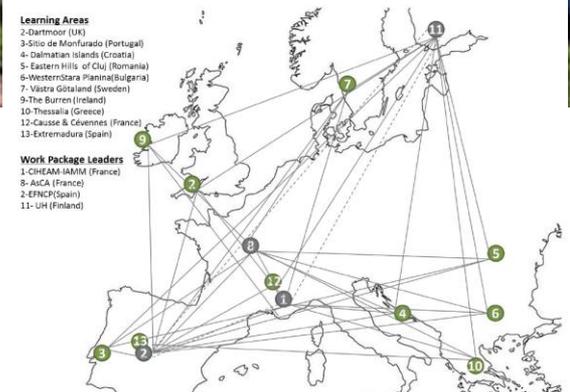


Advisory services, local administration

Rural nature and culture lovers



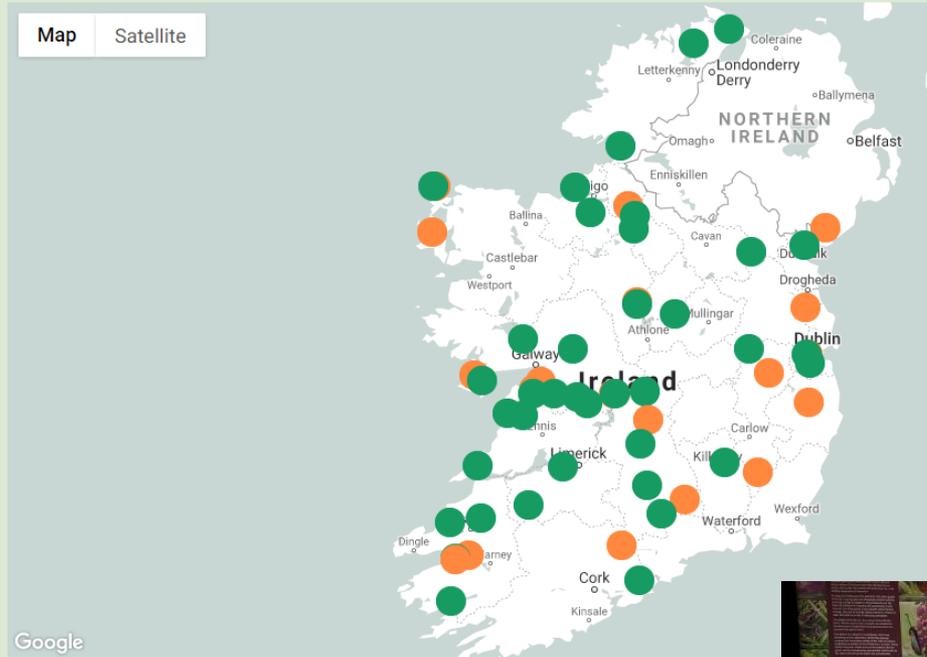
www.hnvlink.eu



Saturday: National Farming for Nature Awards 2019

● 2018 nominees
● 2019 nominees

National Farming for Nature Awards 2019



Bord Bia

Irish Food Board



Sunday: Burren Cattle Drove and Food Fayre



There is a world in the land ... of the most sophisticated complexity and the most astute and rich memory that in the next ten years will have vanished completely. John O'Donoghue (*Clare Champion* 11-2-00).



'the majority of local people have not taken ownership of their own heritage, both cultural and natural... is once more imposed 'from above' and 'from outside' (O'Rourke 2001).

Reconnecting people and place



The Learning Landscape Symposium – Best Practice in Place Based Learning



BWS Theme 2019: *Building a healthy future for people, nature and food*

