



BEALTAINÉ NEWSLETTER

Our hedgerows are returning to their usual lush fullness, the fields and verges are ablaze with yellow blooms and birdsong fills the morning quiet. Life has firmly returned to the countryside, as we mark the ancient festival of Bealtaine and the beginning of Summer.

We're equally busy here at Farming for Nature; in this newsletter we announce our Summer Farm walk schedule, our farmer to farmer mentorship programme is open for applications, share a special piece of poetry inspired by a FFN Ambassador's woodland and much more....



The Farming for Nature Initiative turns 7 this May!

We have achieved so much, in such a short amount of time, with a small but passionate team.

For more on how we've been a catalyst for such a positive farming movement Read our impact report [here](#)



Just Announced! Our Summer Farm Walks Return

If you're thinking about making some changes big or small to your farm, the farm walks are a great way to learn from someone who's been along the path already.

Our walks are very popular and sell out quickly, so don't delay.
Starting this weekend!

If tickets are sold out, join the waiting list as additional spaces sometimes become available.

May

How to Easily Integrate Trees into Tillage Systems

Sat 3rd May @ 2pm, Jack Browne, Tillage Farmer, Co. Carlow [BOOK HERE](#)

Increasing Profitability and Productivity using Organics

Sun 4th May @ 2pm, Ken Gill, Beef and Tillage Farmer, Co. Offaly [BOOK HERE](#)

The Abundance from Marginal land when Farming with Nature

Sun 4th May @ 10am, Thomas & Claire O'Connor, Mixed Farmers, Co. Kerry [BOOK HERE](#)

Managing a Wide Variety of Habitats on a Productive Sheep and Tillage Farm

Sun 18th May @ 2pm, Boyd Bryce, Sheep & Tillage Farmer, Co. Donegal [BOOK HERE](#)

The Rewards to be Gained from Korean Natural Farming in Dairying

Fri 23rd May @ 11 am, Tom Stack - Dairy Farmer, Co. Limerick [BOOK HERE](#)

June

A Hands-On Approach to Building Habitats - the Benefits for the Farmer and for Nature

Fri 13th June @ 11 am, Alan & Alanna Daly - Mixed Farmers, Co. Mayo [BOOK HERE](#)

The 1700-Acre Tillage Farm without a Plough - Why Conservation Agriculture is a Game Changer

Fri 20th June @ 11 am, Louis McAuley - Tillage Farmer, Co. Meath [BOOK HERE](#)

Self- Sufficient in Fertility and Feed - Low Input Farming for Climate and Financial Resilience

Sat 28th June @ 2 pm, Mark Harold-Barry - Mixed Farmer, Co. Tipperary [BOOK HERE](#)

July

The Value of Cattle in the Uplands for Nature and Fire Prevention

5th July, 11am, Nia O'Malley - Beef Farmer, Co. Galway [BOOK HERE](#)

How to Reap the Rewards of Korean Natural Farming in a Mixed System

5th July @ 2pm, Fergal Smith - Moyhill Farm, Mixed Farmer, Co. Clare [BOOK HERE](#)

A Thriving Farm Business Run on Natural and Regenerative Processes

Sat 19th July @ 11am, Seán Gilligan & Rob Kennedy - Knocknarea Farm, Co. Sligo [BOOK HERE](#)





Funded Advice Program - The Horse's Mouth Mentorship

Not sure where to start making space for nature on your farm? Have a farmer from Farming for Nature Ambassador Network come to your farm to help point you in the right direction

'Found this INVALUABLE. Andrew was so patient with our level of knowledge. He really took his time with us and I could not recommend doing this highly enough. It had the practical element of how to look at the land from an income and sustainable perspective.' 2024 participant

[Apply Here](#)

Poetry Corner

Poet Jane Clarke recently visited Farming for Nature Ambassador Ken Gill's farm. She was so moved by the extensive woodland on Ken's farm in Co. Offaly that she was inspired to craft this beautiful poem for us to share.

Ballydermot Wood

When the storm of the world
bellows like a wounded heifer,

let's walk in the hush of ash,
hazel, oak. Sown close together,

they flourish in each other's shelter,
resisting wind that whiplashes limbs.

Pipistrelles roost in a rowan crevice,
scarlet cups muster on moss below.

Siskins flit yellow through alder,
a mistle thrush sings because winter

is over. And here at the edge
of the cutaway bog where you'd think

nothing could ever grow,
a birch copse has taken hold.

Jane Clarke



The Farming for Nature Noticeboard





From us....



-  We have a online **Ask the Farmer Questions and Answers** session the 3rd Tuesday every month at 8pm with one of our Ambassadors. Register [here](#)
-  Have you seen our **top tips for the summer season** on your farm yet? If not, have a look here at our monthly guides and get thinking about what more you can do on your farm for nature [here](#)
-  Like listening to **podcasts**? Why not follow us on iTunes, Spotify or wherever you get our podcasts and listen to the practical actions farmers have taken on their land.
-  Support the work we do and **donate** to Farming For Nature [here](#). Whether it is a once off or a month/annual payment every little helps.

The Farming for Nature Noticeboard

From others...

-  National Biodiversity Week is in May. Check out all the events that are happening across the country [here](#).
-  Beef and Poultry Farmers Needed for Study on Animal Health and Antibiotics. Express an interest [here](#)
-  Together for Nature Event, Glenveagh National Park. More Info [here](#)
-  Opinions of Irish farmers around Climate Adaptation. TU Dublin & UCD Whatsapp 083 187 0188 to have your say

Follow us:

