



# Exchanging easy-to-understand nutrient management knowledge with farmers

NUTRI-KNOW aims to improve nutrient management practices in agriculture by establishing an ongoing cycle of knowledge exchange for the benefit of both farmers and the environment.



### **Duncannon Blue Flag Farming**& Communities Scheme



Duncannon Blue Flag Farming & Communities Scheme aimed to sustainably restore, protect and enhance water quality by developing an effective model for future catchments to foster positive relations between farmers and households.

#### **Project Participation**

Overall, 35 farmers took part, including four dairy, eight tillage and 23 drystock which covered an area over 975 hectares.

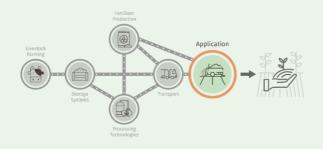
#### **PPZ Maps**

Pollution Potential Zone (PPZ) maps were scored by assessing farm conditions and management using a traffic light system. This simple, cost-effective management plan was a results-based reward scheme. Farmers designed and chose which measures to implement, with the guidance of a dedicated sustainability manager. Training was provided for local farmers and the wider community.

#### Results

Water protection improvement works were implemented by:

- Fencing off 15.5km of watercourses.
- Moving water troughs 20m from waterways.
- Conducting soil sampling and developing nutrient management plans for all farms.
- Placing sediment traps on farms to trap and filter run-off.
- · Improving farm roadways.
- Encouraging native riparian zones and planting native hedgerows.
- · Sowing winter cover crops.





Sediment trap and fencing on Irish farms

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