

## **Suggested Workshop Title: 'Competitiveness, Efficiency and Productivity Measurement: Theory, Methods, Application and Relevance**

**April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017, RDS, Dublin**

### **Background:**

Agricultural policy in the EU has traditionally focused on farm income improvements and on maintaining numbers of people working and living in rural areas. Improving productivity as a stated policy goal, while not neglected, was not a priority objective (Matthews *et al.*, 2007). Hence, as a result of successive CAP reforms, starting with the 1992 MacSharry reforms, the relative importance of direct payments in farm incomes in the EU has steadily increased. However, the policy environment is now changing rapidly. Policy pressures in various forms are pushing the EU (and the UK following BREXIT) in an increasingly market orientated direction. Given the on-going pressures for agricultural and trade reform, there is renewed international interest in the topic of the relative competitiveness of agricultural production in a world price environment. Given that the price of many factor inputs in agriculture (such as the opportunity cost of owned resources) are largely determined by prices outside of agriculture, a key driver of competitiveness performance will be productivity growth. In order to establish the context and feasibility of future improvements in competitive performance and productivity it is vitally important that consistent measurement of these indicators is carried out.

### **Objectives of the Workshop:**

- 1: Understanding of the theory relating to Competitiveness, Efficiency and Productivity and how these three concepts are related;
- 2: Alternative methods to measure Competitiveness, Efficiency and Productivity;
- 3: Applied examples of how the measures of Competitiveness, Efficiency and Productivity are examined using agricultural data;
- 4: The relevance of measurement of Competitiveness, Efficiency and Productivity to Industry and Policy Stakeholders.

### **Potential Audience:**

This workshop is considered to be relevant to industry and policy stakeholders as well as the academic audience. It is envisaged that the research outputs presented at the workshop will facilitate informed policy and industry decision making by contributing to a better understanding of the sources of economic growth within agriculture internationally.

### **Structure for the Workshop:**

The format of the workshop is as follows:

Session 1: Overview of the theory relating to Competitiveness, Efficiency and Productivity and some examples of research examining inter-country comparisons of performance.

Session 2: Applied research papers from own country perspectives examining the topics of competitiveness, efficiency and productivity.

Running order:

1.30-1.45	Registration and coffee	
1.45-2.05	Laure Latruffe(INRA)	Overview and theory relating to the concepts of competitiveness, efficiency and productivity
2.05-2.25	Catherine Morredu (OECD)	Overview of OECD farm level modeling in the area
2.25-2.45	Emma Dillion (Teagasc),	A DEA Model of Economic Efficiency of Dairy Farms within the EU using FADN data
2.45-3.00	Discussion	
3.00-3.15	Coffee	
3.15-3.35	INRA paper – Hervé Dakpo (INRA)	Including environmental outputs in technical efficiency and TFP
3.35-3.55	Shuwei Zeng (University of Wisconsin-Madison) TBC	AMS data and productivity of US agriculture
3.55-4.15	Michele McCormack (Teagasc)	Measuring the TFP of Irish dairy farms using Teagasc, National Farm Survey data
4.15-4.40	Fiona Thorne (Teagasc)	The competitiveness of Irish agriculture using FADN and IFCN data
4.40-5.00	Discussion	
5.00-6.00	Finger food and networking	