

## Key International Speakers

### Roel Veerkamp

Roel Veerkamp has worked for Wageningen UR since 1997 in the area of animal breeding. In 2012, he became extraordinary professor at Wageningen University, after heading the Animal Centre of Wageningen Livestock Research for ten years. Since 2013 he now holds a part time Professor position at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences and is a visiting professor at SRUC in Scotland. In the Netherlands & Flanders, Roel coordinates the organisation responsible for the genetic evaluation for sires.



### Dorian Garrick

Dorian Garrick, Ph.D., is chief scientist at the AL Rae Center in the School of Agriculture at Massey University, New Zealand. He worked in sheep and pig breeding research for four years before earning a doctorate degree from Cornell University in 1988. Dorian's recent work has focused on theoretical and applied



aspects of using genomic information to predict performance in a variety of species. Dorian is a founding partner of U.S.-based Theta Solutions LLC, which licenses software used for the largest North American singlestep beef cattle evaluation used by International Genetics Solutions, as well as ABRI for the North American Hereford evaluation.

### Tim Byrne

Working for AbacusBio in Edinburgh as a genetics consultant with a range of technology, agribusiness and breeder clients, Tim has a depth of knowledge of production systems in New Zealand and internationally and has worked in a wide range of areas including systems for the integration of leading-edge production and molecular genetics technologies, cost-benefit analysis of DNA-marker integration, electronic identification, and automated drafting systems. This includes development of multi-trait economic selection indexes for beef and dairy cattle, and sheep throughout New Zealand and internationally. When working in ICBF and Sheep Ireland Tim helped to develop the breeding programme design and implementation in the Irish industry, and in the areas of communication and extension.



## Genetics Conference 2018

*'Sustainable Farming -  
Progress through Genetics'*

Wednesday & Thursday

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> December

Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone

Conference Begins @ 10:00

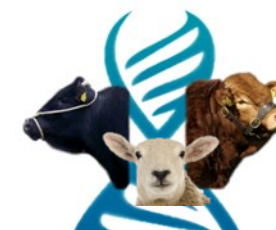
Awards Ceremony @ 19:30

*"A two-day event for the dairy, beef and sheep sectors, with a unique focus on animal breeding and genetics"*



## ICBF & Sheep Ireland Genetics Conference 2018

*'Sustainable Farming -  
Progress through Genetics'*



Contact Us:

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Wednesday & Thursday

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> December

Hodson Bay Hotel, Athlone

Kindly Sponsored by FBD Trust



## Wednesday 5th Day One

### 10:30 SESSION 1A – DAIRY

#### The EBI - 20 years on

Past, present and future

*Dr Pat Dillon, Teagasc*

#### Genomics

What else can we glean from this technology?

*Dr Deirdre Purfield, Teagasc*

#### VistaMilk

A "cream of the crop" research initiative for the Irish dairy industry

*Prof Donagh Berry, Teagasc*

#### C.O.W. v2

Feedback from the ground and plans for 2019 onwards

*Dr Margaret Kelleher, ICBF*

#### Female fertility

Are we at the limit or can we further improve using genetics?

*Dr Francis Kearney, ICBF*

### 10:30 SESSION 1B – SHEEP

#### Then and Now

10 Years of Sheep Ireland

*Dr Tim Byrne, Abacus Bio*

#### Parentage Assignment using Genomics

What can it offer the Irish Industry?

*Prof Donagh Berry, Teagasc*

#### Ewe Efficiency and Greenhouse Gases

The first step to the next level

*Dr Fiona McGovern, Teagasc*

#### Genetic Evaluation Updates

Utilising the database to maximise returns

*Dr Thierry Pabiou, ICBF*

#### Can we breed Healthier Sheep?

Breeding as a solution to improve sheep health

*Áine O'Brien, Teagasc*

#### Improving the rate of Genetic Gain

What factors are involved

*Kevin McDermott, Sheep Ireland*

#### Putting the EuroStars into action

How joining LampPlus has transformed the flock

*David Coen, Salesian Agricultural College*

#### SusSheep

European project for more sustainable sheep production

*Eamon Wall, Sheep Ireland*

### 12:30 LUNCH

### 13:30 SESSION 2

#### DAIRY, BEEF & SHEEP SESSION

##### Genetic Improvement of Cattle & Sheep

What are the areas for Ireland to focus on in the future?

*Prof Dorian Garrick, Massey University, NZ*

##### Big Data in Animal Agriculture

Challenges and Opportunities

*Prof Roel Veerkamp, WUR*

##### 20 Years of ICBF

Trends in genetic gain for dairy, beef and sheep

*Dr Tim Byrne, Abacus Bio*

##### ICBF – Looking Forward

*Sean Coughlan, CEO, ICBF & Sheep Ireland*

### 15:30 TEA & COFFEE

### 16:00 NEW DEVELOPMENTS FOR 2019+

#### Calving Evaluations

*Dr Ross Evans, ICBF*

#### Dairy Beef Indexes

*Prof Donagh Berry, Teagasc*

#### Fluke & Tuberculosis Evaluations

*Dr Siobhan Ring, Teagasc*

#### Meat-Eating Quality Evaluations

*Dr Michelle Judge, Meat Technology Ireland*

#### Data Recording

*Kevin Downing, ICBF*

#### Greenbreed – Measuring Methane at Tully

*Dr Stephen Conroy, ICBF*

### 18:00 POSTER SESSION

### 19:30 AWARD CEREMONY & DINNER

Kindly sponsored by FBD Trust



## Thursday 6th Day Two

### 10:30 SESSION 3 - BEEF

#### The EuroStar Indexes – 10 years on

Past, present and future

*Dr Andrew Cromie, ICBF*

#### Genomics

What else can we glean from this technology?

*Dr Deirdre Purfield, Teagasc*

#### Whole Herd Performance Recording

What's new for 2019 onwards

*Pat Donnellan, ICBF*

#### Inbreeding Trends

Inbreeding trends in the National Beef Herd

*Clodagh Ryan, ICBF*

#### Interbeef

Current status and plans for future.

*Dr Thierry Pabiou, ICBF*

*To book your place at this two-day event for the dairy, beef and sheep sectors, with a unique focus on animal breeding and genetics*

go to : [www.icbf.com/?page\\_id=11997](http://www.icbf.com/?page_id=11997)

Sign in is at **10:00 SHARP**

NOTE: Session 1A — Dairy & 1B — Sheep are running in parallel