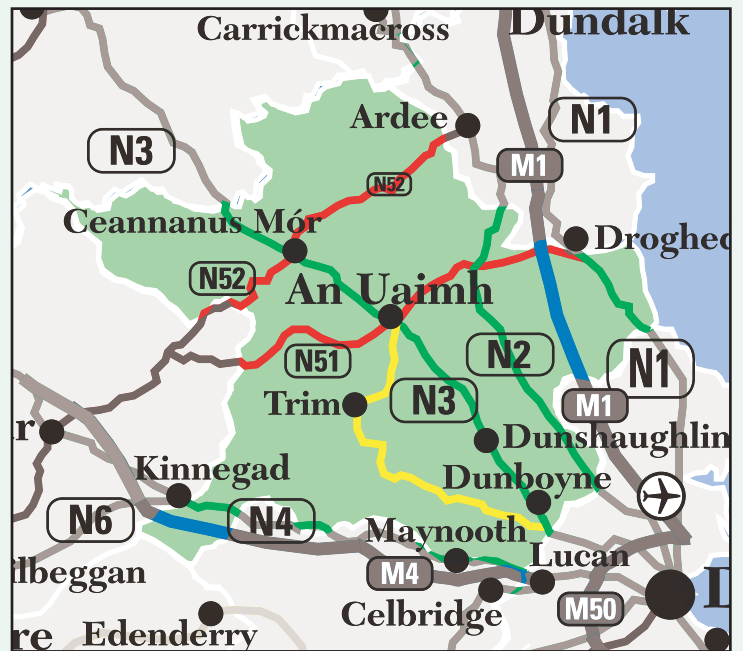


## Importance of Farming and the Agri-food Industry

# MEATH



### Farm Structure

- Number of Farms – 4,640
- Average Farm Size – 42 ha
- Land area farmed – 194,886 ha
- Numbers employed at farm level (FTE) – 5,781
- Stock on farm
  - Number of dairy cows – 46,310
  - Number of other (beef) cows – 44,017
  - Number of ewes – 102,899
  - Number of sows – 2,500
  - Land area under tillage – 31,201 ha
  - Land area under other crops, fruit & horticulture – 9,350 ha
  - Number of poultry – 228,508

### Forestry

- Land area under private forestry – 6,349 ha
- Output from private forestry – 9,987 m<sup>3</sup>

### Farm Income and Direct Payments

- Farm Income – €121m
- Direct Payments
  - Basic Payment - €52m
  - ANCs – €2.24m
  - BDGP - €1.1m
  - Agri-environment payments - €2m
  - Forestry Premium – €1.7m

### Value of Output and Exports

- Value of Agricultural Output - €369m
- Value of Agricultural Exports arising from the agricultural output in county - €541m

### Agri-Industry Employment

- Agriculture in Meath supports thousands of jobs in the rural economy, both directly in food & drink processing and also in the wider agri-industry, including input suppliers, agricultural contractors, jobs in auctioneering, transport and engineering and in accountancy, legal, veterinary and other advisory services.
- Number of food and drink processing jobs supported by agricultural output of county – 2,599
- Number of food and drink processing jobs based in the local region (Mid-East Region – Kildare, Meath, Wicklow) – 5,526

Data sources and methodology for estimating figures available at [www.ifa.ie/economics](http://www.ifa.ie/economics)