



Co-op News

RETAIL OFFERS SEPTEMBER 2011

Dairygold Cheeses win 'Gold & Bronze'

Dairygold Food Ingredients has scooped three gold awards, a bronze and two 'very highly recommended' commendations at the 2011 International Cheese Awards at the internationally renowned Nantwich cheese show. Nantwich, the world's biggest cheese festival, with its panel of 150 Judges attracted 3,700 cheese entries from 26 countries.

Three of Dairygold's cheeses, Irish Mature Cheddar, Grated Mature Cheddar and Grated Red Leicester, won Gold Awards. The Co-op's gold award winning Irish Mature Cheddar also scooped the prestigious Trophy for Best Single Mature Cheddar.

Dairygold also won a Bronze award for a 'Display of Cheese on a Cheese Board' and both its Extra Mature Cheddar and Gran Alto (Mallo) cheeses were 'Very Highly Recommended'. Dairygold's success follows on from last year's event, when the Co-op won five awards at the Nantwich festival.

Dairygold Chief Executive Jim Woulfe commented; "We are very pleased with the results at Nantwich as it is testament to our heritage, hard work and the dedication that goes into our cheese making."

"Dairygold prides itself on manufacturing from the finest natural ingredients, using generations of cheese making craft and expertise to produce cheese that always taste great".

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Dairygold

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Grain Market Report

Globally wheat continues to trade in a price range similar to last month but with the now usual volatility with one or two particularly erratic days on the back of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) report.

The latest report shows that while production has increased and closing stocks look comfortable, wheat for the moment continues to be supported by the tight corn (maize) supply and demand, and in the shorter term by slow harvest progress as the market trades weekly and without any free flow to it.

There is likely to be some downward harvest pressure on cereal prices but nothing too dramatic is expected. The return of Russia as a major exporter is likely to hang over the market, but on the other side a lot of uncertainty remains over politics and export licences in that part of the world. In the last few tenders Russian prices have crept up but that is subject to change.

On the macro front, grain prices have held up well against the backdrop of renewed concerns over the global economy and fears of double-dip recession, but it will be hard for grains to withstand sustained downward pressure if the global economic situation doesn't improve.

Attention All Tillage Farmers

By the end of 2011 all continuous tillage soils farmed must be tested for SOM under cross compliance!

Soil Organic Matter (SOM) Analysis

- By the end of 2011 all continuous tillage soils (in tillage for 6 or more years) farmed must be tested for SOM under cross compliance.
- The threshold SOM is 3.4%. Where soils are above this no action is required; where soils are below 3.4% a cross compliance farm advisory system (CC-FAS) advisor needs to be contacted to inspect soils and prepare a remedial action report.
- One sample must be taken for every 4 hectares (10 acres) or where soil type and cropping history are similar the sample area can be increased to a maximum of 8 hectares (20 acres).
- Dairygold's lab soil sample results are approved under nitrates, REPS and cross compliance. Dairygold charge as little as €7.03 + VAT extra (€7.98 incl VAT) for SOM analysis when you test for lime, P and K. A stand alone SOM test costs €12.35 ex VAT (€14.02 incl VAT).

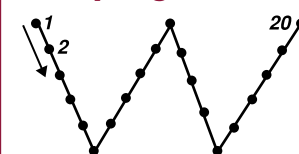
Soil testing for lime, P and K

After cereal crops are harvested is the ideal time for soil testing. By taking soil samples correctly and getting a basic analysis done the nutrient status of your fields can be established and corrective action taken. Remember soil analysis help you target lime, Phosphorus (P) & Potassium (K) applications to maximise your crop yields and avoid losses to the environment. Dairygold charge €14.97 ex VAT (€16.99 incl VAT) per sample for a standard lime, P and K test.

Soil Sampling Procedure

1. For sampling purposes divide the farm into fields or areas of between 2 – 4ha.
2. Take separate samples from areas that differ in soil type, previous cropping history, slope, drainage or persistent poor yields.
3. Avoid any unusual spots such as old fences, ditches, drinking troughs, dung or urine patches or where organic manure or lime has been heaped or spilled in the past.
4. Do not sample a field for P and K until 3 - 6 months after last application of fertilizer P and K. Where lime has been applied allow a time lag of 2 years before sampling for lime requirements.
5. Follow a 'W' soil sampling pattern to ensure that the sample is representative of the entire field. Ensure that all soil cores (corers are available from your local Dairygold branch, ask in-store for details) are taken to the full 100mm depth. Place the 20 cores in the sample bag to make up the soil sample. Write your name, account number, field name and reference number on each sample bag.
6. Send samples to: Dairygold Feed Laboratory, Lombardstown, Mallow, Co. Cork or alternatively drop them into your local Dairygold branch.

Recommended Soil Sampling Pattern



**Monthly
€50 Voucher
Winners**

Use the Dairygold Postal Payment Envelope or pay by milk or grain offset and you could be a lucky winner like:

**Daniel and June
Coleman,
Riverstick, Co Cork**

**Brendan Coleman,
Mallow,
Co Cork**

**T J O'Dwyer,
Cappawhite
Co Tipperary**

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