

Module Title:	Arable Fodder Crops
Language of Instruction:	English
Credits:	5
NFQ Level:	8
Module Delivered In	2 programme(s)
Teaching & Learning Strategies:	Content will be delivered based around lectures, visits to farms and research centres. Practicals will take place in polytunnel and on farm to show students the production techniques commonly employed for these crops
Module Aim:	The aim of this module is to provide learners with an insight into the main types of arable fodder crops grown on Irish farms. Students will be introduced to the agronomy and physiology of these crops and be shown management programmes to optimise production

Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner should be able to:</i>	
LO1	Knowledge of the commonly grown animal fodder crops and their utilisation on Irish farms
LO2	Demonstrate an understanding of the physiological components that lead to efficient management of these crops
LO3	Demonstrate knowledge of agronomy practices associated with optimum productivity of these crops
LO4	Explain the benefits of cover and catch crops to efficiency and sustainability on Irish farms

Pre-requisite learning	
Module Recommendations <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is recommended before enrolment in this module.</i>	
No recommendations listed	
Incompatible Modules <i>These are modules which have learning outcomes that are too similar to the learning outcomes of this module.</i>	
No incompatible modules listed	
Co-requisite Modules	
No Co-requisite modules listed	
Requirements <i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is mandatory before enrolment in this module is allowed.</i>	
No requirements listed	

Module Content & Assessment

Indicative Content
Arable fodder types Knowledge of the arable fodder crops grown on Irish farms to include Fodder beet, Maize, Fodder rape, etc. Understanding of markets and utilisation of these crops
Physiology of fodder crops. Understanding of the differing growth and developmental stages of C4 crops, root crops, cover crops. Knowledge of how each crop utilises resources to create biomass.
Agronomy of arable fodder crops Management programmes for each crop. Optimisation of resources to improve yield. Harvest and utilisation strategies.
Integration of Catch/Cover crops into rotations How cover crops can be used to maximise productivity on arable farms. The crops used. The agronomy of these crops. How they can benefit the entire production system in terms of nutrient, soil structure, chemical use. Their value as a feed source.

Assessment Breakdown	%
Continuous Assessment	70.00%
End of Module Formal Examination	30.00%

Continuous Assessment				
Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Case Studies	Case Study: Learners will be required to conduct relevant case studies in fodder crop production and utilisation	1,2,3	35.00	n/a
Project	Project on the use of cover crops to enhance nutrient use and sustainability	1,3,4	25.00	n/a
Written Report	Reports on site visits and practical work.	1,2,3,4	10.00	n/a

No Project

No Practical

End of Module Formal Examination				
Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Formal Exam	Terminal Examination	1,2,3,4	30.00	End-of-Semester

SETU Carlow Campus reserves the right to alter the nature and timings of assessment

Module Workload

Workload: Full Time		
<i>Workload Type</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Average Weekly Learner Workload</i>
Lecture	Every Week	2.00
Practicals	Every Week	1.00
Independent Learning	Every Week	3.00
Total Hours		6.00

Module Delivered In

Programme Code	Programme	Semester	Delivery
CW_EFARG_B	Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) in Agricultural Systems Engineering	8	Elective
CW_SWSFM_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	8	Elective