

# 150<sup>th</sup> North Tipp Show Schedule 2025

Nenagh Showgrounds,  
Bank Holiday Monday 4th August



# **Horses, Cattle, Goats, Sheep, Ponies, Dogs, Poultry, Home Industries & Horticultural Exhibits**

Entries must be in before the 25<sup>th</sup> of July

**NO LATE ENTRIES, NO EXCEPTIONS**

All correspondence should be addressed to:

*The Secretary, North Tipp Show, Banba  
Square, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.*

Don't forget to visit our website [www.northtippshow.com](http://www.northtippshow.com) .

**Why not follow us on Facebook @ North Tipperary  
Agricultural Show**

Phone 086 8348578

Email [northtippshow@gmail.com](mailto:northtippshow@gmail.com)

In the event of the show being cancelled the show office will remain open for 5 working days post show date for collection of refunds

*The North Tipperary Agricultural Show is a member of and affiliated to the Irish Shows Association.*

***Please support our sponsors!***



|                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>AIBP Meats</b>               | <b>Liffey Mills</b>              |
| <b>Albany</b>                   | <b>Maher Transport</b>           |
| <b>Arrabawn</b>                 | <b>McNamara solicitors</b>       |
| <b>Arramount Funiture</b>       | <b>Michael Gilmartin</b>         |
| <b>Ballypatrick</b>             | <b>Murphy's Pharmacy</b>         |
| <b>Black Box Framing</b>        | <b>Nenagh Equestrian Centre</b>  |
| <b>Borrisoleigh Bottling</b>    | <b>Nenagh Mart</b>               |
| <b>Carey glass</b>              | <b>O'Meara's Pharmacy</b>        |
| <b>Central Auctions</b>         | <b>Open Season</b>               |
| <b>Conor Delaney Solicitors</b> | <b>Paddy Harty Toomevara</b>     |
| <b>Costellos oil</b>            | <b>Pat Jones moneygal</b>        |
| <b>Derg Inn</b>                 | <b>Richie Casey</b>              |
| <b>Eoin Dillon</b>              | <b>River Run House</b>           |
| <b>Ger Galvin</b>               | <b>Rohan's Barr</b>              |
| <b>IFAC</b>                     | <b>Spillane Precast Concrete</b> |
| <b>Ivers &amp; cullinan</b>     | <b>Talbot Auctioneers</b>        |
| <b>JKC's Nenagh</b>             | <b>Wine Buff</b>                 |
| <b>Kinane's Kitchens</b>        |                                  |

# FUNDAMENTAL RULES

NOTE - Entrants are requested to read carefully the following rules, under which conditions entries only are accepted.

1. The council reserves the right to amalgamate or cancel any class in which sufficient entries are not received. The judges shall not award a prize unless there is sufficient merit, and no second prize will be awarded unless there are three or more entries, the property of different owners.
2. Entry forms to be accurately filled up in every particular must be lodged together with the full amount of entry fees on or before the 25th of July. Any willful misinformation on an entry form will lead to disqualification. Phone entries are not accepted.
3. Printed numbers will be available for collection at the secretary's office on the morning of the show. All exhibits must be on the grounds at 09:30 a.m. only two persons will be admitted per animal.
4. Any objection to an award of the judges must be lodged with the secretaries within 1 hour of the judges giving their decision, and in jumping competitions, within fifteen minutes after the award has been made. Each objection to be made in writing, fully stating the reason, and must be accompanied by a fee of €50, which may be returned if the objection is sustained.
5. No person shall enter the space enclosed for the adjudication or hold any communication with the judges or stewards, and no person shall act as judge or steward in a ring who is an exhibitor in any one of the classes under adjudication in that ring.
6. Entrants are to understand that, although reasonable precautions will be taken to ensure the safety and welfare of the exhibits, the council will not be responsible for accidents or loss of any kind in connection with the show. All exhibits are entered entirely at owners' risk.
7. The council delegates full powers to the stewards to enforce all the foregoing regulations.
8. Implements: all persons or firms sending implements must give a list, and state space required, to the secretary, on or before 22nd July in order that they may be inserted in the catalogue. Machinery can only be put in motion with the permission of the stewards specially appointed.
10. The committee reserve the right of declining to receive any entry and of returning the fee, without being liable to any claim for compensation.

11. No person will be allowed on the show grounds to sell fruit, sweets or ice cream, etc. Unless by permission of the council. Authorized persons will be supplied with official badges, and any person found acting in contravention of this rule will be prosecuted.

12. To determine the highest number of points in any section, the following scale shall be used: first prize counts 4 points; second prize 3 points; third prize 2 points; and reserve 1 point.

13. The committee reserves the right to contact exhibitors, please contact the office directly to opt out of this agreement.

14. Cup winners shall at the time of receiving the trophies, sign a receipt for same and an undertaking to return those not won outright, in a clean condition, to the society, at least two weeks before the date which they are offered for further competition.

16. Prize money will be paid to all winning competitors on show day. Exhibitors of animals will receive their winnings at the same time that they receive their rosette.

17. The show committee will not in any way be responsible should any accident occur to any person attending the show or for any loss or damage to cars, vehicles or their content

## **DISCIPLINE:**

The **Irish Shows Association** expects and will insist upon appropriate behavior from all exhibitors and others participating in any of the activities at our Member Shows and will not tolerate inappropriate behavior.

**Inappropriate behavior** shall include but not be limited to the following:

- Profanity, coarse or vulgar language or gestures towards judges, exhibitors or other Show officials
- Harassment or bullying, including using words or actions that threaten, intimidate or undermine judges or other officials before, during or following Member Show activities
- Failure to follow rules and/or obey instructions
- Abusing any animal

## **Disciplinary Procedures:**

Complaints of misconduct against an exhibitor or other participant at a Member Show shall be investigated and adjudicated upon by a subcommittee appointed by the Irish Shows Association. The said subcommittee shall consist of three members of the board of the Irish Shows Association and shall be known as the Disciplinary Committee. The disciplinary Committee shall seek to ensure the existence of accordance with natural and

constitutional justice. For further details refer to [www.irishshows.org](http://www.irishshows.org)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ANIMAL OWNERS INVOLVED IN SHOWING ANIMALS:**

The Irish Shows Association would advise ALL animal owners to have Insurance cover for their animals; this should include cover whilst showing animals at shows. We understand that it costs very little or nothing depending on whom you have insurance cover with.

This advice is to protect yourself in the event of your animal causing injury or damage to a person or person's property, and if it's established that your animal was out of control at that time, you may be held responsible, or partly responsible or the injury or damage.

# HORTICULTURE & HOME INDUSTRIES

The Judges shall not award a prize unless there is sufficient merit.

Winning exhibitors in the Horticulture Hall will receive their prize money from the Senior Steward when they remove their exhibit from display. All prize money must be collected on Show Day

To make this section more interesting for the public, each entry should be named where possible.

In the event of a tie, the correct naming will count.

All entries €2 per class.

PRIZE FUND: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5 unless otherwise stated.

Marquee opens from 7.30am on show morning & will be closed for judging at 9.30am sharp. Marquee will open to the public at 12.30pm.

Exhibits cannot be removed before 4.00pm.

## HORTICULTURE

In the Horticultural Classes, all vegetables must be washed, trimmed & cleaned, & must be grown by the exhibitor & in his possession for at least two months previous to the Show.

**The Rowan Cup will be awarded to the exhibitor with the most points in the horticulture section.**

### Class 1. TRADITIONAL COTTAGE GARDEN

Vegetable patch, Flowers and/or Orchard.

Printed Picture to be sent to the show office by the 25<sup>th</sup> July

Print should be 7x5cm

Show office address: North Tipp Show, Banba Square, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

## **VEGETABLE**

Class 2. BEST 6 POTATOES, ROUND, FOR TABLE USE

Class 3. BEST 6 POTATOES, KIDNEY OR LONG, FOR TABLE USE

Class 4. BEST 4 ONION SETS

Class 5. BEST 2 COURGETTES, MAX SIZE 15CM

Class 6. BEST 6 SCALLIONS

Class 7. BEST 2 HEADS OF LETTUCE

Any variety, correct naming will affect scoring

Class 8. BEST 6 PODS OF PEAS

Class 9. BEST 3 CARROTS

Class 10. BEST 3 BEETROOTS

Class 11. BEST HEAD OF CABBAGE, MAX SIZE 14"

Class 12. BEST 6 TOMATOES

DANNY HASSETT CUP

Class 13. BEST DISPLAY OF HERBS, DIFFERENT VARIETIES, IN JARS

Class 14. BEST COLLECTION OF VEGETABLES

Min of 6 varieties

Max 24" X 18"

Class 15. BEST SINGLE VEGETABLE EXHIBIT – ANY VARIETY

Class 16. BEST AMUSING / KNOBBLY VEGETABLE

Class 17. BEST SINGLE HERB

## **FRUIT**

All entries €2 per class. ALL Prizes: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5 unless otherwise stated.

The Dann Cup will be awarded to the exhibitor who wins the most points in the fruit section.

Class 18. FIVE STALKS OF RHUBARB

Class 19. PLUMS 6 BEST

Class 20. BEST 3 COOKING APPLES

## **FLOWERS**

Entries in Classes 21 – 26, to be 'exhibited' in container of max .height 6" (15cms) unless otherwise stated.

Class 21. SWEET PEA, ONE VASE, SIX BLOOMS, ONE VARIETY

Class 22. SWEET PEA, ONE VASE, SIX BLOOMS, MIXED VARIETY

Class 23. ROSES, ONE VASE, 3 VARIETIES HYBRID TEA, ONE BLOOM EACH

Class 24. ROSE OF THE SHOW  
Best single bloom. Special prize to winner

Class 25. BOWL OF EIGHT ROSES, ANY VARIETY, ANY COLOUR

Class 26. HYDRANGEA, ONE VASE, THREE BLOSSOMS

Class 27. DAHLIA OF SHOW – BEST SINGLE BLOOM

Class 28. 'HIGH SUMMER' A COLLECTION OF HOT COLOURS  
Max width 20"

Class 29. SHRUBS / ORNAMENTAL / FLOWERING, MIXED VARIETIES, ONE VASE

Class 30. GLADIOLI, ONE VASE, ONE SPIKE

Class 31. SPIREA SHRUB, 3 STEM

Class 32. DAHLIAS, DECORATIVE, 3 BLOOMS, 1 VASE

Class 33. DAHLIAS, CACTUS/SEMI-CACTUS, 3 BLOOMS, 1 VASE

Class 34. DAHLIAS, POMPOMS, 3 BLOOMS, 1 VASE

Class 35. THREE SUNFLOWERS

## **DECORATIVE**

Prizes in decorative section: 1<sup>st</sup> €25, 2<sup>nd</sup> €10, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5 unless otherwise stated.

**The Courtney Cup** for most points in Classes 38 to 43

Class 36. "SUMMER BASKET".

Dried Flowers.

24 inches square allowed.

Height unrestricted.

Oasis allowed

Class 37. "SEASONAL DELIGHTS".

An arrangement incorporating fruit, vegetables & flowers.

Max size, 24 inches square

Class 38. AN EXHIBIT, GREEN & WHITE PREDOMINATING

Space 24" square

Class 39. "TEA TIME" – FLOWERS & CHINA

Space allowed not to exceed 6" in height, depth & width.

Class 40. AN EXHIBIT SUITABLE FOR A DINING TABLE CENTER

Class 41. A GARDEN ON A ROUND PLATE UNDER 14YR OLD PERSON

1<sup>st</sup> €20, 2<sup>nd</sup> €10, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5

Class 42. A FACE MADE FROM FRUIT & / OR VEGETABLES

1<sup>st</sup> €20, 2<sup>nd</sup> €10, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5

Arranged on a board. Space 12" Square.

Confined to U/14

Class 43. AN ARRANGEMENT OF WILD FLOWERS COLLECTED BY UNDER 14YR OLD PERSON

1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5

# COOKERY SECTION

All entries €2 per class.

PRIZE FUND: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5 unless otherwise stated

Class 44. POT OF RASPBERRY JAM

Class 45. POT OF BLACKCURRANT JAM

Class 46. POT OF GOOSEBERRY JAM

Class 47. POT OF STRAWBERRY JAM

Class 48. POT OF HOMEMADE MARMALADE

Class 49. POT OF CHUTNEY SUITABLE FOR USE WITH COLD MEATS

Class 50. POT OF LEMON CURD

## **HONEY**

Class 51. POT OF LOCAL HOME PRODUCED HONEY

## **Home Brew**

Entry fee €2. Winner €10

This Section is Sponsored & Judged by Canvas Brewery, Aglish.

Class 52. HOME BREWED CIDER

One bottle to be delivered to show office by 12pm 28<sup>th</sup> July. Another to be brought to the horticultural tent before 10am on show day.

Class 53. HOME BREWED BEER

One bottle to be delivered to show office by 12pm 28<sup>th</sup> July. Another to be brought to the horticultural tent before 10am on show day.

## **BAKING**

Class 54. WHITE SODA BREAD (CAKE / LOAF)

Class 55. BROWN SODA BREAD (CAKE / LOAF)

Class 56. SIX SCONES, WHITE

Class 57. SIX SCONES, BROWN

Class 58. VICTORIA COFFEE CAKE, ICED

Class 59. PASTRY TART – SHORT CRUST

Class 60. ICED QUEEN CAKES

Class 61. FRUIT CRUMBLE

Class 62. SAVORY TART / QUICHE

Class 63. DECORATED CHOCOLATE CAKE

Class 64. SWISS ROLL

Class 65. CARROT CAKE

Class 66. SIX LUXURY COOKIES

Class 67. JAM SANDWICH (SPONGE) 4 EGG MIXTURE

Class 68. 4 PIECES OF CHOCOLATE BISCUIT CAKE

Class 69. "UNICORNS & RAINBOWS"  
A selection of 6 decorated cupcakes

Class 70. NOVELTY CAKE  
Suitable for a birthday  
1<sup>st</sup> €20, 2<sup>nd</sup> €15, 3<sup>rd</sup> €10

Class 71. SIX DECORATED RICE KRISPIE BUNS  
Confined to Primary School Students

Class 72. FLATBREAD DECORATED WITH FRUITS & HERBS ON TOP

Class 73. FOUR MUFFINS, ANY VARIETY

Class 74. SIX BISCUITS ON A PLATE

Class 75. GLUTEN FREE CAKE  
Confined to U/16 year olds

Class 76. PROTEIN BAR  
Confined to U/16 year olds

Class 77. PROTEIN BALL  
Confined to U/16 year olds

# HOME INDUSTRIES

All items must be h& knit (not machine knit)

All items must be created in previous 12 months & not previously exhibited at North Tipperary Show.

Maximum number of 3 items per entrant per class.

Entry fee €2 per exhibit. Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €15, 2<sup>nd</sup> €10, 3<sup>rd</sup> €7

**Eileen Shanahan Memorial Trophy & €100 to overall winner of classes 78-82**

Class 78. ANY GARMENT IN ANY YARN HAND-KNIT OR CROCHET

Class 79. ANY HAND SEWN ITEM USED FOR DECORATIVE PURPOSES

Including but not limited to: Pictures, cushions or table mats / runners (including embroidery, applique or cross stitch item, any items designed for hanging should be unframed).

Class 80. BEST REPAIR / REPURPOSE / UPCYCLE OF AN ITEM OF CLOTHING.

Class 81. ANY NOVELTY ITEM KNIT, CROCHET OR SEWN

Class 82. ANY HOME SEWN ITEM INCLUDING PATCHWORK, QUILTING OR A GARMENT

Class 83. BEST DECORATED PRINGLE BOX

Confined to under 16 year olds. Put exhibitor's age on entry form

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5

Class 84. BEST DECORATED EGG (HARD BOILED)

Confined to under 16 year olds. Put exhibitor's age on entry form

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5

Class 85. BEST DECORATED PICTURE FRAME

(max size 10x8 inches)

Confined to under 16 year olds. Put exhibitor's age on entry form

Prize: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5

Class 86. BEST DECORATED WOODEN SPOON

Confined to under 16 year olds. Put exhibitor's age on entry form

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5

Class 87. BEST NECKLET MADE FROM SWEETS – MUST BE 100% EDIBLE

Confined to under 16 year old. Put exhibitor's age on entry form

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5

## **ART & CRAFT**

Entries must not have been previously shown.

Maximum of 2 entries per person per class.

Class 88. BEST BIRD BOX MADE FROM RECYCLED MATERIALS

Class 89. A DRAW & DESIGN A POSTER FOR THE 150<sup>TH</sup> NORTH TIPP SHOW

Use of mixed materials allowed

Class 90. A LANDSCAPE PAINTING IN OIL OR ACRYLIC

Confined to Amateurs, no previous winners

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €20, 2<sup>nd</sup> €15, 3<sup>rd</sup> €10

State size of exhibit on entry form

Class 91. PAINTING, WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE, IN NORTH TIPPERARY

Confined to amateur artists

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €20, 2<sup>nd</sup> €15, 3<sup>rd</sup> €10

State size of exhibit on entry form

Class 92. PAINTING, ANY FARM ANIMAL

Confined to amateur artists.

State size of exhibit on entry form

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €20, 2<sup>nd</sup> €15, 3<sup>rd</sup> €10

Class 93. FREEH& PENCIL DRAWING

A4 Size Subject: Rachel Blackmore

Must be Mounted & Framed, with string to hang

Class 94. HANDWRITING - ADULTS

It's a long way to Tipperary – First verse to be handwritten script style, on an

A4 sheet

Class 95. A COLOURED DRAWING A4 PAGE SIZE

Theme: farming from long ago

Confined children 8 & under

State age on entry form

Class 96. HANDWRITING - CHILDREN

Bono, Beautiful day – First verse to be handwritten

Confined to children aged of 12 & under

State age & school on entry form

**Class 97. BEST DECORATED WELLIE U/12**

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €20, 2<sup>nd</sup> €15, 3<sup>rd</sup> €10

**Class 98. ART THEME "BIODIVERSITY"**

A piece of work using any medium, e.g. acrylic, water colour, marker pens

Confined to secondary school student

State size of exhibit on entry form

**Class 99. MODEL FARM – USING LEGO.**

Confined to primary school children.

Maximum size 16" x 12"

(Please state age & school on entry form)

**Class 100. FANCY DRESS CHILD**

Confined to children 12 & under

Dress from the decades, a special 150 years celebration

Children can dress for any period in the last 150 years

Free to enter, winner chosen on the day

**Class 101. FANCY DRESS ADULT**

Open to all attendees over 12 years old

Dress from the decades, a special 150 years celebration

Dress for any period in the last 150 years

Free to enter, winner chosen on the day

## **EGGS**

Entry Fee €2.

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5 unless otherwise stated.

The Judges shall not award a prize unless there is sufficient merit.

Class 102. HALF- DOZEN HEN EGGS – WHITE

Class 103. HALF- DOZEN HEN EGGS – BROWN

Class 104. HALF- DOZEN HEN EGGS – TINTED OR SPECKLED

Class 105. HALF- DOZEN – DUCK EGGS

## **POULTRY**

Entry Fee €2.

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5 unless otherwise stated.

The Judges shall not award a prize unless there is sufficient merit.

**O'Driscoll Cup for Champion Bird**

Class 106. LAYING HEN – ANY BREED

Class 107. BEST PAIR OF DUCKS (ANY BREED)

Class 108. BEST GOOSE / GOSLING

Class 109. BEST PUREBRED POULTRY EXHIBIT

Class 110. BEST MALE – COCKEREL

Class 111. BEST BANTAM

Class 112. BROOD OF DUCK OR GOSLINGS

Class 113. BEST GOOSE & GANDER

## **PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION**

€50 Prize for the best overall picture, to be selected from winners of the classes below. **Prize Money kindly sponsored by McNamara Solicitors, Pearse Street, Nenagh**

Entry Fee €2

Prize Fund: 1<sup>st</sup> €10, 2<sup>nd</sup> €7, 3<sup>rd</sup> €5 unless otherwise stated

The Judges shall not award a prize unless there is sufficient merit

### **RULES**

1. Photographs to be mounted, with cord for hanging
2. Maximum photo size for Classes 219 to 222 is 5" x 7"
3. Any work having won at a previous show is not eligible
4. Exhibits to be the work of the exhibitor
5. Entries must not have been previously shown.

Class 114. AGRICULTURAL SCENE

Class 115. MEMORY LANE

Class 116. "HAPPINESS IS....."

Class 117. "SPORTING EVENT"

Class 118. OPEN

Any subject, size 10" x 8"

Class 119. FARMYARD IN GREYSCALE

€50 voucher from Black Box Framing Gallery for 1<sup>st</sup> place

# DOGS

Entries taken on field from 11.30 am.

Entry fee €3 per class, per dog.

Great prizes in kind & rosettes.

Competition commencing at 1.00 pm.

No entries will be taken after this time.

## RULES FOR ALL CLASSES:

- No puppies under 12 weeks of age
- All dogs should be fully vaccinated up to date
- Classes 5 to 15 open to both dogs & bitches
- All classes open to both pure bred/IKC registered dogs & non-pure bred/non-IKC registered dogs
- Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times, except when doing obedience work in the show ring
- Owners must clean up after their dogs & make sure they have access to water
- Please do not leave your dogs unattended/in your car

**Class 1:** Terrier (smooth coated) Bitch

**Class 2:** Terrier (smooth coated) Dog

**Class 3:** Terrier (rough / broken coated) Bitch

**Class 4:** Terrier (rough / broken coated) Dog

**Class 5:** Golden Oldie (10 years of age or older)

**Class 6:** Gundog

**Class 7:** Hound / Herding Breeds

**Class 8:** Working / Utility Breeds

**Class 9:** Scruffiest Mutt Bad Hair Day!

**Class 10:** Toy Breed

**Class 11:** Childs Best Friend (Dog to be shown by a child under 12)

**Class 12:** Handling Class

**Class 13:** Dog most like its owner

**Class 14:** Rescue Dog

**Class 15:** Matching Pair

**Class 16:** Dog I would like to Take Home

**Class 17:** Traditional Irish Breeds

Exclusively for the following breeds: Irish Wolfhound, Irish Terrier, Kerry Beagle, Kerry Blue Terrier, Irish Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Glen of Imaal Terrier, Irish Setter, Irish Red & White Setter, Irish Water Spaniel.

**Class 18:** Best in Show 'Cyl Smith Memorial Cup'

# Message from Dara Calleary Td

## Minister For Rural & Community Development and The Gaeltacht

*Welcome to the 2025 North Tipperary Agricultural Show. As Minister for Rural & Community Development & the Gaeltacht, I am delighted to be in a position to support the North Tipperary Agricultural Show for 2025. My Department will again this year provided €1 million to over 120 other agricultural shows combined across the country, including your own event here in North Tipperary.*

*Ní hamháin gur ceiliúradh ar shaol na tuaithe agus ar thraidisiúin na tuaithe iad seónna, is ceiliúradh freisin iad ar an nuálaíocht agus ar scoth na tuaithe.*

*Déanann na seónna ceiliúradh freisin ar atá i gceist agus ar an tábhacht atá le Meitheal a bhfuil rath na bpobal seo ina crollár.*

*Like the show here in North Tipperary, each local show around the country continues to be a key social event in the agricultural calendar. They have so much to offer, not just in terms of the competitions that are taking place here today, but also for the platform they provide to local businesses, local farmers & for local craft & artisan food producers. The local show is also one of the best days of the year for meeting neighbors & friends.*

*Your local shows provide a great link between our towns & villages & the rural hinterlands that support them. A place where exhibitors, producers, farmers & the wider public meet face to face to share all that is good about life in the countryside.*

*Each of the shows taking place this year have something special that makes them stand out from the rest. It may be the pedigree livestock competitions or perhaps the exhibitions & food offerings. Whatever it is, your local agricultural show has something for everyone.*

*I would like to acknowledge the work that goes on for many months behind the scenes to bring this show to fruition. The efforts of committee members & local volunteers is a testament to how much this show means to the locality. Of course there is a sense of local rivalry for those much coveted titles & awards but it is always in the very best of spirits. The way in which neighbouring farms & parishes come together to support each other is a key component of country life. This sense of Meitheal is always on display as part of the local show.*

*Today is a chance to take a break from the busy farming schedule this time of year. I hope those of you attending the show this year thoroughly enjoy the day & that it gives everyone a chance to celebrate all that is good about rural Ireland. I will be visiting a number of the shows around the country & meeting as many of you as I can.*