

#EWDAY2026

European Wool Day Conference 2026



PROGRAMME



IRISH GROWN
WOOL COUNCIL



CIRCULAR
BIOECONOMY
CLUSTER



Centre for
Applied **Bioscience**
Research
Biotechnology · Bioresources · Bioeconomy



Future
Island



Donaghy Farms



Belfast
MINI MILLS



Kerry Lamb &
Wool Co-Op



28 MARCH
2026



Meadowlands Hotel
Tralee / Ireland
V92 DC83

- Main Topics*
- 8:30* Registration
 - 9:30 Official Opening
 - 9:45 **Irish Wool Research Projects**
 - 10:10 **Wool Value Chains**
 - 11:30 Panel Discussion: **Wool Policy**
 - 12:15 *Lunch Break*
 - 13:15 **Wool Initiatives**
 - 14:15 Panel Discussion: **Building Value in Wool**
 - 15:00 *Coffee Break*
 - 15:30 **Woollen Yarns & Textiles**
 - 16:40 **Wool4Health**
 - 17:15 **Irish Grown Wool Almanac Launch & Closing**

*Times are in GMT

Details subject to change. Last updated: 17 March 2026



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European Wool Day 2026

Detailed programme 1/4



We are recording the proceedings and the video will be available on
YouTube from 9th April @ewefoundation-europeanwool255

*Times are in GMT

Details subject to change

8:30am*	Registration
From 9:00am	<i>An opportunity to visit the displays, exhibitions and craft demonstrations in our 'European Wool Experience' event within the hotel</i>
9:30am	Official Opening
In-person	Welcome Address Maria Walsh MEP and Alberto Costa MD (EWE Foundation)
In-person	Overview of the Irish Grown Wool Council by Catherine Phibbs (Irish Grown Wool Council)
9:45am	Irish Wool Research Projects
In-person	Springwool Research Project by Tielidy Lima (Centre for Applied Bioscience Research, Technological University of the Shannon)
In-person	REVEIRE Research Project by Archishman Bose (University College Cork)
10:10am	Wool Value Chains
In-person & pre-recorded	Cooperation: The Pillar of Future Wool Economies by Mariana Anacleto Including a pre-recorded video: Making all Dutch Wool Available for the Sustainable Future of the Industry by Hollands Wol Collectief (<i>Netherlands</i>)
Pre-recorded	Swedish Wool Initiative: Re-establishing a Swedish Wool Industry by Johan Sidenmark (AX Foundation) and Helena Holmquist (Wool Rebel, Sweden)



28th March 2026
 Meadowlands Hotel, Tralee, Ireland, V92 DC83

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6th European Wool Day

Detailed programme 2/4



In-person

Preliminary findings of the Focus Group 'Innovative and sustainable ways to strengthen the role of farmers in revitalising the European wool value chain' by Szabolcs Vágó (EU CAP Network and the Support Facility on Innovation and Knowledge Exchange (EIP AGRI))

Pre-recorded

Block-chaining the Armenian Wool Value Chain by Ani Mkrtychyan (Arm.wool, Armenia)

In-person

Increasing European Clip Value on the Farm by Nigel Thompson (European Wool Association)

Pre-recorded

Focus Areas of the International Wool Textile Organisation's European Wool Task Team by Andrew Hogley (British Wool)

11:30am

Panel Discussion: 'From Farm to Framework: The Role of Policy in Wool's Future'

In-person

Maria Walsh MEP
 Angela Hassan-Sharp (New Zealand Ambassador to Ireland)
 Sandra Spethmann (Curraghmore Farm and Wise Wool Project)
 Patrick Temple (Magee Weaving)
 Moderator: Tim Yeomans (Centre for Applied Bioscience Research)

12:15pm

Lunch Break

Following a seated lunch there is an opportunity to visit displays, exhibitions and craft demonstrations in our 'European Wool Experience' event within the hotel.

1:15pm

Wool Initiatives

In-person

Presenting the Work of the Circular Bioeconomy Cluster by Michael Noctor (Circular Bioeconomy Cluster)





6th European Wool Day

Detailed programme 3/4



In-person	Wool in Ecological Restoration by Sinéad Grimes (The Dúlra Project, Forum Connemara) and Lorna Kelly (Wicklow Uplands Council)
In-person	From Fibre to Marine Use: Developing a Sustainable Wool Rope for the Kelp Industry by Kate Drury (Sustainable Rope, UK)
In-person	Future Island-Island and the Story of Rathlin Island Wool by Alison Gault (Ulster University)
In-person	Wool is Cool by Ana Žunić (Association for Environmental Protection, Promotion of Ecological Production and Sustainable Development, Croatia)
In-person	Small Scale Fibre Processing in Rural Communities by Andrew Carpenter (Belfast Mini Mills, Canada)
2:15pm	Panel Discussion 'From Source to Consumer: Building Value in Wool'
In-person	Joan Lucey (Yarn Vibes) Christine de Vries (House of Kerry) Kevin Dooley (Dooley's Wool) Dinny Galvin (Sheep Farmer & Dingle Hub) Moderator: Alison Gault (Ulster University)
3:00pm	Coffee Break
	<i>Coffee break plus an opportunity to visit displays, exhibitions and craft demonstrations in our 'European Wool Experience' event within the hotel.</i>





6th European Wool Day

Detailed programme 4/4



3:30pm	Woollen Yarns & Textiles
Pre-recorded	Farm to Yarn by Zoë Daly (Ériu)
In-person	Our Irish Wool Journey by Aoife McNamara (Aoife McNamara)
In-person	Epirus Wool by Lena Gerothanasis (Pokari Project, Greece)
In-person	Textiles for Liberation by Malú Colorin (Fibreshed Ireland)
Pre-recorded	Book review: Four Red Sweaters - Fragments of Memory by Lucy Adlington (UK)
4:40pm	Wool4Health
In-person & pre-recorded	Therapeutic Knitting at the Donna Health Care: A Complementary Approach to Patient Care by Evi Skoufari (Donna Health Care, Cyprus)
Pre-recorded	Textile Practices in Psychiatric Care: Exploring Wool as a Therapeutic Addition by Ninoslav Mimica MD (University Psychiatric Hospital "Vrapče", Croatia)
In-person	Gomitolorosa4arts, a Creative Way to Give a Second Life to Native Italian Wool by Ivana Appolloni (Gomitolorosa, Italy)
In-person	Launch of the European Wool4Health Awards 2026 by Marisa Arosa (Cooperative D'Alegria, Portugal) and Concha Rey Mejias (EWE, Spain)
5:15pm	Closing
In-person	Irish Grown Wool Almanac Launch by Cynthia Ní Mhurchú MEP

