



PRESS RELEASE

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UCD creates Chair in Crop Science

UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine endowed for

Masstock Chair in Crop Science

The University College Dublin ('UCD') School of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine has established a new Chair, titled the "Masstock Chair in Crop Science", endowed by Origin Enterprises plc. Professor Jimmy Burke will be appointed to the Chair by UCD.

Origin Enterprises plc through its subsidiary Masstock is focused on the development of sustainable and profitable systems of primary food production through an integrated approach connecting innovative research with a cutting edge technology portfolio and strategic on-farm advice.

Origin believes this collaboration with UCD creates a new dynamism between science and food production, furthering the integration of applied science with on-farm decision making. Crop Science is a key discipline within the UCD School, with a focus on developing and applying science applications across the agri-food industry. New developments in crop breeding, biotechnology and crop production systems place crop science in a pivotal position regarding the future potential of this industry. This initiative strengthens Origin's commitment to be the leading innovator in the development of applied agronomy and crop technology.

Professor Jimmy Burke is a renowned crop scientist and academic having worked in universities in both Ireland and the US. He has developed strong links with industry in addition to having a close working relationship with national and international research centres and universities. A strategic thinker, Professor Burke is well known for his ability to generate innovative and novel solutions for the advancement of crop science. He has vast experience in research, research interpretation and information dissemination throughout his career and has led a very successful crop science, plant breeding and plant biotechnology research programme at the Irish National Crop Science Research Centre. Professor Burke has served on boards and advisory committees relating to agriculture, biotechnology and bioenergy both nationally and internationally. His major interests cover both present and future aspects of Crop Science, including crop physiology and agronomy, bioenergy, climate change impacts on crop production, plant response to environmental stress as well as the development of new biotechnological approaches for plant improvement.

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