

## **Equine Summit 2017**

## **Presentation of Industry Statistics**

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1 - The Past **Historic Facts** 

### **Historic Facts - Thoroughbreds**

- Tales from Irish mythology mention horse racing on the Curragh taking place during the lifetime of Conaire Mor (sometime between 110BC and 60 AD)
- Earliest datable evidence is a 1603 royal warrant entitling the governor of Derry to hold fairs and markets at which horse races could be staged.
- Racing first held in the Curragh in 1741.
- First race meeting in Punchestown in 1824.



### **Historic Facts – Sport-horse**

- Ireland often referred to as the birthplace of show-jumping.
- Dublin Horse Show:
  - First held in 1864 with 366 entries and £520 prize money.
  - 1869 was the year "horse leaping" came to prominence.
  - No female was allowed to ride in any jumping competition until 1919, when a novelty class was held. From 1920 onwards women were allowed to compete freely.
- 3 Day Eventing first held in 1902 in France.



1 - The Past

When did the industries emerge?

## When did the industries emerge? Racing

- There have been many significant developments in Irish racing over the past 200 years.
- However, the last 50 years have seen the industry grow exponentially.
- In this time Ireland has emerged as a world leader in the racing industry:
  - Vincent O'Brien,
  - Paddy Prendergast,
  - Joe McGrath,
  - Coolmore Stud.



## When did the industries emerge? Sport-horse

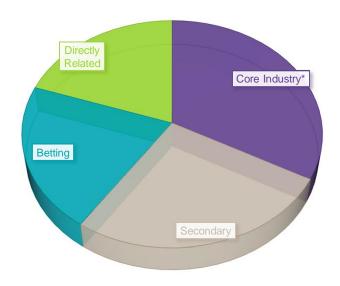
- International competitions introduced to the RDS in 1926 and was the first year of the Aga Khan nation's cup.
- From 1930 onwards Ireland become dominant force in world show-jumping.
- 1970's seen as the "golden era" of Irish show-jumping:
  - Eddie Macken, Paul Darragh, Capt.Con Power and James Kernan won the Aga Khan Trophy 3 years in a row (1977 to 1979).
  - Eddie Macken and Boomerang record 4 consecutive Hickstead Derby wins (1976 to 1979).





Jim Power – Current Industry Statistics

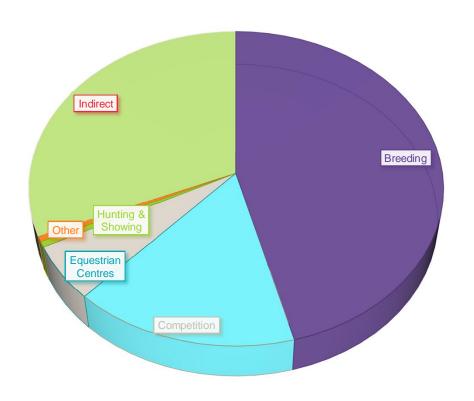
# **Current Industry Statistics – Regional Impact Direct Employment in the Thoroughbred Industry**



Sector	Numbers	%
Core Industry*	9,500	32.9%
Secondary	7,700	26.6%
Betting	6,000	20.7%
Directly Related	5,700	19.8%
Total Jobs	28,900	100%

<sup>\*</sup>Core industry includes breeders (43%), stable staff (30%), trainers (9%), jockey, racecourse employees, administration, education and media.

# **Current Industry Statistics – Regional Impact Direct Employment in the Irish Sport Horse Industry**



Sector	Numbers	%	Wages Value €
Breeding	6,446	45.9%	106,165,620
Competition	2,258	16.1%	37,189,260
Equestrian Centres	787	5.6%	12,961,890
Hunting & Showing	78	0.6%	1,284,660
Indirect	77	0.5%	72,649,170
Other*	4,411	31.4%	1,133,340**
Total	14,057	100%	231,383,940

<sup>\*</sup>Other - Affiliated Bodies, Contractors and Education

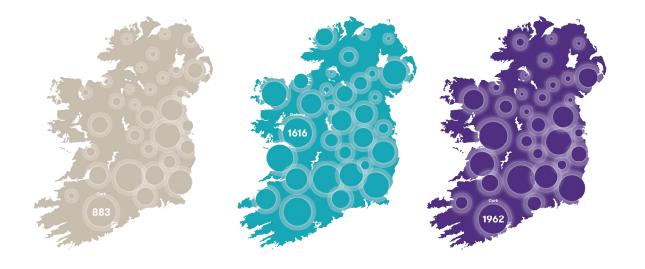
<sup>\*\*</sup>These wages relate to the education sector only.

# **Current Industry Statistics – Regional Impact Regional Impact – Distribution of Breeders**

#### Total number of registered breeders:

Thoroughbred Sector 6,462
Sport-horse Sector 14,637
Combined 21,099

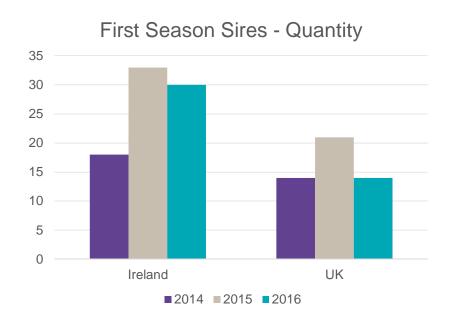
- These heat maps illustrate how the breeding sectors (as with the other equine sectors) reach every corner of rural Ireland.
- This employment reaches areas where there are very few other forms of employment and jobs available.

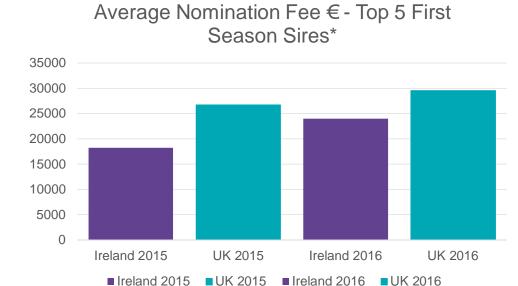




2 - The Present Where are we now?

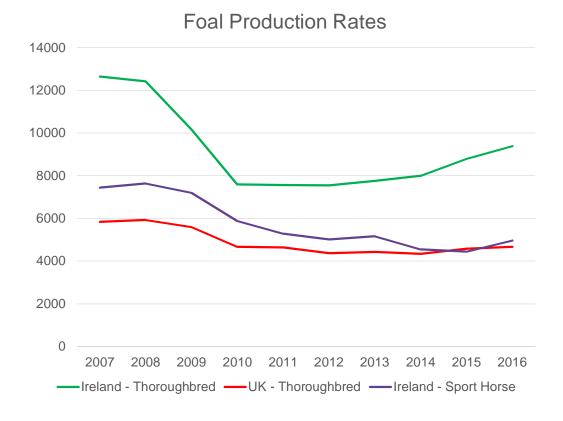
## Where are we now? Breeding Statistics - Ireland v's UK





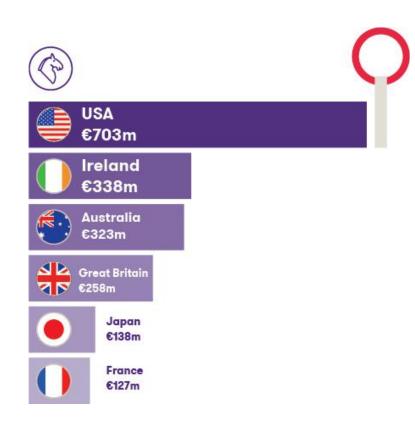
## Where are we now? Foal Production – A 10 Year View

- Irish thoroughbred foal production at highest rate since 2009
- Ireland growth of 10% in 2015, followed by a further 6% in 2016
- UK growth of 6% in 2015, followed by a further 2% in 2016
- Irish sport horse foal registration grew 12% in 2016, now at highest level since 2013





## Where are we now? Bloodstock Value at Auction





# Where are we now? International Success - Racing



Aidan O'Brien sets new world record with 27 Group 1 wins in a season.



### Melbourne Cup 2017:

- 1 Joseph O'Brien,
- 2 Aidan O'Brien, and
- 3 Willie Mullins.

## Where are we now? International Success - Racing

- 29 Group 1 & 47 Grade 1 victories in 2016
- Irish horses ran 1,471 times in the UK winning €17.5m in prize money
- Record 19 Irish trained horses won at 2017 Cheltenham Festival
- 21% of the top 100 rated horses in the world were bred in Ireland



Grant Thornton An instinct for growth

# Where are we now? Sport-Horse Stallions – WBFSH Rankings - Eventing

Ranking	2008	2016
1	Cavalier Royale	Contendro
2	Heraldik	Heraldik
3	Cruising	Courage
4	Master Imp	Jaguar Mail
5	Highland King	Jumbo
6	Jumbo	Master Imp
7	Irish Enough	Ghareeb
8	Brilliant Invador	Limmerick
9	Rock King	Ricardo Z
10	Pallas Digion	Kannon



## Where are we now? International Success – Sport Horse

- Dublin Horse Show 2017 1,600 entries and prize fund of just under €1,000,000.
- ISH represented Ireland at 2016 Rio Olympic Games MHS Going Global.
- Irish Studbook leading eventing studbook in the World Rankings for historic 21<sup>st</sup> year.
- Senior show-jumping team gold at 2017 European Championships.
- Ireland currently have 10 riders inside the top 100 in the Longines show-jumping rankings.







### **The Future – Technology and Farming**

- Farming has seen a technological revolution over recent years.
- There are Irish companies spending millions to create technology that will make farming more efficient and land more productive.
- Hi-tech farmers have embraced new technology for a number of various jobs:
  - Self-driving tractors,
  - Robotic milking,
  - Mobile phone apps to alert farmers to calving cows, and
  - Software that measures how grass is growing.



## **The Future - Technology**

- Jobs created by booming equine industry span many different areas.
- Huge ground made in recent years in various areas of equine technology.
- Irish companies already making significant developments in this space. Examples include:
  - Horseware Ireland,
  - Equicheck,
  - Equilux Stable Solutions
- Vital to embrace such advances as it will help drive the industry forward.



## **The Future – The Curragh Redevelopment**

- Creation of new world class facilities on a par with the best anywhere in the world.
- Major new grandstand with five star corporate facilities.
- New restaurants, bars and superb viewing facilities.
- New parade ring and weigh room.
- Completely refurbished stable yard.



### **The Future - Conclusion**

- The equine industry as a whole is very different to other sports
- The industries are currently enjoying a massive profile and are attracting many high net worth individuals to the sport
- There is a global marketplace for the Irish horse
- Stakeholders need to maximise this and ensure the Irish horse continues to attract international attention, admiration and investment



### **Important Information**

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