

## Mary O'Donovan Everun Ireland Ltd

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After 30 years working as a teacher, Mary decided it was time for a career change. She has always been drawn to farming and rural life so in 2018 she decided she wanted to become more involved in her family run dairy farm.

Mary wanted to be hands on and so started looking for a small wheel loader so that she could do tasks and jobs herself around the farm. Failing to find what she wanted in Ireland, she spent hours researching the product and finally found what she was looking for in the Qingdao Everun Machinery Company in China.

Seeing a gap in the market, Mary decided to import three machines with the intention of selling two of them and keeping one for herself. In November 2018, Mary set up Everun Ireland, which she operates from her home in Ballymoe, Co Galway.

Within her first year in business, Mary sold 30 machines and made a substantial profit. She has since expanded the range to include diggers, forklifts and road rollers, as well as spare parts and accessories.

Mary's main customers are in the agricultural and construction industries, and she is also seeing growing popularity in the landscape gardening, waste recycling and fisheries industries.

Mary enjoyed her ACORNS sessions and meeting new people who were genuinely helpful and supportive. Speaking about her experience she said that each fellow participant brought a wealth of knowledge with them and it was wonderful to be part of such positivity.

Everun Ireland currently employs a mechanic and workman on a job by job basis, as well as two hauliers for the transportation of goods. Mary is also planning to hire a part-time staff member early next year.

Providing early stage female entrepreneurs, living in rural Ireland, with the knowledge, support and networking opportunities to meet and even exceed their current aspirations.



An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine