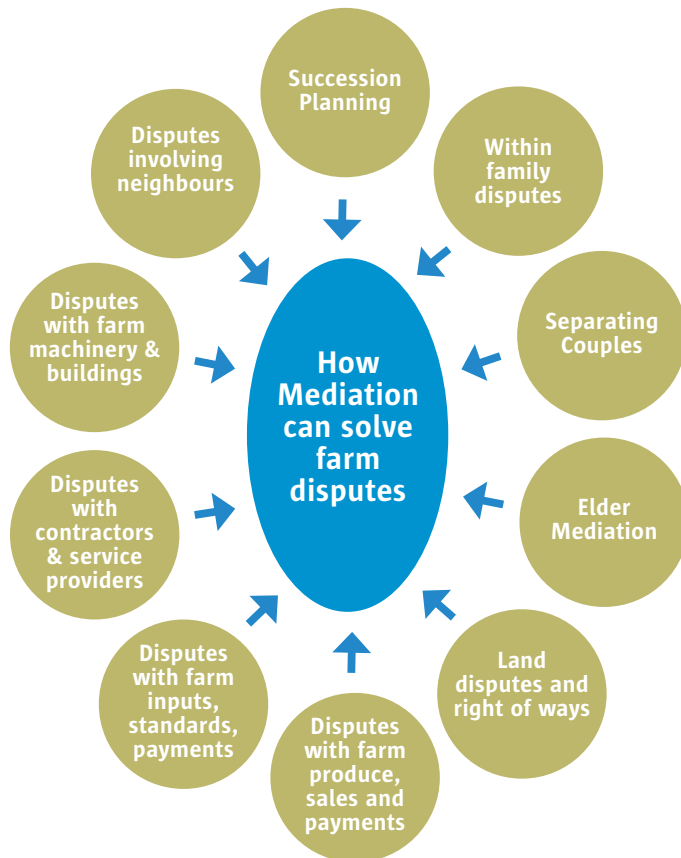


## TYPE OF FARM PROBLEMS AND DISPUTES SUITABLE FOR MEDIATION

The Mediators Institute of Ireland (MII) has a designated Farming and Agribusiness section of trained accredited Mediators with expert knowledge and extensive experience of the farming and agribusiness sector. In addition, for mediation involving separating couples and elder mediation, MII Mediators are available to conduct this type of specialised mediation.

The diagram below shows the type of farm issues and disputes which mediation can successfully resolve.



## HOW DO I FIND THE RIGHT MEDIATOR?

For a listing of available MII accredited Mediators and access to their profiles, go to [www.themii.ie](http://www.themii.ie). You may search by location or speciality (e.g. Workplace, Elder, Family, Agriculture etc.)

The profile outlines the Mediator's specific qualifications, training and experience so that you can choose the Mediator most suited to your situation. If you have any queries or require further information please contact The Mediators' Institute of Ireland.

## THE MEDIATORS' INSTITUTE OF IRELAND

The Mediators' Institute of Ireland (The MII) is the professional institute for Mediators in Ireland and accredits Mediators and mediation training.

Established in 1992, the mission of the MII is to promote the use of quality mediation by ensuring the highest standards of education, training and professional practice.

The MII is a not-for-profit organisation.

Registered Charity CHY16996.

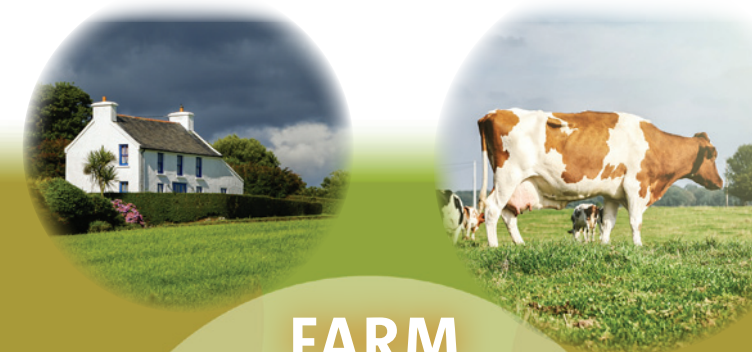


The Mediators' Institute of Ireland

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## The Mediators' Institute of Ireland

THE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MEDIATORS



## FARM FAMILY DISPUTES

MEDIATION – A LOW COST AND  
CONFIDENTIAL WAY OF RESOLVING  
DISPUTES FOR FARM FAMILIES



## FARMING TODAY

Today's family farm is a complex and regulated business involving many commercial and business transactions and relationships as well as having to cater for family relationships. These family and business relationships can give rise to problems and disputes. The majority of these are resolved by direct discussions and negotiations. Some are for a time ignored only to fester and damage relationships.

Family farm disputes that need to be resolved have traditionally gone to Court. The legal route to dispute resolution is costly and the issue may be heard in public. Furthermore, this process invariably leads to fractured personal relationships or loss of business relationships.

Mediation offers a far better alternative to dispute resolution particularly for family farm disputes, whether they be within family or business disputes.



**Mediation in disputes involving the family farm business or members of the farm family is highly successful, with success rates in excess of 80%.**

## WHAT IS MEDIATION?

Mediation is a process in which an independent neutral Mediator assists two or more disputing parties in resolving the dispute in a collaborative, consensual manner.

Mediation is a voluntary process of conflict resolution that allows the parties in dispute the opportunity to address their issues, with the aid of a Mediator, in a confidential and private environment.

Mediators, who are trained in conflict resolution skills and techniques, provide a professional and confidential expert service to give the parties in dispute the best possible opportunity to resolve their difficulties.

Mediation can deal with single issues or multi-issue disputes involving two or more parties. Mediation can also provide preventive intervention early on in a conflict or act as a last-ditch effort to avoid costly and public litigation.



## HOW DOES MEDIATION WORK?

The structure of the mediation process will vary depending on the type of dispute. Generally, an agreement to mediate will be signed at the outset and the mediator will then meet with the parties together and / or separately, over the course of one day or in sessions over a number of days or weeks. Solicitors or other advisors may attend mediation sessions if required. If agreement is reached this will be recorded and signed at the mediation, and any further steps, which may be required to make the agreement legally enforceable, may follow.

## MEDIATION AND THE FAMILY FARM

Mediation is ideally suited for disputes involving the family farm business or members of the farm family

- **Early resolution possible- no delays, shorter process**
- **Much less expensive than legal and court action or arbitration methods**
- **Parties control the process and “own” the outcome**
- **Flexible, wider range of conflict-specific solutions available**
- **Mutually-agreed, long-term, workable agreements**
- **Preserves personal or business relationships**
- **Highly successful, with success rates in excess of 80%.**