



**AIB continues to offer low interest rates for Milk Quota purchases , 3.75%
30th June 2004**

At current interest rates, the AIB Loan Scheme is available to farmers at 3.75% - a very competitive interest rate for a Milk Quota Restructuring Loan Scheme.

The affordable acquisition of additional milk quota is a central issue for Irish dairy farmers who are striving to expand and develop their dairy enterprises. This is even more critical in light of recent changes to the CAP. AIB's Milk Quota Loan Scheme, providing low cost and flexible finance, will assist these farmers in purchasing additional quota.

AIB's Quota Scheme is once again one of the most competitive available to dairy farmers. Loans are designed to be as flexible as possible and borrowers can choose a repayment schedule to suit their individual cashflows. Likewise, farmers can elect for loan terms of up to 7 years depending on individual circumstance.

Making the announcement, Michael Dowling, Head of Agri Strategy, AIB Bank said "The recent CAP reform will be a catalyst for significant restructuring in the dairy industry, it is imperative that financial institutions assist farmers to grow and develop during these changes. This product is only one of AIB's products tailored to suit farmers needs and it is a further illustration of the Bank's support to farmers as they develop their business."

Details of the Loan Scheme and brochures are being distributed through the milk purchasing companies and also through AIB's branch network.

For further information please contact:

Trevor McEvoy
Group Press Officer
AIB Group
Bankcentre
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4
Tel: +353-1-641 4651

David Rath
Manager – Agri Strategy
AIB Bank
Bankcentre
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4
Tel: 01-6414637

For further information contact: