

Foot and mouth Country on alert

Vintage performance as tractors plough into world record

NEITHER the foot-and-mouth disease alert nor the weather could dampen the enthusiasm of thousands of vintage tractor fans yesterday.

Thousands of the ageing vehicles roared into life, — thrashing the world record in their way.

The unique "Tractor Sunday" event saw more than 2,212 vintage tractor models from 22 countries rumble through the Co Louth town of Cooley in the record-breaking attempt.

The North East seaside resort knocked last year's winners off the top spot — with 71 more vintage models than last year's tally of 2,141.

This is the second time that the coastal village has broken the record.

In 2002, the villagers smashed the world record with an astounding 1,832 tractors, all working simultaneously.



This picture gives just an idea of the amazing sight in Cooley, Co Louth, yesterday when 2,212 vintage tractors from 22 countries attended the world record-breaking bid, in which Ireland regained the title, despite the bad weather and foot and mouth alert. MARK PEARCE/PACEMAKER