

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL

Forest Genetic Resources Reproductive Material

Element 1: Broadleaf Seed Stands

For official use

Contract number	ST	FO number	
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SECTION A: APPLICANT DETAILS

Please complete in **BLOCK CAPITALS**

1	Surname			
2	First Name(s)			Title:
3	Company Name (if applicable)			
4	Address (postal)			
5	Telephone number			
6	E-mail Address			
7	Date of Birth (DD/MM/YEAR) <i>required for verification purposes only</i>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
8	Gender	Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>		
9	Nationality			
10	PPS Number			
11	Farm / Herd No.			
12	VAT No.			
13	C.R.O. No.			
14	Tax District			
15	Occupation	Farmer <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Farmer <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Body <input type="checkbox"/> Public Authority <input type="checkbox"/>		
16	Ownership of Land	Full Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Lessee <input type="checkbox"/>		
17	Total Holding	Less than 3 hectares <input type="checkbox"/> 3 hectares or more <input type="checkbox"/>		
18	Type of Business/Enterprise	Small/Medium Enterprise (< 250 Employees) <input type="checkbox"/> Large Company (>250 employees) <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Large companies must provide the information listed in Appendix A</i>		

SECTION D: PLOT DETAILS

Plot No	Claimed Area (ha)	Species			Estimated Age	Estimated Stocking (stems/ha)
		Common Name	Botanical Name	Provenance		
Total						

SECTION E: EVALUATION CRITERIA

Extent of current and forecasted seed demand for the species and provenance included in the application above (150 points)
Anticipated contribution of the application to meeting demand (150 points)
Knowledge, expertise and roles of the person involved in managing the seed stand for the contract duration (150 points)
The level of monitoring envisaged to determine the extent of seeding (50 points)

SECTION F: OPERATIONAL PROPOSALS AND ESTIMATED COST

OPERATION		AREA / LENGTH (hectare / metre)	ESTIMATED COST (excl. VAT)
Non commercial thinning	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	ha	€
	Felling Licence No.		
Ground vegetation removal	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	ha	€
Fertiliser	Zero <input type="checkbox"/> 250 Kg grp <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>specify</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Kg grp <input type="checkbox"/>	ha	€
Fencing	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
If YES please tick	Stock – IS436	m	€
	Stock - Non IS	m	€
	Deer – IS 436	m	€
	Deer – Non IS	m	€
Firebreaks/Reservoir	Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not required <input type="checkbox"/>		€
Access	Required <input type="checkbox"/> Not required <input type="checkbox"/>	m	€
Vegetation Management (give details)	Year 1 :	ha	€
	Year 2 :	ha	€
	Year 3 :	ha	€
	Year 4 :	ha	€
Other operations <i>Please describe</i>			€
			€
			€
Direct Cost			€
Overheads			€
TOTAL COST			€
Forest Management Plan <i>(required for all Seed Stands regardless of area)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If YES, please enclose. If NO, please note that a FMP will be required before any grant is paid		
Forest Management Plan Grant Application <i>(private land holders only)</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Estimated Completion Date for all works*			

**All works and subsequent Form 2 should be submitted before the 31st October*

Have you made an application for funding to any other State or EU body in respect of this project?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	If 'YES', please give details
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SECTION G: ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

	YES	NO	R*
<u>Water Quality</u>			
Is the area > 5 ha and sensitive for fisheries?			
Is the area non-sensitive for fisheries and > 40 ha?			
Is the area > 10 ha and within a catchment area of a Local Authority designated water scheme?			
<u>Designated Habitats</u>			
Is the area within NHA, pNHA, SAC, SPA or National Park?			
Is the area within 3 km of a NHA, pNHA, SAC, SPA or National Park?			
<u>Archaeology</u>			
Does the area contain an archaeological site or feature with intensive public usage?			
Does the area contain, adjoin or lie within 30m of a listed archaeological site or monument, or another area of recognised historical, cultural or archaeological significance such as an 'archaeological area', a 'zone of archaeological amenity', a World Heritage Site or a battlefield?			

*Separate report attached

SECTION H: ECONOMIC ACTIVITY OF BENEFICIARY

1.0	AGRICULTURE	
1.1	Growing of non-perennial crops	
1.2	Growing of perennial crops	
1.3	Plant propagation	
1.4	Animal production	
1.5	Mixed farming	
1.6	Support activities to agriculture and post-harvest crop activities	
1.7	Hunting, trapping and related service activities	
2.0	FORESTRY	
2.1	Silvicultural and other forestry activities	
2.2	Logging	
2.3	Gathering of wild growing non-wood products	
2.4	Support services to forestry	
3.0	OTHER <i>(please provide description)</i>	

SECTION I: DECLARATION, CONSENT AND APPLICATION

1.	The details given on this form are correct to the best of my knowledge.
2.	I am over 18 years of age.
3..	I hereby apply for approval of this proposal. I understand that I must not undertake any forestry work, preliminary or otherwise, before I receive written approval from the Forest Service. Otherwise this will constitute an unapproved development and there will be no entitlement to aid.
4.	I understand that an applicant cannot claim aid in respect of any area that is included in his/her claim under any other area-linked EU scheme in the same calendar year, except where the applicant has fulfilled national rules for these schemes.
5.	I consent to the release of non-personal information supplied by me in respect of this application as required to comply with current environmental consultation procedures and Freedom of Information Acts.
6.	I undertake to furnish relevant documentation in relation to ownership of the lands in question and I understand that this documentation may be required before any aid will be paid.
7.	I request information on forestry training courses approved by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
8.	I acknowledge that the Department will not be held liable for any issues that may arise regardless of any Department inspection that this site may receive.
9.	I consent to the release of my details to Teagasc who may communicate with me in relation to the development of forestry.
10.	I/We understand that in accordance with the <i>European Union Guidelines for State aid in the agriculture and forestry sector and in rural areas 2014 – 2020</i> , data of beneficiaries of funding under the Forestry Programme 2014 – 2020 will be published and may be processed by auditing and investigating bodies of the European Union. This information will be published on the Department’s website and will include the full text of the notified aid scheme and it’s implementing provisions, the granting authority, the names of the individual beneficiaries, the scheme type and amount of aid granted to each beneficiary, the region at Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics level II in which the beneficiary is located and the principal economic sector in which the beneficiary has its activities, at NACE group level (Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community). This will only apply to beneficiaries where the cumulative aid amount granted at financial approval is greater than €200,000. Such information will be published after the granting decision has been taken and will be kept for at least 10 years and shall be available for the general public without restrictions. These records must be maintained for 10 years from the date of award of the aid and must be provided to the Commission upon request. I/We also understand that all personal data will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003
11.	I/We undertake to adequately maintain the Seed Stand for seed production and collection for a period of 7 years and to provide any information as requested by the Department in connection with the seed orchard..
12.	I/We undertake to retain all invoices and receipts for 6 years after payment of the 2nd instalment grant, during which time the Department may seek to examine and verify.
13.	I/We confirm that the seed stand described in this form is fully stocked, healthy and is of seed producing age.
INCENTIVE EFFECT (SME) DECLARATION (to be completed by SMEs only)	
14.	Type of Business/Enterprise*
	SME: Small/ Medium sized Enterprise <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/> Large Company: Provide documents as listed on attached Appendix <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/> <small>*See Annex I of Commission Regulation (EC) No 800/2008 for definitions</small>
15.	The work described herein, would not have been undertaken if it wasn't for the financial support provided under State Aid rules. Without this Aid there would be no change to current activities. <input style="float: right;" type="checkbox"/>
Beneficiaries Signature	
Date	
Position in Organisation	

Where the application is made on behalf of more than one person, all parties must sign. Where the application is made on behalf of a Corporate Body or other legal entity, the form must be signed by an "authorised person" (e.g. Company Secretary, Chief Executive, etc.)

Appendix A

Demonstration of the Incentive Effect and Proportionate Aid

Applicable to Large Companies only

Incentive Effect

Support under this scheme is 100% exchequer funded and can only be regarded as compatible with the internal market, if it has an incentive effect. An incentive effect is present when the aid changes the behaviour of an undertaking in a way it engages in additional activity contributing to the development of the sector which it would not have engaged in without the aid or would only have engaged in such activity in a restricted or different manner. The aid must not subsidise the costs of an activity that an undertaking would have incurred in any event and must not compensate for the normal business risk of an economic activity.

Large Companies must provide documentary evidence of the incentive effect in order to be eligible for support under this scheme. The EU defines a large company as one with a headcount of more than 250 people; turnover greater than €50m; or a balance sheet greater than €43m. If a company is part of a group, the employee, turnover, annual balance sheet and ownership limits apply to the group. It is up to the applicant to properly declare themselves as a large company. The Definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises is recorded in Annex I of Agriculture Block Exemption Regulation (ABER). Failure to make an accurate declaration may result in the immediate cessation of aid along with the recovery of all aid which has been given along with interest at the appropriate rate.

Large companies must submit an internal company document (separate to the Form 1) showing that the company has analysed the viability of the project – with and without aid¹ – and showing the “incentive effect”. The document must clearly state what would have happened without the support available under this scheme. That means that the documentation (internal report) produced by the company must establish that the aid will cause at least one of the following:

- A material increase in the size of the project, or
- A material increase in the scope of the project, or
- A material increase in the total amount spent on the project,

The Forest Service requires that the company document shows a credible analysis and demonstration of the incentive effect. The document should contain an analysis which answers the following questions:

- Would the project proceed without State Aid assistance?
- Would the level of project expenditure be less without State Aid support? If so, indicate by how much?

This information should indicate changes in the project size, scope and total spend.

This incentive effect document should be submitted with the Form 1. The application will only be deemed to have been accepted as valid once the company has been advised by the Forest Service that the incentive document meets the requirements set out above and is fully compliant with the European Union Guidelines for state aid in the agriculture and forestry sector and in rural areas 2014 – 2020.

Proportionate Aid

Aid granted under this scheme must be proportionate. Support is considered proportional only if the same result could not be achieved with less aid, in other words if the amount of aid is limited to the minimum necessary. The aid amount should not exceed the minimum necessary to render the project sufficiently profitable, for example should not lead to increase its IRR beyond the normal rates of return applied by the undertaking concerned in other investment projects of a similar kind or, when available, to increase its IRR beyond the cost of capital of the undertaking as a whole or beyond the rates of return commonly observed in the sector concerned. For example the IRR should be comparable with returns experienced by entities which are not large companies. Where the IRR exceeds this reference figure then the application may be refused.

Large Companies must provide documentary evidence that the aid is proportionate. This can be achieved by submitting an IRR and NPV analysis of the investment with aid and without aid with the Form 1. Only applications which are deemed proportionate will be grant aided by the Forest Service.

¹ Without aid is the known as the counterfactual