

NMP Online User Update

Issue 30 (Version 10) | February 2024

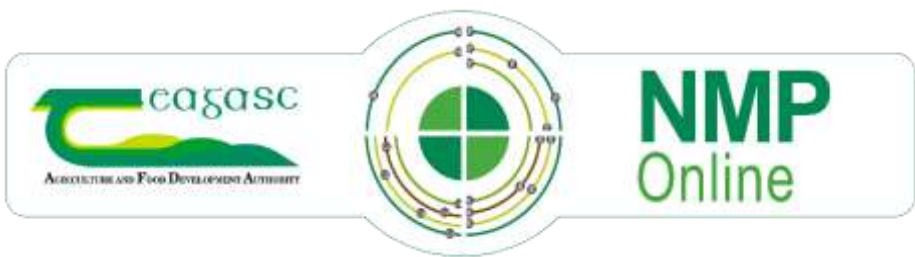


Table of Contents

1. Water Quality Review Implementation Map 2024	2
2. DAFM advisory note 17th November 2023	3
3. NMP Development of ‘Nitrates Stocking Rate Calculations	3
4. Nitrates SR Calculations page in detail	4
5. Records versions and reports.....	7
6. Software upgrades to speed up NMP for users	7
7. Top Tips	7
8. Appendix 1 –DAFM Nitrates Derogation Stocking rate applicable from January 2024.....	8

1. Water Quality Review Implementation Map 2024

The Water Quality Review Implementation Map for 2024 is now a standard layer on NMP which is visible at all scales on the mapping pages. DAFM issued letters to farmers in December 2023. See example of full DAFM letter in Appendix 1. There were four different letters issued to farmers depending on the following and the text therein changed accordingly:

1. Letter A – all 250 and no commonage:

Arising from the water quality review and based on the land declared on your 2023 Basic Income Support for Sustainability (BISS) Scheme application, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine **can confirm that all your LPIS parcels declared in 2023 are within areas that can continue to operate at a derogation stocking rate limit of 250 kg N/ha in 2024.** Where any part of a parcel is within the areas identified as remaining at the 250 kg limit, the whole parcel will remain at that higher limit for 2024.

2. Letter B – all 250 with commonage

Arising from the water quality review and based on the land declared on your 2023 Basic Income Support for Sustainability (BISS) Scheme application, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine **can confirm that, with the exception of commonage, all your LPIS parcels declared in 2023 are within areas that can continue to operate at a derogation stocking rate limit of 250 kg N/ha in 2024.** Where any part of a parcel is within the areas identified as remaining at the 250 kg limit, the whole parcel will remain at that higher limit for 2024. Commonage parcels will continue to have a maximum stocking rate limit of 50 kg N/ha in 2024.

3. Letter C – all 220, no commonage

Arising from the water quality review and based on the land declared in your 2023 Basic Income Support for Sustainability (BISS) Scheme application, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine **can confirm that all your LPIS parcels declared in 2023 are within areas that must operate at the reduced nitrates derogation stocking rate limit of 220 kg N/ha in 2024.**

4. Letter D – all 220, with commonage

Arising from the water quality review and based on the land declared in your 2023 Basic Income Support for Sustainability (BISS) Scheme application, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine **can confirm that, with the exception of commonage, all your LPIS parcels declared in 2023 are within areas that must operate at the reduced nitrates derogation stocking rate limit of 220 kg N/ha in 2024.** Commonage parcels will continue to have a maximum stocking rate limit of 50 kg N/ha in 2024.

5. Letter 5 – land in both 250 kg and 220 kg and potentially commonage

2. DAFM advisory note 17th November 2023

DAFM have also published a Nitrates Calculator at [Nitrates Calculator](#) Please note however, that the calculator is an indicative tool only, and in cases of dispute DAFM records will take precedence.

Link to [Nitrates Derogation and the move to 220 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

3. NMP Development of 'Nitrates Stocking Rate Calculations'

Due to the complexity of the calculation of the new stocking rates based on the 170 kgs N/ha, 220 kgs N/ha, 250 kgs N/ha and commonage to match the DAFM Nitrates Calculator a new page and report has been developed in NMP for all 2024 plan years onwards.

This new page and report is "**Nitrates Stocking Rate Calculations**".

This will allow advisers to see quickly and easily what the Max Permitted and Projected Stocking Rate for the farm is regardless if the farm is in derogation or not. This new report, can be used in farmer discussions, emailed to them or sent via picture message etc.

The 'Nitrates Stocking Rate Calculations' page is the landing page when any NMP Plan is opened with a plan year 2024 or greater (including already created 2024 NMP's). This page needs to have BISS Reference Ha section inputted to allow the reports to be unlocked and for the NMP system to work the Whole Farm Stocking Rate to be compliant.

See example of new page below which is split into several sections – this is covered in detail in the sections below.

- NMP Plan Details
- BISS Reference Hectares and calculated N
- BISS V's NMP Hectares
- Stocking Rate
- Farm Management Options to meet the reduction required (only appears when farm is projected to be stocked in exceedance of Nitrates limits)
 - Based on land declared in NMP
 - Based on stock numbers in NMP
 - Based on land areas for 170, 220, 250 + commonage
- Animal Numbers, Exports and Imports from the NMP

4. Nitrates SR Calculations page in detail

Section 1 – NMP Plan details which takes the land areas and crops from land-set-up and they are broken down into the following.

NMP Plan Details		
Derogation Applied for	Yes	
NMP Non Commonage ha	67.62	ha
NMP Commonage Reference ha	0.00	ha
NMP Commonage ha Nitrates Adjusted (NMP Commonage ha x 0.2941)	0.00	ha
NMP Total Nitrates ha (Non Commonage ha + Nitrates Commonage adjusted)	67.62	ha

The NMP Total Nitrates ha (Non-commonage and Nitrates Commonage adjusted) should reflect the DAFM N&P statement ha’s.

Section 2 – BISS Reference Hectares and Calculated N which users MUST enter Ha’s into the red mandatory cells and all cells must have a figure entered (zero counts as a figure).

The BISS Reference Ha section should be completed using the LPIS section from Appendix 1; for each client. For new LPIS land that will be declared in BISS 2024, advisors will have to decide on the stocking rate limits based on the DAFM Frequently asked Questions and the DAFM interactive map on NMP online. To aid completion of this, the NMP Plan details Ha have been included for reference for advisers.

The warning below will appear for users with existing or new 2024 NMP’s when they enter a 2024 plan that has already been created prior to the date of this bulletin; and the red mandatory cells must be completed below.

Warning! Reports are locked down until BISS Reference Hectares are inputted in Nitrates Calculations.

From DAFM Letter or DAFM National Water Quality Review Implementation Map for 2024	Ha	Total N (Kg N)
BISS Reference ha 250 kg/ha		
BISS Reference ha 220 kg/ha		
BISS Reference ha 170 kg/ha		
BISS Commonage Reference ha x Commonage Share		
BISS Commonage Claimed ha x 0.2941 (Nitrates Adjusted)		
BISS Total Nitrates ha (commonage adjusted) = DAFM N&P Statement	0.00	0.00

As users enter data on the various stocking rates the system will then calculate BISS Total Nitrates ha (Commonage adjusted) = DAFM N&P Statement and Total N for the farm

BISS Reference Hectares and Calculated N		
From DAFM Letter or DAFM National Water Quality Review Implementation Map for 2024	Ha	Total N (Kg N)
BISS Reference ha 250 kg/ha	41.93	10,482.50
BISS Reference ha 220 kg/ha	25.91	5,700.20
BISS Reference ha 170 kg/ha	0	0.00
BISS Commonage Reference ha x Commonage Share	0	
BISS Commonage Claimed ha x 0.2941 (Nitrox Adjusted)	0.00	0.00
BISS Total Nitrates ha (commonage adjusted) = DAFM N&P Statement	67.84	16,182.70

Section 3 BISS versus NMP Hectares which compares the ha's on the NMP and that entered by the user in the BISS Reference Hectares section 2. This highlights to the users any discrepancy between NMP and DAFM BISS areas. Users will be presented with a figure to show the difference as per example below. Note to NMP users that it is just a reference for advisers, to cross check NMP areas V BISS areas. This is not printed in the report.

BISS versus NMP Hectares		Ha
Difference between BISS Total Nitrates ha and NMP Total Nitrates ha		0.82
BISS & NMP Hectares are <u>not</u> equal.		

Section 4 Stocking Rate then works out the stocking rate permitted on the holding as **Max permitted V's Projected**. Where the projected is < Max permitted a message appears **This stocking Rate is compliant**.

Stocking Rate		
	kg/ha	Total N (Kg N)
Max permitted		
kg/ha = Total N - BISS Total Nitrates ha	234.47	20,382.50
Total N = Total N shown in BISS Total Nitrates ha		
Projected		
kg/ha = Total N from NMP - BISS Total Nitrates ha	229.49	19,950.00
Total N = Total N from NMP (Animals + Non Animals + Imports) - Exports		
Reduction required of	N/A	
This stocking rate is compliant		

Where the projected is > Max permitted a message appears **This stocking Rate is NOT compliant**.

Stocking Rate		
	kg/ha	Total N (Kg N)
Max permitted		
kg/ha = Total N - BISS Total Nitrates ha	238.54	16,182.70
Total N = Total N shown in BISS Total Nitrates ha		
Projected		
kg/ha = Total N from NMP - BISS Total Nitrates ha	294.07	19,950.00
Total N = Total N from NMP (Animals + Non Animals + Imports) - Exports		
Reduction required of	55.53	3,767.30
This stocking rate is NOT compliant. Projected 2024 Stocking Rate/ha (Total N) is <u>greater</u> than Max permitted 2024 Stocking Rate/ha (Total N).		

This stocking rate is **NOT** compliant.
Projected 2024 Stocking Rate/ha (Total N) is greater than Max permitted 2024 Stocking Rate/ha (Total N).

Warning appears in the Warnings section **Warning! The Projected Stocking Rate exceeds the Max permitted for this farm. Go to Nitrates Calculation page to review. Cannot Farm above this level.** Reports are not locked down as users are prompted to review. The previous warning in NMP would have indicated that the farm has exceeded 250 or 170 kgs N/ha depending on plan type. This new warning replaces all previous warnings for 2024 plans onwards.

Section 5 Farm Management options to meet the reduction required This section highlights what options are open to the farmer to meet the stocking rate limits for the farm. This is just a tool to help advise, guide and educate; advisors and farmers and albeit any one option would work, we do understand that a combination of these options may be selected on any one farm.

In the screen, shot above where a reduction of 3,767.30 kgs N is required this is split into A,B, C and D below:

- A. $3,767.30 \div 81$ (calculation of N from 0 to 1 and 1 to 2 years olds = 24kgs N/hd/year + 57kgs N/hd/year = 81 kgs N/hd/year). This is rounded up to 47 animals
- B. $3,767.30 \div 106$ dairy cow/hd/year = 36 dairy cows rounded up.
- C. $3,767.30 \div 2.4$ kgs N/m³ cattle slurry = 1,570m³ rounded up
- D. $3,767.30 \div 250$ Or 220 or 170 depending on stocking rate permitted under Nitrates.

Farm management options to meet the reduction required (Any one option will result the stocking rate being compliant)			
A. Reduce 0-1 and 1-2 year olds This is the number of 0-1 and 1-2 yr olds to be reduced in both age groups		47 (0-1 and 1-2 year olds)	
B. Reduce Yr. Av. Dairy Cow numbers		36 (Dairy cow 106kg N/hd (>6,500kgs))	
C. Export Cattle Slurry		1,570 m ³ (345,288 gallons)	
D. Increase BISS Reference Ha			
(iii) BISS Reference ha @250 kg N/ha or		15.07 ha	(37.24 acre)
(ii) BISS Reference ha @220 kg N/ha or		17.12 ha	(42.31 acre)
(i) BISS Reference ha @170 kg N/ha		22.16 ha	(54.76 acre)

Section 6 Animal Numbers, Exports & Imports

The screenshot displays the 'Animal Numbers, Exports & Imports' section of the NMP Online system. It features three main data areas:

- Projected Animal Numbers:** A table with columns for 'Animal Type', 'No. Animals', 'Units', and 'Value'. It lists categories like 'Dairy Cows', 'Beef Cows', and 'Cattle' with their respective counts and values.
- Projected Exports:** A table with columns for 'Animal Type', 'Date of Export', 'Quantity', and 'Value per kg'. It includes a note: 'No data available at this time'.
- Projected Imports:** A table with columns for 'Animal Type', 'Date of Import', 'Quantity', and 'Value per kg'. It also includes a note: 'No data available at this time'.

5. Records versions and reports

There is no change to the way the records version page is working from currently. The changes made to this page are relevant to the reports to match the [DAFM 2023 Nitrates Derogation Fertiliser Accounts](#)

This section below now appears on the front page of the records report.

<p>FERTILISER ACCOUNTS 2024 ACCOUNTS MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE ON OR BEFORE 31ST MARCH 2025 <u>UNLESS THE HOLDING IS SELECTED FOR ON-FARM INSPECTION*</u></p>	
<p>ACCOUNTS IN ANY OTHER FORMAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. SUBMISSION MUST BE ON-LINE ONLY*. DEROGATION WILL BE REJECTED IF ACCOUNTS ARE NOT RECEIVED ON TIME. <i>*HOLDINGS SELECTED FOR INSPECTION MUST SUBMIT FERTILISER ACCOUNTS TO THE DAFM INSPECTOR AS REQUESTED OR BY 31 JANUARY 2025 AT LATEST.</i></p>	
<p>RECEIPTS AND DOCKETS must be RETAINED ON THE HOLDING and be available for inspection upon request.</p>	
Signature _____	Date _____
Signature _____	Date _____

Closing stocks will no longer appear in the report, they will be replaced with:

<p>Closing Stock</p>	
<p>Closing Stocks Chemical Fertiliser present on the holding at 23:59 on 14/09/2024</p>	<p>CLOSING STOCKS WILL BE TAKEN AS DECLARED ON THE NATIONAL FERTILISER DATABASE on www.agfood.ie Chemical Fertiliser use in 2024 will be calculated by DAFM based on Opening Stock plus Purchases less Sales (all as declared above) less Closing Stock (as declared on the National Fertiliser Database)</p>

Please note the input screen will still allow closing stocks to be keyed but they will not be presented in the report.

6. Software upgrades to speed up NMP for users

- Ongoing software upgrade/refractoring to improve speed for NMP Users (Records and the fertiliser plan).
- Host servers have been upgraded to enhance speed further.
-

7. Top Tips

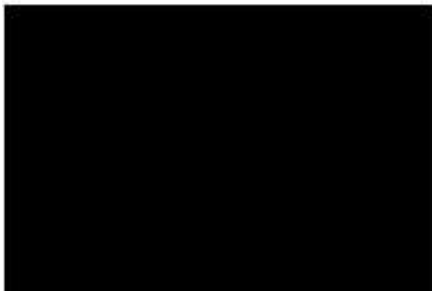
- Use Chrome as your browser
- Delete your cache and cookies or for convenience press Ctrl F5
- If you leave the NMP Online screen idle for a period be sure to hit refresh/F5
- If you have any questions or suggestions contact the NMP Helpdesk
- The NMP online webpage is @ <https://www.teagasc.ie/environment/soil/nmp/> and all previous bulletins and videos are available there.

8. Appendix 1 –DAFM Nitrates Derogation Stocking rate applicable from January 2024

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



21st November 2023



Re Nitrates Derogation stocking rate limits applicable from January 2024

Dear Herdowner,

I am writing to you because according to our records, you either applied for a Nitrates Derogation within the last two years and/or your whole farm stocking rate before adjustments, i.e., prior to export of organic manure, was above 170 kg livestock manure nitrogen per hectare (N/ha) in 2022.

Ireland's current Nitrates Derogation includes a requirement for Ireland to conduct a two-year review of water quality. The Commission Implementing Decision requires any areas which fail that water quality review to move to a lower maximum derogation stocking rate of 220 kg livestock manure N/ha, with effect from January 2024. Whilst Minister McConalogue continues to engage with the Commission on the Implementing Decision, it is however prudent that we continue to prepare for the move to the lower maximum stocking rate.

Arising from the water quality review and based on the land declared on your 2023 Basic Income Support for Sustainability (BISS) Scheme application, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine can confirm that your holding declared in 2023 contains LPIS parcels that will have different stocking rate limits applicable in 2024, depending on whether the parcel is in the area with a 220 or a 250 kg organic N/ha nitrates derogation stocking rate limit next year.

Where any part of a parcel is within the areas identified as remaining at the 250 kg limit, the whole parcel will remain at that higher limit for 2024.

A table containing the details regarding the maximum nitrate's derogation stocking rate applicable in 2024 for each parcel declared on your 2023 BISS is attached to this letter.

In line with normal practice, to comply with the Regulations (SI No 113 of 2022, as amended), you must be approved for a Nitrates Derogation in 2024 if you wish to farm at a stocking rate above 170 kg livestock manure N/ha next year. The 2024 Nitrates Derogation Terms and Conditions will be available in due course at www.gov.ie/nitrates.

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Eastát Chaisleáin Bhaile Sheáin, Co. Loch Garman, Y35 PN52
Johnstown Castle Estate, Co Wexford, Y35 PN52

T +353 (0) 53 91 63425 www.agriculture.gov.ie



Any changes to the land parcels you submit for BISS in 2024 compared to this year will influence your overall nitrates allowance. If you are considering submitting additional land, you should check its maximum stocking rate allowance. An interactive map of areas that will have a maximum derogation stocking rate of 220 kg livestock manure N/ha in 2024 is available at the website address above.

Interim N&P Statements (bovine only) for 2023 are available for your herd on www.agfood.ie. The Department has also published a Nitrates Calculator to further assist farmer compliance and understanding of the implications of changes in nitrates stocking rate limits. This calculator and a Frequently asked Questions and Answers document is available at www.gov.ie/nitrates.

Separately, the Government is required to conduct an interim review of the Nitrates Action Programme. This is a critical element in supporting the case to retain the derogation from 2026. That exercise may result in the identification of some additional areas where the maximum derogation stocking rate will have to drop from the current maximum of 250 kg livestock manure N/ha. However, any land impacted by that process will not be required move to a lower threshold until January 2025. The Department will communicate in due course when the outcome of that process is finalised.

If the reduction in the nitrates derogation stocking rate limit necessitates changes on your farm, if you have not done so already, I strongly encourage you to engage with an accredited agricultural advisor to review your own personal circumstances and determine the best option or combination of options available to you to make any necessary adjustments.

Improving water quality is vital to ensure a sustainable future for Irish agriculture. The Department recognises that recent changes under the Nitrates Action Programme and changes to the Nitrates Derogation represent significant changes for some farmers. The Department appreciates the efforts that all farmers are making to protect and improve water quality.

Yours sincerely,

Edward Massey,
Head of Nitrates & Biodiversity Division

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



The following table provides details regarding the maximum nitrate's derogation stocking rate applicable in 2024 for each parcel declared on your 2023 BISS.

Herd Number G1231234

Townland	LPIS Number	2024 Derogation Maximum Stocking Rate (kg Organic N/ha)	Reference area in 2023 (ha)
Green Fields	G12345678910	250	15.11
Green Fields	G12345678911	250	6.90
Green Fields	G12345678912	250	7.23
Green Fields	G12345678913	250	0.24
Green Fields	G12345678914	250	12.45
Green Fields	G12345678915	220	11.01
Green Fields	G12345678910	220	9.67
Green Fields	G12345678915	220	5.23