

Environment

February 2015

GLAS – is it for you?



All farmers may apply for GLAS, the new agri-environment scheme.

GLAS is the new agri-environment scheme under the Rural Development Programme 2014 – 2020. All farmers may apply. Priority will be given to farmers with priority environmental assets and to farmers who undertake specific priority actions. Where one or more priority

environmental assets are identified on a farm, they must be selected for specified actions before other actions are chosen. Access will be on the basis of tiers. If oversubscribed within a tier, a ranking system will apply. Priority will be based on the three tiers outlined on page two.

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In this edition

- GLAS - is it for you?
- Tiers of qualification for payments
- Actions and rates of payment all in one table
- When will GLAS be open?
- Priority actions for tillage and grassland

Tier 1

Farmers with priority environmental assets

- NATURA: privately owned SAC or SPA
- Farmland birds: Twite, Chough, Corncrake, Grey Partridge, Hen Harrier, Geese/Swans, Breeding Waders (Lapwing, Dunlin, Redshank, Golden Plover, Snipe and Curlew)
- Commonage
- High status water area
- Rare breeds

Intensive farmers

Dairy, beef, sheep farms over 140kg N/ha who choose either

- Low emission slurry spreading or
- Wild bird cover (1ha)

Tillage farmers with over 30ha of arable crops who choose either

- Minimum tillage (10ha) or
- Catch crops (10ha)

Organic farmers



Tier 2

Farms in a vulnerable water area

Any other farmer

- Grassland farms under 140kg N/ha who choose either
 - Low emission slurry spreading or
 - Wild bird cover (1ha)
- Tillage farmers with less than 30ha of arable crops who choose either
 - Minimum tillage (10ha) or
 - Catch crops (10ha)



Tier 3

If places remain after Tier 1 and Tier 2 applications

- Farmers choose from the list of general actions

Table 1: Proposed actions and rates of payment

Action		Payment rate	Minimum	Maximum
Additional new hedgerow establishment		€5/m/yr	10m	200m
Arable margins	3m	€0.35/m/yr		None
	4m	€0.50/m/yr		None
	5m	€0.70/m/yr		None
Bat box		€13/box/yr	3 boxes	15 boxes
Bird box		€6/box/yr	1 box	15 boxes
Conservation of bees	Box	€6/box/yr	1 box	5 boxes
	Sand	€45/habitat/yr	1 habitat	2 habitats
Farmland birds	Breeding waders	€366/ha/yr		None
	Chough	€365/ha/yr		None
	Corncrake	€364/ha/yr		None
	Geese/Swans	€205/ha/yr		None
	Grey Partridge	€2.10/m/yr	200m	None
	Hen Harrier	€370/ha/yr		None
	Twite A	€375/ha/yr		None
	Twite B	€1.50/m/yr	50m	None
	Twite C	€900/ha/yr	0.25ha	3ha
Commonage management plan		€120/ha/yr		None
Conservation of private Natura		€79/ha/yr		None
Coppicing of hedgerows		€2.20/m/yr	10m	1,000m
Environmental management of fallow land		€750/ha/yr	0.25 ha	3ha
Catch crops		€155/ha/yr	10ha (priority) 4ha (general)	30ha
Laying of hedgerows		€3.70/m/yr	10m	1,000m
Low emission slurry spreading		€1.20/m ³ /yr		None
Low input permanent pasture/ traditional hay meadow		€314/ha/yr and €315/ha/yr		10ha
Minimum tillage		€40/ha/yr	10ha (priority) 4 ha (general)	None
Protection of archaeological monuments	Tillage	€146/unit/yr	1	None
	Grassland	€120/unit/yr	1	None
Protection of watercourses from bovines		€1.50/m/yr		None
Rare breeds		€200/unit/yr	0.15LU	10LU
Riparian margins	3m	€0.90/m/yr		None
	6m	€1.20/m/yr		None
	10m	€1.60/m/yr		None
	30m	€3.60/m/yr		None
Small woodland establishment		€0.90 whip/yr	0.05ha/ 250 whips	0.09ha/ 450 whips
Traditional stone wall maintenance		€0.70/m/yr	10m	4,000m
Traditional orchards		€23.50/unit/yr	0.05ha/ 10 trees	0.05ha/ 10 trees
Wild bird cover		€900/ha/yr	1ha (priority) 0.25ha (general)	3ha

When will GLAS be open?

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) is awaiting final approval for GLAS as part of Ireland's new Rural Development Plan, which will run for the next five-to-seven years. Once approved and announced, Teagasc will invite clients to information meetings.

Payment and applicant numbers

GLAS will be a five-year scheme with a maximum payment of €5,000 annually for up to 50,000 farmers, with an expectation that 30,000 will be accepted in the first year.

Core management requirements (compulsory)

- An approved agricultural adviser must prepare the GLAS application
- Nutrient management planning including soil sampling
- Training in environmental practices and standards
- Record keeping of actions delivered

For further details of GLAS see:
www.agriculture.gov.ie/farmerschemespayments/glas/

Priority actions for tillage

Min till €40/ha/yr



- Min
 - 10ha (priority)
 - 4ha (general)
- No max
 - Can't be rotated

Catch crops €155/ha/yr



- Min
 - 10ha (priority)
 - 4ha (general)
- Max
 - 30ha
- Sow by September 15
- Can graze after December 1
- Can be rotated

Priority actions for grassland

Wild bird cover €900/ha/yr



- Min
 - 1ha (priority)
 - 0.25 ha (general)
- Max 3ha
 - Sow by May 31 each year
 - Can't be rotated

Low emission slurry spreading €1.20/m³/yr



- Band spreading
- Trailing shoe
- Injection