

Cross Compliance Workbook



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First Edition, 2013

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AGRICULTURE AND FOOD DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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This booklet is for the guidance of farmers only. For a definitive version of the Cross Compliance Regulations go to www.agriculture.gov.ie

About this booklet

This workbook has been developed by Teagasc to educate farmers about their obligations under Cross Compliance. It aims to assist farmers in identifying potential issues on their farm. Teagasc accepts no liability for any loss arising from the use of this booklet.

This user guide does not cover every Cross Compliance question. A full list of the DAFM checklists for each Statutory Management Requirement (SMR) is available on the DAFM website. Further details are available at www.agriculture.gov.ie or from your local Teagasc office.

Personal Details

Name:	
Address:	
Main farming enterprise:	
Date:	

How to complete this Workbook

Circle ✓ if you are sure that your farm is compliant	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Circle ✗ if you are sure that your farm is not compliant	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Circle ? if you are unsure about what is required or require further information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Where you have identified an issue with an X or a question, you should list it in the Action List Page on page 5 and 6.



Indicates issues which are common non-compliance issues on Irish farms.

Top 5 areas of non-compliance and other SMR's

Top five areas of non-compliance

Cattle Identification and registration	SMR 7	Page 8
Nitrates	SMR 4	Page 10
GAEC	N/A	Page 15
Sheep Identification and registration	SMR 8	Page 17
Chemicals and Chemical storage	SMR 9	Page 18

Other SMR's

Birds and Habitats	SMR 1 + 5	Page 21
Groundwater	SMR 2	Page 23
Sewage Sludge	SMR 3	Page 24
Pig Identification and Registration	SMR 6	Page 25
Hormones Ban	SMR 10	Page 26
Food and Feed law	SMR 11	Page 27
TSE Inspection (BSE in cattle and Scrapie in sheep)	SMR 12	Page 30
Notifiable Diseases	SMR 13, 14 & 15	Page 31
Animal Welfare & Calf Welfare	SMR 16, 17 & 18	Page 32

Additional areas of importance and for reference

Burning Rules and Best Practice	Page 34
List of Important Documents	Page 35

The regulations require that no notification is permitted for inspections relating Food Hygiene (SMR 11), Feedstuff (SMR 12) and Welfare of Calves and Other Animals (SMR 16 and 18).

The notification requirement for inspections relating to Identification and Registration of Animals: - Cattle (SMR7/8) and Sheep (SMR8a) Pigs (SMR 6), can be up to 48 hours where such notice does not jeopardize the objective of the inspection.

The notification requirement for inspections relating to Birds (SMR 1), Groundwater (SMR 2), Sludge (SMR 3), Nitrates (SMR 4), Habitats (SMR 5), Pesticides (SMR 9), Animal Health (SMR 13,14,15) and GAEC can be up to 14 days where such notice does not jeopardize the objective of the inspection.

The notification requirement for inspection for Ground Eligibility can be up to 14 days where such notice does not jeopardize the objective of the inspection.

DAFF may give no notification at all, or up to 14 days, depending on the regulations being inspected. Notification can only be given "where such notice does not jeopardize the objective of the inspection". It is important that all records as required are maintained and available for inspection.

My Cross Compliance Action List

Issue	Action to be taken	Complete	Date
Gutters leaking	Repair and replace where necessary	✓	

My Cross Compliance Action List

Issue	Action to be taken	Complete	Date
Gutters leaking	Repair and replace where necessary	✓	

Reasons for top 5 Cross Compliance Breaches

1. Cattle Identification:

- CMMS problems in relation to movements, births and deaths
- Tags Missing on cattle (1 or 2 tags)
- Animal Passport discrepancies
- Cattle Herd register not up-to-date



2. Nitrates:

- Inadequate collection of livestock manure
- Inadequate management of manure storage facilities
- Structural defects in storage facilities
- Failure to minimise the creation of soiled water
- FYM storage on land in prohibited periods



3. Good Agricultural & Environmental Condition (GAEC)

- Poaching/rutting of permanent pasture
- Encroachment of invasive species
- Noxious weeds
- Stockproof boundaries



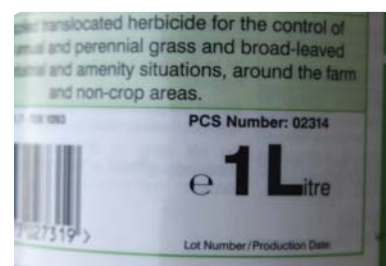
4. Sheep

- Inadequate flock register
- Sheep census returns and discrepancies
- Tagging issues



5. Pesticides

- Un-registered products
- Incomplete records
- No warning sign on the chemical store
- Inadequate pesticide store



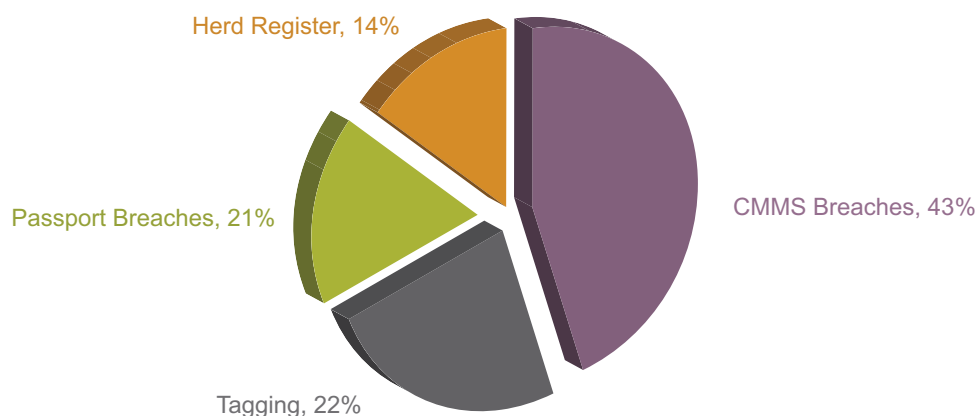
Cattle Identification and Registration

SMR 7

Cattle registration and tagging are vital to traceability of cattle. There are four main aspects to Cattle Identification and Registration.



- Cattle Movement and Monitoring System (CMMS) and Animal Identification and Movement (AIM) – DAFM will bring a list of cattle in your herd during a farm inspection.
 - Bovine Herd Register (Blue Book) – your own record of cattle in your herd. Reduce the risk of errors by registering cattle www.Agfood.ie
 - Animal Passports – unique to cattle identification. Excess Passports should be returned to DVO.
 - Tagging of Cattle – unique number to identity each animal – Cattle should be checked regularly for missing tags, and replacements ordered immediately.
- All of the above systems ensure that cattle in Ireland are fully traceable.
 - Farm to farm sales: It is the responsibility of the buyer and seller to notify the CMMS in Bandon by using NBAS 31A. If both parties use the Agfood.ie website, there is no need to submit paper forms. Forms can be found on www.agriculture.gov.ie under AIM (see page 35, Section 2).

Cattle Registration Discrepancies



Cattle Identification and Registration

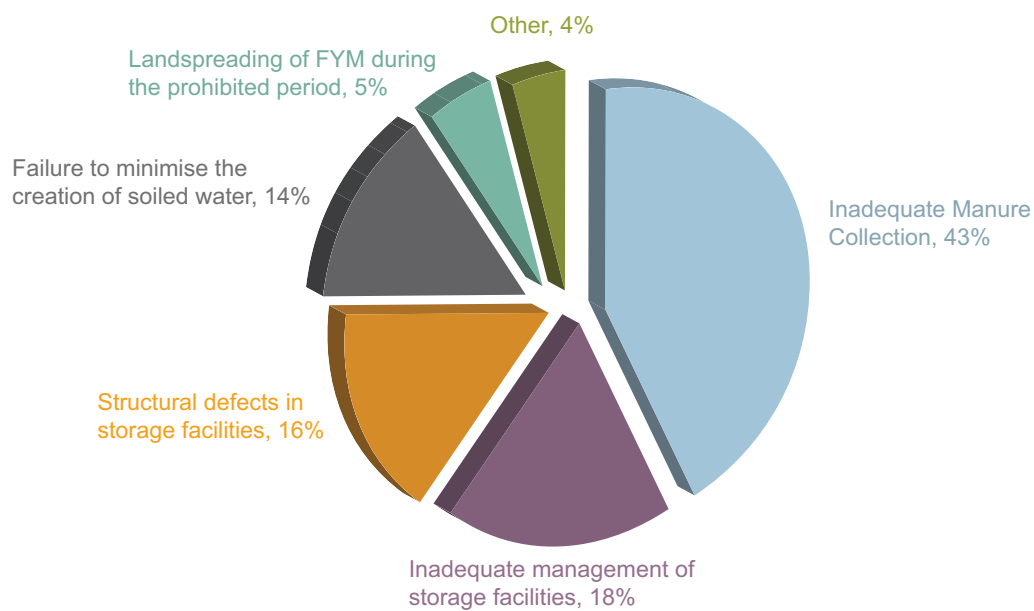
SMR 7

CMMS and AIM			
Have all private sales been registered, including B&B movements? 	✓	✗	?
Have all calves been tagged within 20 days of birth?	✓	✗	?
Have all calves been registered within 7 days of being tagged?	✓	✗	?
Bovine Herd Register			
Are all cattle accounted for in the Herd Register (blue book or on-line)? Best practice is to count all cattle on the farm and cross check that the same number is on your herd register.	✓	✗	?
Animal Passports			
Has each animal got a valid passport/blue card?	✓	✗	?
Tagging			
Has each animal got a valid tag in each ear?  Keep a record of the cattle with only one tag and cattle with no tags and order new tags immediately.	✓	✗	?

Notes

The Nitrates Regulations relate to the protection of waters against pollution by nitrates and phosphates from agricultural sources. The overall objective is to reduce water pollution from agricultural land and farmyards.

Nitrates Discrepancies



- Organic manure includes: slurry, silage effluent, soiled water and farm yard manure.
- Storage is required for all organic manures. You can calculate your storage capacity with the help of your Teagasc advisor (Teagasc document, Asses Your Slurry Storage).
- Dairy and collecting yard washings, if stored separately from slurry, require 10 days storage.
- Silage bales MUST NOT be stored within 20 metres of any watercourse (open drain, stream, river, lake) unless there is effluent storage. This includes bales stored in a farm yard. Bales stored >20m from a watercourse only require effluent storage if effluent is escaping.
- Plan to keep within the dates allowed for ploughing grassland and arable land.
- Earthen-banked lagoons/reed beds/out-wintering pads that do not have planning permission or built to specification must be certified by an engineer as 'fit for purpose'.

Nitrates

SMR 4

Self assessment			
Are gutters working and rainwater from all roofs stored separately or diverted away from dirty areas and tanks storing organic manures?	✓	✗	?
Are all slurry and silage effluent tanks up to standard and not leaking? Look out for signs of cracks (and signs of pollution around tanks) ⚠	✓	✗	?
Have you adequate storage for livestock manures. Do you know how many m3 of storage you should have to be compliant (Teagasc Document, Asses Your Slurry Storage)?	✓	✗	?
If you do not have adequate storage and wish to avail of the reduced storage option; (see page 12)	✓	✗	?
Is your silage pit crack free and all joints in the concrete sealed? ⚠	✓	✗	?
Is the concrete in the collecting yard or any dirty yard crack free and joints between concrete sealed? ⚠	✓	✗	?
Do you keep collecting yards, concrete aprons, effluent channels clean to reduce spoiled water?	✓	✗	?
Have you a Fertiliser Plan? If not you should contact your adviser.	✓	✗	?
Do you check the weather forecast before spreading organic manures?	✓	✗	?
If you export or import slurry, have you completed and submitted the correct documentation? (this form can be found on the DAFM website under Rural Environment - Nitrates) ⚠ This document must be submitted to DAFM before the 31st of December of the same year.	✓	✗	?
Have you a slurry lagoon/reedbed/outwintering pad? If so, does it have planning permission/built to DAFM specification or is it certified by an engineer?	✓	✗	?
If you are outwintering stock are you aware of the restrictions?	✓	✗	?

Nitrates

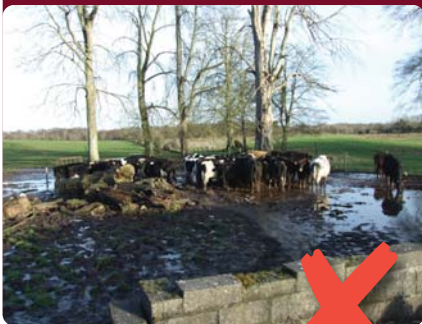
SMR 4

Out-wintering of livestock and availing of reduced slurry storage

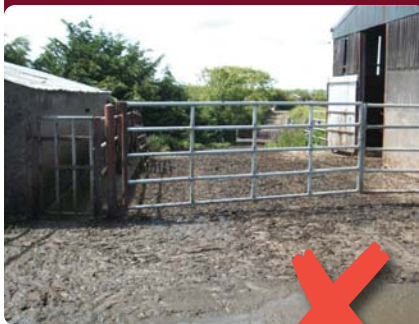
1. The whole farm stocking rate of the farm cannot exceed 140kg N per ha per yr.
2. If you have enough slurry storage you can outwinter on forage crops such as kale as long as there is no poaching.
3. Dairy cows cannot avail of reduced storage but may be outwintered on forage crops provided there is sufficient storage for all dairy cows.
4. Cattle must have access to grassland at the equivalent of 1LU/Ha.
5. No maximum stocking rate on forage crop (kale) as long as you have sufficient slurry storage. You must protect the soil from poaching as much as possible.
6. If availing of reduced storage and grazing forage crops then the max stocking rate is 85kg N per ha of grass land (10 suckler cows on 7.6 ha of grass land). Cows must have run back to grass.

Farmyards

Sacrifice areas are not permitted



All rainfall falling on dirty yards must be collected



Keep front of silage pits clean



Ensure collecting channels are kept clear



Clean yards avoid the requirement to collect rainfall



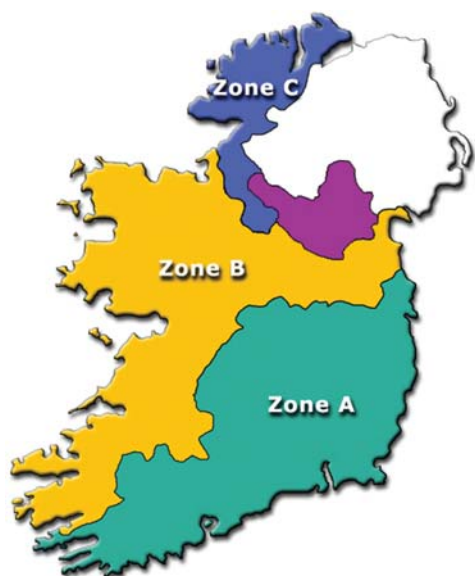
Clean silage aprons reduce effluent storage requirements.



Nitrates

SMR 4

Self assessment			
Have you made yourself aware of all the Buffer zones that affect your farm? Observe the buffer zones in respect to any rivers, lakes or wells on your holding?	✓	✗	?
Do you know the different buffer zones for spreading fertilizers and storing Farm Yard Manure? See next page.	✓	✗	?
Farm Yard Manure (FYM) includes spoiled silage, used animal bedding and waste straw. During the closed period, have you a specified area with a concrete floor for storing FYM and any seepage or rainfall that may occur? All seepage from stored FYM must be collected regardless of whether it is covered or not.	✓	✗	?
Did you know that Poultry Manure and Spent Mushroom Compost cannot be stockpiled in a field at any time of the year?	✓	✗	?
Are you aware of the specific no spreading dates for Slurry, FYM and Fertilizer? See below. Ensure you comply with these dates.	✓	✗	?
Have you analysed your recent N & P Statement and are you aware of the restrictions as part of the Nitrates Directive?	✓	✗	?
Grassland must not be ploughed between October 16th and November 30th	✓	✗	?
Did you know that if you have ploughed any ground after July 1st then there must be a green cover by November 1st? Ensure you comply with these dates.	✓	✗	?



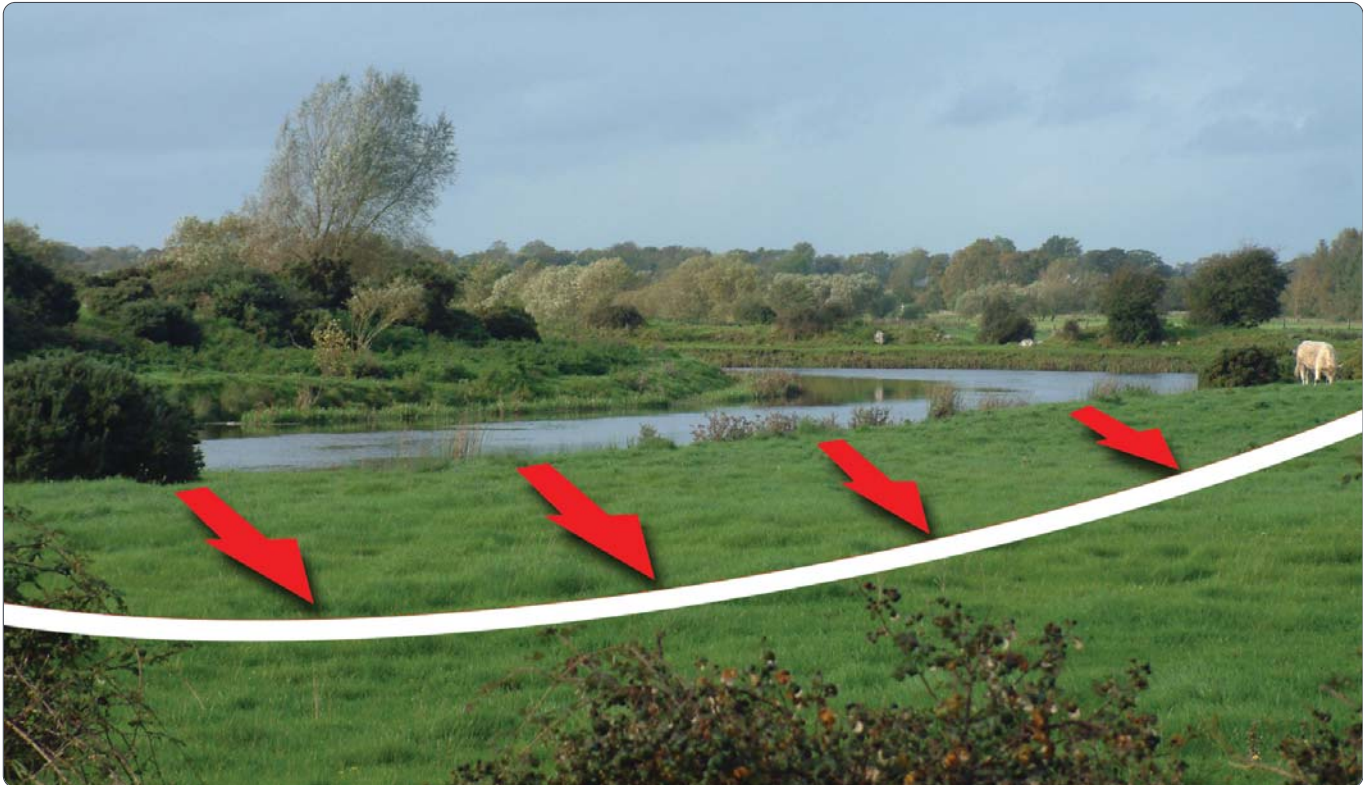
Zone	Slurry Storage Weeks	Non-Spreading Dates (inclusive)		
		Chemical	Slurry	FYM
A	16	15 Sept. - 12 Jan.	15 Oct. - 12 Jan.	1 Nov. - 12 Jan.
B	18	15 Sept. - 15 Jan.	15 Oct. - 15 Jan.	1 Nov. - 15 Jan.
C	20	15 Sept. - 31 Jan.	15 Oct. - 31 Jan.	1 Nov. - 31 Jan.
	22			

Nitrates

SMR 4

Buffer Zones:	Spreading Organic Manure	Stockpiled FYM
Watercourse (Stream, River)	5 metres	10 metres
Dry open drains	3 metres	10 metres
Lake shoreline	20 metres	20 metres
Water for Human consumption	25 metres	50 metres
Water supply for 50+ people	100 metres	250 metres
Water supply for 500+ people	200 metres	250 metres
If on a slope of more than 10% towards watercourse (Example- 1m drop in 10m)	10 metres	10 metres

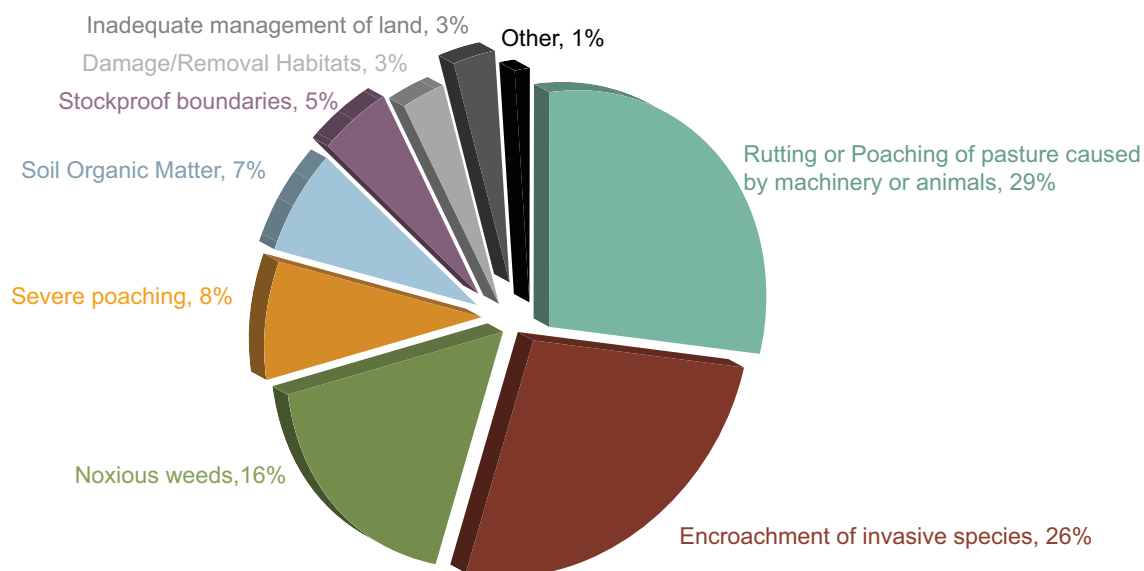
It is important to point out buffer zones to your agricultural contractor before spreading.



Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition

The overall objective of GAEC is to ensure that land is maintained in good condition. Almost 15% of Irish farmers inspected under GAEC receive a penalty. Land claimed for SPS must be stockproof, have independent access and must be actively farmed (either cut, grazed, topped or cropped). Mature rushy fields that are not topped or grazed are ineligible.

Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition Discrepancies



Soil erosion – Generally associated with feeding points and entrances to fields where cattle walk. Move ring feeders regularly to prevent poaching (grassland turning to liquid mud) as much as possible. Supplementary feeding points should be located away from rivers and streams.



Monuments – Be aware of any ringforts or archaeological sites on your farm and do not damage them, make yourself aware of sites through the website, www.archaeology.ie



Ineligibility – To be eligible for payment under Single Farm Payment, agricultural activity must be taking place yearly or at the very least a minimum level of maintenance to ensure that land can be returned to production the following season.

Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition



Noxious Weeds – Measures must be taken to prevent the establishment of invasive species onto forage/arable area that would result in the land being incapable of agricultural production. Noxious weeds include ragwort, thistle, dock, wild oats, common barberry and wild hop.



Encroachment of invasive species – Measures must be taken to prevent the establishment of invasive species onto forage/arable area that would result in the land being incapable of agricultural production



Soil Organic Matter – Land in continuous tillage for 6 years must be tested for Soil Organic Matter (SOM). Corrective action is required if the SOM reading is below 3.4%. Your adviser can help you develop a soil management plan to raise SOM levels. Methods include; Incorporate grassland into crop rotation, Plough in Spent Mushroom Compost / Straw.



Hedgerow removal – Hedges/ ditches/ open drains (Landscape Features) cannot be removed. Hedges can be replaced in a different area of the farm as long as a similar length is planted before removing the old hedge.

Self Assessment

Have you removed any hedgerows since 2009 and have you replaced the same length of hedgerow elsewhere on the farm?	✓	✗	?
Are you controlling invasive species and noxious weeds?	✓	✗	?
Do you take measures to protect the soil? e.g. only travel on it when suitable, ploughing at correct times, no overgrazing etc.	✓	✗	?
Do you maintain external boundaries so that your farm is stockproof?	✓	✗	?
Do you only burn growing vegetation on uncultivated land (heather) between March 1st and August 31st?	✓	✗	?
When burning vegetation or hedge trimmings do you apply for written permission from your Local Authority?	✓	✗	?

Sheep Identification and Registration

SMR 8

Sheep Registration and Tagging are vital to traceability of sheep. There are three main aspects to Sheep Identification and Registration.

- The Sheep Census – MUST be completed every December and sent to DAFM.
- The Flock Register – This is your own record of sheep in your herd.
- Tagging – unique number to identity each animal.

All the systems together, means that all sheep in the national herd are fully traceable.



Paper work from all **farm to farm** sales must be with the DVO within 7 days.

All sheep born over 12 months of age (born after Jan 2010) must have an electronic tag (EID). EID tags are put in the right ear, as you look at the sheep, with a regular tag in the left ear.

Self assessment

Do you complete your sheep census every December? This can be completed on-line.	✓	✗	?
Do you keep all knackery certificates for fallen animals?	✓	✗	?
Are all sheep over 9 months of age tagged correctly? Do you keep a regular schedule of checks? ⚠	✓	✗	?
When was the last time you checked?			
Are you aware of the new regulations regarding to EID tagging? ⚠	✓	✗	?
If sheep are leaving the holding for slaughter and have no EID tag or Mart tag , they must have a single yellow slaughter tag in the left ear?			
Are all sheep on your holding accounted for in the Flock Register? ⚠	✓	✗	?
When was the last time you checked?			
Do you have a system for storing your dispatch documents?	✓	✗	?

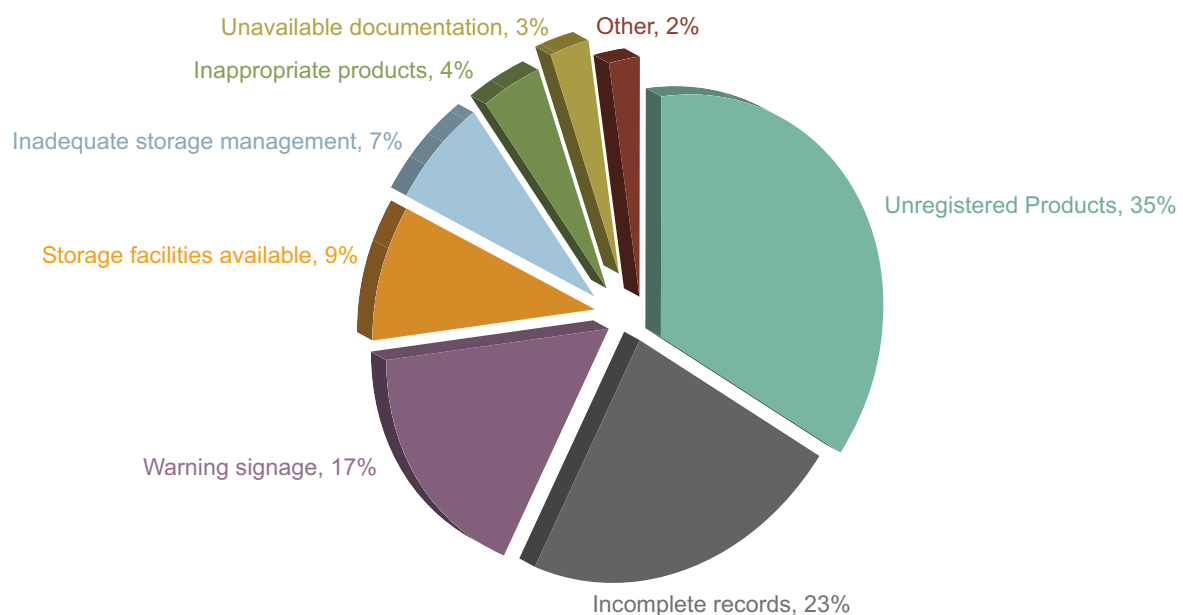
Sheep farmers are required to retain a copy of their flock register and dockets for 3 years.

Chemicals on the farm

SMR 9

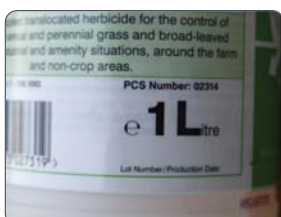
Chemicals on the farm include plant protection products (PPPs) and biocides. Plant protection products refer to pesticides, herbicides and fungicides. Biocides refer to disinfectants, preservatives, pest control products and anti-fouling products. All such products must be authorised for use, stored correctly with proper records retained.

Pesticides Discrepancies



When using Plant Protection Products (PPP) and Biocides it is important that you:

- Comply with instructions for use as printed on the label.
- Wear appropriate personal protective clothing and equipment (PPE).
- Use calibrated measuring equipment to ensure that the correct rate is being applied.
- When finished, empty containers should be triple rinsed. This involves filling the empty container with 1/3 water and shaking vigorously. Add this water to the spray tank and repeat three times. Empty rinsed containers can be disposed using www.farmplastics.ie, private waste companies or some local authorities.
- Measuring equipment should be in the same way cleaned and residue added to the sprayer.
- Chemical containers no longer in use (empty or partially full) should be disposed of at a designated site. Chemicals that have been withdrawn from the market must be disposed of within 18 months at an approved facility.



For further information on PCS and registered products,
check <http://www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie/>

Chemical Storage


SMR 9

Chemical stores should be:

- Dry and easily cleaned.
- Ventilated, insulated, fire proof and bunded (built with a sump that can contain a leak).
- Have a warning sign on the door.
- Powders should be stored above liquids, reducing waste if a spillage occurs.
- Locked when not in use.
- Located away from flammables and fertiliser.




Self assessment

Is your chemical storage up to the standard described above? 	✓	✗	?
Do you have designated measuring jugs and scales for measuring?	✓	✗	?
Is there a bucket of sand/peat to soak up a small amount of spillage?	✓	✗	?
Are dry chemicals stored above liquid formulations?	✓	✗	?
Is there a warning sign on the entrances to the store?	✓	✗	?
Is the store lockable and secure when not in use?	✓	✗	?

Notes

Chemicals on the farm

SMR 9

Self assesment			
Are all chemical used and stored on your farm AUTHORISED ? 			
Authorised pesticides should have a PCS number as described.	✓	✗	?
Any products without a PCS number should be removed and disposed of by returning to the supplier (this includes old chemicals).			
Are PPPs and biocidal products stored in their original containers?	✓	✗	?
Are chemicals stored separately from food, feed and animal remedies?	✓	✗	?
Do you have records for the following?			
● PPPs received onto the farm (keep purchase docket).	✓	✗	?
● PPPs records (not required for disinfectants which are used daily).	✓	✗	?
● PPPs returned or disposed.	✓	✗	?
● Details of application equipment held on the farm (sprayers).	✓	✗	?
● Calibration of sprayer records (every 12 months).	✓	✗	?

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) includes face masks, head gear, overalls etc. PPE should be properly maintained and always used when handling chemicals. Wash all PPE thoroughly after use and dispose of wash water in the same way as triple rinse.

Dairy detergents currently in use may be stored in the dairy provided there is no possibility of contamination of milk (see page 29). Records are not required for Biocidal products but the products may have PCS numbers.

Notes



Birds & Habitats

SMR 1 & 5

This section relates to SMR 1 and SMR 5 under Cross Compliance. SMR 1 (Birds) is applicable to all farmers; however SMR 5 (Habitats) only relates to farmers in Special Areas of Conservation (SAC).

- Hedges cannot be disturbed during the nesting season. Best practice is to cut hedges between the September 1st and end of February, unless there are health and safety considerations.
- Burning should only be used as a last resort. Chipping/ Shredding/ Composting/ Recycling when practicable should be used. Cuttings should be used as fuel where practicable.
- Only wood, trees, trees trimming, leaves, brush or other similar waste generated by agricultural practices may be burnt (excludes garden, park and cemetery wastes).
- Burning of vegetation should only be done after the Local Authority has been informed. See Burning Rules on page 34.

Certain parts of the country have been designated in order to protect rare habitats and animal species:

- Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)



- The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) will issue you with a list of notifiable actions that you must adhere to. Make sure you are aware of these.
- You must have consent from the NPWS before carrying out any supplementary feeding of animals in SPA or SACs where the practice has not taken place in the last 10 years.
- Graze at a sustainable stocking level to avoid overgrazing, especially on thin peaty soils.
- Turf cutting is restricted on some SAC and SPA land.
- You must apply to NPWS for permission to alter watercourses, reclaim land/re-seed land, dump or burn vegetation, cut trees or clear waterside vegetation.

Birds & Habitats

SMR 1 & 5

Self Assessment			
Are you aware that unauthorised hunting/shooting/snaring/trapping or poisoning of protected animal or bird species or violation of the closed season is a breach under Cross Compliance?	✓	✗	?
Are birds or birds' nests and eggs being deliberately disturbed during the nesting season? Best practice is to complete work (includes cutting, laying and coppicing bushes) during the non-nesting season, between September 1st and end of February. ⚠	✓	✗	?
Have you introduced any non-native species which may damage protected plant species?	✓	✗	?
Have you deliberately removed or damaged any protected plant species on your farm?	✓	✗	?

The following questions only apply if part of your land is designated as SPA

Is your land designated as Special Protection Area (SPA) or Special Area of Conservation (SAC)?	✓	✗	?						
Have you received a list of notifiable actions for the SPA on your farm from the Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government	✓	✗	?						
Did you know that the following practices can only be completed with written consent from the Department of Environment Heritage and Local Government? The following are examples, there may be others. <table><tr><td>Reclaim land</td><td>Dump Vegetation</td><td>Clear waterside vegetation</td></tr><tr><td>Re-seed land</td><td>Alter watercourses</td><td>Cut trees</td></tr></table>	Reclaim land	Dump Vegetation	Clear waterside vegetation	Re-seed land	Alter watercourses	Cut trees	✓	✗	?
Reclaim land	Dump Vegetation	Clear waterside vegetation							
Re-seed land	Alter watercourses	Cut trees							
Have you received a list of notifiable actions for your land that is in SAC?	✓	✗	?						
Are you aware of how this restricts your agricultural practices?	✓	✗	?						
Did you know that it is a breach to pick or destroy rare plants in your SAC?	✓	✗	?						

Notes

Links to further information SPA and SAC are on the back page of this booklet.

Groundwater

SMR 2

Groundwater is water that flows underground. Most drinking water in Ireland is sourced from groundwater. The aim of these rules is to protect our groundwater by controlling the discharge of harmful substances.



- Ensure that oil tanks, fuel tanks, manure tanks are all in working order and bunded to contain any leak.
- Any substance that can affect the taste of groundwater should not be discharged into drains.
- Ensure all clean water from rainwater is diverted away from dirty yards.



- Make sure sheep dipping facilities are not leaking and in working order.
- When spreading sheep dip; dilute with 3 parts slurry or water.
- Spread at a rate of no more than 5,000 litres per ha or 1700gls per acre.

Self Assessment

Are any of the following leaking to groundwater or water on your farm:					
Chemical fertiliser	Dairy detergents	Ammonia	✓	✗	?
Agri-Chemicals	Lead	Slurry			
Fuel Oils	Phosphorous	Effluent			
Waste Oils	Silicon				
Are all tanks, containers and tanks containing the above up to standard and not leaking? Bunding (a sump to maintain a leak) on diesel tanks may be required depending on your local authority.			✓	✗	?
Are you aware of the buffer zones required when spreading fertilizers and spraying? (Buffer zones for sprays will be on the label)			✓	✗	?
Have you checked all guttering is working properly and that clean rain water is being diverted into drains?			✓	✗	?
Are you aware that you MUST have a licence from the Department of Agriculture before disposing of fallen animals on the farm?			✓	✗	?

The following questions only apply to holdings with sheep.

Have you adequate facilities to ensure that there is no seepage of sheep dip into groundwater?	✓	✗	?
Do you dilute sheep dip 1:3 with water or slurry before spreading?	✓	✗	?

Sewage Sludge

SMR 3

Sludge includes treated and untreated sewage sludge and residual (domestic) sewage sludge from septic tanks. Sewage sludge has a fertiliser value similar to animal manure but also contains pathogens and heavy metals that could potentially be harmful to human and animal health.

If you are using sewage sludge on your land, whether domestic or otherwise, you must:

- Be registered with your Local Authority.
- Have a current Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) which takes account of:
 - Soil nutrient status from certified soil test results.
 - Heavy metals analysis.
 - Availability of N and P in sludge.
- Have capacity to take the Sewage Sludge (Check your N&P statement).
- Record dates and plots where sludge was spread.
- Respect the restrictions on land use following an application.
- Adhere to manure application restrictions which apply under the Nitrates Regulations as per Nitrates, see p.10.

Farmers are not permitted to have septic tanks connected to manure tanks.
Farmers should use registered sewage contractors to empty their own septic tank.

- Treated Sludge is sewage from sewage plants and septic tanks that has been subjected to any or some of the following - biological, chemical, thermal treatment and if required long-term storage.
- The treated sludge is analysed for heavy metals and pH etc. to make sure the treatment process is working. Treated Sludge cannot be spread on land on which vegetable crops are growing or for crops that come into contact with soil, or will be growing within ten months.

Untreated Sludge

May only be applied if worked into the soil (injecting or ploughed in)

Residual Sludge

Sludge from septic tanks can be applied as long as no grazing for 6 months after application.

Treated Sludge

Grassland or forage crops that have received treated sewage sludge should **not** be grazed or harvested for at least 3 weeks after application.

A list of permitted contractors is available from your Local Authority.

Pig Identification and Registration

SMR 6

To ensure full traceability within the food chain all pigs that are moved off farm must be identifiable by either an ear tag or a slap mark. Breeding stock must be identifiable with an individual number.

- If keeping pigs you must be registered with DAFM as a pig farmer.
- Dispatch documents should accompany each consignment of pigs being moved.
- Dispatch documents should be kept for at least 3 years.
- You MUST notify all movements to the central movement database.



National Pig Identification and Tracing System (NPITS)

- IE represents the Country.
- ZW598 – your herd number.
- 76549 – Individual animal number.

Self Assessment

Are all your pigs tagged with approved NPITS tags?	✓	✗	?
Does the tag contain the IE mark, your herd number and an individual animal number?	✓	✗	?
Do you use a visible slapmark when moving pigs from your farm to the factory for slaughter?	✓	✗	?
Are all movements out of your farm to the factory notified on the day of movement?	✓	✗	?
Are all your farm to farm movements notified within 24 hours of movement?	✓	✗	?

Notes

Have you exported any pig manure off farm this year – have you completed and submitted Nitrates Record 3 by 31st December of the year concerned?

Hormones Ban

SMR 10

This SMR relates to the EU Hormone Ban which is part of Cross Compliance and restricts the use of substances that have a hormonal, thyrostraic, oestrogenic, androgenic or gestagenic action, or a beta-agonist.

- Observe relevant withdrawal periods for Animal Remedies authorised under the exceptions to the Hormone Ban.
- An Exception to the rule is when these products are authorised animal remedies under veterinary prescription.
- Keep a record of all animals being administered treatment.
- An example of an animal remedies record can be found in the back of the herd register.

Inspections

- DAFM will inspect farms under target criteria for the detection of residues of banned substances.
- DAFM inspectors will take samples and analyse at approved laboratories.

Self Assessment			
Do you keep an up-to-date Animal Remedies record?	✓	✗	?
Are you aware, when administering treatment to animals, the withdrawal required?	✓	✗	?

Notes

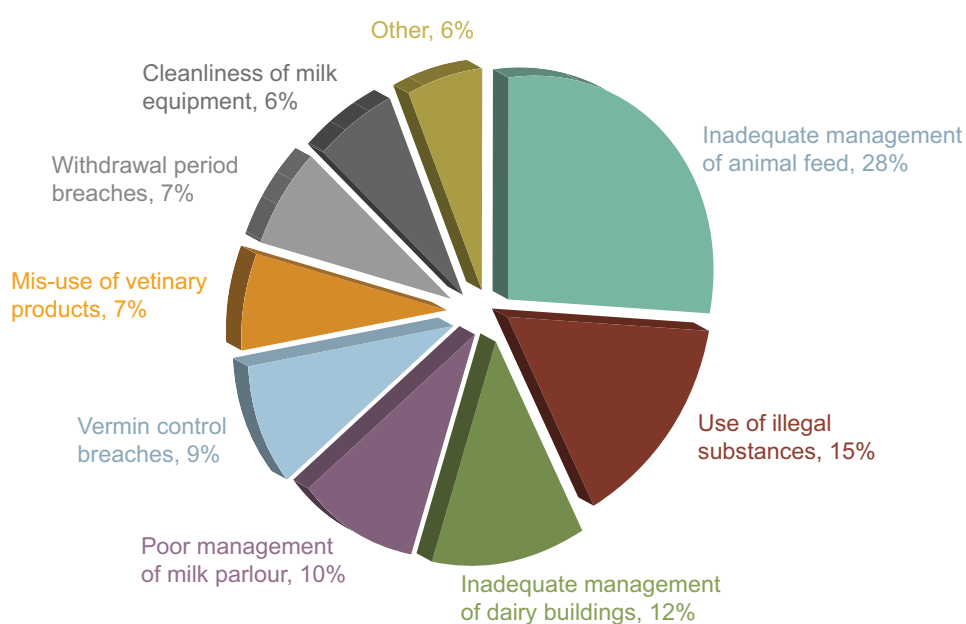
Food and Feed law

SMR 11

Food safety is the primary objective of SMR 11. It is designed to protect the food chain from any possible contamination.

This area of Cross Compliance relates to any farmer with bought in meal or concentrate as well as those producing cereals.

Food and Feed Discrepancies



All poultry producers must be registered with DAFM. If producing eggs they must be kept clean, dry and free from extraneous odour and out of direct sunlight.

Farmers must inform DAFM of any suspected contagious diseases on your farm.

- Any Veterinary product or feed additives must be used as directed.
- Only use products registered by DAFM as safe for use. All veterinary action must be recorded in the Animal Remedies document (in herd register).
- There must be separate air space between chemicals and feed/food storage.
- Only source feed from registered operators.



Self Assessment			
Are your grain/feedstuff/concentrates stored in a vermin proof shed?	✓	✗	?
Have you a vermin management plan in place? Vermin management can include cats or dogs on the farm.	✓	✗	?
Are your waste bins, plastic bins and FYM storage located away from your feed/food storage areas?	✓	✗	?
Do you maintain up to date records of feed purchased and sold? A written document will suffice if purchased from another farmer.	✓	✗	?
Are animal remedies kept separate from animal feeds and chemicals?	✓	✗	?

Pest Control Plan – Farm yard plan, showing all bait points, frequent management of bait points. Correct storage of poison.

Notes

Food and Feed Law for Dairy Farmers

SMR 11

Dairy farmers should ensure that:

- Milking animals are in a good state of health and are milked hygienically.
- Milk from animals undergoing treatment is not sent to the creamery.
- Withdrawal periods for different treatments are fully observed.
- Whiteboard or red tape can be used to identify animals under treatments.
- The bulk tank can cool milk to 8°C if collected daily, or 6°C if collected every second day.
- A small amount of disinfectant and cleansing materials can be kept in the dairy for daily use as long as there is no risk of cross contamination of the milk.

Self Assessment

Can you identify animals that are undergoing treatment?	✓	✗	?
Have you a system for separating the milk from animals undergoing treatment?	✓	✗	?
Are all fittings and equipment in your dairy in good condition, fit for purpose and kept clean? ⚠	✓	✗	?
Are all surfaces that come into contact with milk kept clean and free of toxic materials?	✓	✗	?
Has the dairy adequate hand washing facilities?	✓	✗	?

Notes

TSE inspections (BSE and Scrapie)

SMR 12

The objective of SMR 12 is to prevent, control and eradicate certain transmissible encephalopathies (TSE's). TSE's describe disorders that affect the brain function in livestock.

It is an offence to feed ruminants (such as bovines, sheep, goats or deer) protein derived animal feed.

TSE in Cattle is Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) and TSE in Sheep is Scrapie.

The following is a list of restricted substances

● Meat and bone meal (MBM)	● Meat meal	● Bone meal	● Dried plasma
● Blood meal and other blood products	● Hydrolised proteins	● Hoof meal	● Horn meal
● Poultry offal meal (POM)	● Feather meal	● Dry greaves	● Gelatine
● Dicalcium phosphate obtained from defatted bones	● Fishmeal		

Restricted substances include mixtures, feed stuffs, feed additives and pre-mixtures containing any of the above.

Self Assessment

Did you know that it is an intentional breach if you do not notify DAFM of BSE? If you suspect animals are infected then contact DAFM. Look out for signs of BSE in cattle. Signs of BSE - Increased aggression, anorexia/ drop in milk production, lack of co-ordination, lethargy or drowsiness.	✓	✗	?
Did you know that it is an intentional breach if you do not notify DAFM of Scrapie? Look out for signs of Scrapie in Sheep and if you suspect animals are infected then contact DAFM. Signs of Scrapie - Increased aggression or scratching, loss of wool or lesions on the skin, weight loss, lethargy or drowsiness and possible death.	✓	✗	?
Is pet food stored separately from animal feed? Ensure livestock do not have access to pet food	✓	✗	?

If you suspect animals are infected then contact your local DVO.

Notes

Notifiable Diseases

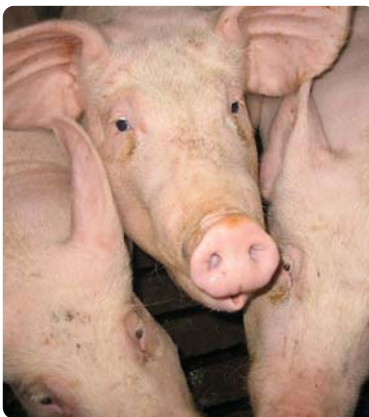
SMR 13, 14, 15

It is critically important that Ireland maintain a good record on animal disease. Certain animal diseases, termed Notifiable Diseases, have to be notified to the Department of Agriculture who administer controls and offer advice to animal keepers to prevent the occurrence and spread of animal illnesses.



Clinical signs of foot-and-mouth disease are:

- High fever - declines rapidly after two or three days.
- Blisters inside the mouth that lead to excessive secretion of stringy/foamy saliva and to drooling.
- Blisters on the feet that may rupture.



Clinical signs of Swine Vesicular Disease:

- Fever.
- Vesicles in the mouth and on the snout and feet.
- Lameness.
- Ruptured vesicles.
- Ulcers on limbs and feet.



Clinical signs of Bluetongue are:

- High fever.
- Excessive salivation.
- Swelling of the face and tongue and cyanosis of the tongue.
- Swelling of the lips and tongue gives the tongue its typical blue appearance.

All notifiable diseases must be reported. There are no specific inspections for these diseases however the DAFM regularly carries out post mortem monitoring.

Animal Welfare & Calf Welfare

SMR 16, 17 & 18

The aim of the animal welfare guidelines is to set standards which protect animals kept for farming purposes and to make sure there is due care from farmers towards their animals.

Animals must be free from:

- Thirst, hunger and malnutrition.
- Discomfort.
- Pain, Injury and Disease.
- Fear or distress and be able to express normal behaviour.



Any form of tail docking in cattle is considered mutilation and is forbidden except in very exceptional circumstances such as injury.



You cannot do the following without a local anaesthetic;

- Dehorn/Disbud calves if older than 14 days.
- Castrate cattle if the animal is over 6 months of age.
- Tail docking lambs if older than 7 days.
- Castrate sheep if older than 3 months.

Self Assessment

Do you comply with all the rules laid out above and are you aware of your obligations under Animal Welfare?	✓	✗	?
Is all animal housing fit for purpose so as to not cause injury or distress?	✓	✗	?



Animal Welfare & Calf Welfare

SMR 16, 17 & 18

Special obligations if there are calves on the farm:

- Calves cannot be tethered after 1 hour of birth.
- Calves cannot be kept in individual pens with solid walls that prevent visual and physical contact with other calves.
- Calves cannot be muzzled.
- Calves cannot be confined to a single pen after 8 weeks.
- Housing must be clean and disinfected.
- Lying areas must be clean and comfortable.
- There must be appropriate bedding for calves less than 2 weeks of age.
- Keep calves away from electrical appliances.
- Calves must receive colostrum within 6 hours of birth.

Self Assessment

Have you accommodation for calves, as outlined above?	✓	✗	?
Do calves receive colostrum within 6 hours of birth?	✓	✗	?

Notes

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Burning Agricultural Waste

Rules

- You must notify your local authority in writing before burning cut hedges and bushes. Point 5 on page 35.
- Waste for burning can only be uncontaminated wood, trees, tree trimmings, leaves, or brush, or other organic waste generated by agricultural practices.
- Do not use accelerants such as petrol, diesel, and tyres when burning.
- Keep the fire under control.

Best Practice

- You should notify the fire brigade and Gardai of your intention to burn.
- Take measures to reduce nuisance and minimise risk to human health.
- Check wind direction and speed.
- Take care near roads or hedges or overhead wires.

Burning growing Vegetation

Rules

- Burning of growing vegetation is illegal between the 1st March and the 31st of August.
- You must telephone the regional fire control centre before you burn, stating your intention to burn.
- If within one mile of a wood you must notify your local garda station at least 7 days before burning.

Best Practice

- Keep the fire under control.
- Check wind direction and speed.
- Measures taken to reduce nuisance and minimise risk to human health.
- Telephone the regional fire control unit after the fire has extinguished.

REMAIN VIGILANT AND IF IN DOUBT DO NOT BURN

List of Important documents

1. Nitrates Records forms

- Record 1 Fertiliser plan
- Record 2 Fertiliser bought and used
- Record 3 Export/Import of organic manures (old type form)
- Record 4 Temporary movement of livestock



All Nitrates documents can be found on the Department of Agriculture website-
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/ruralenvironment/environmentalobligations/nitrates/additionalforms/>

2. Cattle Movement Forms

- Form for Farm to Farm Sales/Movements of Cattle(NBAS 31A)
- B&B form for temporary movement of Cattle (NBAS 31B)



Cattle Movement documents can be found on the Department of Agriculture website

3. Cross Compliance advisors - A list of Cross Compliance Farm Advisors is available on the Department of Agriculture website. <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/farmerschemespayments/crosscompliance/>



4. Pesticide and Chemical records can be found on the Pesticide Control Service website-
<http://www.pcs.agriculture.gov.ie/>



5. Burning Application - Can be got from your Local Authority office or printed off their website.

6. DAFM Inspection Report forms can be found on the Department of Agriculture website-
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/farmerschemespayments/crosscompliance/inspectionforms/>



7. Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA)

List of Notifiable Actions - <http://www.npws.ie/farmerslandowners/notifiableactions/notifiableactionsforlistedhabitatsandspecies/>

Application to carry out activity or operations on SAC and SPA lands -
<http://www.npws.ie/media/npws/publications/qina/media,6308,en.pdf>



