

Forgotten Farmer Proposal – For Approval by IFA National Council

Background

- The ‘Forgotten Farmers’ are a combination of farmers who lost out following the removal of young farmer supports (Installation Aid) due to cuts in public expenditure by the Government following the last recession.
- They were then unable to qualify for the young farmers supports introduced under CAP 2015 because in many cases they had been farming for five years or more.
- Commitment in the current Programme for Government: seek to resolve, under the next CAP, the issue of support for the category of farmers known as ‘Forgotten Farmers’.
- A group of Forgotten Farmers approached IFA seeking its support to develop a proposal to secure supports for Forgotten Farmers in CAP 2023-2027.
- IFA has met with the group several times since March developing the proposal.

Proposed Definition

Under CAP 2023-2027, a Forgotten Farmer (Old Young Farmer) should be defined as the following:

- **A BPS recipient before 1st January 2015;**
- Was **ineligible for the Young Farmers Installation Scheme under the RDP 2007-2013** because they started farming after 14th October 2008, the date which applications to the scheme were suspended,
 - The scheme provided a grant to young farmers under 35 setting-up for the first time in farming;
- Was **ineligible for the Young Farmers Scheme under CAP 2014-2020** because they had set up their holding more than five years preceding the first submission of Basic Payment Scheme,
 - Successful applicants receive 25% of the national average payment per hectare multiplied by your number of eligible hectares up to a maximum of 50 if they are aged no more than 40 years of age at any time during the calendar year in which they first submit an application under the BPS.

Proposal

Under CAP 2023-2027, it is proposed that a Forgotten Farmer be eligible to apply for the following and/or equivalent schemes:

- Young Farmers Scheme;
- National Reserve;
- TAMS/Young Farmers’ Capital Investment Scheme (Access to increased level of 60% grant aid).

Ends.