

REAP - Specifications for Complementary actions (Revised November 2021)

Complementary actions are only permitted in project fields (fields subject to scorecard assessments), and located where they have already been recommended by the advisor on the REAP plan.

Complementary Actions are not permitted in Natura 2000 sites, Nature Reserves, pNHAs, landscapes targeted for breeding waders such as curlew, or on an archaeological monument.

1. Planting a New Hedgerows/Hedgerow Gapping Up

Requirements

Prepare the ground along a 1.5m wide strip to provide good soil conditions and as little competition from other vegetation as possible

1. Between November 2021 and the end of March 2022 plant a double staggered row with 6 plants per metre using a mix of 6 species from the Approved species list below (approx. 2-year old whips). No one species should make up more than 70% of the total plants.
2. Identify 1 plant every 50m which should be marked and retained as a tree.
3. Ensure the hedgerow is protected from livestock using an appropriate fence at least 1m out from the new hedgerow. This fence will need to be moved out further as the hedge grows and expands.
4. Plants must be purchased from registered producers or growers. Where possible, source plants of native provenance.
5. Keep free of weeds until plants have established - annual weed maintenance is required until the hedgerow is fully established. Failed or dead plants to be replaced in the following planting season.

Approved Species List:
Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>)
Dog Rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>)
Gelder Rose (<i>Viburnum opulus</i>)
Hawthorn/Whitethorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>)
Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>)
Holly (<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>)
Spindle (<i>Euonymus europaeus</i>)
Bird Cherry (<i>Prunus padus</i>)
Crab Apple (<i>Malus sylvestris</i>)

Planting Trees

- 1) Plant trees between November 2021 and the end of March 2022, from the approved list below. These should be at least 1.5 metres tall. Where possible, source trees of native provenance.
- 2) Leave/maintain a 3m distance between each tree planted.
- 3) Stake and tie each tree securely, using material appropriate to the size and species of tree and by using flexible rubber and adjustable tree ties.
- 4) Protect trees from livestock damage with appropriate fencing.
- 5) Control grass/other weeds annually until the trees have become established and replace any planted trees that die in the following planting season.

Do not:

- Fasten guards to the tree itself or allow guards to cause damage to the growing tree.
- Plant trees beneath or near overhead power lines, or other overhead and underground services.

Approved Species List
Alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>)
Silver birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>), Downy birch (<i>Betula pubescens</i>)
Sessile oak (<i>Quercus petraea</i>), Pedunculate oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)
Mountain ash/Rowan (<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>)
Whitebeam (<i>Sorbus aria</i>)
Wild Cherry (<i>Prunus avium</i>)
Goat willow (<i>Salix caprea</i>), Rusty willow (<i>Salix cinerea</i> subsp. <i>oleifolia</i>), Eared willow (<i>Salix aurita</i>) and White willow (<i>Salix alba</i>)
Hazel (<i>Corylus avellana</i>)
Scots pine (<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>)
Bird Cherry (<i>Prunus padus</i>)
Hawthorn/Whitethorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>)
Any fruit tree of Native Provenance