



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

www.gov.ie/CAP



Key Changes to CAP Schemes in 2023

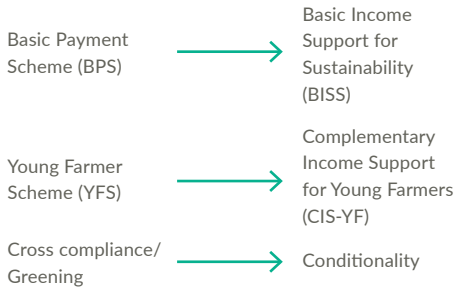
Many schemes run by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine are changing as part of the new Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which comes into effect 1 January 2023. We have outlined what you need to know, and how and when to apply.

The draft plan is subject to the conclusion of the relevant national, legal and administrative processes.



Direct Payments Schemes

What is changing:



Protein Aid continues with beans, peas, lupins, soya eligible paid approx €583 per hectare and protein/cereal mix paid approx. €292 per hectare.

New Schemes:

- » Eco Scheme
- » Complementary Redistributive Income Support for Sustainability (CRISS)

Application process

Apply for these schemes via www.agfood.ie from mid-February 2023. Deadline for applications is 15 May 2023.

KEY INFORMATION ON NEW SCHEMES

Scheme	Max Hectares	Estimated Rate	Paid per Hectare	BISS application
BISS	-	National average €158	1 Entitlement = 1 HA	✓
CRISS	30 HA	€43	✓	✓
ECO	-	€70-€80	✓	✓
Protein Aid	-	€583/€292	✓	✓
CISYF	50 HA	€180	✓	✓

Basic Income Support for Sustainability (BISS)

Applicants Should Note:

The main income support will continue to be based on Payment Entitlements.

- » You must have 1 eligible hectare to support each Payment Entitlement
- » The number of Payment Entitlements you hold will remain the same
- » If you currently hold rented/leased Payment Entitlements these will continue under your herd for the duration of the lease
- » Transfers of payment entitlements will continue to operate as they do now

Land eligibility: Parcels can have up to 50% of beneficial features (e.g. scrub, trees etc.) without it impacting the area eligible

Agricultural Activity: Applicants may be asked what agricultural activity they are carrying out (e.g. if a parcel of land is significant distance from the holding, commonage applicants, grassland with no livestock)

Active Farmer: You must be the person farming the land. The farming activities can include meeting a minimum stocking rate 0.10 livestock unit per hectare (lu per ha), producing crops, cutting hay/silage, maintaining landscape features etc.

Entitlements: All Payment Entitlement (PE) values will change in 2023 i.e. all values are converging to the national average, 25% of direct payments will fund the Eco scheme, 10% of direct payments will fund the CRISS. Statement of Entitlements will issue in February/March 2023. The easiest way to find out about your payments in 2023 is to visit our online calculator at <https://cap-calculators.apps.rhos.agriculture.gov.ie/> (or search for DAFM CAP calculator, as it is usually the first result found). The sale of entitlements without land will not be subject to clawback in 2023 or 2024 and 20% clawback will apply from 2025-2027.

New allocations of Payment Entitlements

From the National Reserve for two categories of farmer: Young Farmer (Aged no more than 40 years of age at any time during the calendar year when they apply) and New Farmer (farmers that have set up as head of a holding for the first time in their lives and within the past 3 years). Maximum allocation of 50 Payment Entitlements at the national average.

Capping: BISS payments begin to be capped above €60,000 and the maximum BISS payment will be €66,000. Capping only applies to BISS, that is the payment entitlement value only – other direct payments schemes are not capped.

Eco Scheme

Applicants Should Note:

- » Payment is not linked to Payment Entitlements, but is on eligible hectares
- » Farmer must deliver two agricultural practices to qualify for Eco Scheme payment (see options in the box)
- » Farmer can opt in/out on annual basis, can change agricultural practices annually
- » Payment of approx. €70-€80 per eligible hectare

Eco Scheme Options

1. Space for Nature*
2. Extensive Livestock Production*
3. Limiting Chemical Nitrogen Usage
4. Planting of Native Trees/Hedgerows*
5. Use of a GPS controlled fertiliser spreader/sprayer
6. Soil sampling and appropriate liming
7. Planting of a Break Crop
8. Planting of a Multi-Species Sward

* Enhanced option, can count as two agricultural practises

Complementary Redistributive Income Support for Sustainability (CRISS)

Applicants Should Note:

- » New scheme from 2023, known as front loading
- » Paid to all farmers on their first 30 hectares
- » Payment is not linked to Payment Entitlement values, but is on eligible hectares (max 30 hectares)
- » Payment of approx. €43 per eligible hectare

Complementary Income Support for Young Farmers (CIS-YF)

Applicants Should Note:

- » No longer based on Payment Entitlements, but on eligible hectares (max 50 hectares)
- » Applicants must be head of the holding, solely or jointly, for the first time or has set up such a holding during the five years preceding their application for the CIS-YF Scheme
- » Payment of approx €180 per eligible hectare

Other Area based schemes

Areas of Natural Constraints (ANC)

Applicants Should Note:

- » Designation of ANC lands and payment rates are unchanged (rate depends on category and number of hectares)
- » Minimum stocking rate reduced from 0.15 to 0.10 livestock unit per forage hectare (still equivalent to 1 ewe/hectare)
- » In most cases stocking rate from the previous year can be used, however if a farmer wishes, they can use the current year
- » Where justified on environmental grounds, a lower stocking requirement may apply
- » Previous years stocking rates available on www.agfood.ie

Organic Farming Scheme

Multi-annual scheme will support an expansion of the area farmed organically in Ireland towards the target of 7.5% of Agriculture Area by 2027 with a budget of €256 million. Higher rates with support for conversion range from €300 per hectare for drystock farms to €800 per hectare for horticulture with annual participation payments.

Straw Incorporation Measure (SIM)

Applicants Should Note:

- » Annual commitment to chop and incorporate straw from cereal crops of between 5 and 40 hectare
- » No changes to crops or rates i.e. €250 per ha for Barley, Wheat, Oats, Rye and €150 per hectare for Oilseed Rape

Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)

This brand new €1.5 billion flagship agri-climate rural environment scheme will support and reward up to 50,000 farmers who undertake actions on farmed land beneficial for the environment such as, protecting water quality, improving soil fertility, protecting biodiversity, adapting to climate change, mitigating carbon emissions, and reducing chemical fertiliser usage. The scheme will have two approaches, ACRES General and ACRES Co-Operation. An approved ACRES advisor is required to prepare your application and farm plan. Payments will be a maximum of approximately €7,000 for participants in the general scheme and approximately €10,500 in the Co-operation projects. Applications are open for Tranch 1 until mid-November 2022 and approved applications will have start date 1 January 2023.

NEW CAP Livestock Schemes for 2023

Sheep Improvement Scheme (SIS)

Applicants Should Note:

Sheep Welfare Scheme → Sheep Improvement Scheme

- » Applications will open in November 2022
- » Payment increased from €10 to €12 per breeding ewe
- » Applicants must choose two actions, one from Category A and one from Category B depending on whether they have a lowland or a hill flock (see options in box)
- » Reference number of breeding ewes will be based on the most beneficial three-year average within the historical reference years (2016-2021)

Sheep Improvement Scheme Actions

Lowland Flock	Hill Flock
Category A	Category A
Lameness Control	Meal Feeding Lambs*
Minerals Post Mating	Minerals Post Mating
Parasite Control	Parasite Control
Category B	Category B
Genotyped Ram**	Genotyped Ram**
Scanning	Scanning
Flystrike Control	Minerals Lambs Pre Weaning*

* Hill flocks cannot choose both meal feeding of lambs and mineral supplementation pre weaning

** All farmers must complete the Genotyped Ram action at least once during the scheme and farmers with over 150 ewes must complete this action twice

Dairy Beef Welfare Scheme

Applicants Should Note:

- » Intention is for the scheme to open for applications in 2024

- » Payment will be for the use of High DBI bulls via Artificial Insemination in the previous breeding season – so 2023 breeding season for 2024 and so on.

- » Payment of €20 per calf

Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme (SCEP)

Applicants Should Note:

Beef Data and Genomics Programme (BDGP) → Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme (SCEP)

- » Applications will open in February/ March 2023
- » Payment of €225 per ha for first 15 ha, €180 per remaining ha based on the most beneficial three-year average within the historical reference period (2016 – 2021), with provision for those new or relatively new to Sucklers
- » Must be in Bord Bia Sustainable Beef and Lamb Assurance Scheme (SBLAS) at time of application and remain in it
- » Must calve down at least 50% of the reference number of animals every year (starting in 2023) Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme Actions

Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme Actions (must do all)

1. Replacement Strategy (80% calves from 4/5 star sire and 50% of Dams on holding must be 4/5 star in 2023)
2. Weight Recording (at least 70% of animals annually)
3. Genotyping (at least 70% of animals annually, without repetition)
4. Data Recording (data on animal events, records and surveys)

Other Schemes in the CAP Strategic Plan

On Farm Capital Investments Scheme/TAMS

The Targeted Agriculture Modernisation Scheme (TAMS) will continue for 3 years under the RDP, in tandem with the new On Farm Capital Investments Scheme under the CSP, with tranches opening regularly throughout this programme. Higher grant rates payable for women farmers under the new On Farm Capital Investments scheme.

Producer Organisations and Sectoral supports

- » A sectoral intervention for producer organisations in the Fruit and vegetable sector will continue to support recognised groups of producers to enable them to concentrate supply and improve their position in the value chain.
- » A new Early Stage support for Producer Organisations will open to support up to 45 PO groups in the Beef, Sheep, Fruit and Vegetable, Potato, Cereals and Amenity sectors with up to €33,000 available to help groups to move towards becoming recognised producer organisations.

Collaborative Farming Grant

This intervention will provide financial support towards the professional costs incurred during the establishment of a Registered Farm Partnership. It will also provide financial support to professional costs, such as legal, taxation and advisory for older farmers, which will assist farmers

navigating a pathway to retirement. The financial support will contribute 50% of such vouched costs, to a maximum of €1,500 per beneficiary, for each element.

European Innovation Partnerships (EIPs)

Calls for proposed EIPs will begin in mid-2023, with support available for proposal development, and then implementation for successful projects. Selected proposals will allow a range of actors to come together to form Operational Groups to test and develop innovative solutions to challenges identified in the sector.

Knowledge Transfer Groups

Beginning in 2024, this 3 year programme will support 19,000 farmers to participate in facilitated knowledge transfer groups to discuss a range of priority topics. KT Groups formed based on local needs.

Continuous Professional Development for Advisors

Support for high quality professional training for farm advisors is provided. Topics include climate change and sustainable energy, air soil and water quality, biodiversity conservation, organic farming, carbon farming and the adoption of new technologies and best practice.

LEADER Programme

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) will continue to administer the LEADER programme to support rural communities with a financial allocation of €180 million for the period.

Calendar of schemes opening dates and contact details:

Scheme	Applications Open	Contact details
Fruit & vegetable producer organisations	Sep '22	poscheme@agriculture.gov.ie
Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for Advisers	Via portal in September 2022	CPD@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674491
ACRES Tranche 1 (General and Co-op)	Oct '22	acres@agriculture.gov.ie 053-9163425
ACRES training	Oct '22	ACRESCP@agriculture.gov.ie
Organic Farming Scheme	Oct '22	organic@agriculture.gov.ie 053-9163425
Sheep Improvement Scheme	Nov '22	sheepscheme@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
LEADER	Process begins late '22	leader2327@drcd.gov.ie
On Farm Capital Investment Scheme (Tranche 1)	Jan '23	tamsdocs@agriculture.gov.ie 053 9163425
Early stage support for producer organisations	Jan '23	po@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674454
Basic Income Support for Sustainability	Feb '23	DirectPaymentsCorrespondence@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
Eco-scheme	Feb '23	ecoschemes@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
Areas of Natural Constraints	Feb '23	anc@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
Complementary Redistributive Income Support for Sustainability (CRISS)	Feb '23	DirectPaymentsCorrespondence@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
Young Farmer	Feb '23	nationalreserveYFS@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
Trading of entitlements	Feb '23	Transferofentitlements@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
Protein Aid	Feb '23	protein@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
Straw Incorporation Measure	Feb '23	sim@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme	March '23	beefschemas@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
European Innovation Partnerships (EIPs)	May '23	eip@agriculture.gov.ie
Knowledge transfer	June '23	ktinformation@agriculture.gov.ie 057-8674422
Collaborative Farming Grant	Aug '23	FarmPartnerships@agriculture.gov.ie
Dairy Beef Welfare scheme	2024	beefschemas@agriculture.gov.ie 057 86774422

More information is available at www.gov.ie/CAP