



6th March 2023

Circular 03/2023

To all Registered Foresters and other Stakeholders

Procedures for First instalment Grant Payment of FT11 and FT12 under the Interim Afforestation Scheme (via general de minimis) where broadleaf species are not available for planting.

There is a requirement that planting under FT11 and FT12 shall include 20% broadleaf. In recognition of a situation where there may be insufficient nursery stock of broadleaf species available, the following arrangements may apply for planting these Forestry types under the *De Minimis* Afforestation Scheme.

The following option will apply where shortage of broadleaf tree species impacts the planting of the 20% broadleaf requirement:

- A **Form 2A** can be submitted along with the Form 2. The Form 2A is a declaration that due to the unavailability of broadleaf species the required broadleaf element has not been planted and an undertaking that the broadleaves will be filled in by 1st March 2024. It must be signed by the Forest Owner and Registered Forester.
- **Form 2B** to be submitted not later than 31st March 2024. The Form 2B is a declaration that the filling in of broadleaves has taken place and will be accompanied by provenance declarations for the filled trees. It must be signed by the Forest Owner and Registered Forester.
- Forms can be submitted in the usual away by scanning and uploading.
- A post filling-in inspection will take place following submission of the filled trees.
- Failure to plant the required broadleaves by 1st March 2024 will result in reimbursement of all monies paid, including premiums. We will be bringing this to the attention of forest owners who are approved for these Forest types under the *De Minimis* Afforestation Scheme.
- Form 2A and Form 2B are attached with this circular and can also be found on the website at the following link: www.gov.ie/forestry

Vincent A Byrne
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