



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

# Beef Schemes 2023

Farm Advisory System  
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# Beef Schemes 2023/24



- Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme (SCEP)
- National Dairy Beef Welfare Scheme 2023
- Beef Welfare Scheme 2023
- CSP Dairy Beef Welfare Scheme 2024

# Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme (SCEP)



The current overarching policy objectives of Food Vision 2030 are to increase economic and environmental sustainability within the sector.

## Budget and Payment Rate:

- Budget of €256m across 5 years of programme.
- Payments of €225 per hectare for first 15 eligible hectares, €180 per remaining eligible hectare.

# Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme



- There will be a historical reference period which will provide a ceiling for payment, but there will be scope to reduce numbers without penalty each year. Option available each spring.
- Applicants will be presented with their suckler calving data from 2016 to 2021 inclusive and the best 3 years from which an average will be determined. This will be the scheme reference figure.
- Applicants with no data for the years 2016 to 2020 will be regarded as New Entrants and will declare a target for 2023 at application stage.

# Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme



## Reference Example.

- Farmer with average of 22 over 'best' 3 years 2016 – 2021.
- Decides to set his/her overall Scheme Reference at 20 calves. This is retained for the duration of the scheme as his/her ceiling
- For Year 1 s/he opts to set his Annual Reference at 16 e.g. due to temporary loss of leased land
- All scheme targets including MPA for the year are calculated from this figure.
- Payments are also reduced in line with the targets
- For Year 2 opts to return to 20 as has secured other leased land
- Targets, MPA and payments are re-calculated.
- Can never go above the Scheme Reference of 20

# Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme



## **MPA Example 1:**

Farmer with Annual Reference of 20 is allocated a Maximum Payable Area of 13.33ha (MPA= Ref/1.5). S/he must declare a minimum of this in eligible forage area on his BISS application.

Will be paid €225 per ha on the 13.33ha (€3,000) provided s/he meets all scheme measures

## **MPA Example 2:**

Farmer with Annual Reference of 35 is allocated a Maximum Payable Area of 23.33ha. S/he must declare a minimum of this in eligible forage area on their BISS application.

Will be paid €225 per ha on the first 15ha (€3,375) and €180 on the remaining 8.33ha (€1,500) for a total of €4,875 provided s/he meets all scheme measures.

# Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme



## Eligibility Requirements:

- Bord Bia SBLAS membership is required as the carbon footprint in the sustainability audit will be used to measure changes over the course of the contract. This must be in place by the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
- Submit a BISS application annually on which all their lands are declared for the duration of the Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme.
- Calve down at least 50% of the reference number of animals every year.
- Failure to meet any of these in any year will result in non-payment, removal and recoupment.

# Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme



## Mandatory actions:

1. Replacement Strategies
2. Weight recording (weaning efficiency measurement)
3. Genotyping
4. Data recording (Surveys, Traits)



# Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme



## 1. Replacement Strategy:

Covers Dams and Sires.

### Sires:

- Years 1 & 2 80% of calves produced on the holding must come from a 4/5 star sire.
- Increases to 85% in year 3 & 4.
- Increases to 90% in year 5.

### Dams:

- Years 1 & 2 50% of reference figure Dams retained on holding must be 4/5 star.
- Increases to 65% in year 3 & 4.
- Increases to 75% in year 5.

# Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme



## **2. Weight Recording:**

At least 80% of the reference number of cow/calf pairs on the holding that calve must be weighed every year and weights submitted by 1<sup>st</sup> November annually.

## **3. Genotyping:**

At least 70% of the reference number of animals on the holding must be genotyped each year of the programme, without repetition.

## **4. Data Recording:**

Participants must provide a range of data through animal events, records and surveys

# Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme



- There will be mandatory training on the implementation of the actions under the scheme in the first two years of the contract
- Every participant will also be required to attend a half day livestock handling course
- All training to be completed by 15<sup>th</sup> November 2024. Failure to attend the training courses will result in expulsion from the Programme
- Application period for SCEP is expected to be mid-March – May 2023

# National Dairy Beef Calf Measure 2023



- Existing Dairy Beef Scheme being retained for 2023
- No change to scheme requirements, deadlines or payments
- Scales still available from ICOS depots
- Weighing of Dairy Beef calves carried out on the holding with weights submitted to ICBF by 1 November 2023
- €20 per calf weighed to a maximum of 50 calves
- Application window expected to be March – April 2023.
- Payment in December 2023

# Beef Welfare Scheme 2023



- Replacement for BEEP-S
- €28m budget for the year
- Scheme options yet to be finalised but no weighing involved
- Applications open July/Aug 2023 to capture eligible calves in participating holdings
- Payments in December 2023

# CSP Dairy Beef Scheme 2024



- In 2024 CSP Dairy Beef Scheme will commence
- €25m over 4 years
- Payment for the use of High DBI/High CBV Dairy Beef AI
- €20 per straw to a max of 40 straws
- More information in advance of 2023 breeding season.