



ACRES Circular No. 7/2023

10<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Scorecard Training for Advisors for Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme  
'ACRES Scorecard Training 2023'**

Dear Advisor

I refer to the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES), launched by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie Monologue T.D. in June 2022.

For advisors to submit scorecards for ACRES in 2023, training has been arranged on completion of scorecards. It will be necessary for all advisors to have completed the upcoming mandatory ACRES scorecard training.

Two training sessions on completion of scorecards are being scheduled, as follows:

**-One half day voluntary online course** on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. Attendance is voluntary and the session will be recorded and placed on the Department website. Details will be circulated shortly.

**-In field compulsory training course.** The in-field compulsory training sessions are being arranged in conjunction with the ACRES CP teams and are being held around the country starting from 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023. Registration for these will be by Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/626203410257> with registration now open.

Precise locations are not published on Eventbrite. Each CP Team will be holding sessions within their CP zones. Exact locations and start times will be emailed to attendees in advance of the session. Attendance for each event is on a first come first served basis and places are limited to 25 per session. There will be sufficient events held to cater for all advisors. It is compulsory for all advisors to attend this in-field training. Attendance and AGR number will be recorded on the day.

To note: This in-field training will cover the most used scorecards and additional training will be provided for the more specialized scorecards.



Draft Agenda's – subject to change.

Online training, 31<sup>st</sup> May.

Time	Topic	Details
09.30	Introduction	ACRES HQ HoDs. Agenda for session. Aims of HNV farming.
09:40	DAFM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administrative overview of scorecards/rules on submitting scorecards/T&amp; C's. Overview of the 10 scorecards., procedure for commonages will be discussed.</li><li>• (&gt;10h, and,&lt;10ha),</li><li>• training requirements (mandatory field training and how to use Eventbrite etc.),</li><li>• Broad overview of NPI list and LA list</li><li>• Timeline for opening the NPI application window,</li><li>• Expected opening of Tranche 2.</li></ul>
10.15	DAFM	AgriSnap & GLAM. Scorecard IT issues
11.15	CP Team members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• P Crushell – Water Quality and Source-Pathway-Receptor Model 25mins</li><li>• C Sullivan – Scorecards overview, Ecological Integrity and Threats and pressures 35mins</li></ul>
12.15	Questions	Moderator to select questions.
1pm	<b>End</b>	

In Field Compulsory training

Time	Topic	Details
10:00	Scorecards used on grassland, peatland, and scrub/woodland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of ACRES scorecards focusing on the most used cards i.e Grassland, Rough Grazing, Winterage, Coastal Habitats, Peatland and Scrub/Woodland. Highlight key differences from these on the Low Input Peat Grassland, Chough, Breeding Wader and Corncrake cards.</li></ul>
10:30	Scoring grassland	How to score a grassland habitat working through the scorecard
13:00	<b>Break</b>	
13:45	Scoring peatland and scrub/woodland	How to score a peatland habitat working through the scorecard (and scrub/woodland if present)
17:00	<b>END</b>	

Regards

ACRES Section

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