

ACRES Queries from Teagasc

Thursday 29 June 2023

General

1. Will be the ACRES summary reports be available to access on GLAMS? Now that the deadline for BISS amendments has passed they aren't accessible.

Advisors will be able to view the approval summaries and approval letters in document manager on 'Agschemes' shortly. This functionality is under development and will be implemented as soon as possible. Approval summaries have been posted to all ACRES farmers with general actions.

2. Where two separate herd numbers each applied for ACRES -Now they have formed a partnership – for the purposes of ACRES do they continue as individuals for the remainder of the scheme?

These contracts may be managed separately. However, all payments will be made to the bank account of the partnership. Equally the partnership will be liable for any penalties that may arise from inspections.

3. What is the procedure for a Reps of cases where the original applicant is deceased?

The next of kin may apply to take over the contract. A circular recently issued to all advisors on the procedure for contract transfer. For CP contract submit the request for contract transfer to acrescp@agriculture.gov.ie and for ACRES General acres@agriculture.gov.ie. While the contract is in the 'REPs of', all ACRES actions must be maintained.

4. Scorecards printed from the DAFM website (for training and notetaking purposes) are of very poor quality?

This is likely to be an issue with your printer.

5. Provided there is a minimum of 0.10 LU of Rare Breeds eligible for payment each year – please confirm there is no time requirement by which farmer must acquire the livestock in year 1?

There is no time requirement once the minimum is applied for.

Scoring

6. There are mixed messages on whether 4a or 4 b is used where a farmer has a standing crop of hay or silage - meadow that's not cut?

Guidance to advisers on scoring is clear,

7. Where the boundary of LIG is a wire fence because the farmer has split a parcel to create a riparian zone or separate LIG from Extensively Grazed pasture - is that wire fence scored as the worst 30m?

Yes.

8. A turlough in LIG is still partially flooded – what is the advice?

Score the portion of the parcel scoreable.

9. Must advisors contact their CP Team before submitting scorecards for specialist habitats?

Training is being offered by CP teams locally to advisers who have clients with specialist scorecards, advisers should avail of this before submission of these scorecards.

10. Can a photo for the late hay meadow bonus be taken by any advisor or does the advisor have to be linked?

Advisor must be linked with the client (farmer).

11. LIG with Late mown bonus: Are there 2 options?

Yes.

- Visit now and score with normal photo submitted and visit on day of cutting or within 5 days after cutting and take second photo for Late meadow bonus:

Yes.

- Visit on day of cutting or within 5 days after cutting and score and take 2 photos, one for the scorecard and one for the late meadow bonus:

Yes, but margin needs to be in place to allow score under 4B for structure.