

National Fertiliser Database

Data Protection Notice

General Data Protection information applicable to all Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine customers is available here:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/ef9f6-data-protection/>

The following data is specific information in relation to the personal data processed for National Fertiliser Database.

1. Specified purpose:

The Minister may process data submitted by a fertiliser economic operator or a professional fertiliser end user for inclusion in the National Fertiliser Database for the following purposes:

- to track the sale of fertiliser product from the point of manufacture
- or import, through the supply chain, to its sale to the professional end user;
- to verify the use of fertiliser products at farm level;
- to monitor compliance with this Act, legislation of the European Union in relation to nitrates or the common agriculture policy;
- to achieve a reduction in the use of fertiliser;
- to inform policy and control programmes of the Department; and
- to effectively operate schemes of the Department.

The Minister may prescribe additional purposes for which data submitted by a fertiliser economic operator or a professional fertiliser end user for inclusion in the National Fertiliser Database may be processed having regard to environmental factors and the need to produce agricultural products.

2. Legal basis:

Fertilisers, Feeding Stuffs and Mineral Mixtures Act 1955 and 2023.

Recipients:

The data collected by the National Fertiliser Database will be held within the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

There are provisions in the legislation for the data to be shared with:

- other Ministers of the Government or bodies established under statute where required for the performance of their functions;
- food and feed processors, prescribed by the Minister where, in the opinion of the Minister, such sharing may bring about a change in fertiliser use, improve water quality or achieve other environmental and sustainability targets.

The sharing of the data will be subject to Data Sharing Agreements with food and feed processors prescribed, which shall specify—

- the relevant data, or categories of relevant data, to be disclosed and the general purposes of that disclosure;
- the security measures to apply to the transmission, storage and accessing of relevant data;
- the requirements in relation to the retention of the relevant data to be disclosed for the duration of the agreement and in the event that the agreement is terminated;
- the method to be employed to destroy or delete the relevant data to be disclosed at the end of the period for which the relevant data is to be retained in accordance with the agreement;
- the procedure in accordance with which a party may withdraw from the agreement, and
- any such other matters as considered appropriate by both parties to the agreement.

3. Transferred outside the EU:

n/a

4. Retention Period:

Personal data collected relating to fertiliser sales to an end-user will be kept for 5 years approximately.

The data collected for this purpose will be held by the Department only as long as there is a business need to do so in line with the purpose(s) for which it was collected. After this time, it will be marked for destruction and will be destroyed in line with internal guidelines or guidelines for destruction received from the National Archives Office or associated permissions received from them.

5. Data provision being statutory or contractual obligation:

The data provided for this purpose is being requested under the requirements of the Fertilisers, Feeding Stuffs and Mineral Mixtures Act 1955 and 2023 and is a requirement under this legislation.

All fertiliser economic operators and professional end-users are required to provide the following information:

- (a) his or her unique professional fertiliser end user registration number,
- (b) the name of the fertilising product,
- (c) the manufacturer of the fertilising product,
- (d) the quantity of fertilising product on his or her premises or under his or her control, and
- (e) upon request, the quantity of fertilising product.

Failure to provide this information is an offence under the Fertilisers, Feeding Stuffs and Mineral Mixtures Act 1955 and 2023.

6. Automated Decision Making:

Not applicable.

7. Information from Third Party:

Your personal data in relation to fertiliser purchased by you may have been obtained from a licensed fertiliser retailer in line with this Department's requirement to collect fertiliser sales data. In circumstances where this Department did not gather your personal data you are still entitled to exercise your rights in relation to this personal data and the details on how to exercise individual's rights are detailed on the Departments data protection page – linked above.

8. Technical information on data collected:

Technical information on the cookies used on the Gov.ie website is available at the following link:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/help/privacy-policy/?section=cookies>