

Dear Agent,

The Soil Sampling and Analysis Programme will be advertised nationally and will be open to all farmers with a 2023 BISS application.

Information on the Programme will be available to view online as well as the Terms and Conditions of the Programme in advance of the opening of the application process.

Applications can be made directly by farmers, partnerships and companies or indirectly by their associated agents.

In preparation for the opening of the Programme, please familiarise yourself with the procedures required to create the online links to enable you to act for your clients. This process must be complete in advance of applications being made. The details of this process are available on the Department's website and can be accessed via the link –

<https://www.gov.ie/en/service/department-of-agriculture-and-foods-online-services/#information-on-agriculture-agents>

2023 BISS agents have been automatically loaded for Soil Sampling and Analysis Programme.

This means BISS agents will have access to the scheme link on agfood without having to register for the scheme.

through online services. However, the agents will still need to verify with their clients that they wish to represent. This can be done using the SMS authorisation tool that is available to agents from Online Services. Until this is done the agent will not see the client appear in their "Client List Screen".

To facilitate a more efficient application process and in particular the creation of the online link between the advisor and the applicant, your clients should register for the Department's mobile messaging service. This can be arranged by the applicant by sending a request to opt into the SMS service with their details (name, address, herd number and an up-to-date mobile number) to [ccsadmin@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:ccsadmin@agriculture.gov.ie).

It should be noted that applicants must have a herd number and must have a 2023 BISS application in place.