



Circular 02/2016

8<sup>th</sup> January 2016

To: GLAS Advisors

Re: **Note on Soil Samples and Nutrient Management Plans (NMPs) in GLAS**

Dear Advisor,

Please see attached appendix, detailing soil sample and NMP requirements for GLAS.

*GLAS*  
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## Appendix

1. All GLAS participants must have a GLAS Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) produced by a GLAS Advisor in line with the requirements of Statutory Instrument (SI) 31/2014, European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations 2014<sup>1</sup>, within the timeframe set down in the GLAS Tranche 1 and 2 Terms and Conditions.
2. The NMP must outline the total chemical Nitrogen (N) and chemical Phosphorus (P) for whole farm.
3. Adjustments must be made by the GLAS Advisor when drawing up the NMP for GLAS area based actions that have a chemical N restriction, for example, LIPP, THM, Hen Harrier etc. Therefore in these cases, the limit for these parcels is the maximum imposed by the GLAS action. All other Nitrogen advice for grassland should be based on chapter 9 of the Teagasc publication *Major and Micro Nutrient Advice for Productive Agricultural Crops*, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008 (The Green Book)<sup>2</sup> and in particular with tables 9.5 and/or 9.6.
4. Commonage lands must not receive/be allocated chemical N and chemical P in the GLAS NMP. There is no requirement to soil sample these lands.
5. Mountain land and rough grazing lands may also be excluded from soil sampling. However in these cases, the lands must not receive/be allocated chemical N and chemical P and these areas must be clearly identified on the Teagasc NMP system.
6. **All** other land farmed (whether owned/leased/rented) must be sampled.
7. Soil samples must be taken in accordance with article 16(2) and schedule 1 of SI 31/2014. Therefore for the GLAS NMP, once soils are within the five-year rule set out in Article 16(2) of SI 31/2014 on the date of drawing up the GLAS NMP, a GLAS NMP can be prepared; however this will mean that the NMP will have to be updated during the GLAS contract by taking new soil samples.
8. Soil analysis undertaken for this purpose shall be carried out by laboratories that have obtained ISO/IEC 17025:2000 accreditation for the test in question. Accreditation to compatible standards by other Member States, such as UKAS in UK, is also acceptable.
9. For samples to be valid in the year the GLAS NMP is prepared, they must be taken after the 15<sup>th</sup> September, five years previously. Therefore for samples to be eligible for 2016, they must have been taken after 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011. If taken on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011, these samples expired on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015.
10. Nitrates Derogation farmers who are also in GLAS must sample all lands farmed and take samples in accordance with the Nitrates Derogation Terms and Conditions and SI 31/2014 (Derogation Regulations) in place at the time of taking the soil samples; however they must not apply/allocate chemical N and chemical P to mountain/rough grazing and commonage lands.
11. Failure to have a valid GLAS NMP in place by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 for Tranche 1 participants and by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 for Tranche 2 participants will lead to no further GLAS payments being made; if still not submitted by the end of the second full year (31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 for both GLAS 1 and 2 participants), the GLAS participant will be terminated from the scheme.
12. All GLAS participants must have a **valid** GLAS NMP in place at all times during the GLAS contract once the initial GLAS NMP is submitted. Failure to have one in place may result in termination from the scheme in line with 11 above.
13. All GLAS contracts that have a GLAS action(s) which have a chemical N restriction, will require a review of the GLAS NMP in year 3, which will require the GLAS Advisor to assure himself/herself that the NMP remains relevant and is been delivered properly.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2014/si/31/made/en/print>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.teagasc.ie/publications/view\\_publication.aspx?PublicationID=829](http://www.teagasc.ie/publications/view_publication.aspx?PublicationID=829)