

From: Ray Behan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: CAP Strategic Plan
Subject: Entitlement to the farmer

Dear Sir / Madam

I wish to give my opinion on entitlements in the previous CAP. I started farming at 18 years of age but could only build up to 100 acres of entitlements. I have built up 5 fold in the last 25 years to try to make a living out of tillage however my entitlements have stayed the same. I am 45 years old and am no longer a young farmer and never qualified for anything along the way .I now have to lease over 120 entitlements to put on this land which someone else is getting paid for. Why, why, why does every acre in this country that's farmed not refer to the (farmer) who actually sowed the crop and not someone else. This is a simple way of making sure that we have a level playing pitch. I have friends who purchased land and are farming it for over 10 years that don't get payments but the previous farmer does .This is unjust and unfair morally if you buy land or rent or lease it you should get the payments on your farming. It should not be the guy sitting on the sofa with no risk.

Thanks for your time

Raymond Behan
[REDACTED]