Farming reforms and our vision for British agriculture

We want farmers to have more money, more choice and more trust.

We have 3 goals:

1. Farmer-led innovation & improve productivity to domestic food production and create resilient farm businesses
2. Enhance the environment & farm with nature
3. Continual improvement in farm animal health & welfare
How we work with farmers

We are co-designing and testing our schemes with farmers to ensure they work for all farming businesses

For regulation, we will:

- simplify (see the Rules for Farmers page)
- be fair, flexible, and proportionate
- support and enable
- take a risk-based approach

Ongoing and one-off payments

We are:

- phasing out area-based subsidies
- Introducing:
  - **ongoing schemes**: Environmental Land Management schemes (ELMs)
  - **one-off grants**: equipment, technology and infrastructure
- giving farmers time to adapt
- making sure everyone can benefit
Supporting IPM

Actions for integrated pest management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SFI action</th>
<th>Payment rate</th>
<th>New action/variation of CS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IPM1</td>
<td>Complete and IPM assessment and produce a plan</td>
<td>£1,129 per year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPM2</td>
<td>Establish and maintain flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or in-field strips</td>
<td>£798 per hectare (ha)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPM3</td>
<td>Establish a companion crop</td>
<td>£55 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPM4</td>
<td>No use of insecticide</td>
<td>£45 per ha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IPM1: Complete and IPM assessment and produce a plan

**Aim**
- **Understand** the benefits, costs, impacts, and risks of your current approach to crop pest, weed and disease management for your land
- Effectively **plan** how to adopt a range of IPM methods appropriate to your farm

**What to do**
Relevant BASIS member and qualified adviser to:
- **assess** your current approach to crop pest, weed and disease management for your land
- **identify and discuss opportunities** for using IPM on that land
- **help you to produce a written IPM plan**
- How to guidance
- Complete within first 12 months then review each year

*Refer to the SFI handbook for full details*

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IPM2: Flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or in-field strips

**This action’s aim**
Is that there are grass margins, blocks or in-field strips containing flowering plants during the summer months into early autumn to:
- **encourage natural crop pest predators as part of an IPM approach if located close to cropped areas**
- provide habitat and foraging sites for invertebrates, including natural crop pest predators, wild pollinators such as bumblebees, solitary bees, butterflies and hoverflies, and farmland birds

**When to do it**
If you’re doing this action in a **fixed** location:
- establish it during the first 12 months of your SFI agreement
- maintain the area in each subsequent year of your 3-year SFI agreement

If you’re **rotating** this action around your farm each year:
- you must do it for a period of time that could reasonably be expected to achieve this action’s aim
  - contains flowering plants during the summer months into early autumn

*Refer to the SFI handbook for full details*
IPM3: Companion crop on arable and horticultural land

This action’s aim
Is that you establish a companion crop. The purpose of this is to do one or more of the following:
• support an IPM approach by acting as a trap crop for pests or by suppressing weeds
• provide a habitat for birds and invertebrates, including pollinators and natural crop pest predators
• manage nutrient efficiency
• protect soil and improve its condition

What to do
You must establish it on land entered into this action, so it’s growing with the main arable or horticultural crop.
You can establish the companion crop by:
• trap cropping – sowing a trap crop to attract crop pests away from the main arable or horticultural crop
• inter-cropping – sowing the companion crop with the main arable or horticultural crop
• undersowing – sowing a companion crop to form a living mulch beneath the arable or horticultural crop

Refer to the SFI handbook for full details

IPM4: No use of insecticide on arable crops and permanent crops

This action’s aim
Is that you do not use plant protection products containing insecticide to:
• support an IPM approach by managing crops pests in a more sustainable way
• improve water and air quality
• increase biodiversity

What to do
You must not apply any plant protection products, including seed dressings, containing insecticide on land entered into this action.
For the purposes of this action, insecticide includes nematicides and acaricides.
If something happens which means you cannot complete this action, you must tell us about this as soon as possible.

Refer to the SFI handbook for full details
Some of the other SFI23 options which can support IPM

**SFI 2023 land management actions**
- Soils
- Moorlands
- Hedgerows
- Integrated pest management
- Nutrient management
- Farmland wildlife – arable and horticultural land
- Farmland wildlife – improved grassland
- Buffer strips
- Low input grassland

*Refer to the SFI handbook for full details*

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**Ongoing payments in 2024**

Biggest upgrade to farming schemes since the start of the agricultural transition

Announced at the 2024 Oxford Farming Conference:
- **more money** - SFI and CS payment rates increase by an average of 10%
- **more choice** – introducing around 50 more actions later this year
- **more trust** - ‘advise and prevent’ approach to regulation to make things fairer for all farmers
- **better service** - single application service for the SFI and CS Mid Tier
- **more ambition** - paying a premium for high ambition actions
Expanded offer in 2024

50 new actions and around 50 updated actions:

- Expanded offer for moorland and grassland habitats

- **New actions for agroforestry, spring/summer cover crops, precision farming and no-till practices**

- New actions to support recovery of priority habitats and threatened native species, manage waterbodies, watercourses and lowland peat

- New actions for permissive footpaths, cycle ways and bridlepaths

- More actions Available for shorter 3-year agreements - flexibility particularly beneficial for tenant farmers

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### Actions for precision farming

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Action type (action code)</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Annual payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Variable rate application of nutrients</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>£27 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camera or remote sensor guided herbicide spraying</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>£43 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robotic mechanical weeding</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>£150 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robotic non-mechanical weeding</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>£101 per ha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Actions for species recovery and management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Action type (action code)</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Annual payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supplement: Threatened species</td>
<td>Updated CS (SP9)</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>£204 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplement: Grazing land using native breeds at risk (grassland)</td>
<td>Updated CS (SP8)</td>
<td>Same as base action</td>
<td>£92 or £146 per ha dependent on grazing livestock units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplement: Grazing land using native breeds at risk (lowland heath and moorland)</td>
<td>Updated CS (SP8)</td>
<td>Same as base action</td>
<td>£7 or £11 per ha dependent on grazing livestock units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasive plant species control and management</td>
<td>Updated CS (SP4)</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>£140, £230 or £380 dependent on target species</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer control and management</td>
<td>Updated CS (WS1)</td>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>£105 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey squirrel control and management</td>
<td>Updated CS (WS3)</td>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>£60 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mink control and management</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>£99 per 100m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edible dormouse control and management</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>£40 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplement: Bracken control</td>
<td>Existing CS (SP3)</td>
<td>Same as base action</td>
<td>£232 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplement: Rhododendron control and management</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>£256 per ha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Actions for soils

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Action type (action code)</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Annual payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No-till farming</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>£73 per ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-species spring, summer or autumn cover</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>£153 to £163 per ha</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grants coming in 2024

More Farming Innovation Programme grants

In early 2024, we will offer a new fund providing grants for on-farm tests and trials – ADOPT (Accelerating development of practices and technologies)

Later in 2024, we will offer:

- Two ‘Farming Futures’ competitions
- ‘Small Research & Development Partnerships’ Round 4
- ‘Feasibility Studies’ Round 4

Next steps

- We will publish further information later in 2024, ahead of opening for applications:
  - more detail on the actions and supporting capital items
  - eligibility, compatibility with other actions and what farmers need to do
  - the scheme rules; how and when to apply.
Thank you