

# Agricultural Development Scheme

## Glossary of terms used in the Handbook

<b>Above the Mountain Line</b>	"Above the Mountain Line" means all land of mountain moorland character that is at or above 200 metres altitude, plus land below 200 metres altitude, which has the same characteristics and which is contiguous with land of mountain moorland character above 200 metres or non-contiguous areas exceeding 50 acres below the 200 metre contour but of mountain moorland character. Land will be classified in accordance with the Department's "Land Classification Policy" Government Circular No 64/08 as amended from time to time, using the SAC Land Classification Handbook.
<b>Active Farmer</b>	This is defined by Government Circular 'Definition of Active Farmer' (Government Circular No. 0015/08) as amended from time to time.
<b>Agriculture</b>	Agriculture means activity as defined by Government Circular No 65/08 Definition of Agriculture as amended from time to time. It is: the Production, rearing or growing of agricultural products including harvesting, milking, breeding animals and keeping of animals for farming purposes or maintaining land in good agricultural and environmental condition.
<b>Arable land</b>	This is defined as land cultivated for crop production, or maintained in good agricultural and environmental condition or land under greenhouses (where the land remains suitable for agriculture and has not, for example, been concreted over) or under fixed or mobile cover.
<b>Area payment</b>	Area payment means a payment to an applicant in any Scheme Year. Payment by the Department will be for eligible land meeting the standards set down in the Cross Compliance Standards Guidance Document. Initially the area payment will be based on your Historic Entitlement but from 2014 it will be transferred to a common flat rate area payment, which is dependent on the classification of the land.
<b>Below the Mountain Line</b>	"Below the Mountain Line" means agriculturally improved land plus areas of enclosed improved or semi-improved grassland which cover more than 10 acres but which are surrounded by land of mountain moorland character. Land contiguous with that of mountain moorland character which has 50% or more improved or semi-improved grassland or where liming or fertilising has had a significant impact on the vegetation will also be classified as Below the Mountain Line. Areas below the 200 metre contour but of mountain moorland character and less than 50 acres in extent will be considered to be Below the Mountain Line.
<b>Bird Breeding Season</b>	1 March – 31 August.
<b>BITS</b>	Bovine Identification and Traceability System – the database used to record births, movements and deaths of cattle on the Isle of Man.

<b>Break Crop</b>	Break crop is a term for the secondary crop within the practice of sustainable agriculture whereby as part of a crop rotation, a physiologically different crop is inserted into the main cropping plan in order to provide a "break" from the cycle of weeds, pests and diseases encountered with the latter. The aim is to optimise yields of the primary crops and therefore income while reducing the use, and cost, of pesticides and fertilisers.
<b>Cattle Passport Centre</b>	The team which handles the day-to-day running of the BIT system. Contact 685616.
<b>Agricultural Grant Scheme Application period</b>	Application period means the period from 1 <sup>st</sup> April to 11 <sup>th</sup> May in each Scheme year. Applications received after this will be subject to a penalty up to the date after which no applications will be processed.
<b>Cross Compliance</b>	<p>Cross Compliance Standards Guidance Document means Government Circular No 62/08 which sets out the Statutory Management Requirements (SMR) and standards of Good Agricultural and Environment Condition (GAEC) issued by the Department and amended from time to time.</p> <p>Cross Compliance Penalty Document means Government Circular No 61/08 which sets out penalties for failure to meet Cross Compliance conditions and amended from time to time.</p>
<b>Department (the)</b>	The Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture
<b>Disposal</b>	In relation to land at the applicant's disposal, this means land for which the applicant can provide a legal undertaking to manage in compliance with the conditions identified in the Agricultural Development Scheme.
<b>Farmer</b>	A farmer is someone undertaking agricultural activities as described in the definition of Agriculture and who may also be an applicant to the Agricultural Development Scheme.
<b>Forage</b>	Forage is the area of land used for feeding or grazing livestock.
<b>Good plant protection practice</b>	<p>is the practice whereby the treatments with plant protection products applied to a given crop, in conformity with the conditions of their approved uses, are selected, dosed and timed to ensure optimum efficacy, taking due account of local conditions and of the possibilities for cultural and biological control.</p> <p>Good plant protection practice is explained in the Pesticides Code of Practice for using Plant Protection Products, (previously The Safe use of Pesticides on farms and holdings or The Green Code), a copy of which can be found at: <a href="http://www.pesticides.gov.uk/safe_use.asp?id=64">www.pesticides.gov.uk/safe_use.asp?id=64</a></p>
<b>Groundwater</b>	This means all water below the surface of the ground that is in the zone of saturation (that is below the water table) and in direct contact with the land or subsoil.
<b>GVO</b>	Government Veterinary Officer
<b>Half Acre Rule</b>	This relates to specified areas of habitat which collectively cover more or less than half an acre in any particular field parcel. If they cover half an acre or less, they are eligible for payment from the Agricultural Development Scheme but if they cover more than this, they are ineligible for a payment.

<b>Hedge Cutting Period</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> September to the end of February.
<b>Historic Entitlement</b>	Historic Entitlement means an entitlement for payment calculated by the Department based on support received by a farmer in the relevant periods (the Reference Period) and the area of eligible land farmed by the farmer in 2008. It is a fixed figure which can only be changed when a transfer occurs or an award is made from the National Reserve. The value of each entitlement is determined by dividing the Historic Entitlement figure by the number of eligible acres held. The calculation must also take into account the classification of the land as Above the Mountain Line (ABL) entitlements have a different value to those Below the Mountain Line (BML). Entitlements will be valued in the ratio of 1:6, in favour of Land Below the Mountain Line.
<b>Integrated Control</b>	<p>Integrated Crop Management is a 'whole farm' philosophy, which requires that wherever possible alternatives to chemical control of pests should be used. It combines the best of conventional farming practices, such as crop rotations, with the minimisation of inputs such as pesticides and fertilisers and care for the environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use pesticides only where absolutely justified.</li> <li>● Consider combining chemical and non-chemical controls.</li> <li>● Where possible, treat only when decision thresholds are met or beaten.</li> <li>● Use the right product at the right time.</li> <li>● Get expert advice if you are not sure what controls might be used.</li> </ul>
<b>Land Manager</b>	In the context of ADS the person/persons who is/are responsible for looking after the land at their disposal.
<b>National Reserve</b>	National Reserve means a specific element of the overall budget established to help farmers whose businesses, because of their particular circumstances, would otherwise be at a disadvantage by the implementation of the Agricultural Development Scheme (formally Countryside Care Scheme) and is described in the National Reserve Policy Government Circular No. 0002/12 as amended from time to time.
<b>Permanent pasture</b>	This is defined as land used to grow grasses or other herbaceous forage naturally (self-seeded) or through cultivation (sown) and that is not included in the crop rotation of the holding for five years or longer.
<b>Riparian</b>	Situated next to or dwelling on a riverbank.
<b>Rough Grazing</b>	In general terms rough grazing lands usually consist of grasses and related vegetation (e.g. dwarf shrub) that is agriculturally unimproved (or has undergone only minimal intervention) and that is of relatively low value in terms of the livestock numbers per hectare that can be supported. This may or may not be semi-natural habitat within the terms of the Cross Compliance Standards.
<b>Scheme year</b>	Scheme year in relation to ADS means 1 <sup>st</sup> April to 31 <sup>st</sup> March in any consecutive Scheme year.

<b>Surface Water</b>	Is water which flows above ground but is often fed by groundwater from springs and seepages.
<b>Temporary Grassland</b>	This is defined as grassland up to 10 years old.
<b>Transfer period</b>	This is the specific period of each Scheme year when transfers of entitlement may be registered with the Department, to take effect from the start of the following Scheme year. The dates of the Transfer period will be announced in the middle of each Scheme year.
<b>Water course</b>	includes all rivers, streams, ditches, open drains, cuts, culverts, dykes, sluices, sewers (other than sewers under the control of a local authority) and passages through which water flows.
<b>Works Approval</b>	What is required in order to carry out specific works on your land e.g. hedge removal, hedge-cutting inside non-cutting period, drainage, infill. Please see Chapter 6 and GAEC 16 for more information.

Please let us know via [Agriculture@gov.im](mailto:Agriculture@gov.im) if you wish anything else to be added in here.