



Department  
for Environment  
Food & Rural Affairs

# IPM and Environmental Land Management

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## 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



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## 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



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## 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



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## Supporting IPM



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## Actions for integrated pest management

SFI action		Payment rate	New action/ variation of CS
<b>IPM1</b>	Complete and IPM assessment and produce a plan	£1,129 per year	<b>New</b>
IPM2	Establish and maintain flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or <b>in-field strips</b>	£798 per hectare (ha)	AB8 variation
<b>IPM3</b>	Establish a companion crop	£55 per ha	<b>New</b>
<b>IPM4</b>	No use of insecticide	£45 per ha	<b>New</b>

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## 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

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*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

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*Refer to the SFI handbook for full details*

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## 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

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*Refer to the SFI handbook for full details*

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## 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.

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*Refer to the SFI handbook for full details*

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## 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
- SAM2: Multi-species winter cover crop
  - NUM3: Establish and maintain legume fallow
  - AHL1: Pollen and nectar mix
  - AHL2: winter bird food on arable and horticultural land
  - AHL3: Grassy field corners and blocks
  - AHL4: 4-12m buffer strip on arable and horticultural land

*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



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## 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

Action	Action type (action code)	Duration	Annual payment
Variable rate application of nutrients	New	3 years	£27 per ha
Camera or remote sensor guided herbicide spraying	New	3 years	£43 per ha
Robotic mechanical weeding	New	3 years	£150 per ha
Robotic non-mechanical weeding	New	3 years	£101 per ha

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### Actions for species recovery and management

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

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### Actions for soils

Action	Action type (action code)	Duration	Annual payment
No-till farming	New	3 years	£73 per ha
Multi-species spring, summer or autumn cover	New	3 years	£153 to £163 per ha

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## 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



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## 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.



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Thank you