

**Addington Fund** 01926 620 135

Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) 0300 303 8268

**Badger Found Dead Survey** 0808 169 5110

British Cattle Movement Service (BCMS) 0808 169 5110

Control of Agriculture Pollution Regulation Helpline operated by ADAS 01974 847 000

DPJ Foundation

0800 587 4262

**EID Cymru** 01970 636 959

**Farming Connect** 03456 000 813

Farming Community Network FCN)
03000 111 999

**Lantra Wales** 01982 552 646

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) 0300 065 3000

Quality Welsh Food Certification Body 01970 636 688

Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution (RABI)
0800 188 44444

RPW Customer Contact Centre 0300 062 5004

**TB Helpline** 0800 496 1439

**Tir Dewi** 0800 121 4722

### RURAL SCHEMES KEY DATES

**24** JULY Small Grants – Woodland Creation EOI Window 3 opens Woodland Creation Grant EOI opens\*

**21** AUGUST Small Grant Environment – EOI Window opens

15 SFPT Small Grants – Woodland Creation EOI Window 3 closes

Woodland Creation Grant closes\*

29 SEPT Small Grant Environment – EOI Window closes

1 NOV Small Grants Yard Coverings
– EOI Window opens

15 DEC

Small Grants Yard Coverings

– FOI Window closes

\*To be eligible to apply, WG must receive confirmation of full verification of a WCPS plan from NRW by 4 September 2023.

Please note that the information in the Summer Update was accurate and up to date up until the date of publishing on 14 July 2023. For up to date news and information please visit the Welsh Government website: gov.wales.

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### **RURAL PAYMENTS WALES**

### **Cross Compliance – 2023**

The Cross Compliance factsheets have been updated for 2023 to reflect changes in requirements, good practice and to clarify wording. There have also been some changes to the Cross Compliance 2023 Verifiable Standards for classifying breaches of Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions (GAEC) and Statutory Management Requirements (SMR).

These changes include SMR 1 – Water Protection, updated to reflect requirements applying to all land from 1 January 2023 under the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021.

You should regularly check and review the Cross Compliance fact sheets to ensure compliance with the regulations.

### gov.wales/cross-compliance-2023



### RPW Online: Manage My County Parish Holding (CPH)

Manage My CPH enables keepers to view and maintain the land included in their CPH, and to create or close a CPH using the RPW online system.

Currently, over 66% of active livestock keepers are using and benefiting from the new CPH rules which:

- allow unreported movements within a ten-mile radius distance.
- a simple process for registering temporary land connections within the ten-miles radius to their existing CPH instantly; and
- allows keepers acquiring land on a permanent or temporary basis to create a new permanent or temporary CPH, as required.

If you have not yet updated your CPH details on the RPW online system, please contact RPW directly, where staff are on hand to offer help and support. Digital assistance can also be provided if required.

Guidance on CPH & Livestock Movements, including RPW guidance using 'Manage My CPH' and additional e-learning packages is available on the Welsh Government website: gov.wales/ rpw-online-using-manage-my-cph

#### **BPS 2023 payments**

An Advance payment, worth 70% of the estimated BPS 2023 claim value, will be made from 12 October 2023, subject to claim eligibility and receipt of all necessary supporting documents. Balance payments will be made from 15 December 2023.

### **Glastir 2023 payments**

This year, in order to maximise EU spend by 31 December, payments of the Glastir Advanced, Commons and Organic claims will start from 1 December 2023, subject to claim eligibility and receipt of all necessary supporting documents.

### **AGRICULTURAL (WALES) BILL — UPDATE**



We are now very close to having our first ever Welsh Agriculture Act. The Agriculture (Wales) Bill has been progressing through the Senedd since last September. The Bill has just completed the final scrutiny stages and is awaiting Royal Assent before becoming law later this summer. This Act will be made-in Wales legislation to meet Welsh priorities, and is built on the following Sustainable Land Management (SLM) objectives designed to support our farmers;

- 1 to produce food and other goods in a sustainable manner
- 2 to mitigate and adapt to climate change
- 3 to maintain and enhance the resilience of ecosystems and the benefits they provide
- 4 to conserve and enhance the countryside and cultural resources and to promote public access and engagement with them and to sustain the Welsh language and promote and facilitate its use.

The Agriculture (Wales) Act and these SLM objectives will underpin all future government support for farming in Wales, including the introduction of the **Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS).** 

# SUSTAINABLE FARMING SCHEME – UPDATE ON CO-DESIGN AND SCHEME DEVELOPMENT

We recently published the results of last year's SFS co-design exercise. We received around 1600 contributions from farmers via online surveys, interviews, and group workshops. After publishing the SFS Outline Proposals last summer, the co-design process has enabled farmers and others with an interest to contribute their ideas and experience to help us ensure the scheme was accessible and workable for all.

This co-design feedback is invaluable and will be combined with our ongoing policy development to help shape the next version of scheme proposals to be consulted on towards the end of this year. No final decisions will be made until this next consultation is concluded. Farmers will start transition to the SFS in 2025.

You can see the full codesign reports and Welsh Governments response at gov.wales/sustainable-farming-scheme-guide.

### WOODLAND SCHEMES

### Higher payment rates announced for farmers creating woodland

On 25 May the Minister for Climate Change and the Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd announced higher payment rates for creating woodland in Wales as part of Wales's drive to plant 86 million trees by the end of the decade to combat the climate emergency. The rate increase applies to both the Small Grants – Woodland Creation Scheme and the Woodland Creation Grant.

Following a review and in response to feedback from the sector, the rates have been uplifted to pay 100% of 2023's actual costs, which is a substantial uplift on the previous rates.

These increases include fencing and the twelve-year maintenance payments, which have also been front loaded in recognition of the higher costs in the early years after planting.

For more information on the announcement please visit: gov.wales/higher-payment-rates-announced-farmers-creating-woodland

For more information on the woodland creation schemes please visit: gov.wales/forestry-grants



#### **Woodland Creation Schemes**

We have committed £30 million over the next two years to a new woodland creation offer for farmers and landowners.

The next application window will open Monday 24 July 2023 and closes 15 September 2023.

To be able to apply for the Woodland Creation Grant:

- you must first apply to the Woodland Creation Planning Scheme, and
- you will need confirmation of a verified plan from NRW by 4 September 2023.
- For the Small Grants Woodland Creation Scheme, there is no need for a woodland creation plan.

#### Small Grants - Woodland Creation Scheme

This scheme supports farmers and landowners to plant trees on land that is less than 2 hectares and:

- ✓ agriculturally improved, or
- of low environmental value.

### It provides financial support for:

- tree planting
- ### fencing
- maintenance, and
- premium payments (compensation for loss of agricultural income).

### Key features include:

- funding for the planting of trees and the installation of fencing and gates.
- on need for a verified woodland creation plan As part of the scheme, a UKFS compliant woodland creation plan will be created by RPW's online system.

- planting does not effect
   Basic Payment Scheme (BPS)
   payments or land eligibility
- 12 years of maintenance and premium payments.

### Planting can be:

- ✓ shelterwoods
- alongside watercourses,
- ✓ in field corners/small fields
- stock shelter
- biodiversity
- ✓ wood-fuel

For more information please visit: gov.wales/small-grants-woodland-creation-scheme

### Woodland Creation Planning Scheme

The Woodland Creation Planning Scheme offers financial support for new woodland creation plans.

The scheme:

- offers financial support of between £1,000 and £5,000
- enables the use of a registered woodland planner to develop a new woodland plan

For more information please visit: gov.wales/woodland-creation-planning-scheme-overview

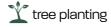


#### **Woodland Creation Grant**

This scheme supports farmers and landowners to plant:

- larger areas of woodland over 2 Ha; and
- areas that are not suitable for the Small Grants Woodland Creation scheme.

### It provides financial support for:



**IIII** fencing,

- maintenance, and
- premium payments (compensation for loss of agricultural income).

Applicants must have a Woodland Creation Plan before an application can be made. Funding for a plan is available through the Woodland Creation Planning Scheme.

For those interested in creating larger areas of woodland,

For more information please visit: **gov.** wales/woodland-creation-grant-overview

For more information on any of these schemes please contact: polisicoedwigaeth.forestrypolicy @gov.wales

### **AGRICULTURE SUPPORT SCHEMES 2023**

The application dates for Agricultural support schemes offered in 2023 are published at: gov.wales/rural-schemes-application-dates

Full information and guidance for the Schemes can be found at: **gov.wales/rural-grants-payments** 

# AGRICULTURAL POLLUTION REGULATIONS

### **Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations**

- Requirements from 1 January 2023



The second phase of the Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021 was introduced on the 1 January 2023.

New requirements for farm businesses include:

- risk maps,
- storage of organic manure (other than slurry),
- temporary field sites,
- import/export of manure,
- nutrient management planning (NMP) recording and nutrient applications restricted to crop limits.

For further information on the requirements and guidance documents visit gov.wales/farm-pollution.

In areas previously within a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone, there is no phased approach and all of the rules have applied from 1 April 2021.

### Quick Guide to Nutrient Management Plans (NMP)

The Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) is used to demonstrate your compliance with the Regulations but it is also an important tool for managing the application of nitrogen fertilisers to your holding. This can improve crop growth, reduce the use of manufactured fertiliser and reduce the risk of pollution.

The NMP must be completed before any organic manures or manufactured fertilisers are spread on a crop and in the case of grassland, before the 1 January each year.

#### Support

To support the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) requirements a digital workbook has been developed and is available on the Welsh Government: gov.wales/farm-pollution.

Farming Connect have a range of support available for the Control of Agricultural Pollution Regulations, including guidance on completing the digital workbook and other requirements of the regulations. Visit the farming connect webpages for the latest resources and information: gov.wales/farmingconnect

Further technical support on Nutrient Management Planning is also available via the Control of Agricultural Pollution Helpline operated by ADAS on 01974 847 000.



### Maximum Nitrogen Limits by crop type

- The total Nitrogen applied to a crop (including grassland) from either organic or manufactured fertilisers must not exceed the limits set out in the regulations.
- Nitrogen limits for the spreading of manures
- A limit of 250kg per individual hectare is applied to the spreading of organic manure for any 12 month rolling period.

### Recording the spreading of manures and fertilisers

- You will need to record within 1 week the actual spreading of fertilisers to any crop, including grassland. Including information such as the type and nitrogen content, area on which it was spread, the quantity and the date of spreading.
- Exemptions for the recording of the actual spreading for organic manures are available for farms with low nutrient inputs. See guidance for details on exemptions.

#### Other considerations

The Soil Nitrogen Supply refers to the amount of nitrogen available in the soil for crop uptake. It is influenced by soil types, previous cropping, previous manure and fertiliser use and rainfall. This information is required when developing plans.

- The planned spreading of manures may affect your manure or slurry storage requirements.
- You will need to consider the features identified in your risk map and how it affects the land available to you for the spreading of organic manures.
- You may consider exporting any excess manures from your holding, or importing additional manures if you have identified any nutrient deficits. The import or export of manures also need to be recorded.
- ✓ You may need to consider the impact of the closed periods for spreading on your NMP, including those relating to manufactured Nitrogen, which apply from 1 April 2021 or those relating to organic manures, which apply from 1 August 2024.

### **Record Keeping**

- The Welsh Government provide a digital workbook and templates within the guidance for the recording of Nutrient Management Plans, however you can maintain your own records provided the criteria of the regulations are met.
- Copies of Nutrient Management Plans must be stored for a minimum and of 5 years and must be made available for inspection if requested.

### CARBON CREDIT TRADING

Farmers and landowners in Wales may be approached by private companies wanting to purchase farmers' carbon credits to offset greenhouse gas emissions.

Whilst there may be an opportunity for farmers to create a new income stream by selling carbon credits, landowners may need to be cautious about selling carbon credits until they know how much carbon their land can sequester and how much carbon they are emitting as a business.

Farmers can use a carbon calculator to help them assess whether they might have surplus carbon credits available for trading. This will allow businesses to calculate if there is any surplus that can be traded to third party, without affecting the farms' ability to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions both now and in the future.

Once farmers sell carbon credits, they cannot count them towards their own efforts to cut carbon.

Further advice and guidance about what to consider can be found at the following links:

- ✓ ahdb.org.uk/carbon-markets
- ahdb.org.uk/knowledge-library/ carbon-footprint-calculatorswhat-to-ask-to-help-you-choose
- ✓ woodlandcarboncode.org.uk
- icao.int/environmental-protection/ CORSIA

## LIVESTOCK IDENTIFICATION AND MOVEMENT UPDATE



### **Multispecies Wales**

Work is still ongoing to develop EIDCymru into a multispecies system, we are currently working on building the system rules for cattle and hope to launch to Welsh keepers in 2024. We will provide you with updates as we progress with this work.

### **EIDCymru**

Are you using EIDCymru to report your sheep movements electronically? Staff in the EIDCymru bureau are happy to help you log into the system or talk you through the process. They are available by telephone on 01970 636 959 or by email at contact@eidcymru.org

### Manage My CPH - Livestock Movements

Did you know you might be able to merge all your land within a 10-mile radius into one CPH? This will reduce your paperwork and simplify your movement reporting. For eligibility and guidance on how to use Manage My CPH, visit RPW Online: gov.wales/rpw-online-cph-e-learning-package-introduction-and-how-use

Already using Manage my CPH? Don't forget to ensure that all your details are up to date. Out of date information on Manage My CPH could hinder livestock tracing in the event of a notifiable disease outbreak and hold up your livestock movements.

### Have you recently moved Scottish cattle onto your holding?

All cattle in Wales must have one primary and one secondary ear tag, both showing the same unique identification number. The primary tag must be a yellow plastic distance-readable flag tag. The secondary tag must be in the other ear to the primary tag. It must have the same information as the primary tag but may also contain management information and an EID chip.

Since early 2022, some keepers in

Scotland have been able to order pink EID primary tags, and these animals may move across the border into Wales. Accepting cattle with incorrect primary ear tags onto Welsh holdings does not contravene cattle ID regulations, however moving incorrectly tagged cattle off a Welsh holding does and is a breach of the General Movement Licence. Any keeper with cattle tagged with pink EID primary ear tags must email the Welsh Government's Livestock ID policy team at livestockid@gov.wales, and we will contact you with next steps.

### Changes to sheep and goat ID numbers

To prepare for the future introduction of Bovine Electronic Identification (BEID), the numbering format for cattle tags will be the same as that currently used for sheep and goat tags. This has a 0 prefix and removal of the check digit.

To ensure only one unique ID number is used on an individual flock/herd mark, numbers 00001 to 69999 have been allocated to sheep and goats, and 70000 to 99999 have been allocated to cattle

Keepers who have ordered tag numbers up to the allocated 69999 for sheep and 99999 for cattle must arrange for a new flock/herd mark to be issued by APHA, they can be contacted by telephone on 0300 303 8268 or by email at apha. cymruwales@apha.gsi.gov.uk.

Further contact information is included in our sheep and goat identification: guidance for keepers on the Welsh Government website.



# KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ON THE FARM



Children should not be allowed in the farm work place (and for young children they should enjoy outdoor space in a securefenced area).

Any access to the work area by children under 16, for example for education, or knowledge experience, should be planned and fully supervised by an adult not engaged in any work activity.

Children under the age of 13 years are specifically prohibited from driving or riding on any agricultural machine.



For more information, scan above or, search www.hse.gov.uk



### ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

### Bird flu (avian influenza): how to prevent it and stop it spreading

Bird flu (avian influenza): how to prevent it and stop it spreading

Bird flu, or avian influenza, is a highly infectious viral disease that spreads among birds.

The main causes of bird flu in poultry and other captive birds are contact with:



wild birds, in particular waterfowl such as geese, ducks, swans and gulls



droppings from infected birds



dirty footwear, clothing, vehicles and equipment



### How to reduce the risk of bird flu this summer

In order to reduce the risk of spreading bird flu this summer, remember:

If you keep poultry or other birds, maintain scrupulous hygiene and biosecurity at all times to protect your flock. Keepers in Wales must continue to abide by the mandatory biosecurity measures and complete the mandatory biosecurity self-assessment checklist until further notice:

### gov.wales/mandatory-biosecurity -self-assessment-checklist

- Always clean and disinfect your footwear and wash your hands before and after tending to your birds.
- 2 Do not pick up or touch dead or sick wild birds.
- Do not touch wild bird feathers or surfaces contaminated with bird droppings.
- 4 Keep to footpaths with dogs on leads.

If you find any dead or wild birds, please report them to the APHA helpline on 0300 3 03 8268.

### Preventing disease this summer

Summer is a wonderful time for barbecues, visits to petting zoos and walking and picnics in the great outdoors. However, interactions with wildlife and other animals can pose a risk to you and your animals. When out and about this summer, make sure to do this safely, by following some basic steps.

#### Wildlife

Wild animals can carry diseases without any obvious symptoms. Close contact with wildlife or their droppings can spread diseases to people, pets and other animals. It is therefore important to enjoy wildlife safely and from a distance.

### What you can do to protect yourself and your family this summer:

- Avoid feeding wildlife Your food may cause harm and the feeding of certain wildlife, including wild boar is illegal.
- Wildlife droppings can carry dangerous diseases – prevent children and pets from playing in contaminated areas.
- Dispose of all picnic waste safely and effectively, either in bins provided or by taking your rubbish home.
- Always wash hands with soap and water after playing outside, especially in wildlife areas, and before eating or handling food.
- Check for and remove any ticks, especially after walking through grasslands.





### Farm animals

Washing your hands (with soap and running water) immediately after handling farm animals and animals at petting zoos, their supplies or anything in the areas where they live, can go a long way to help prevent illness.

If you keep livestock, look out for signs of disease as well as changes in behaviour, feed intake and coordination, and contact APHA on 0300 303 8268 if you suspect a notifiable disease. Consult your vet immediately if you have any concerns about your animals.

When out walking take care around livestock and keep dogs on a lead.

# COME AND SEE US AT THE SHOWS

Come and see us at the Royal Welsh Show and other agricultural shows this summer.

Welsh Government staff including members of the Farm Liaison Service team will be in attendance at the Welsh Government Pavilion during the Royal Welsh Show. Farm Liaison Service staff will also have a stand at the Anglesey, Pembrokeshire, Denbigh & Flint, Meirionnydd and Usk shows during the summer months.

Staff will be available to provide you with the most up to date information on a range of current topics including the proposed Sustainable Farming Scheme, agricultural support schemes, Woodland Creation schemes, the latest on the Water regulations and animal health and welfare.

Come along and say hello!

## FIND US ON FACEBOOK

You can now follow us for regular news and updates on topics relating to rural affairs on our brand new Facebook page. Search for Cymru Wledig / Rural Wales on Facebook.

You can also follow us on our twitter account (@WGRural).

You can also sign up to receive our monthly rural affairs e-newsletter Gwlad by visiting: gov.wales/subscribe/announcements

### Farming Connect has re-appointed a team of mentors to deliver the mentoring service for the next two years



Providing up to 15 hours of fully funded one-to-one support, the mentoring service is available to all individuals registered with Farming Connect. An online directory lists key sectors and specialist areas of knowledge for each mentor.



The service is available to all registered businesses either face-to-face, online or over the telephone. If you are interested in this service, please visit our website to complete the application form -



gov.wales/farmingconnect

The Farming Connect Advisory Service provides independent, bespoke and confidential advice to farmers to help develop sustainability and improve economic and environmental performance.

**ADVISORY** SERVICE

Up to 90% funding will be available with a limit of £3000 per eligible businesses to access advice on a one-to-one and/or group basis.

#### In addition to those available previously new categories have been introduced, including...

- · Animal Health Welfare & Bio-security
- Specialist Veterinary Advice
- Energy & Water Efficiency
- Renewable Energy Generation
- Carbon Advice
- · Agri-tech





### Animal Health and Welfare Training Workshops



Do you have a specific animal health disease or issue that is having an impact on not only your livestock but your business performance too?

The fully funded accredited Animal Health and Welfare Workshops will be delivered by a network of local Veterinary Practices pan Wales on key priority topics, including biosecurity, disease transmission, diagnosis, treatment and control.

Each three-hour workshop will give key information and practical guidance on specific animal health and welfare issues.

All clients must be registered with Farming Connect before attending.

Completion of each workshop will be recorded on your Storfa Sgiliau (CPD) record and you will receive a Lantra Awards 'certificate of attendance'.

For further information and to view the current list of modules available, please visit the Farming Connect website or contact your local Development Officer.



Local Development Officer



gov.wales/farmingconnect

### FARMING CONNECT SKILLS FUNDING



The Farming Connect Accredited Training Programme gives individuals the opportunity to apply for funding towards an accredited short training course.

- All training courses subsidised by up to 80% for registered individuals
  - More than **70 courses** available
- Network of approved training providers located throughout Wales

Applications approved on a monthly basis

#### **APPLY NOW TO...**

...develop your skills, develop your business and plan ahead.

Local Development Officer







# WALES RURAL NETWORK SUPPORT UNIT (WRNSU)

The role of the WRNSU is to facilitate the networking process and the engagement of stakeholders. It uses several media platforms to share information, best practice and expertise across Wales, UK and Europe.

As the EU RDP Programme starts to draw to a close, we have added a new content area for the website called Rural Programmes with current available grants designed to ensure that there is continuity of support for important actions previously funded through the EU Rural Development Programme. Also, a page to keep you updated on the development of the new programme.

Further details will be available through the following channels listed below.

Connect with the Wales Rural Network for more information about RDP projects, case studies and the latest news.



### facebook.com/WalesRuralNet



@RGC\_WRN



ruralnetwork@gov.wales



businesswales.gov.wales/walesruralnetwork





# WHERE CAN I GET HELP? GET IN TOUCH WITH US

### **FARMWELL WALES**

www.farmwell.wales

### **FARMING CONNECT**

03456 000 813

### THE DPJ FOUNDATION

0800 5874262

#### THE ADDINGTON FUND

01926 620135

#### **TIR DEWI**

0800 1214722 mail@tirdewi.co.uk

#### **FARM LIAISON SERVICE**

0300 0255449 farmliaisonservice@gov.wales

### ROYAL AGRICULTURAL BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION

0800 188 4444 info@rabi.org.uk

### THE FARMING COMMUNITY NETWORK

03000 111 999 help@fcn.org.uk

### RPW CUSTOMER CONTACT CENTRE

0300 062 5004

#### MIND CYMRU

0300 123 3393 info@mind.org.uk

