

For Office Use Only

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Date received:	
Date passed to CMB:	
EIA Number:	

APPLICATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

for the use of uncultivated land or semi-natural areas for intensive agricultural purposes

This form may be completed on-screen and printed off for signature. Alternatively, you can print off a blank version and complete by hand, using BLOCK CAPITALS. Where you do not have enough space to complete any part of the form, please use a separate sheet and send it with this form.

Do I need to complete this form?

Notes (a) and (b) below will tell you whether you are required to apply for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) decision on your proposed project. You should also read the Guidelines, available from the address above or on the DARD website. If you have any queries or difficulties completing the form, contact Agri-Environment Schemes Management Branch at the above address.

You do **NOT** need to complete the form if the land in question is:

- (a) under arable cropping eg under rotation, vegetables, cereals, fodder crops etc
- (b) not 'semi-natural' or 'uncultivated' as defined in the Guidelines

All other projects involving the use of semi-natural or uncultivated land for intensive agricultural purposes require the completion of this form.

When can I start my project?

If an EIA decision is required, or you are uncertain, you should NOT undertake any of the proposed operations until you have received written permission to proceed from Agri-Environment Schemes Management Branch. If your land is not semi-natural or uncultivated it is outside the remit of this scheme and you can start work on your project immediately, subject to any other statutory requirements.

Title <small>(Dr, Mr, Ms etc.):</small>		Forename(s):		Surname:	
Postal address for correspondence:					
	Postcode:				
Email:				Telephone:	
Farm Survey No.:				Farm Business ID:	

SITE DETAILS & PROPOSED OPERATIONS

REMEMBER – this form only needs to be completed for projects using uncultivated or semi-natural land for intensive agricultural purposes.

The operations listed below are examples of the type of operation subject to EIA. Please enter details of your proposed operation(s) in the table below. If the proposed works involve more than four fields or areas within field, please enclose details on a separate sheet.

- **Cultivation** – including ploughing, rotavating, harrowing, tining, discing and reseedling.
- **Spreading soil** or other material, including fertiliser or lime in excess of existing routine application rates.
- **Drainage works** – new works including mole, tile, tunnel, subsoiling or other artificial subsoiling or other artificial drainage and moorland gripping. Routine maintenance is not covered.
- **Land reclamation** from estuary or other wetlands.
- **Modification to watercourses**, to deepen, widen, straighten or otherwise improve an existing watercourse where these operations are intended to bring uncultivated land into intensive agricultural use. Routine maintenance is not covered.
- **Flood defences** – operations on embankments, structures or land which act as flood or coastal defences.
- **Infilling** ditches, ponds, pits, pools, marshes or historic earthwork features.
- **Clearing vegetation** or land by physical removal, burning, application of herbicides, deliberate overgrazing or trampling or rooting by livestock in preparation for cultivation.
- **Introducing livestock** (including poultry) at intensive stocking rates, or increasing current stocking rates to intensive levels.
- **Operations affecting historic or natural features** such as archaeological sites, ridge and furrow, ancient earthworks, hedgerows, or drystone walls.

	OS Grid Ref (6 figs)	IACS Field No.	Name of field (if any)	Area within field	Summary of proposed work
1 st Field Area					
2 nd Field Area					
3 rd Field Area					
4 th Field Area					

LANDSCAPE/HABITAT TYPES

From the list below, which of the following categories best describes the land on which the proposed operation(s) will be carried out?

Unimproved grassland, heath and moorland – Includes meadows and grazing pastures; downland or other open or enclosed upland grassland; grassland with some tree cover; lowland and coastal heathland; moorland and upland rough grazing. (Land is considered to be uncultivated land if it has not been subject to physical or chemical cultivation in the last 15 years.)

Scrubland – EIA procedures will apply where scrub is cleared or managed with an aim of converting to arable or stock farming including intensification of such an existing use.

Wetlands – Includes marsh, fen, open water, watercourses, saltmarsh, ditches and ponds.

1st Field Area

2nd Field Area

3rd Field Area

4th Field Area

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Is any payment made on the land by either DARD or DOE?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
If so, which Scheme?		
Single Farm Payment	<input type="checkbox"/>	
MOSS	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Countryside Management Scheme (CMS)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Habitat Improvement Scheme	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are you aware of any other information which may be relevant to this application (eg public rights of way, designated areas etc)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have answered YES please give further details:

LOCATION MAP

Please provide a location map at a scale of 1:10,000 (or 1:2,500) for your project, indicating:

- (a) the boundaries of the field(s) concerned (please label 1st, 2nd etc if there is more than one field involved) and indicate the type of boundary involved (eg stone wall, hedgerow etc); and
- (b) the boundary lines of the project within the field(s) plus an estimate of the area (in hectares) involved.

DATA PROTECTION & FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

The Department takes data protection and freedom of information issues seriously. It takes care to ensure that any personal information supplied to it is dealt with in a way which complies with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998. This means that any personal information you supply will be processed principally for the purpose for which it has been provided. However, the Department may also use it for other legitimate purposes in line with the Data Protection Act 1998 and Freedom of Information legislation. These include:

- Administration of the Common Agricultural Policy and other aid schemes;
- The production and safety of food;
- Management of land and other environmental controls;
- Animal health and welfare;
- Occupational health and welfare;
- Compilation of statistics;
- Disclosure to other organisations when required to do so; and
- Disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 where such disclosure is in the public interest.

In accordance with the terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007, details of all EIA applications and decisions will be published by the Department.

Any applicant knowingly or recklessly withholding material information or making a false or misleading statement may be prosecuted.

DECLARATION

You should now check the boxes below, print this form, and sign where appropriate.

I have read and understood the Guidelines	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have read and understood the Data Protection/Freedom of Information statement above	<input type="checkbox"/>
The answers given in this form are, to the best of my knowledge, correct	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signature:	Date:

YOU ARE ADVISED TO KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM