

GLOSSARY/LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Term or abbreviation	Meaning/definition
Active land management	A farmer keeping grazing livestock to a minimum stocking density
AE	Agri-environment
Agricultural Activity	The production, rearing or growing of agricultural products including harvesting, milking, breeding animals and keeping animals for farming purposes or maintaining the land in good agricultural and environmental condition
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty – an area of countryside with significant landscape value
ASSI	Area of Special Scientific Interest – an area of land declared to be an area of special scientific interest under Part IV of the Nature Conservation and Amenity Lands (NI) Order 1985 or Article 28 of the Environment (NI) Order 2002
Biodiversity	Variety of life of earth
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CL	Common Land – land on which grazing of animals is shared
CMS	Countryside Management Scheme
Conacre	A system of short-term land lettings, not exceeding 364 days
Cross compliance	Relates to two sets of standards which farmers must meet. The first set of standards involves meeting a range of EU Statutory Management Requirements covering: the environment; food safety; animal and plant health; animal welfare. The second set of standards involves a requirement that all those in receipt of direct agricultural support maintain all their land in Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition
DA	Disadvantaged Areas - land classed as LFA under Directive 84/169/EEC
DARD	Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Decoupling	Breaking the link between production and the receipt of direct subsidy
Diversification	A way of branching out from traditional farming activities and taking on a new income-generating enterprise. The types of enterprise can vary widely, e.g. tourism and leisure related activities, specialist crops or livestock, or in the services or manufacturing sectors
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
EAGGF	European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund
EQIA	Equality Impact Assessment
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area

ESU	European Size Unit – a measure of the economic size of a farm business based on the gross margin imputed from standard coefficients for each commodity on the farm. The application of these standard coefficients results in the Standard Gross Margin (SGM) for a farm or group of farms. 1 ESU = 1200€ SGM. One ESU roughly corresponds to either 1.3 ha of cereals or 1 dairy cow or 25 ewes or equivalent combinations of these
EU	European Union
EU MS	European Union Member States
EU15	The number of member countries in the European Union prior to the accession of ten candidate countries on 1 May 2004. The EU15 comprised the following 15 countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and UK
Extensive/low intensity farming	Farming system characterised by low levels of inputs per unit area of land; in such situations the stocking rate, the number of livestock units per area, is low
Externalities	Market failure occurs whenever the costs and benefits of economic activity are not borne exclusively by the buyers and sellers of goods and services that are provided and when others outside the market process are affected. The third party effects are known as externalities and can be positive or negative
Farm	A single unit both technically and economically, which has single management and the output of which is agricultural products (Annex II of 83/461/EEC contains a list of 'agricultural products'). Such units may consist entirely of owned land, entirely of rented land or a combination of both
Farm Profit	Includes any profit (loss) generated by farming activities, plus any income generated from CMS, ESA and LFACA Schemes
Farm Resource Income	Includes Farm Profit plus investment income from surplus working capital, income from off-farm employment and SFP
Farmer	A natural or legal person whose holding is situated within Community territory and who exercises an agricultural activity
FBS	Farm Business Survey
FFI	Family Farm Income
FWU	Family Working Unit
GAEC	Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition
GAMS	General Algebraic Modelling System
GDP	Gross Domestic Product – the value of all goods and services produced within a nation in a given year
Ha	Hectare
Habitat	Normal abode or locality of animals or plants
HNV	High Nature Value farmland – those areas in Europe where agriculture is a major (usually the dominant) land use and

	where that agriculture supports or is associated with either a high species and habitat diversity or the presence of species of European, and/or national, and/or regional conservation concern, or both
Hobby farmers	Part-time farmers, typically sub-scale producers who derive sufficient utility to outweigh less than full economic return
IACS	DARD's Integrated Administration and Control System
Intensive Farming	Farming system requiring high inputs such as fertilisers and irrigation of crops, or supplementary feed and other additives in animals, to allow rapid high outputs and turnover, and high stocking rates
LFA	Less Favoured Area – areas of poorer agricultural land which qualify for special aid under EU Schemes
LFACA Scheme	Less Favoured Area Compensatory Allowance Scheme
Lowland	Agricultural land which is classified as neither Disadvantaged or Severely Disadvantaged
Livestock Unit (LU)	A unit used to compare or aggregate numbers of animals of different species or categories
Medium/large businesses	Farms of 40 ESUs or over. Farms in this size range generally occupy at least 2 persons full-time
Modulation	The transfer of funds from SFP to rural development schemes – the current rate of compulsory EU modulation rate is 5% which is scheduled to remain at this level until 2012. Voluntary modulation (applying modulation at a higher rate than that required by the EU) is set at 6% for 2008, 7% for 2009, 8% for 2010, 9% for 2011 and 9% for 2012
Natura 2000	Natura 2000 is the European Union-wide network of protected areas, recognised as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) under the EC Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/42/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats of wild fauna and flora) or as a Special Protection Area (SPA) under Council Directive 79/409/EEC
NIBG	Northern Ireland Biodiversity Group
NICMS	Northern Ireland Countryside Management Scheme
NIRDP 2007-2013	Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013
NISRA	Northern Ireland Statistical Research Agency
OGA	Other Gainful Activity – farming part-time in conjunction with off-farm employment
Over-grazing	Grazing land with livestock in such numbers as to damage the growth, quality or species composition of the vegetation to a significant degree
Owned land	Land declared as owned by the farm business
Ramsar sites	Wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention
RDR	Rural Development Regulation

SAC	Special Area of Conservation designated under the EC Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC)
SDA	Severely Disadvantaged Areas - land classed as LFA under Directive 75/268/EEC
SFP	Single Farm Payment
SFPS	Single Farm Payment Scheme
SGM	Standard Gross Margin – the gross margin of an enterprise is its total output less the variable costs which are directly attributable to it. SGMs are calculated at regional level per area unit and head of livestock for related crops and livestock categories
SLR	Standard Labour Requirement - the labour requirement (in full-time equivalents) for all the agricultural activities on the farm, based on standard coefficients for each commodity on the farm. The SLR is representative of labour requirement under typical conditions for enterprises of average size and performance. The SLR may be different from actual labour use on a farm depending on factors such as the extent to which the farmer chose to substitute machinery for labour
Small businesses	Farms of between 8 and 40 ESU. Farms in this size range will generally occupy between 1 and 2 persons full-time
SMR	Statutory Management Requirement
SOA	Super Output Areas - the new National Statistical Geography output intended for use when publishing small area statistics. It is anticipated that these will eventually replace electoral wards. SOAs are designed to give an improved basis for comparison across the country, as they are more similar in population size than electoral wards. They will not be subject to frequent boundary change, so are more suitable for comparison over time. The SOA Lower Level consists of a minimum of 400 households or 1,000 people and average 1,500 people. Middle Layer Super Output Area status consists of population more than 5,000 and households more than 2,000
SPA	Special Protection Area designated under the EC Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)
Sustainable Development	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
UAA	Utilised Agricultural Area – the total arable land, permanent pastures and meadows, land used for permanent crops and kitchen gardens (Council Regulation 571/88 of 29.02.1988, OJ L 56 of 2.03.1988 p.3). The UAA excludes un-utilised agricultural land, woodland and land occupied by buildings, farmyards, tracks, ponds, etc.