



ITLUS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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Greening and CAP Implications

Summary of 2015 Schemes

Single Payment Scheme

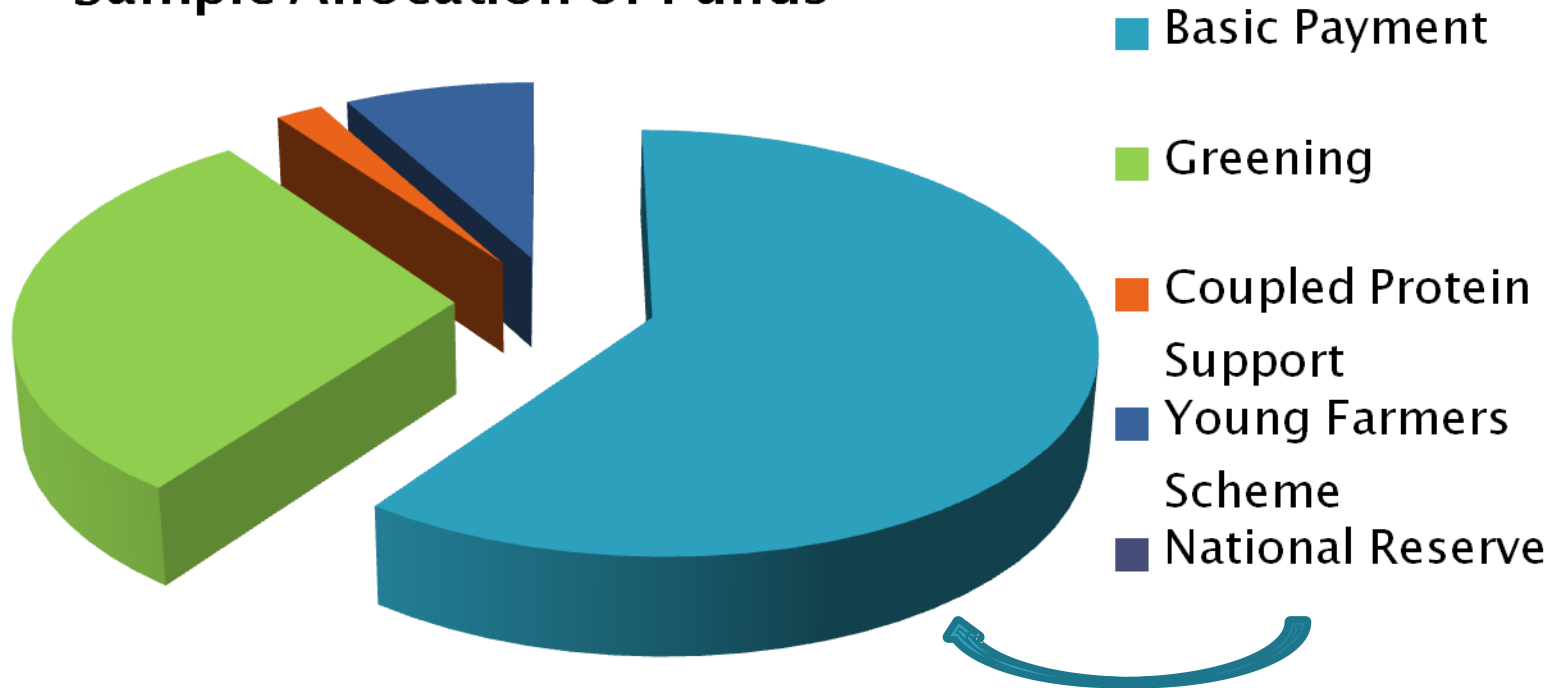
replaced by

Basic Payment Scheme

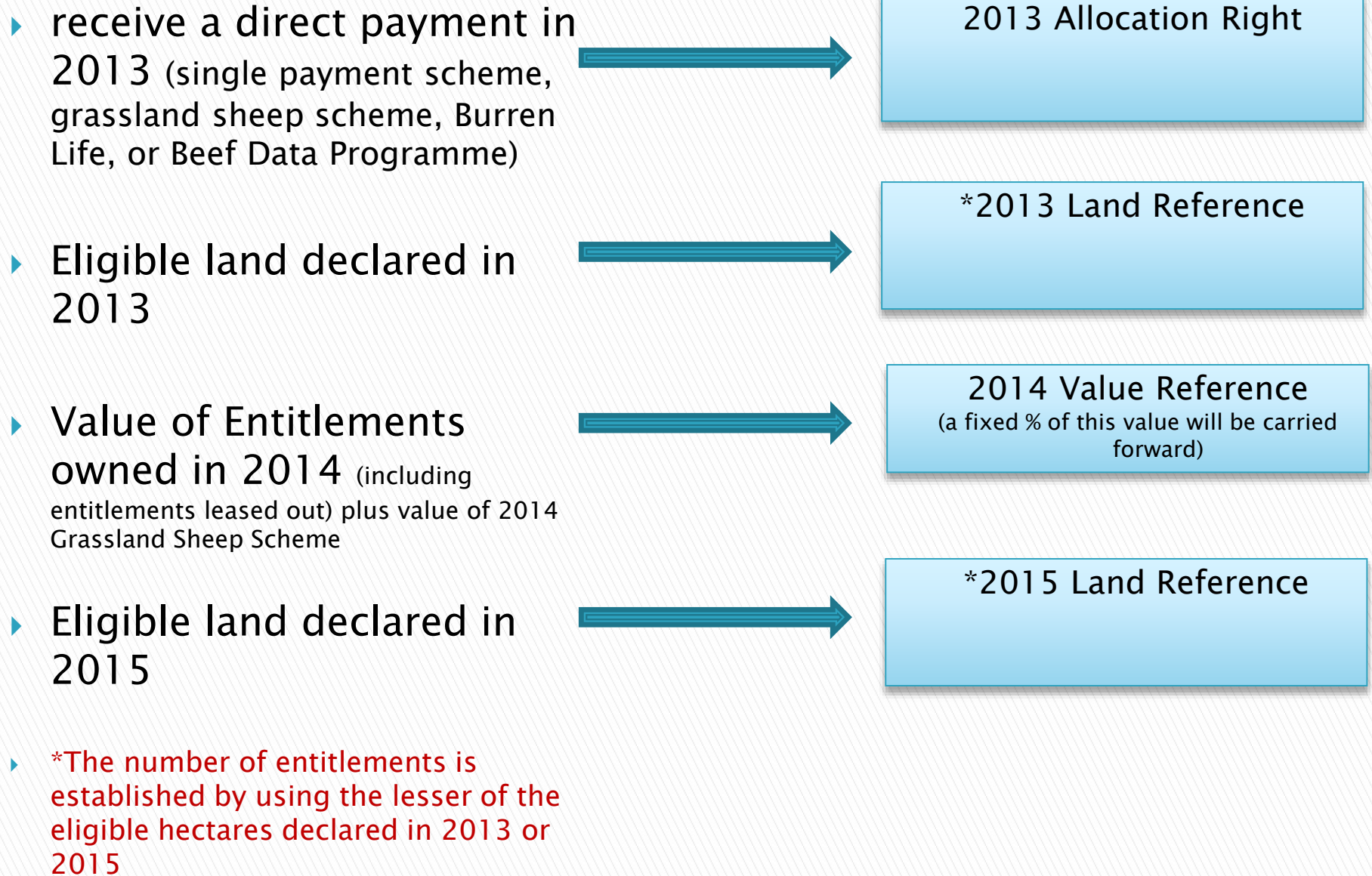
- Young Farmers Scheme
- Greening
- Coupled Support for Protein Crops
- National Reserve
 - Priority access: Young farmers and new entrants

Potential Payments

Sample Allocation of Funds



Reference Points



Sample Calculation

2014 Value

€9000 SPS+€1000 GLS



Value of Entitlements =
€10,000 X 65% = €6500

2013 Land Reference

100



Lesser



Number of Entitlements = 80

2015 Land Reference

80

Initial Unit Value is established
by dividing the value by the
number of entitlements=
€81.25

Convergence of Entitlements

▶ High Initial Unit Value



*€171.82



*€154.64



*€103.09

- ▶ National Average
- ▶ 90% National Average
- ▶ Minimum Value of 60%
 - (by 2019)

(Transfer of €103m)



▶ Low Initial Unit Value

*estimated values
based on 2013 data

Greening Measures



- ▶ Crop Diversification
- ▶ Permanent grassland
- ▶ Ecological focus area (EFA)

Commission proposals V Measures Adopted

Exemptions

Measures	Proposals	Adopted Measure
Crop Diversification	> 3 ha = 3crops	> 10 ha < 30 ha 2 crops >30ha = 3 crops
Ecological Focus Areas	7% of arable lands Protein crops, catch crops not included. No weightings	5% with protein and catch crops and weightings.
Permanent Grassland	5 % ratio at farmer level including re-seeding	5% at National level with no ban on ploughing.

Current Developments

- ▶ Agriculture Commissioner commitment to simplify the CAP including greening measures.
- ▶ Is likely to deal with technical issues rather than adopted policy.
- ▶ More simplification – less flexibility for farmers.
- ▶ Call by some MEPs for deferral for one year. Commissioner has confirmed that this is not possible.
- ▶ Need for stability.



Crop Diversification cont.

Some examples

1

Spring Barley
Temporary Grassland
Fallow land

2

Spring Barley
Winter Barley
Fallow land

Crop Diversification cont.

Temporary Grassland – explained

- ▶ In 2015, a land parcel would be temporary grassland if it satisfied the following conditions.

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Arable crop	Arable crop or grass	Arable crop or grass	Arable crop or grass	Arable crop or grass	Grass = Temporary grassland

Crop Diversification cont.

- ▶ Main Crop – not more than 75% – this applies to both 2 and 3 crop requirements
- ▶ That means that the second (or a mixture of crops) must be greater than 5%
- ▶ Two main crops – not more than 95%
- ▶ That means that the third crops (or a mixture of crops) must be greater than 5%
- ▶ Landscape features that form part of the eligible area can be taken into account in the measurement of areas of separate crops – margins and hedges form part of the crop area.
- ▶ Use of total eligible area (reference area) rather than claimed area

Crop Diversification – GLAS

- ▶ There will be a GLAS Scheme in place in 2015.
- ▶ Winter cover under GLAS will be equivalent to Crop Diversification.
- ▶ There will be priority access for arable farmers with greater than 30 ha.
- ▶ On-going discussions on equivalence with EU Commission.
- ▶ Issues at stake are (i) area to be sown and (ii) period in ground.

Crop Diversification – Advice Only

- ▶ Ensure that you have options when sowing arable crops in Spring.
- ▶ Bear in mind that field margins and hedgerows form part of the crop for the purposes of CD measurements – 75%, 95% etc.
- ▶ **Be aware of consequences using equivalence under GLAS for Crop Diversification (2015 only).**
- ▶ Be cautious about planting areas close to the 75% and 95% thresholds – particularly, if sowing more than one crop in the same LPIS parcel.

Ecological Focus Areas (EFAs)

- ▶ Farmers with 15 ha or less of arable land exempt
- ▶ Farmers with more than 15ha of arable land must ensure that at least 5% of their arable land is an ecological focus area – known as EFAs
- ▶ Arable areas used to establish 5% includes temporary grassland but excludes permanent grassland and the exception of buffer strips and landscape features, which are situated on permanent grassland and are declared as EFAs. Also excludes permanent crops.

EFA's cont.

Landscape Features

- Includes hedgerows and drains/ditches
- Hedges and drains already protected in Ireland under Cross Compliance.
- Conversion/weighting factor: 1 meter of hedgerow = 10² meters of EFA area
- Half the hedgerow associated with each parcel
- Full hedgerow if arable parcel adjacent to permanent grassland farmed by applicant or along a public road.

EFAs cont.

Nitrogen Fixing Crops

- These are protein crops and include peas, beans, sweet lupins, red clover and alfalfa.
- Each hectare of protein crops is equivalent to 0.7 ha of EFA area.
- Protein crops can benefit from the Coupled Protein Aid (peas, beans and sweet lupins **only**).

EFAs cont.

Lands Lying Fallow

Identification of arable fallow lands

- Must be arable fallow lands.
- Land must have being sown with crop during one or more of previous years.
- Cannot be part of a parcel, which has not been tilled.
- Land declared as fallow but not cropped since 2009 will not be eligible as fallow in 2015.

EFAs cont.

Lands Lying Fallow Management

- Lands to remain fallow for the minimum period of 1 January to 31st July.
- Grass seed can be sown during this period.
- A crop cannot be harvested during this period.
- Can be grazed after 31st July.
- Lands must be maintained in good condition

EFAs cont.

Lands Lying Fallow Management contd.

- Minimum fallow land area: 0.1 ha.
- Minimum width must be set.
- Wild bird cover; is eligible fallow land.
- Temporary grassland in year 5 can be declared as fallow in 2015 and remain as fallow if it is declared as it in subsequent years.

EFA's cont.

Catch Crop/Winter Cover

- Can be under sown grass with main crop
- A mixture of seeds
- Must be sown by 1 October
- Each hectare of catch crops/winter cover is equivalent to 0.3 hectare of EFA
- The same parcel cannot be used for **two EFA measures** in the same year – e.g. protein crops followed by winter cover.

EFA's cont.

Summary of EFAs

- Hedgerows
 - Ditches/drains
 - Buffer Strips
- Have been mapped by Department.
Applicants amend where necessary
Contributes more than actual
area to EFA requirement
- Fallow land area (actual)
 - Eligible Forestry area (actual)
 - Short Rotation Coppice area (actual)
 - Protein Crops area – reduced to 0.7 ha for EFA
 - Catch crop/winter cover area – reduced to 0.3 ha for EFA

EFA's Advice

- If in doubt, leave it out
- Aim high in relation to % EFA



EFA cont.

Future

- As already stated, the Commissioner will review the greening measures with a view to simplifying.
- The Commission has undertaken to review the implementation of EFAs after 2015.
- Commission must present report evaluating the effectiveness of the measure by 31 March 2017.
- Report may be accompanied by proposals.
- Proposals may include an increase of the EFA minimum area from 5% to 7% – must be agreed by Council of Ministers and European Parliament.

Greening Payment

- ▶ Arable farmers must apply on-line in 2015.
- ▶ Using on-line system will protect farmer.
- ▶ On-line system – reflects manual application.
- ▶ It would not be possible to process greening applications on paper.
- ▶ Would delay the processing of payments to all farmers.

Greening On-line

- ▶ Three options open to Department.
- ▶ Not provide an on-line EFA Layer.
- ▶ Provide layer but not populate hedges, drains and buffer strips.
- ▶ Populate with data as was done.
- ▶ Underlying system robust.
- ▶ Difficult to determine features using electronic means.
- ▶ Will be incorrect and will need correction by farmers and advisors/consultants.

Share Farming

- ▶ Can apply as a share farming group.
- ▶ Must be recognised by Department.
- ▶ Must lodge all share farming agreements.
- ▶ Agreement must provide for an involvement of share farmers in both inputs and outputs.
- ▶ Must declare all of the lands of all share farmers, who wished to be involved in the group.
- ▶ Greening requirements applied at group level.
- ▶ Eligibility requirements applied at group level.
- ▶ Entitlements held separately.
- ▶ Payments calculated and paid separately to group members.

Greening deductions

- ▶ No greening penalties for non-compliance will apply for 2015 and 2016.
 - ▶ Penalties will apply on a phased from 2017.
-
- ▶ Non-compliance will be dealt with by deduction in the greening payment in 2015 and 2016.
 - ▶ Greening payment on permanent grassland not affected.
 - ▶ Basic Payment Entitlements will not be impacted.

Greening deductions

EXAMPLES

- ▶ Farmer with 32 ha of arable land with only one crop in 2014 would lose his or her greening payment on 16 ha of the arable land. If farmer had permanent grassland the greening payment on this will not be impacted.
- ▶ Farmer with 32 ha of arable land where the main crop is 76% (or 0.3 ha) will have a reduction of 0.64 ha in his or her greening payment as he has breached the 75% threshold.

Greening Timeline

- ▶ On-line Mapping Facility to allow EFA (hedge/drain) layer to be reviewed.
- ▶ Issue of EFA maps to farmers before Christmas.
- ▶ Greening manual to issue with maps.
- ▶ Before mid-February 2015 – BPS application with Greening element online system opened.
- ▶ Application forms to issue before end February 2015.

Coupled Protein Aid

- Will be paid on Peas, Field Beans and Lupins
- Total ceiling – €3 million
- Would pay €250 per hectare on 12,000 ha
- Treble area sown in 2014
- Protein crops eligible for aid could also contribute towards meeting EFA requirement
- Crops meets Crop Diversification requirement



Thank You