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Less Favoured Area
Support Scheme

Scotland Rural
Development Programme



What is the less favoured area support scheme (LFASS)?

LFASS is an area-based scheme provided for in EC Rural Development regulations. The objectives of LFA support are to:

- ensure continued agricultural land use in order to contribute to the maintenance of a viable rural community;
- Maintain the countryside;
- Maintain and promote sustainable farming systems.

The Scotland Rural Development Programme (SRDP) includes detailed proposals for LFASS covering the period 2007–2009. These are subject to EC approval. Under the proposed scheme, payment will be both historic-based and tied to the land and the business.



Who can apply?

- Eligible farmers and crofters can apply.

When and how do I apply?

- We aim to include LFASS applications from 2008 in the Single Application Form (SAF).

What information do I need to include with my application form?

- We aim to capture all appropriate information through the SAF form.
- Most applicants will not need to submit additional information.

Where can I go for assistance or guidance?

- You can seek advice from your SGRPID area office.

What will happen to my application form and when will I be paid?

- Your form will be processed and checked to ensure that you meet the requirements of the scheme. This may include an on-farm inspection. We aim to make LFASS payments around the end of each year.



Once I am participating in LFASS, what general conditions will apply?

Under the proposed scheme, payment will be made only to occupiers who actively farm eligible land for the greater part of the year. It will be paid on eligible LFA forage land in Scotland claimed by the applicant in their SAF in the year for which payment is to be made, and will be subject to all of the Cross Compliance requirements.

What will happen if I fail to meet the rules of the scheme?

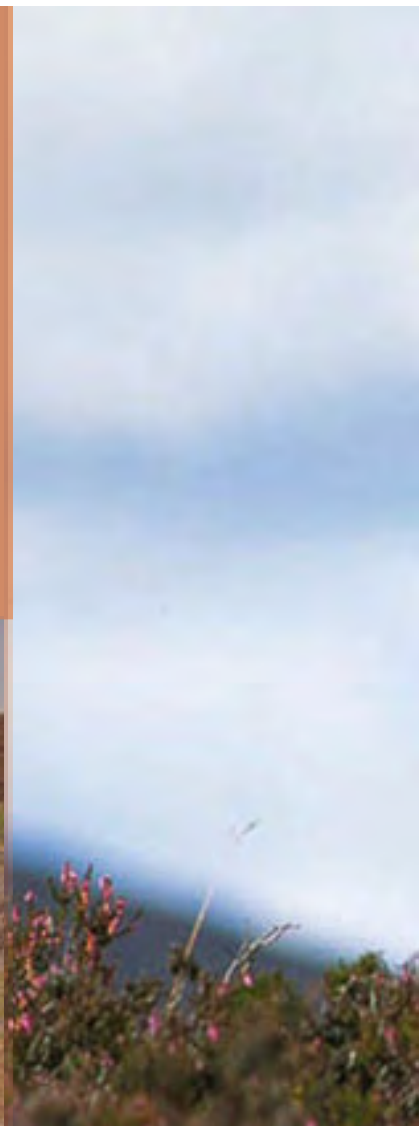
- Where conditions have been breached your LFASS payment may be reduced or cancelled.
- In such instances the Agricultural Subsidy Appeals Process will apply.

Where can I find more details about LFASS?

- As well as printed explanatory notes, guidance will be available on the Scottish Government website www.scotland.gov.uk/srdp



lfass



The Scottish
Government



The European Agricultural Fund
for Rural Development:
Europe investing in rural areas

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