

The Code of Practice on **Sustainable and Regenerative Agriculture**



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

What is the Code of Practice?

A guide to sustainable and regenerative farming to help you decide which actions and measures might work for you.

Why have we created it?

We want Scotland to be a global leader in sustainable and regenerative agriculture. New legal requirements mean a Code of Practice has been developed. Creating common standards of good practice will help make that happen.

What is **Sustainable & Regenerative**?



Sustainable:

Sustainable practice means managing your land in a way that minimises environmental damage.



Regenerative:

Regenerative practice means managing land in a way that allows for the renewal of natural resources.

Becoming **more sustainable**

Measures to become more sustainable focus around:



Maintaining healthy soils



Managing livestock for productivity and lower emissions



Improving biodiversity



Protecting air and water quality



Efficient use of inputs

These can all be used in combination with the four key principles of regenerative agriculture.



Maximise crop diversity



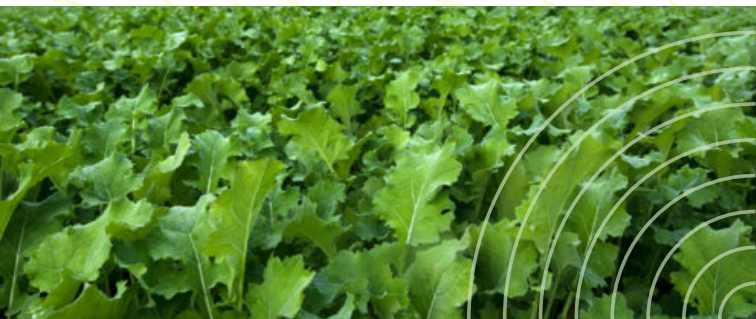
Keep soils covered



Maintain living roots

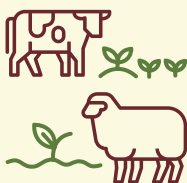


Integrate livestock



Regenerative success stories

Below are just a few of the examples of how sustainable and regenerative practices can result in a healthier, more profitable farming business that also supports and promotes a more diverse landscape throughout Scotland.



Establishing herb and legume rich pastures

adds resilience to your grazing and provides higher quality forage for livestock. Reducing feed bills and improving growth rates.



Nutrient budgeting

helps you better use your manures and slurry, reduce fertiliser bills, improve yields and reduce your impact on the environment.



Establishing or maintaining hedges and woodlands

provides valuable habitats while also providing shelter and shade for livestock.



Sampling forage and tailoring rations to the animal need can reduce feed cost, improve animal performance and lower emissions from livestock.

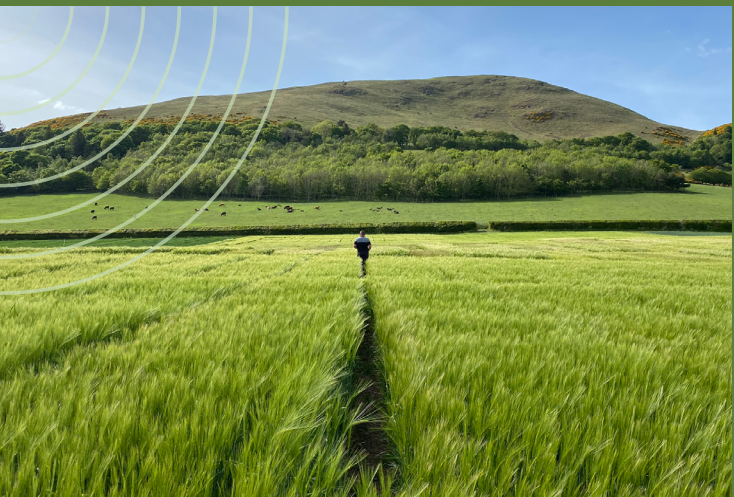
How do I know which measures to choose?

The code sets out a list of practical measures that can help you to become more sustainable and regenerative. Not all actions will suit every farm. You can pick the measures that match your land, system and budget.

How many measures do I have to adopt?

The code is voluntary so there is no requirement to adopt any measures, however there are real benefits to farming businesses becoming more sustainable and regenerative. It is therefore important that they are considered.

You don't have to tackle every area all at once, incremental changes are acceptable. Starting small and building on improvements over time will make changes easier to achieve.





Further information

Visit the website or scan the QR code for more information.

QR code to the full Code of Practice



Website link:

www.ruralpayments.org/topics/agricultural-reform-programme/the-code-of-practice-on-sustainable-and-regenerative-agriculture/

Area office contact list:

www.ruralpayments.org/topics/contact-us/