LFASS land penalties

Discrepancies in areas claimed

We cannot pay LFASS on an area greater than the area you claim in your Single Application Form. If we find a greater area, we will base your payment on the area you claim.

If the eligible area we find for an LFASS crop group is less than the area you claimed in your Single Application Form, we will calculate your payment on the eligible area we found.

The LFASS crop groups are:

- More disadvantaged land (i.e. eligible land with grazing category A or B).
- Less disadvantaged land (i.e. eligible land with grazing category C or D).

Under-declaration penalties – Article 16 of 640/2014

You must declare all the permanent and seasonal land that you have on the 15 May in your Single Application Form, in the year that you are claiming LFASS for. If we find a difference between the total area you declare and the total land that you should have declared, we will reduce any payments due to you under LFASS.

If the area we find is more than the area you declare in your Single Application Form, we will reduce your payments as follows:

Difference	Reduction
Up to 3%	No reduction
More than 3% and up to 20%	1% reduction
More than 20% and up to 50%	2% reduction
More than 50%	3% reduction

Over declaration penalties – article 19 of EU Regulation 640/2014

These rules apply in cases where the area of eligible land we find is less than the number of hectares you claimed for LFASS in your Single Application Form. If any ineligible land found was also claimed in earlier years, we may have to penalise these claims too and recover some or all of the payments we have made.

Where we find a difference between the number of hectares you claimed and the number of hectares we found for the crop group, we will apply the following penalties:

- If that difference is more than either three per cent or two hectares, but not more than 20 per cent of the eligible area found, we will reduce the eligible area found by twice the difference
- If that difference is more than 20 per cent of the eligible area found, we will not pay you LFASS for the crop group concerned
- If that difference is more than 50 per cent, we will not pay you LFASS for the crop group. In addition we will reduce any Rural Development payment due next year, or any payment covered by your Single Application Form, by an amount that is equal to difference between the area you claimed and the eligible area we found. If we cannot deduct this amount in full from your next year's payments, we will deduct the remainder from payments due in the following two years.

False declaration

A false declaration made intentionally or recklessly is a criminal offence. If we find that you have made a false declaration intentionally or recklessly you will be liable to prosecution.