

Restoration of Species-rich Grassland

This is an old version of the page

Date published: 19 January, 2023

Date superseded: 14 September, 2023

For recent changes to this guidance, please see the [bottom of the page](#) .

Aim

The aim of this item is to benefit existing permanent grassland habitats which currently have a low level of diversity of grass and flower species by over-sowing with a wildflower seed mixture.

Eligibility

Permanent unimproved grassland which has existing areas of species-diverse sward is eligible.

You should not include areas of land covering rocks, scree, water, dense bracken etc. We will check this using the same approach we use to check land for the Basic Payment Scheme.

[Assessing your land eligibility](#)

You must combine this item with one of the following management options:

- [Species-rich Grassland Management](#)
- [Habitat Mosaic Management](#)

Application requirements

You must identify on a map the location of the proposed grassland restoration.

Management requirements

- you must over-sow the area with a wildflower meadow mix to restore the species rich sward. The mix must include at least 15 per cent by weight of mixed Scottish native flowers, unless you receive prior approval as part of the application process
- the seed must be of UK origin
- you must begin restoration by 1 June in the first year of your contract
- you must maintain a diary

Payment

You can claim £514.15 per hectare.

Inspections

The inspectors will check:

- the location and extent of the work
- you have sown the area with a wildflower meadow mix to establish a new sward. The mix must include at least 15 per cent by weight of mixed Scottish native flowers, unless you receive prior approval as part of the application process. This will involve an invoice check
- the seed was of UK origin, unless you have prior approval. This will involve an invoice check
- you have begun restoration by 1 June and established the grassland in the first year of your contract
- you have maintained a diary

Additional guidance

[Supporting guidance is available for this item.](#)

Recent changes

Section	Change
Eligibility	Section revised to explain that permanent unimproved grassland which has existing areas of species-diverse sward is eligible.

Previous versions

[Previous versions of this page](#)

Download guidance

Click 'Download this page' to create a printer-friendly version of this guidance that you can save or print out.