



ACRES BURREN ARAN

Issue data May 2023

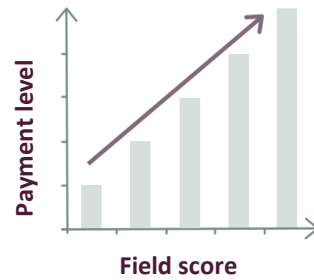
ACRES (Agri Climate Rural Environmental Scheme) is the new agri-environmental scheme delivered by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) and includes eight project zones. The ACRES Burren Aran Co-operation Project (CP) zone is led by a local team, who previously delivered the Burren Programme and Caomhnú Árann. This team will support farmers in managing and conserving the rich ecological, archaeological, geological and cultural heritage of the Burren, Aran Islands and South Galway.



RESULTS-BASED PAYMENTS

This summer, all owned forage lands in the CP zone, together with any rented or leased forage lands in the CP zone that you commit to having for the duration of the scheme, will be walked and scored by your advisor using scorecards designed to assess the fields in terms of their biodiversity value and environmental condition. In this way farmers that produce more environmental 'benefits' as part of their farm management will score higher and be rewarded through a results-based payment of up to €7,000 annually.

HIGHER FIELD SCORE = HIGHER PAYMENT LEVEL



Results Based Payment for ACRES Co-operation Zone

Field Score	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	<4
Payment Rate	€400	€350	€300	€250	€205	€175	€150	€0
Scale for farmers receiving OFS*	€150	€100	€50	€0	€0	€0	€0	€0

*Organic Farm Scheme

Commonage Rates* (ACRES General & ACRES Co-op)

Field Score	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	<4
Payment Rate	€220	€180	€145	€115	€90	€70	€60	€0**

*Commonages <10ha with a Commonage Farm Plan receive a flat rate of €120/Ha

**Participation payment set at €50/Ha on the first 20 Ha irrespective of results-based score. The results-based payment rates are inclusive of this participation payment.

TIPS FOR HABITAT MANAGEMENT



Try not to overgraze fields during the flowering season.



Where possible reduce fertiliser usage and avoid using herbicides inappropriately.



Avoid using silage feeders, especially on winterages.

WORKS TO INCREASE FIELD SCORES (up to €3,500 annually)

Non-Productive Investments (NPIs)

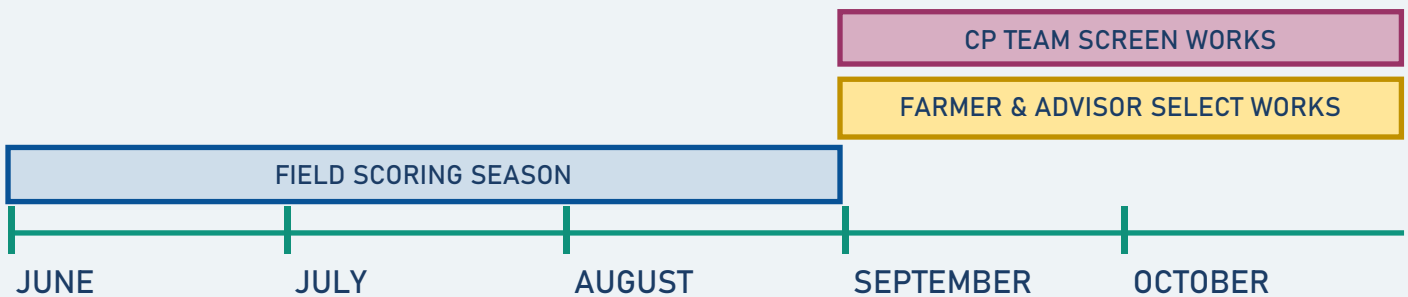
- Small-scale actions that help improve the environmental management of the farm and enhance farm habitats.
- Some examples include provision of water troughs, pumps or gates for better grazing management.
- Other options include planting of new hedges, trees or mini orchards.



Landscape Actions (LAs)

- Larger scale actions that will be of benefit to the local environment.
- Some examples include invasive species management, encroaching scrub control and water quality protection.
- It is envisioned other local environmental priorities can also be addressed under LAs.

EXPECTED DATES OF COMING MONTHS 2023



Helpful links

DAFM website: <https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation/department-of-agriculture-food-and-the-marine/>

Farming For Nature for tips on your farm: <https://www.farmingfornature.ie>

Burren Programme YouTube Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/@burrenprogramme9541>

GET IN TOUCH

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ACRES BURREN ARAN



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ACRES

Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme

 Or visit www.acresburrenaran.ie for more details



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