STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2023 No. 159

AGRICULTURE, ENGLAND

COUNTRYSIDE, ENGLAND

The Countryside Stewardship (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2023

Made - - - -at 10.00 a.m. on 16th February 2023

Laid before Parliament at 3.00 p.m. on 16th February 2023

Coming into force - - 13th March 2023

The Secretary of State makes these Regulations, with the consent of the Treasury, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 98 of the Environment Act 1995(**a**).

Citation, commencement, extent and application

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Countryside Stewardship (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2023 and come into force on 13th March 2023.

(2) These Regulations extend to England and Wales but apply to England only.

Amendment to the Countryside Stewardship (England) Regulations 2020

2. In the Countryside Stewardship (England) Regulations 2020(**b**), for Part 2 of the Schedule (management activities) substitute the new Part 2 set out in the Schedule to these Regulations.

Mark Spencer
Minister of State
At 10.00 a.m. on 16th February 2023 Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

We consent

Andrew Stephenson
Steve Double
8th February 2023 Two of the Lord Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury

(a) 1995 c. 25, as amended by the Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) (No.2) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/1820). Section 98(5) defines the appropriate Minister. The functions of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (which related only to England) were transferred to the Secretary of State by virtue of article 2(2) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Dissolution) Order 2002 (S.I. 2002/794).

(b) S.I. 2020/41, amended by S.I. 2021/42, 2022/141.

SCHEDULE

Regulation 2

NEW PART 2 OF THE SCHEDULE TO THE COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2020

"PART 2

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

	Column 1 *Activity name*	*Column 2* *Description*	*Column 3* *Maximum payment rate per agreement year*
1. Arable			
(a)	Nectar flower mix	Establishing and maintaining a mixture of pollen and nectar rich plants on arable land	£614 per hectare ("ha")
(b)	Basic overwinter stubble	Retention of overwintered stubble until the following February	£84 per ha
(c)	Beetle banks	Creation (if appropriate) or maintenance of beetle banks	£667 per ha
(d)	Skylark plots	Creation of skylark plots to access growing cereal	£20.76 (£10.38 per plot minimum 2 plots per ha)
(e)	Nesting plots for lapwing and stone curlew	Establishing and maintaining plots for ground-nesting birds	£587 per ha
(f)	Enhanced overwinter stubble	Retention of overwintered stubble until the following July	£522 per ha
(g)	Whole crop cereals	Planting and harvesting whole crop cereals followed by overwintered stubble	£584 per ha
(h)	Flower-rich margins and plots	Establishing flower-rich grass margins or plots as habitat and foraging for invertebrates and birds	£673 per ha
(i)	Winter bird food	Establishing blocks or strips of cereals, brassicas and other plants providing food for farmland birds, especially for	£732 per ha

		autumn and winter	
(j)	Unharvested cereal headland	Creation of an unharvested, open structured cereal crop for wildlife	£822 per ha
(k)	Cultivated areas for arable plants	Creation of uncropped, cultivated areas for scarce and declining arable plants	£550 per ha
(l)	Supplementary winter feeding for farmland birds	Spreading winter feed mixture for birds in selected feeding areas	£669 per tonne for every 2 ha of winter bird food
(m)	Brassica fodder crop	Establishing and managing a brassica fodder crop as foraging sites for birds	£100 per ha
(n)	Harvested low input cereal	Establishing and managing an open-structure cereal crop as summer foraging for wildlife	£266 per ha
(o)	Two year sown legume fallow	Establishing and managing a legume fallow mix as food for farmland wildlife	£593 per ha
(p)	Autumn sown bumblebird mix	Establishing and managing a mix of flowering and seed bearing plants after harvest as food for farmland birds and insects	£637 per ha
2. Boundaries, Trees and Orchards			
(a)	Protection of in-field trees on arable land	Protection of in-field trees on arable land	£503 per ha
(b)	Protection of in-field trees on intensive grassland	Protection of in-field trees on intensive grassland	£295 per ha
(c)	Management of hedgerows	Management of hedgerow (one-side)	£10 per 100 metres (“m”) for 1 side of a hedge
(d)	Management of traditional orchards	Management of traditional orchards	£264 per ha
(e)	Creation of traditional orchards	Creation of traditional orchards	£373 per ha
(f)	Veteran tree surgery	Carrying out specialist tree surgery to extend the lifespan of veteran trees	£379 per tree
(g)	Supplement for restorative pruning	Restorative pruning of mature fruit trees	£113 per tree

	of fruit trees		
3. Coastal			
(a)	Management of coastal sand dunes and vegetated shingle	Management of coastal sand dunes and vegetated shingle	£339 per ha
(b)	Creation of coastal sand dunes and vegetated shingle on arable land and improved grassland	Creation of coastal sand dunes and vegetated shingle on arable land and improved grassland	£474 per ha
(c)	Management of coastal saltmarsh	Management of coastal saltmarsh	£97 per ha
(d)	Creation of inter-tidal and saline habitat on arable land	Creation of inter-tidal and saline habitat on arable land	£670 per ha
(e)	Creation of inter-tidal and saline habitat by non-intervention	Creation of inter-tidal and saline habitat by non-intervention	£494 per ha
(f)	Coastal vegetation management supplement	Management of grazing on saltmarsh or saline habitat	£117 per ha
(g)	Creation of inter-tidal and saline habitat on intensive grassland	Creation of inter-tidal and saline habitat on intensive grassland	£494 per ha
4. Grassland			
(a)	Take small areas out of management	Taking small areas of permanent grassland out of management	£365 per ha
(b)	Permanent grassland with very low inputs outside SDAs(**a**)	Management of permanent grassland with very low inputs outside SDAs	£151 per ha
(c)	Ryegrass seed-set as winter food for birds	Establishing a ryegrass seed-set on grassland to provide food in the autumn and winter for birds	£474 per ha
(d)	Legume and herb-rich swards	Establishment and maintenance of legume and herb-rich swards	£382 per ha
(e)	Permanent grassland with very low inputs in SDAs	Management of permanent grassland with very low inputs in SDAs	£98 per ha
(f)	Management of species-rich	Management of species-rich	£182 per ha

(**a**) "SDA" is defined in Part 1 of the Schedule to S.I. 2020/41.

	grassland	grassland	
(g)	Restoration towards species-rich grassland	Restoration towards species-rich grassland	£235 per ha
(h)	Creation of species-rich grassland	Creation of species-rich grassland	£428 per ha
(i)	Management of wet grassland for breeding waders	Management of wet grassland for breeding waders	£353 per ha
(j)	Management of wet grassland for wintering waders and wildfowl	Management of wet grassland for wintering waders and wildfowl	£217 per ha
(k)	Creation of wet grassland for breeding waders	Creation of wet grassland for breeding waders	£547 per ha
(l)	Creation of wet grassland for wintering waders and wildfowl	Creation of wet grassland for wintering waders and wildfowl	£450 per ha
(m)	Management of grassland for target features	Management of grassland for targeted habitats, species or features	£152 per ha
(n)	Creation of grassland for target features	Creation of grassland for targeted habitats, species or features	£432 per ha
(o)	Haymaking supplement	Continue or re-introduce haymaking on fields which are or were cut for hay once a year	£85 per ha
(p)	Rush infestation control supplement	Reduce rush cover in grassland with heavy infestations	£79 per ha
(q)	Lenient grazing supplement	Management of grazing to provide spring and summer invertebrate food	£44 per ha
5. Historic environment and landscape			
(a)	Maintenance of weatherproof traditional farm buildings	Maintenance of weatherproof traditional farm buildings	£4.42 per square metre ("sq m")
(b)	Take historic and archaeological features out of cultivation	Taking land with archaeological or historic features out of cultivation	£476 per ha
(c)	Reduced-depth, non-inversion cultivation on historic and archaeological features	Reducing damage to historical and archaeological features under cultivation by using	£92 per ha

		non-inversion machinery and shallower cultivation depths	
(d)	Scrub control on historic and archaeological features	Controlling scrub on historic and archaeological features	£175 per ha
(e)	Management of historic and archaeological features on grassland	Management of historic and archaeological features on grassland	£44 per ha
(f)	Maintenance of designed/ engineered water bodies	Maintenance of designed or engineered water bodies	£2,129 per ha
(g)	Management of historic water meadows through traditional irrigation	Management of historic water meadows through traditional irrigation	£808 per ha
(h)	Maintenance of weatherproof traditional farm buildings in remote areas	Maintenance of weatherproof traditional farm buildings in remote areas	£6.93 per sq m
(i)	Restricted depth crop establishment to protect archaeology under an arable rotation	Restricting the depth of crop establishment to protect archaeology under an arable rotation	£211 per ha
6. Lowland heath			
(a)	Management of lowland heathland	Management of lowland heathland	£366 per ha
(b)	Restoration of forestry and woodland to lowland heathland	Restoration of forestry and woodland to lowland heathland	£229 per ha
(c)	Creation of heathland from arable or improved grassland	Creation of lowland heathland from arable or improved grassland	£607 per ha
7. Soil and water			
(a)	4-6m buffer strip on cultivated land	Creation (where appropriate) and maintenance of 4m or 6m buffer strips on cultivated land	£451 per ha
(b)	4-6m buffer strip on intensive grassland	Creation (where appropriate) and maintenance of 4m or 6m buffer strips on intensive grassland	£235 per ha
(c)	In-field grass strips	Creation (where	£658 per ha

		appropriate) and maintenance of dense grassy areas on cultivated land	
(d)	12-24m watercourse buffer strip on cultivated land	Creation (where appropriate) and maintenance of 12-24m buffer strips on cultivated land	£612 per ha
(e)	Enhanced management of maize crops	Management of maize and a cover crop to reduce the risk of soil erosion and run off	£172 per ha
(f)	Winter cover crops	Provision of a cover crop to reduce nitrate leaching	£129 per ha
(g)	Arable reversion to grassland with low fertiliser input	Reversion of arable land to grassland with low fertiliser input	£326 per ha
(h)	Management of intensive grassland adjacent to a watercourse	Management of intensive grassland adjacent to a watercourse	£207 per ha
(i)	Seasonal livestock removal on intensive grassland	Seasonal removal of livestock from intensive grassland adjacent to a watercourse	£115 per ha
(j)	Seasonal livestock removal on grassland in SDAs next to streams, rivers and lakes	Seasonal removal of livestock from grassland adjacent to a watercourse in SDAs	£77 per ha
(k)	Riparian management strip	Prevention of livestock access to a watercourse and provision of a buffer strip	£596 per ha
(l)	Making space for water	Helping water flow in a winding course across flood plains, flooding temporarily to restore river and wetland habitats	£781 per ha
(m)	Very low nitrogen inputs to groundwaters	Reduction of nutrient input to grassland	£396 per ha
(n)	Nil fertiliser supplement	Reduction of nutrient inputs to zero	£156 per ha
(o)	Flood mitigation on arable reversion to grassland	Creation of temporary water storage to mitigate flood risk on arable	£493 per ha

		reversion to grassland	
(p)	Flood mitigation on permanent grassland	Creation of temporary water storage to mitigate flood risk on permanent grassland	£281 per ha
8. Uplands			
(a)	Enclosed rough grazing	Maintain and enhance areas of enclosed rough grazing land within an upland farming system	£45 per ha
(b)	Management of rough grazing for birds	Management of rough grazing habitat for birds	£121 per ha
(c)	Management of moorland	Management of moorland	£55 per ha
(d)	Management of moorland vegetation supplement	Management of vegetation to restore and improve Priority Habitats	£10 per ha
(e)	Moorland re-wetting supplement	Maintenance and restoration of vegetation mosaics and wetland habitats	£25 per ha
(f)	Upland livestock exclusion supplement	Management of upland through livestock exclusion	£19 per ha
(g)	Management of wood pasture and parkland	Management of existing upland wood pasture and parkland	£212 per ha
(h)	Restoration of wood pasture and parkland	Restoration of upland wood pasture and parkland	£316 per ha
(i)	Creation of wood pasture	Creation of new upland wood pasture	£333 per ha
9. Woodland and scrub			
(a)	Woodland creation – maintenance payments	Maintenance of newly created woodland	£350 per ha
(b)	Woodland improvement	Improvement of existing woodland	£100 per ha
(c)	Woodland edges on arable land	Creation of new woodland edge habitat	£402 per ha
(d)	Management of wood pasture and parkland	Management of existing lowland wood pasture and parkland	£198 per ha
(e)	Restoration of wood pasture and parkland	Restoration of lowland wood pasture and parkland	£371 per ha

(f)	Creation of wood pasture	Creation of new lowland wood pasture	£544 per ha
(g)	Management of successional areas and scrub	Management of successional areas and scrub	£88 per ha
(h)	Creation of successional areas and scrub	Creation of successional areas and scrub	£149 per ha
(i)	Livestock exclusion supplement – scrub and successional areas	Exclusion of livestock from scrub and successional areas	£121 per ha
10. Wetlands			
(a)	Buffering in-field ponds and ditches in improved grassland	Creation and maintenance of buffer strips for in-field ponds and ditches in improved grassland	£311 per ha
(b)	Buffering in-field ponds and ditches on arable land	Creation and maintenance of buffer strips for in-field ponds and ditches on arable land	£594 per ha
(c)	Management of ditches of high environmental value	Management of ditches of high environmental value (both sides)	£44 per 100m for the management of both sides of the ditch
(d)	Pond management (area less than or equal to 100 sq m)	Management of small ponds of high wildlife value	£119 per pond
(e)	Pond management (area more than 100 sq m)	Management of larger ponds of high wildlife value	£211 per pond
(f)	Management of reedbed	Management, maintenance and restoration of reedbed	£81 per ha
(g)	Creation of reedbed	Creation of new areas of reedbed	£328 per ha
(h)	Management of fen	Management of fen and small areas of reedbed	£39 per ha
(i)	Creation of fen	Creation of new areas of fen	£537 per ha
(j)	Management of lowland raised bog	Management of lowland raised bog	£185 per ha
(k)	Wetland cutting supplement	Cutting management of wetland habitats	£1,089 per ha
(l)	Wetland grazing supplement	Grazing management of wetland habitats	£459 per ha
11. Organic			

(a)	Overwintered stubble	Retaining overwinter stubble on organic land	£176 per ha
(b)	Wild bird seed mixture	Establishing a mix of seed-bearing plants on organic land	£768 per ha
(c)	Supplementary feeding for farmland birds	Spreading winter feed mixture for birds in selected feeding areas on organic land	£887 per tonne for every 2 ha of wild bird seed mixture
(d)	Multi-species ley	Establishing and managing a multi-species ley on organic land	£115 per ha
(e)	Undersown cereal	Establishing an autumn or spring sown cereal crop undersown with a grass/flower-rich legume ley	£306 per ha
12. Organic conversion			
(a)	Organic conversion – improved permanent grassland	Conversion of improved permanent grassland to organic management	£187 per ha per year for up to 2 years
(b)	Organic conversion – unimproved permanent grassland	Conversion of unimproved permanent grassland to organic management	£89 per ha per year for up to 2 years
(c)	Organic conversion – rotational land	Conversion of rotational land to organic management	£296 per ha per year for up to 2 years
(d)	Organic conversion – horticulture	Conversion of rotational land used to produce vegetables or salads into organic	£703 per ha per year for up to 2 years
(e)	Organic conversion – top fruit	Conversion of top fruit orchards or berry bushes to organic management	£1,254 per ha per year for up to 3 years
13. Organic maintenance			
(a)	Organic land management - improved permanent grassland	Maintaining improved permanent grassland under organic management	£40 per ha
(b)	Organic land management - unimproved permanent grassland	Maintaining unimproved permanent grassland under organic management	£36 per ha
(c)	Organic land	Maintaining	£132 per ha

	management - rotational land	rotational land under organic management	
(d)	Organic land management – horticulture	Maintaining horticultural land under organic management	£471 per ha
(e)	Organic land management - top fruit	Maintaining top fruit orchards or berry bushes under organic management	£1,920 per ha
(f)	Organic land management - enclosed rough grazing	Maintaining enclosed rough grazing land under organic management	£69 per ha
14. Additional supplements			
(a)	Difficult sites supplement	Management of particularly difficult sites	£76 per ha
(b)	Raised water level supplement	Raising water levels in ditches and adjacent land	£127 per ha
(c)	Bracken control supplement	Controlling dense bracken	£185 per ha
(d)	Control of invasive plant species supplement	Controlling invasive plant species	£347 per ha
(e)	Shepherding supplement	Introducing, re-introducing or making significant changes to shepherding	£9 per ha
(f)	Cattle grazing supplement	Cattle grazing for conservation purposes	£45 per ha
(g)	Introduction of cattle grazing on the Isles of Scilly	Introduction of conservation grazing on the Isles of Scilly on land that is not currently grazed by cattle	£279 per ha
(h)	Native breeds at risk supplement	Grazing native breeds at risk	£167 per ha
(i)	Threatened species supplement	Additional habitat management for named Priority Species	£171 per ha
(j)	Administration of group managed agreements supplement	Administering agreements with shared tenure	£6.07 per ha
15. Educational access			
(a)	Education access	Permitting and making provision for access to farm land for educational visits	£318 per visit”

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations further amend the Countryside Stewardship (England) Regulations 2020 ("the 2020 Regulations") (S.I. 2020/41) and are made pursuant to section 98 of the Environment Act 1995 (c. 25).

Regulation 2 amends, with effect from 13th March 2023, the maximum payment rates per agreement year for management activities carried out as part of a countryside stewardship agreement under regulation 3 of the 2020 Regulations.

A full impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument as no, or no significant, impact on the private, voluntary or public sector is foreseen.

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