

# The Future of Agricultural Support

## Agricultural reform Programme

### Preparing for Sustainable farming



#### Whole Farm Plan

All farmers must complete 2 of the following 5 options by 15th May 2026.



#### AGRICULTURAL REFORM PROGRAMME

Basic Payment Scheme remains as it is for 2026

New Greening Rules have been introduced for 2026

Agri Environmental Climate Scheme (AECS). Continues for 2026 with no changes

GAEC6 remains as it is for 2026

#### AGRI-ENVIRONMENTAL CLIMATE SCHEME OPTIONS

Creation of beetle banks, grass strips & water margins

##### Enhanced Margin Mixture

Fine Grasses & 20% Wild Flowers  
AB8 / IPM2 / CIPM2

- 25% Slender Red Fescue
- 25% SSMG
- 12% Chewings Fescue
- 10% Crested Dogstail
- 5% Hard Fescue
- 3.25% Sainfoin
- 3% Vetch
- 3% Browntop Bent
- 2.5% Birdsfoot Trefoil
- 2% Black Medick
- 2% Red Clover
- 2% Black Knapweed (N)
- 1.3% Oxeye Daisy (N)
- 1.25% Yarrow
- 1% Wild Carrot (N)
- 1% Plantain
- 0.5% Selfheal (N)
- 0.2% Musk Mallow (N)

100%

Sowing rate 16 - 20kg/ha  
Pack size 20kg

##### AECS Green Cover Crops

Stubbles followed by Green Manure in an arable rotation

Where winter crops are sown after green cover

##### Spring Green Cover Mixture

- 60% Buckwheat
- 30% Crimson Clover
- 10% Vetch

100%

Sowing rate 15 - 20kg/ha  
Pack size 20kg

Alternative mixture  
Annual Nectar Mixture

Where spring crops are sown after green cover

##### Over Winter Green Cover Rye Mixture

- 85% Forage Rye
- 15% Red Clover

100%

Sowing rate 35kg/ha  
Pack size 25kg

Alternative mixtures  
N-Rich Cover Mixture

##### Over Winter Green Cover Grass Mixture

- 80% Italian Ryegrass
- 15% Red Clover
- 5% White Clover

100%

Sowing rate 25kg/ha  
Pack size 25kg

Alternative mixtures  
N-Rich Cover Mixture

Wild Bird Seed for Farmland Birds Specifically for Scottish Conditions

##### Northern WBS 1

1 Year Spring Sown  
AB9 / AHL2 / CAHL2

- 60% Spring Triticale
- 20% Spring Barley
- 10% Linseed
- 5% Forage Rape
- 3% Fodder Radish
- 2% Phacelia

100%

Sowing rate 40kg/ha  
Pack size 20kg

#### FORAGE BRASSICAS FOR FARMLAND BIRDS

Best to consider  
Swedes, Kale & Hardy Hybrid Brassicas

#### EFA COVER CROP

##### EFA Maize Undersowing Mix

- 60% Festulolium
- 33% Cocksfoot
- 5% White Clover
- 2% Alsike Clover

100%

Sowing rate 10-14kg/ha  
Pack size 20kg

##### Fallow Land Mixture (EFAFAL)

- 43% Late Perennial Ryegrass (Dip)
- 42% Late Perennial Ryegrass (Tet)
- 5% Timothy
- 5% White Clover
- 3% Red Clover
- 2% Alsike Clover

100%

Sowing rate 30 - 35kg/ha  
Pack size 20kg

[www.ruralpayments.org/topics/all-schemes/schemes-overview](http://www.ruralpayments.org/topics/all-schemes/schemes-overview)

\*DISCLAIMER – The information provided in this catalogue is given in good faith and to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing. Any advice should therefore be taken as a general guide and not relied upon for all conditions and circumstances. We cannot accept any legal liability for information given in this guide.



# BPS Scotland - Greening

## A guide to Ecological Focus Area (EFA) Mixtures

### EFA Fallow Land (EFAL) Scottish Government Basic Payment Scheme – Greening

Fallow Period 15th January to 15th July. No agricultural production between these dates. Must be either a diverse grass sward, wild bird mixture, wildflower mixture or soil conditioning crop which can be established during the fallow period. After the fallow period is over grass may be cut or grazed. Plan ahead for 2027 and sow a late heading mixture after 16th July 2026.

EFA Weighting 1.0	Fallow Land Mixture PAGE 12	BGM 4 PAGE 6	Northern WBS 1 PAGES 11 & 12	Straights of Phacelia, Mustard, Chicory or Plantain PAGES 9 & 16
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### EFA Margins (EFAM) Scottish Government Basic Payment Scheme – Greening

Period is 1st January to 31st December. They should be around the margin of a field or split 2 crops within a field. Must be between 3m and 20 m wide. You are allowed to cut for hay or silage after 15th July. If not beside a watercourse it may be grazed. Wildflower, wild bird seed and diverse grass swards containing pollen bearing plants may be established.

EFA Weighting 1.5	Annual Nectar PAGE 7	BGM 4 PAGE 6	Legume & Herb Mixtures PAGE 9	Northern WBS 1 PAGES 11 & 12
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### EFA Catch Crops (EFACC) Scottish Government Basic Payment Scheme – Greening

Establish the crop in spring. You can now undersow cereals, oilseed rape and maize. They should be undersown with either a diverse grass mix or legume. The catch crop must be retained until at least the 31st December. You may graze the catch crop after harvest of the main crop.

EFA Weighting 0.3	Fallow Land Mixture PAGE 12	Legume & Herb Mixtures PAGE 8	Over Winter Green Cover Grass Mixture PAGE 12	Clover Straights PAGES 9 & 17	EFA Maize Undersowing Mixture PAGE 8
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### EFA Green Cover (EFAGC) Scottish Government Basic Payment Scheme – Greening

Establish the green cover crop by 1st November. Maintain the green cover up to 31st December inclusive. Can now be grazed before 31st December. It must be a mixture predominately made up of 2 or more of the following; lucerne, barley, alsike clover, balansa clover, crimson clover, red clover, persian clover, white clover, buckwheat, mustard, oats, phacelia, radish, rye, triticale, vetch, kale, forage rape, stubble turnips and beans.

EFA Weighting 0.3	Rapid Root PAGE 27	Winter Graze PAGE 27	N-Rich PAGE 18	N-Liven PAGE 18	Over Winter Cover Mixtures PAGE 12
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### EFA Nitrogen Fixing Crops (EFA-NFIX) Scottish Government Basic Payment Scheme – Greening

You must ensure that all EFA nitrogen-fixing crops are surrounded by a claimed EFA margin. You can now harvest before 1st August. You must grow 2 of the following; Lucerne, beans, birdsfoot trefoil, chickpea, alsike clover, balansa clover, berseem clover, red clover, sweet clover, white clover, fenugreek, lentil, lupin, peas and vetch. Mixtures are allowed, but the nitrogen-fixing species must be dominant by weight.

EFA Weighting 1.0	Red Clover PAGE 9	White Clover PAGE 17	Alsike Clover PAGE 9	Vetch PAGE 9	Lucerne PAGE 17
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### EFA Herb & Legume Rich Pastures (EFAHLRP) Scottish Government Basic Payment Scheme - Greening

Period is 1st January to 31st December. Overseed or reseed a diverse grass mix containing at least 3 different herbs or legumes (with at least one of the three being a legume). Should be established before the 1st July. No inorganic nitrogen fertiliser allowed and spot herbicide application only.

EFA Weighting 1.5	Standard Herbal Ley PAGE 8	Multi Species GHL PAGE 8	Legume & Herb Rich PAGE 8	Herbal Meadow PAGE 8	Two Plus Two or SFI Overseeding Mixtures PAGE 8
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The following are other EFA options in Scotland that do not require any seed:

EFA Hedges (EFAH), EFA Agro-Forestry (EFAAF), EFA Low input grassland (EFALIG), EFA Unharvested (EFAUHC) & EFA Agro-Forestry Low Density Planting (EFAAFLDP)