# Sustainable Farming Incentive and other Grant Opportunities

#### **ELM Associates**

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#### September 2024



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#### Sustainable Farming Incentive Key Aims and Features 2024 version

- Rewards farmers for farming practices that help produce food sustainably and protect the environment.
- Offers flexibility, enter as much land and actions as you want, add more land an actions to your agreement annually.
- Can include rented land
- Improved cashflow –monthly start dates and quarterly payments.
- Management payment
- Some actions can be combined with each other and with CS options
- Online application through RPA portal
- New grants finding tool for prescriptions/payment rates/compatibility etc.
   <u>Find funding for land or farms GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>

Code	Units	Payment £	SFI Option
WBD2	100 m	4.00	Manage ditches
WBDI	I Pond	257.00	Manage ponds
AGFI	HA	248.00	Maintain very low density in-field agroforestry on less sensitive land
AGF2	HA	385.00	Maintain low density in-field agroforestry on less sensitive land
CHRWI	100 m	5.00	Assess and record hedgerow condition
CHRW2	100 m	13.00	Manage hedgerows
CHRW3	100 m	10.00	Maintain or establish hedgerow trees
BNDI	100 m	27.00	Maintain dry stone walls
BND2	100 m	11.00	Maintain earth banks or stone-faced hedgebanks
CAHL4	HA	515.00	4m to 12m grass buffer strip on arable and horticultural land
CIGL3	HA	235.00	4m to 12m grass buffer strip on improved grassland
BFSI	HA	707.00	12m to 24m watercourse buffer strip on cultivated land
BFS2	HA	681.00	Buffer in-field ponds on arable land
BFS3	HA	311.00	Buffer in-field ponds on improved grassland
BFS4	HA	553.00	Protect in-field trees on arable land
BFS5	HA	295.00	Protect in-field trees on intensive grassland
BFS6	HA	742.00	6m to 12m habitat strip next to watercourses
CAHLI	HA	739.00	Pollen and nectar flower mix
CAHL2	HA	853.00	Winter bird food on arable and horticultural land
CAHL3	HA	590.00	Grassy field corners or blocks

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AHWI	HA	747.00	Bumblebird mix
AHW2	tonne	732.00	Supplementary winter bird food
AHW3	HA	764.00	Beetle banks
AHW4	plot	11.00	Skylark plots
AHW5	HA	765.00	Nesting plots for lapwing
AHW6	HA	58.00	Basic overwinter stubble
AHW7	HA	589.00	Enhanced overwinter stubble
AHW8	HA	596.00	Whole crop spring cereals and overwinter stubble
AHW9	HA	1,072.00	Unharvested cereal headland
AHW10	HA	354.00	Low input harvested cereal crop
AHWII	HA	660.00	Cultivated areas for arable plants
AHW12	HA	428.00	Manage woodland edges on arable land
CIGLI	HA	333.00	Take grassland field corners or blocks out of management
CIGL2	HA	515.00	Winter bird food on improved grassland
CLIG3	HA	151.00	Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs
GRHI	HA	121.00	Manage rough grazing for birds
GRH7	HA	157.00	Haymaking supplement
GRH8	HA	187.00	Haymaking supplement (late cut)
GRH10	HA	28.00	Lenient grazing supplement
GRHII	HA	59.00	Cattle grazing supplement (non-moorland)

SCRI	HA	588.00	Create scrub and open habitat mosaics
SCR2	HA	350.00	Manage scrub and open habitat mosaics
HEFI	m2	5.00	Maintain weatherproof traditional farm or forestry buildings
HEF2	m2	8.00	Maintain weatherproof traditional farm or forestry buildings in remote areas
HEF5	HA	215.00	Control scrub on historic and archaeological features
HEF6	НА	55.00	Manage historic and archaeological features on grassland
HEF8	HA	2,512.00	Maintain designed or engineered waterbodies
CIPMI	Per Agreement	1,129.00	Assess integrated pest management and produce a plan
CIPM2	НА	798.00	Flower-rich grass margins, blocks or in-field strips
CIPM3	HA	55.00	Companion crop on arable and horticultural land
CIPM4	HA	45.00	No use of insecticide on arable crops and permanent crops
CNUMI	Per Agreement	652.00	Assess nutrient management and produce a review report
CNUM2	HA	102.00	Legumes on improved grassland
CNUM3	HA	593.00	Legume fallow
PRFI	HA	27.00	Variable rate application of nutrients
PRF2	HA	43.00	Camera or remote sensor guided herbicide spraying
PRF3	HA	101.00	Non-mechanical robotic weeding
PRF4	HA	150.00	Mechanical robotic weeding

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SPM2	НА	92.00	Keep native breeds on grazed habitats supplement (50-80%)
SPM3	HA	146.00	Keep native breeds on grazed habitats supplement (more than 80%)
SPM4	HA	7.00	Keep native breeds on extensively managed habitats supplement (50-80%)
SPM5	HA	11.00	Keep native breeds on extensively managed habitats supplement (more than 80%)
CSAMI	HA	6.00	Assess soil, produce a soil management plan and test soil organic matter
CSAM2	HA	129.00	Multi-species winter cover crop
CSAM3	HA	382.00	Herbal leys
SOHI	HA	73.00	No-till farming
SOH2	HA	163.00	Multi-species spring-sown cover crop
SOH3	HA	163.00	Multi-species summer-sown cover crop
SOH4	HA	203.00	Winter cover following maize crops
WBD3	HA	765.00	In-field grass strips
WBD4	HA	489.00	Arable reversion to grassland with low fertiliser input
WBD5	HA	311.00	Manage intensive grassland adjacent to a watercourse
WBD6	HA	115.00	Remove livestock from intensive grassland during the autumn and winter (outside SDAs)
WBD7	HA	115.00	Remove livestock from grassland during the autumn and winter (SDAs)
WBD8	HA	396.00	Manage grassland to reduce nutrient levels in groundwater

#### Limited Area Actions

10 Actions which can only be done on up to 25% of the farm (combined):

- CIPM2 Flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or in-field strips
- CAHL1 Pollen and nectar flower mix
- CAHL2 Winter bird food on arable and horticultural land
- CAHL3: Grassy field corners and blocks
- CIGL2: winter bord food on grassland
- WBD3: In-field grass strips
- AHW1: Bumblebord mix
- AHW9 Unharvested cereal headland
- AHW11: cultivated areas for arabe plants

#### Endorsed SFI Actions

- Coming later in 2024 and beyond.
- Actions that will require written approval from Natural England or Historic England to confirm that land is suitable for the proposed action.
- Include action in application and submit then NE will contact you about endorsement visit

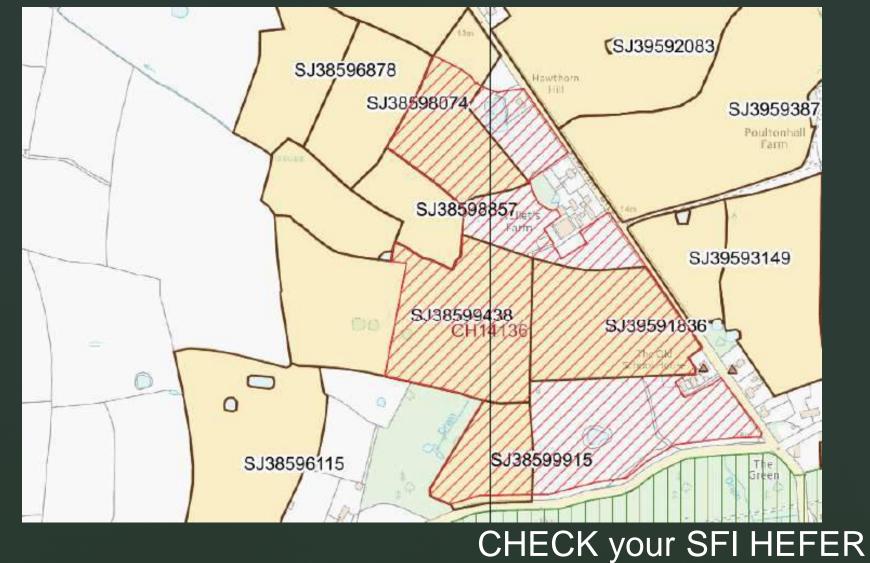


Summer 2024: restoration of species rich grassland





2025 onwards: wet grassland, water storage, orchards, floodplains



https://hefer-data.org.uk/request-hefer

#### How to apply?

- Check that Land Cover and Land Use is up to date on RPA portal
- Check that all areas that you want to include are registered and linked to your SBI
- Use RPA portal for land registration and land cover changes
- Email the RPA if wish to include rented land that is not currently linked to holding.
- Fill in the Expression of Interest Form then wait for your invitation to submit an application.
- Get any relevant consents in place (SSSI's/SAM's).

#### Managing your SFI agreement

- 12 months from start date to get options in place.
- Check action rules for evidence required photos, seed invoices, field records, stocking records etc
- Complete and annual decalaration every 12 months
- Rotational actions will be able to vary location and amount every 12 months (increase or decrease by up to 50%).
- If want to add more new actions will need to set up new agreement.
- RPA will check compliance through combination of: physical or virtual site visits, remote monitoring, desk based admin checks.

• 273 ha dairy farm

#### SFI Case Study

 Also has Countryside Stewardship Mid Tier with annual income £4,200 with options including GS2 low input grassland, AB9 winter bird food, AB13 brassica fodder crop, GS4 herbal leys, and buffer strip options.

			Option Optior	1		
STANDARD	Agreement Level Actions	Option Code	Area (ha) Lengtl	n (m) Payment Rate	Valu	le
					£	1,000
	SFI management payment			£20 per ha up to 50 ha		
	Assess soil, test soil organic matter and produce				£	1,586
Actions for soils	a soil plan	SAM1	273	£5.80 per ha		
	Assess integrated pest management				£	989
Actions for integrated pest management	and produce a plan	IPM1	1 plan	£989.00 per yr		
	Assess nutrient management and produce				£	589
Actions for nutrient management	a review report	NUM1	1 plan	£589 per yr		
	Field Based Actions					
					£	8,719
Actions for soils	Herbal leys	SAM3	22.8	£382.00 per ha		
					£	14,608
Actions for nutrient management	Legumes on improved grassland	NUM2	143	£102.00 per ha		
					£	908
Actions for hedgerows	Assess and record hedgerow condition	HRW1		15138£3.00 per 100 m		
					£	3,026
	Manage hedgerows	HRW2	;	30275 £10 per 100m one side		
					£	1,513
	Maintain or establish hedgerow trees	HRW3	;	30275£10.00 per 100 m		

- 103 ha mixed arable and beef farm
- 74 ha arable land maize, winter wheat, spring barley and oats.
- 25 ha of permanent grassland
- Already in Mid-Tier Countryside Stewardship with bird cover, pollen mix, over-wintered stubbles, grassland margins and hedgerow management. Annual income £6.900.

#### SFI Case Study

Agreement Level Actions			Option Area (ha)	Option Length (m)	Payment Rate	Value
	SFI management payment				£20 per ha up to 50 ha	£1,000.00
Actions for soils	Assess soil, test soil organic matter and produce a soil management plan	SAM1	103		£5.80 per ha	£692.40
Actions for nutrient management	Assess nutrient management and produce a review report	NUM1	1		£589 per yr	£589.00
Actions for integrated pest management	Assess integrated pest management and produce a plan	IPM1	1		£989.00 per yr	£989.00
Field Based Actions						
Actions for buffer strips	4m to 12m grass buffer strip on arable and horticultural land	AHL4	0.9500		£451.00 per ha	£428.45
Actions for hedgerows	Assess and record hedgerow condition	HRW1		12962.00	£3.00 per 100 m	£194.43
Actions for soils	No use of insecticide on arable crops and permanent crops	IPM4	9.4017		£45.00 per ha	£423.08
Actions for integrated pest management	Herbal leys	SAM3	5.25		£382.00 per ha	£2005.50
Actions for nutrient management	Legume fallow	NUM3	7.1431		£593.00 per ha	£4,235.86
Actions for soils	Legumes on improved grassland	NUM2	7.2784		£102.00 per ha	£742.49
Actions for hedgerows	Maintain or establish hedgerow trees	HRW3		8026.00	£10.00 per 100 m	£802.60
						£12,102.71

#### Stand alone capital grants

3-year agreements

Open all year

No limit on grant value

Apply online

123 capital options - standard payment rates





### Water Quality Options

Over 60 different options including:

- Concrete yard renewal £33.64/m<sup>2</sup>
- Roofing over stock gathering areas, manure and silage storage areas £72.50/m<sup>2</sup>
- Cattle tracks
- Watercourse fencing
- Drinker/feeder base
- Gateway reinforcement £137
- Gateway relocation

£44/m

£5.33 to £7.40/m

£110 to £170ea

£370



Need to apply for Catchment Sensitive Farming endorsement for high value items



#### Case study - Capital Stand alone scheme : Hedgerow & Boundary Grant £13,108

255m Hedgerow coppicing£5.33/m478m Hedgerow gapping up£17.22/mCoppicing bankside trees x 22£53.95/eaStandard hedgerow trees x 30£19.06/eaPlant a fruit tree x 10£28.07/ea250m new hedge planting£22.97/m500m new sheep netting£7.47/m

- £5.33/m
  £1,359
  £17.22/m
  £231
  £53.95/ea
  £1,187
  £19.06/ea
  £572
  £28.07/ea
  £281
  £22.97/m
  £5,743
  £7.47/m
  £3,735
- 3 years to complete the work
- Take lots photos!!
- May need receipted invoices



## Any questions?



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