



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

FUNDING FOR NATURE FRIENDLY FARMING

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Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) will reward your business for doing nature friendly farming actions alongside producing food.

FARMING FOR THE FUTURE

Funding farmers for a **more sustainable business**

Sustainable Farming Incentive

Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) is an Environmental Land Management scheme, with over 21,000 farmers who have already applied. It rewards farmers for farming practices that help produce food sustainably and protect the environment.






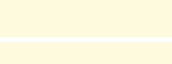

How does it work?
















It's a flexible scheme that gives you a choice of actions. Payments are quarterly which can help with cashflow, and agreement holders receive a £2,000¹ management payment for participating in the scheme.





Why is it important?

A healthy, functioning natural environment goes hand in hand with food production and helps ensure your business' resilience now and into the future.

Whether you choose to preserve your soil's fertility through cover cropping or introduce new habitats and food sources to benefit pollinators or the integrated pest management benefit of reducing reliance on pesticides - SFI offers actions that make good business sense and help protect or preserve nature on your farm.

SFI action name	SFI action code	Payment	Benefits	Arable or Livestock
Pollen and nectar flower mix	CAHL 1	£739 / ha	Provides food for beneficial pollinators and encourages natural crop pest predators	
Winter bird food on arable and horticultural land	CAHL 2	£853 / ha	Provides food for smaller farmland birds and insects, which can support pest management	
Grassy field corners or blocks	CAHL 3	£590 / ha	Provides a year-round habitat for wildlife, which can support pest management	
Bumblebird mix	AHW 1	£747 / ha	Provides food for nectar feeding insects and farmland birds, which can support pest management	
Supplementary winter bird food	AHW 2	£732 / tonne max 1t per 2ha	Provides seed-eating farmland birds with supplementary food	
Beetle banks	AHW 3	£764 / ha	Provides nesting and foraging habitats, at the same times as looking after soil health by helping slow down or stop soil erosion	
Skylark plots	AHW 4	£11 per plot per year (min 2 ha)	Provides skylarks with nesting habitats	

Nesting plots for lapwing	AHW 5	£765 / ha	Provides nesting sites for lapwings, as well as other farmland birds and wildlife	
Basic overwinter stubble	AHW 6	£58 / ha	Provides food and habitats for seed-eating birds	
Enhanced overwinter stubble	AHW 7	£589 / ha	Provides food and habitats for seed-eating birds and other wildlife	
Whole crop spring cereals and overwinter stubble	AHW 8	£596 / ha	Provides food and habitats for farmland wildlife species that are in decline	
Unharvested cereal headland	AHW 9	£1,072 / ha	Provides food and habitats for birds and insects, as well as helping to establish a range of arable plants	
Low input harvested cereal crop	AHW 10	£354 / ha	Provides summer foraging for declining farmland birds and habitat for skylarks, farmland wildlife and pollinator species	
Cultivated areas for arable plants	AHW 11	£660 / ha	Provides less densely vegetated ground, which helps declining wild arable plants, insects and farmland birds	
Manage woodland edges on arable land	AHW 12	£428 / ha	Provides habitat for birds, invertebrates, small mammals and other wildlife	
Take grassland field corners or blocks out of management	CIGL 1	£333 / ha	Provides year-round habitat for a range of wildlife as well as supporting integrated pest management	
Winter bird food on improved grassland	CIGL 2	£515 / ha	Provides winter food for farmland birds	
Manage grassland with very low nutrient inputs	CLIG 3	£151 / ha	Provides food and shelter for invertebrates and farmland birds whilst supporting an integrated pest management approach and minimising nutrients being carried in surface water runoff	
Manage rough grazing for birds	GRH 1	£121 / ha	Provides habitats for upland breeding birds and other wildlife	
Manage priority habitat species-rich grassland (endorsed)	GRH 6	£646 / ha	Increases important plant species as well as benefitting species such as bumblebees, butterflies, birds or bats	
Haymaking supplement	GRH 7	£157 / ha	Provides pollen and nectar for bees at the same time as improving water quality by reducing silage ce	
Haymaking supplement (late cut)	GRH 8	£187 / ha	Provides nesting habitats for wading birds at the same time as pollen and nectar for bees	

Lenient grazing supplement	GRH 10	£28 / ha	Creates habitats for spiders and insects as well as providing invertebrate food for birds.	
Cattle grazing supplement (non-moorland)	GRH 11	£59 / ha	Increases wildlife diversity	
Create scrub and open habitat mosaics	SCR 1	£588 / ha	Provides food for beneficial insects, birds and mammals at the same time as protecting soils and watercourses by reducing soil erosion	
Manage scrub and open habitat mosaics	SCR 2	£350 / ha	Provides food for beneficial insects, birds and mammals at the same time as protecting soils and watercourses by reducing soil erosion	

Great for tenant farmers

We've designed SFI with tenants firmly in mind. All of the actions we list above are three years in duration, so they will work for shorter-term tenants.

There's no requirement for you to confirm landlord permission as part of application process - only a tenant can enter land occupied under a tenancy into SFI.

What should I do next?

Thousands of farmers are already being rewarded for these actions and reaping benefits such as reduced input costs and improved crop or livestock health.

Learn more about SFI, choose actions that are right for your farm and get ready to apply: farming.campaign.gov.uk

¹In the first year, the management payment will pay £40 per hectare for up to the first 50 v hectares entered into an eligible agreement and £20/ha for the first 50 hectares for years 2 and 3.