



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

European Commission – Ireland bilateral meeting on Nitrates

Personal data

[Redacted]

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
10/03/25.

Agenda



- Update on completion of the 5th NAP Additional Measures
- Progress on the development of the 6th NAP
- Process for the derogation renewal
- AOB

Update on completion of the 5th NAP Additional Measures



- 220kg livestock manure N/ha regulatory limit has applied where appropriate since 01/01/24
- Non-regulatory measures have also progressed
- S.I. No. 42 of 2025 effective since the 25th of February introduced regulatory changes including:
 - Extension of 220kg livestock manure N/ha to other appropriate areas from 01/12/25
 - Revised bovine Nitrogen excretion rates
 - Crude protein limit reduced and extended to all with encouragement for dairy farmers to go further
 - New chemical N allowances for higher stocked as well as extensive farms
 - 30km rule for Nitrates Derogation applicants – need for demonstrable evidence to qualify for higher allowance – risk analysis
 - Mandatory inclusion of clover when reseeded perennial rye grass extended to all
 - Provision to restrict the use of unprotected urea in granular form

Progress on the development of the 6th NAP



- Significant Programme for Government commitments relating to water including:
 - *Establish a Cabinet Committee on Water Quality chaired by the Taoiseach to coordinate water quality improvements across all sectors*

- Significant resources to ensure 6th NAP's compliance with all legislative requirements

- List of impactful measures being developed:
 - Nutrient balance at individual farm level and improved nutrient distribution within the farm
 - Slurry storage capacity requirements and chemical Nitrogen allowances
 - Arable land – cover crops and timing of nutrient application
 - Knowledge transfer and awareness raising – AKIS
 - Continued and increased focus on compliance and enforcement

- Modelling of impacts

Other agenda items



- Process for derogation renewal
- AOB

