



European



FARMING FOR BIODIVERSITY

BUILDING ON KNOW-HOW FROM THE RESULTS-BASED (RBPS) PILOTS

17 October 2019
Conference in Brussels





Navarra: Traditional mosaic landscape



Leitrim: Species-rich grassland



Callows: Breeding Waders



Leitrim: +Marsh Fritillary



Callows: Species rich flood meadow



+ Ground nesting birds



European
Commission

- Measurement = scoring using 10-point scale based on indicators of desired biodiversity target

➤ determines payments to farmers **All good 10/10 Top €€€**

- Controls = independent audit of measurements (checking scores)

- Verification = ecological surveys
 - Monitoring the ecological status of the chosen biodiversity target
 - Evaluation of the scheme design:
 - scoring system
 - Is 4 worse than 5?
 - Is 9 better than 8?

Scorecard

A. Ecological Integrity

A.1. Number of positive indicators present in the grassland (circle All present on list below)

No. of indicators	6+	8+	10+	12+	16+	20+	20+
Score	4	6	10	15	20	25	25

A.2. What proportion of the meadow are positive indicators absent from?

Absent from	>90%	75-90%	50-75%	25-50%	<25%
Score	-10	5	15	25	25

A.3. What is the cover of DENSE Meadowsweet and/or dense grass in the sward?

Score	Very High (>90% cover)	High (70-90% cover)	Medium (35-70% cover)	Low (<35% cover)
	-20	-10	0	10

A.4. Cover (total) of negative indicator species &/or agricultural 'weeds' (ignore dobs on the near riverbank if rest of meadow is fine)

Circle:	Parental Ryegrass	Docks	Other (specify):		
Score	High: >50%	25-50%	11-25%	<10%	Negligible (<2%)
	-30	-20	-10	0	10

B. Current Habitat Suitability

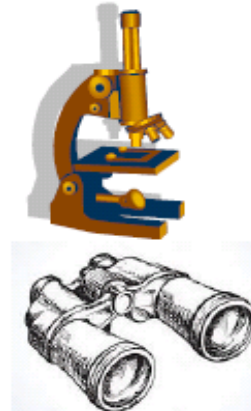
B.1. What is the level of dead vegetation (litter)? Identify main species:

Score	High (rank with woody plants)	Med-High (not mown & collected last year)	Dead vegetation negligible (mown annually)
	-20	0	10

B.2. Are there any damaging activities to vegetation, soil or water? (if yes, list of activities)

Score	High	Med-High	Med/Low	None
	-40	-20	-30	0

☑ ~ 5% checks ☑





Evaluating the scoring system

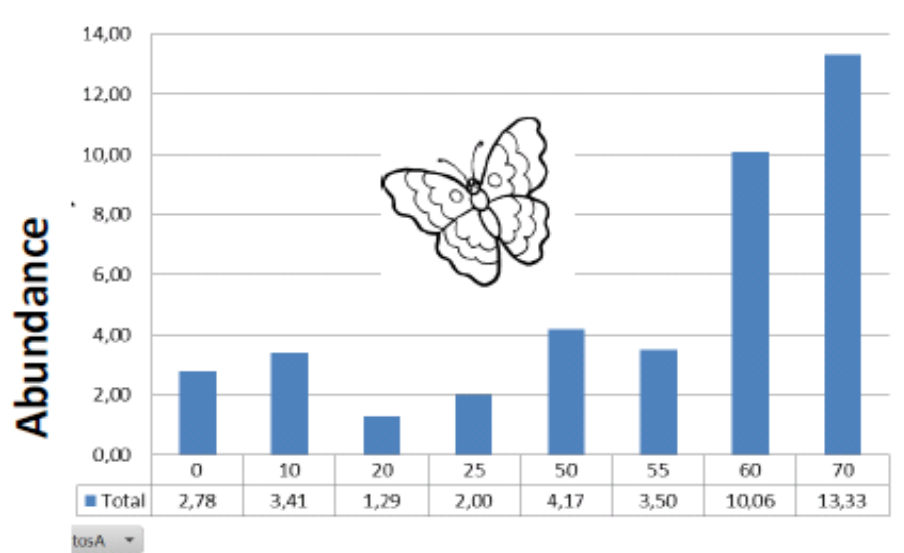


Verification:

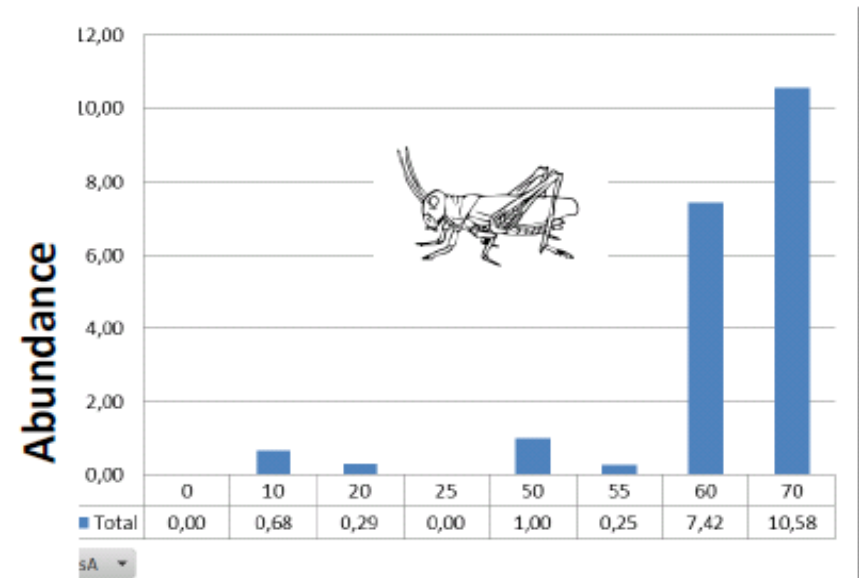
- Four 2m X 2m quadrats in each meadow plot recording all plants present
- Evaluations carried out in 2016 & will be repeated in 2017

Evaluating the scoring system

Monitoring plants, invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, and birds...



RBAPS score



RBAPS score

