



Institute for
European
Environmental
Policy

**Implementation of Articles 18, 19, 20 and 16 of Regulation (EC) no.
1257/1999 in the 25 Member States of the European Union**

Report

**Report prepared by the
Institute of European Environmental Policy
for DG Agriculture**

August 2006a

Acknowledgements

IEEP recognises the contribution of the following national experts in providing the data for this report, and of Justin Bartley and Tamsin Cooper in compiling it.

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INTRODUCTION

This working paper provides a factual description of the implementing systems under Articles 18, 19, 20 and 16 of Regulation (EC) no. 1257/99 of the twenty-five Member States of the European Union. It provides an inventory of the classification criteria that Member States have used to classify Less Favoured Areas (LFAs) under the four Articles¹; details the European and national legislative base upon which classifications of LFAs rest; provides information on the area of the surfaces classified and changes to these areas over time; and records the application of the compensatory allowances. It updates working document VI7675/98 produced by the STAR Committee on 'Less Favoured Areas and Compensatory Allowances: Implementation of Articles 17 to 25 under Regulation (EC) no. 950/97 in the Member States', published in November 1998, although not all of the data contained within this report are directly comparable.

The working paper comprises five annexes:

Annex 1 compares the classification criteria used under Article 18 (Mountain Areas), Article 19 (Other Less Favoured Areas), Article 20 (Areas Affected by Specific Handicaps) and Article 16 (Areas Subject to Environmental Restrictions) by each Member State.

Annex 2 details the surfaces classified as Less Favoured Area in the European Union, by type of area (Articles 18, 19, 20 and 16 of Regulation (EC) no. 1257/99), and by Member State.

This annex includes five tables:

- Table 1 concerns the area of Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA) classified as LFA for the EU-15 between 1975 and 2005;
- Table 2 provides the proportion of UAA (1990 values) classified as LFA in the EU-15 between 1975 and 2005;
- Table 3 provides the proportion of UAA (2005 values) classified as LFA in the EU-10 in 2005;
- Table 4 concerns the surface area covered by Less Favoured Areas in 2004 under Articles 18, 19, 20 and 16 as a proportion of the total area classified as LFA;
- Table 5 concerns the surface area covered by Less Favoured Areas in 2004 under Articles 18, 19, 20 and 16 as a proportion of the total Utilised Agricultural Area.

Annex 3 provides financial data on total public expenditure on, and the EAGGF contribution to, the LFA measure under Regulation (EC) no. 1257/1999.

Annex 4 comprises three tables:

- Table 1 concerns the number of holdings receiving a compensatory allowance, 1976 - 2004;

¹ LFA in this document refers to Less Favoured Areas and areas subjected to environmental constraints.

- Table 2 concerns the number of livestock units used as a calculation base for the compensatory allowance, 1988 - 2000(+);
- Table 3 concerns the number of hectares used as a calculation base for the compensatory allowance, 1988 - 2004.

Annex 5 describes the application of compensatory allowances in the Member States under Regulation (EC) no. 1257/1999. It details the national legal base; the scale at which the Measure is applied; records the main eligibility conditions; and documents the structure for the calculation of compensatory allowances. It also provides a synoptic and comparative table of Good Farming Practices to which farmers must adhere across all Member States.

METHODOLOGY

A number of data sources have been used in the preparation of this document. It includes data collected by national consultants in individual Member States who have made use of a range of sources including official documents and personal contact with national Ministries. Centralised European datasets from the Commission such as the STAR Committee Report (25.11.1998), CAP-IDIM data and Commission working documents have also been drawn upon. The most recent comprehensive set of data is for 2004, and data from 1975 have been included to afford a times series dimension and to capture trends over time.

It is important to recognise that none of the data sources used offer a complete set of data for any of the Annexes of this document. As a result, a variety of data sources have been combined and a judgement made on what is considered to be the most reliable data on a case by case basis. One problem with using data from a variety of sources is that it is often not possible to confirm the exact approach used to calculate the figures. Even within a particular dataset, it appears that different approaches have been used in different countries and over time. As a result it can be difficult to identify more subtle trends in the data as these may be masked by, or be an artefact of, the utilisation of multiple data sources. It is, however, possible to identify significant trends in the data presented here.

The data sources used in each Annex are summarised below:

- In Annex 1, data were mainly sourced from the STAR Committee Report (25.11.1998) with updated information for the EU-15 and information for the 10 new Member States provided by national consultants based on official data sources including national Rural Development Programmes (RDPs).
- In Annex 2, data for Tables 1 - 3 were derived from STAR Committee documents and a number of Commission working documents. Tables 4 - 5 are based on data obtained by national consultants from Ministries and official documents.
- In Annexes 3 & 4, data are sourced from the STAR Committee Report (25.11.1998) and CAP-IDIM data monitoring system provided by DG Agriculture. For 1998, and where there are gaps in the above datasets, information from national consultants has been used. There are some problems with the reliability of the available data which have been highlighted in the text.
- In Annex 5, data comes from the STAR Committee Report (25.11.1998) with updated information for the EU-15, and information for the 10 new Member States provided by national consultants based on official data sources including national Rural Development Plans. With the introduction of Regulation 1257/1999, Member States are able to make amendments to the classification of LFAs using national legislation. Although DG AGRI receives notification of any amendments, it can be more difficult

to track changes to the LFAs, especially in countries which have regional Rural Development Programmes. As a result, the Commission Decision approving the RDP for each country has been used as the national legal base for each LFA programme, where available.

ANALYSIS

Classification Criteria

Tables 1 – 4 in Annex 1 summarise the classification criteria used by different Member States to classify areas under the four Articles. This inventory indicates that the criteria used under Article 18 refer directly to a measure of slope, altitude or a combination of the two, and are clearly defined. There is a wide variation in the criteria developed to classify Article 19 areas although they are clearly defined. Under Article 20, the criteria developed are highly variable; they are often qualitative in nature, reflect local conditions and so are not comparable at a Community level. Article 16 areas have been classified on the basis of clearly defined classification criteria.

Member States vary in the extent to which they classify all of their LFA land under one Article, or use the range of Articles to compensate for a range of handicaps across the whole of their territory.

- In 2004, fourteen MS classify LFAs under Article 18 of which nine are old MS and five are new MS. They include, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Finland and Sweden.
- In 2004, twenty three MS classify LFAs under Article 19. Malta and the Netherlands are the only Member States which do not use this Article.
- In 2004, twenty-four MS classify LFAs under Article 20. Latvia is the exception.
- In 2004, six Member States defined eligibility criteria for the classification of LFAs under Article 16, including Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Lithuania, Austria and the Slovak Republic. Not all of these, however, have used the Article to classify LFAs. In 2004, only Belgium, Germany and Lithuania used the Article to classify areas under Article 16, with Latvia classifying areas under Article 16 in 2005.

The most common strategy has been to classify areas under a range of different Articles. Indeed, fifteen Member States classify LFAs under three different Articles and a further five Member States classify LFAs under two different Articles, reflecting the range of natural handicaps farming is subject to across a whole territory. Only Germany classifies land as Less Favoured under all four Articles. A minority use a sole Article to classify LFAs, including Latvia (Article 19) and Denmark, Malta and the Netherlands (Article 20).

Surfaces Classified under Articles 18, 19, 20 and 16

LFAs in the EU-9 have increased from 33% of Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA) in 1975 to 47% in 1998 before an apparent drop to 42% in 2005². When more recent additions to the EU-15, such as Greece, Spain and Finland, are taken into account, the figure for 2005 rises to 55%. This increase reflects the relatively large areas of LFA classified in these Member States

² This drop is due to reported reductions in the area of LFA in France, Italy and Ireland between 1998 and 2005 (STAR document VI/1601/92; European Commission, 1997; Working Document 7971/05, 2005). This conflicts with data collected by national consultants and therefore it is not thought to be a true representation of actual trends in LFA area in these countries.

where natural disadvantage tends to be more severe due to adverse climatic conditions. In comparison, the area of UAA classified as LFA in the 10 new Member States is 52%.

In 2004, the Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA) classified as LFA in the European Union accounted for approximately 91 million hectares, which is equivalent to 54% of the UAA.

- Mountain LFAs (Article 18) represent 28% of the total surface of the LFA;
- Other LFAs (Article 19) represent 66% of the total surface of the LFA;
- Areas affected by specific handicaps (Article 20) represent 5% of the total surface of the LFA;
- Areas subject to environmental restrictions (Article 16) represent 0.8% of the total surface of the LFA.

These averages, however, mask major differences between Member States:

- In 2004, the following Member States were characterised by a high proportion of Mountain LFAs (Article 18): Greece (52%), Italy (71%), Austria (82%) and Slovenia (75%).
- Other Member States concentrate a large majority (more than 85%) of their LFA in 'Other LFAs' (Article 19): Belgium, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland and the UK.
- 100% of the LFA in Denmark, Malta and the Netherlands is classified as Areas affected by Specific Handicaps (Article 20), whereas in only three other Member States – Finland, Slovak Republic and Hungary – do Article 20 areas account for more than 25% of the total LFA area.

Levels of Expenditure on Compensatory Allowances

In 2004, public expenditure on LFA allowances amounted to 3,075 million Euros, including 1,561 million Euros from EAGGF, which equates to an average co-financing rate of 51%. The LFA Measure represents 12.5% of EAGGF expenditure³. The level of EU co-funding in 2004 ranged from 19.7% in the UK, to 80% in the majority of new Member States. Total expenditure on LFA Compensatory Allowances in seven Member States – Germany, Ireland, France, Austria, Poland, Finland and the United Kingdom – exceeded €200 million in 2004. This accounted for approximately 72% of the overall expenditure in that year of €2,205 million. The two leading Member States in expenditure terms are France and Finland. Expenditure in southern Member States, such as Spain and Italy, is at a lower level compared to that in parts of North West Europe.

Differences in expenditure from year to year can be considerable, although this may reflect budgetary factors and the timing of claims on the EAGGF rather more than fluctuations in payments at farm level. Over the period since 1994, trends in expenditure have been diverse. In most Member States, expenditure increased by about 50% or more between 1994 and 2004. Growth was above 50% in some countries, including Finland, where it more than tripled over the ten year period, and the UK, where it more than doubled. Germany is a notable exception

³ Source: DG AGRI Fact sheet "Rural development in the European Union" p 9 Table 2.

as expenditure on LFA allowances fell by about 23%. In Sweden, expenditure was relatively steady between 1996 and 2002 but had contracted to about a third of its former level in 2004. Trends in the Netherlands and in Italy are difficult to interpret because of major annual variations.

Application of Compensatory Allowances

In 2004, compensatory allowances were granted to 1.78 million holdings in the EU-24, excluding Hungary, for which figures are unavailable. This accounts for approximately 18% of the total number of holdings in the Union⁴. The number of holdings receiving compensatory allowances has fallen in most Member States over the period from 1976 – 2004. Comparing data for 14 Member States between 1996 and 2002, there is a drop in recipient holdings from 1.187 million to 977,000. Since the 2004 enlargement, by far the largest number of recipients is in Poland, (520,000) although other Member States with more than 100,000 recipients include Germany, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Lithuania, Austria and Portugal.

If one averages the number of holdings receiving compensatory allowances per Member State over time, a clear upward trend from 1976 emerges. The number peaks in 1988, and then the trend is reversed. In 1976, an average of 56,000 holdings per Member State received a compensatory allowance, rising to 106,660 in 1988, which reflects, in part, the structural characteristics of the agriculture sectors of Spain and Portugal which acceded in 1986. The average number of holdings supported per Member State had again dropped to 69,773 in 2002. Once again, this figure rose in 2004 with the accession of the EU-10 Member States whose agriculture sectors are characterised large numbers of small farms. This indicates that whilst the overall number of holdings has fallen over time, in some newly classified areas, a higher than average number of holdings are receiving compensatory allowances.

In 2004, farms covering 40 million hectares⁵ received compensatory allowances, which accounts for approximately 24% of the total Utilised Agricultural Area of the EU-25. The number of hectares has increased significantly since 1976, 1988 and 2003, respectively, in line with the accession of new Member States to the EU. Germany, Spain, France, Poland and the UK all calculate their compensatory allowances on the basis of an area which exceeds 4 million hectares. Spain, with more than 8 million hectares, has the largest area eligible for compensatory allowances in the European Union.

During the years in which livestock units were used as a calculation base for compensatory allowances the number fluctuated between 12 and 18 million Livestock Units. More than half were in Germany, France, and the UK. Payments are now made on an area basis only.

With regard to the comparison of the detailed rules of the implementation of compensatory allowances between Member States, the principal points which arise from Annex 5 are as follows:

⁴ The total number of agricultural holdings for the EU-25 in 2003, including data from the accession States is 9.87 million (EUROSTAT data). This is the most recent year for which data are available and the total figure excludes 1% of the smallest farms.

⁵ This figure relates only to areas which actually received compensatory allowances, excluding Cyprus, Italy and Lithuania.

- The adoption of area-based payments in all Member States with transitional and/or safety net provisions in several;
- The variable eligibility conditions, with many Member States still requiring a minimum of 3 hectares, but others varying to less than 0.1 hectares (Malta) or up to 10 hectares (England);
- The use of systems to differentiate zones for payment purposes in most Member States, including a range of soil classification systems;
- The wide range of compensation allowances, with a significant number at the top end of the permissible range;
- The application of structural employment and environment related conditions in both the eligibility and payment rules.

Table 5.1 of Annex 5 summarises the standards set for Good Farming Practice by each Member State in the EU-25. It lists standards under a number of key headings, including: nutrient management, use of plant protection products, standards relating to irrigation, standards relating to soil, standards relating to animal husbandry and standards relating to biodiversity and landscape. Most Member States have standards relating to each of these headings, however, they vary in terms of their comprehensiveness, their level of ambition and their targeting to particular environmental issues.

The standards listed are based on information provided by national consultants who have generally collected the data from national Rural Development Plans or national legislation. Readers of this table should apply caution when interpreting its contents. For instance, whilst the table aims to be comprehensive, a number of Member States often use 'catch all' categories, rather than listing the standards in full. A primary example of this is in relation to nutrient management. Whilst many Member States simply request farmers to abide by action programme measures or a set of guidelines or rules, others list in detail all the requirements relating to closed dates, storage requirements and application guidelines, among others. Readers are also advised that whilst the standards may appear comprehensive, a farmer may not be checked for compliance with all standards as part of an inspection. In France, for example, a farmer is judged to fully abide with all Good Farming Practice standards if he or she is found to meet the stocking density requirements. Finally, whilst these standards indicate what a farmer is obliged to do at the farm level, they do not necessarily reflect what happens in practice. As such, any interpretation of the possible environmental impacts of Good Farming Practice based on this table must therefore be made with some caution.

1 ANNEX 1. COMPARISON BETWEEN MEMBER STATES OF THE CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA OF LESS FAVOURED AREAS

Table 1.1. Classification Criteria of Less Favoured Areas According to Article 18 of Regulation (EC) no 1257/1999 (Mountain Areas)

EU Legal Base	Criteria Concerning Altitude	Criteria Concerning Slope	Combined Criteria Concerning Altitude and Slope
<p>1. “Mountain areas shall be those characterised by a considerable limitation of the possibilities for using the land and an appreciable increase in the cost of working it, due ...”</p> <p>2. “ ... areas north of the 62nd Parallel and certain adjacent areas shall be treated in the same way as mountain areas.”</p>	<p>“ ... to the existence, because of altitude, of very different climatic conditions, the effect of which is substantially to shorten the growing season.”</p> <p>These are the same as the equivalent criteria in Art. 23, Reg. 950/97.</p>	<p>“ ... at a lower altitude, to the presence over the greater part of the area in question of slopes too steep for the use of machinery or requiring the use of very expensive special equipment.”</p> <p>These are the same as the equivalent criteria in Art. 23, Reg. 950/97.</p>	<p>“ ... to a combination of these two factors, where the handicap resulting from each taken separately is less acute but the combination of the two gives rise to an equivalent handicap.”</p> <p>The meaning of these is the same as the equivalent criteria in Art.23, Reg. 950/97.</p>

<p>Czech Republic</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 600 m</p>	<p>No criteria concerning slope</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 500 m and a slope of at least 12.3% on at least 50% of UAA of municipality or cadastral area.</p>
<p>Germany</p> <p>Dir. 86/465/EEC (Formerly Dir. 75/270/EEC) Amended Dec. 92/092/EEC (Neue Länder) Last amended Dec. 97/172/EC</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 800 m</p>	<p>No criteria concerning slope</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 600 m and a slope of at least 18%.</p>
<p>Greece</p> <p>Dir. 81/645/EEC</p> <p>Amended Dec 85/148/EEC. Lasted amended Dec. 94/516/EC</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 800 m</p>	<p>At least 20%</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 600 m and a slope of at least 16%;</p> <p>A minimum of 80% of the area of a commune should satisfy at least one of these criteria. This percentage, however, may be lowered to a minimum of 50% in exceptional cases where communes are located in the same mountain formation with identical climatic and topographic conditions and with relatively low yields and incomes.</p>

<p>Spain</p> <p>Dir. 86/466/EEC Last amended Dec. 97/306/EC</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 1000 m</p>	<p>Greater than 20%</p>	<p>A minimum altitude of 600 m plus a slope of at least 15%;</p> <p>For a limited number of villages completely surrounded by mountainous regions, the slope percentage can be reduced to 12%.</p>
<p>France</p> <p>Directive 75/271/EEC Amended Dir. 76/401/EEC</p> <p>Dir. 76/631/EEC (DOM) Last amended Dec. 98/280/EC</p>	<p>Average minimum altitude: 600 m in the Vosges 700 m in other mountains 800 m in the Alps for at least 80% of the surface of each commune More than 1200 m, stock density lower than 20 LUs/ha (UAA)</p> <p>Average minimum altitude of each commune: 800 m within the DOM (Départements d'outre-mer).</p>	<p>Greater than 20% Distance between lowest and highest points is greater than 400m.</p> <p>Greater than 20% (reference is the commune).</p>	<p>A minimum altitude of 500 m plus an average slope of 15%</p> <p>A minimum altitude of 500 m and an average slope of 15% or a minimum altitude of 400 m and an average slope of 16%</p>
<p>Italy</p> <p>Dir. 75/273/EEC Last amended Dir. 92/94/EEC</p>	<p>Average minimum altitude: 700 m in central and northern Italy 800 m in southern Italy (Reference is the commune).</p>	<p>Greater than 20%</p>	<p>A minimum altitude of: 600 m in central and northern Italy 700 m in southern Italy</p> <p>AND a slope greater than 15 %</p>

<p>Cyprus</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 800 m</p>		<p>Altitude between 500-800 m and a slope of at least 15%</p>
<p>Austria</p> <p>Dir. 95/212/EEC Last amended Dec. 98/15/EC</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 700 m</p>	<p>Slopes greater than 20%.</p>	<p>A minimum altitude of 500 m and a slope of at least 15%</p>
<p>Poland</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Municipalities where over 50% of the farmland is situated above 500 m are classified as mountain areas.</p>	<p>No criteria</p>	<p>No additional criteria</p>
<p>Portugal</p> <p>Dir. 86/467/EEC Last amended Dec. 89/133/EEC</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 700 m in the area north of the Tagus river.</p> <p>Minimum altitude of 800 m in the area south of the Tagus river.</p>	<p>Minimum slope of 25%</p>	<p>Between at least 400 m and 700 m altitude, and with a slope of at least 20% in the area north of Tagus river.</p> <p>Between at least 600 m and 800 m altitude, and with a slope of at least of 15% in the area south of Tagus river.</p>

<p>Slovenia</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Average altitude of at least 700 m</p>	<p>Greater than 20% At least 50% of the area has to meet the criteria concerning slope.</p>	<p>Average altitude of at least 500 m and average slope of at least 15%</p>
<p>Slovak Republic</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Average altitude of the municipality is equal to or greater than 700 m above sea level.</p> <p>Average altitude of the municipality is equal to or greater than 600 m and less than 700 m above sea level.</p>	<p>Slope is equal to or greater than 20% (11.18°) of the area of a municipality.</p>	<p>Average altitude of municipality equal to or greater than 500 m but less than 600 m above sea level. AND with a slope in the municipality greater than 15% (8.31°) on more than 50% of agricultural soil of the municipality.</p>
<p>Finland</p> <p>Directive 95/412/EC</p>	<p>Areas situated North of 62nd Parallel and certain adjacent areas are to be included among the areas defined (and treated in the same way as mountain areas) in so far as they are affected by very difficult climatic conditions, the effect of which is to substantially shorten the growing season. The difficult climatic conditions are assessed on the basis of 'the sum of the effective average temperatures', which should not exceed 89% of the value recorded in Helsinki. All the areas situated north of the 62nd parallel satisfy this condition.</p>		
<p>Sweden</p> <p>Dir. 95/498/EC Last amended Dir. 96/287/EC</p>		<p>Minimum slope of 20%</p>	<p>Minimum altitude of 500 m and a slope of at least 15%</p>
<p>Areas situated North of the 62nd Parallel and certain communes adjacent to the 62nd Parallel may be classified if they are affected by climatic conditions, the result of which is a substantially shortened growing season of a maximum of 170 days with average temperature of not more than 5°C.</p>			

Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Hungary, Netherlands, United Kingdom do not apply Article 18 of Regulation (EC) no 1257/1999 (Mountain Areas).

Table 1.2. Classification Criteria of Less Favoured Areas According to Article 19 of Regulation (EC) no 1257/1999 (Other Less Favoured Areas)

EU Legal Base	Criteria Concerning Land of Poor Productivity	Criteria Concerning Production Resulting from Low Productivity of the Natural Environment	Criteria Concerned with a Low Population
<p>1. “Less Favoured Areas which are in danger of abandonment of land-use and where the conservation of the countryside is necessary, shall comprise farming areas which are homogeneous from the point of view of natural production conditions and exhibit all of the following characteristics ...”</p> <p>2. “ ... areas north of the 62nd Parallel and certain adjacent areas shall be treated in the same way as mountain areas.”</p>	<p>“ - the presence of land of poor productivity, difficult cultivation and with a limited potential which cannot be increased expect at excessive cost, and which is mainly suitable for extensive livestock farming.”</p> <p>These are the same as the equivalent criteria in Art. 24, Reg. 950/97.</p>	<p>“ - production which results from low productivity of the natural environment and which is appreciably lower than the average, with regard to the main indices of economic performance in agriculture.”</p> <p>These are the same as the equivalent criteria in Art. 24, Reg. 950/97.</p>	<p>“ - a low or dwindling population predominantly dependent on agricultural activity, the accelerated decline of which would jeopardise the viability of the area concerned and its continued habitation.”</p> <p>These are the same as the equivalent criteria in Art.24, Reg. 950/97.</p>

<p>Belgium</p> <p>Dir. 75/269/EEC Last amended 77/456/EEC</p>	<p>At least 80% of the UAA of an 'agricultural region' (usually a municipality) is permanent meadow and pasture; More than half of the area has an altitude greater than 400m; Number of days without frost not greater than 150 days per annum (220 days per annum in the more favourable Belgian regions); Production per hectare from bovines not greater than 70 % of the national average (BEF 30,600/€759 and BEF 43,900/ €1,088 respectively); Cereal yields below 80% of the national average (34 and 42 q/ha respectively).</p>	<p>An index reflecting earned income per work unit must not exceed 77% of the annual average (BEF 150,400/€3,728 and BEF 195,300/€4,841 respectively).</p>	<p>Population density is less than 76 inhabitants per km² (national average 319); the lowest proportion of the working population engaged in agriculture as a percentage of the total working population is fixed at 15% (the national and community averages being 4.17% and 9.58% respectively).</p>
<p>Czech Republic</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Index system: average productivity of agricultural land lower than 34 points – 80% of the Czech Republic average. Homogenous area within a district - NUTS IV.</p>	<p>Population density lower than 75 inhabitants per km² Workforce in agriculture, forestry and fisheries accounts for more than 8% of economically active population (for homogenous area other LFA within a county - NUTS 3).</p>	

<p>Germany</p> <p>Dir. 86/465/EEC Formerly Dir. 75/270/EEC Amended Dec. 92/092/EEC (Neue Länder) Last amended Dec. 97/172/EC</p>	<p>The agricultural comparability index (Landwirtschaftliche Vergleichszahl, LVZ) per community is used to indicate the economic results of farming. Criteria in northern areas: LVZ < 15 or LVZ between 15 and 20 and share of permanent grassland > 40% LVZ between 20 and 25 and share of permanent grassland > 60% Criteria in remaining areas: LVZ < 25 Criteria outside northern areas: LVZ < 28 Criteria in foothills of the Alps: LVZ < 32.5 and share of permanent grassland > 80 % For new Länder: LVZ ≤ 28 or LVZ ≤ 32.5 and share of permanent grassland > 80 %; in Mecklenburg Vorpommern LVZ ≤ 32.5</p>		<p>Population density of less than 130 people per km² and a minimum percentage of the total working population engaged in agriculture of 15%, with the exception of 2 zones with 7.7% and 12.1% For new Länder, the maximum population density must not exceed 130 inhabitants per km².</p>
<p>Estonia</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Land productivity is measured through soil fertility. The municipality average must be below the weighted country average (39.94 bonitate points⁶).</p>	<p>a) Amount of social tax paid by the people employed in agriculture. Areas with less than 80% of the average were selected, 132 municipalities in total b) The official land taxation values (in the form of the average value of four figures: minimum and maximum zone price values for arable land, arable land value outside of price zones and natural grassland value, which are usually the same all over the municipality). Areas with less than 80% of the average were selected, in total 132 municipalities.</p>	<p>a) Low population density – areas below 50% of national average (15.61 people per km² as of 01.01.2003) were selected, in a total of 162 municipalities. b) Declining populations - if decline is over 0.5% per year. Between 1999 and 2003 a decline of more than 2% was found in 164 municipalities. 179 municipalities have low or declining populations. c) Dependence of population on agriculture - population is considered dependent on agriculture if more than 10% of working population is in the agriculture sector. This occurs in 159 municipalities.</p>

⁶ Soil bonitate is used to evaluate land productivity. It uses a 100 point scale considering different soil characteristics like humus content, water regime, stoniness and relief.

<p>Ireland</p> <p>Dir. 85/350/EEC (Repealed 75/272/EEC) Last amended Dir. 99/251/EC</p>	<p>Less than 7.8% of the area is ploughed and a stocking rate of less than one livestock unit per forage hectare (LU/ha).</p>	<p>Family farm income per male farm worker must not exceed 80% of the national average.</p>	<p>No greater than 27 inhabitants per km². Minimum of 30% of the total working population engaged in agriculture.</p>
<p>Greece</p> <p>Dir. 81/465/EEC Amended Dec. 85/148/EEC Last amended Dec. 94/516/EEC</p>	<p>Yields not exceeding 80% of the national average and, in addition, rough grazing occupying at least 30% of the UAA.</p>	<p>Farm income per labour unit not exceeding 80% of the national average.</p>	<p>Population density not exceeding 45 inhabitants per km² or an annual decrease in the population of at least 2%;</p> <p>In addition, the percentage of the total working population engaged in agriculture must be at least 50%.</p>
<p>Spain</p> <p>Dir. 86/466/EEC Last amended Dec. 97/306/EEC</p>	<p>In the wet regions of the North, productivity index of 'L. Turc'⁷ less than 30.</p> <p>In other regions (arid/or semi-arid areas), arable land must be less than 50% of the productive area at the level of county (a territorial category between province and municipality). Recently, some municipalities have been added under Article 19. In this case the criteria have been applied at the level of municipality.</p>	<p>In the wet regions of the North, SGM (Standard Gross Margin) per farm worker must not be more than 80% of the national average. UAA per farm and the numbers of hectares per plot should be less than the national average.</p> <p>In other regions (arid or semi-arid areas), less than 20% of the arable land should be irrigated and the fallow area should exceed 20% of arable crop area.</p>	<p>Population density is less than 37.5 inhabitants per km² (national average 75) or an annual decline in population of at least 0.5%, and in addition, at least 18% of the working population should be employed in agriculture.</p>

⁷ 'L.Turc' is a climatic index used in Spain to indicate the agricultural potential of land

<p>France</p> <p>Dir. 75/271/EEC (Contains only criteria for mountain areas) Amended Dir. 76/401/EEC Last amended Dir. 77/178/EEC</p> <p>Amended by Dir. 76/631/EEC (DOM) Last amended by 98/280/EEC</p>	<p>Final agricultural production per hectare of UAA not exceeding 80% of the national average or livestock density less than 1 LU/ha. The latter index being used only when the proportion of forage area in relation to the UAA is greater than 50%.</p> <p>The value of final agricultural production per ha not exceeding 77% of the average of metropolitan France (FF1,840/€281 and FF2,400 /€366 respectively) or a livestock density of 0.17 LU per forage hectare.</p>	<p>Gross farm income per annual family labour unit less than 80% of the national average.</p> <p>The gross farm income per family worker amounts to approximately 27% of the national average of metropolitan France (FF7,700/ €1,174 and FF28,400/€4,330 respectively).</p>	<p>Population density per km² less than 50% of the national average or a population decrease higher than 0.5% per year.</p> <p>More than 15% of total active population involved in agriculture.</p> <p>Current population density is not greater than one inhabitant per km² and the percentage of the total active population engaged in agriculture is at least 30%.</p>
<p>Italy</p> <p>Dir. 75/273/EEC Amended Dir. 92/94/EEC</p>	<p>Wheat yields must not exceed 16.5 q/ha, while the national average is 25 q/ha, or rough grazing occupying more than 50% of the utilizable forage area, with hay yields below 20 q/ha.</p>	<p>Farm incomes considerably lower than average farm incomes. This is calculated using indices related to a livestock density below 0.65 LU per forage hectare (national average 0.98).</p>	<p>Population density not greater than 75 inhabitants per km² (the national average and the community average are 181 and 168 respectively) OR an annual decline in population greater than 0.8%, and a minimum proportion of 15% of the working population engaged in agriculture as a percentage of the total working population.</p>

<p>Cyprus</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Classified as 'infertile land' through the construction of a Land Suitability Map (LSM). Communes with at least 50% of their area characterised as Category 4 and 5 (LSM) were included in this classification.</p>	<p>Farm income per labour unit not exceeding 80% of the national average.</p>	<p>Population density not exceeding 55 inhabitants per km² (i.e. half of the national average) or area has experienced a recorded decline in population between 1976 and 1992.</p>
<p>Latvia</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Land productivity is measured using a soil quality index ≤ 38 points; LFAs in Latvia are grouped in 3 categories based on soil quality.</p>	<p>Economic performance is measured through Income Tax per person living in territory and is less than 77.5 LVL (€54.5)/inhabitant per year.</p>	<p>Population density is less than 18.1 inhabitants per km²; Proportion of population involved in agricultural production is greater than 15 %.</p>
<p>Lithuania</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Cereal yield is less than 80% of the national average.</p>	<p>The value of total agricultural production per capita is lower than 80% of the national average.</p>	<p>Population density is lower than 50% of the national average; Percentage of active population engaged in agriculture is more than 15%; Annual rate of population decline is 0.5% or more.</p>

<p>Luxembourg</p> <p>Dir. 75/274/EEC</p>	<p>90% of land devoted to forage production with a livestock density not greater than 1.19 LU per forage hectare and 0.95 LU per forage hectare if the high costs caused by the purchase of supplementary feeding are taken into account; wheat yield 31 q/ha (community average 37 q/ha); unfavourable drainage conditions and uneven character of the area as shown by maps.</p>	<p>Net value added at factor cost per agricultural worker less than 80% of the community average.</p>	<p>Population density of 75 inhabitants per km², which represents 57% of the national average but only 45% of the community average; minimum proportion of the working population engaged in agriculture as a percentage of the total working population 15.10% (national average 9.27%).</p>
<p>Hungary</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>The productivity of land is less than 80% of national average.</p>	<p>Gross production and the gross income connected to this is less than 80% of national average.</p>	<p>Population density is less than 50% of national average, and agricultural employment is more than 8.5%.</p>
<p>Austria</p> <p>Dir. 95/212/EC Last amended Dec. 98/15/EC</p>	<p>Agricultural comparability index (Betriebszahl = BZ) as index for infertile soil and weak economic results: BZ lower than 30 or in specific cases where grassland covers more than 80% of the UAA, a BZ lower than 35.</p>	<p>Population density of less than 55 inhabitants per km² (70, in two areas), or an annual depopulation rate exceeding 0.5% together with the working population engaged in farming forming a significant proportion of the total working population of the municipality or the homogenous area (> 15%). In specific areas, where BZ is lower than 30, the density may reach 70 inhabitants per km².</p>	

<p>Poland</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Areas with land of poor productivity, difficult management and limited production potential. The Land Quality Index (LQI – see also below) has been used to delimit these areas.</p> <p>Low effectiveness of farming productivity. Over half of the farmland in Poland exhibits extremely unfavourable conditions for the cultivation of crops that require fertile, good quality soils and a large share of sunny days during the vegetation period (e.g. tobacco plant, sugar beet, wheat). The LQI has been used to delimit these areas as well.</p>		<p>The share of population dependent on farming activities and population density. Within LFAs, the share of population connected with farming exceeds 55% (the average for the country is 27.4%). Population density is less than 41 people/km² (the average for the country is 122.2 people per km²).</p>
	<p>Based on these criteria, lowland areas are divided into two zones:</p> <p>Lowland zone I includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) gminas where the Land Quality Index (LQI) is between 52 and 72.5 points, 2) surveying districts where the LQI value does not exceed 56 points. <p>Lowland zone II includes:</p> <p>gminas and surveying districts where the value of the index does not exceed 52 points.</p>		
<p>Portugal</p> <p>Dir. 86/467/EEC Last amended Dec. 89/133/EEC</p>	<p>At least 50% of the UAA of the Concelho (municipality) is affected by serious handicaps.</p>	<p>The livestock density is less than 0.2 LU per hectare of forage area in the Concelho (municipality) or in the region.</p>	<p>Population density below 56 inhabitants per km² (national average 111) or an annual rate of loss of at least 30% of those engaged in agriculture.</p>

<p>Slovenia</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Agricultural land is classified according to six categories, characterised by relief (inclination, altitude, exposure), climatic conditions and soil properties, on a scale of I (high agricultural potential) – VI (low agricultural potential). Poor soil productivity is measured as the ratio of the sum of Categories III to VI compared to the sum of Categories I and II in a specified area.</p>	<p>Economic performance in agriculture - expressed by cadastral income - does not exceed SIT 15,500 (€64.7)/ha, OR farming population, predominantly dependent on agricultural activity accounting for at least 14% of the total population in the area.</p>	<p>Annual depopulation rate exceeding 0.5%, OR the density of population does not exceed 50 inhabitants per km² (regardless of bigger urban centres).</p>
<p>Slovak Republic</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Yield of agricultural land is lower than 80% of national average (27 points⁸), OR proportion of permanent grasslands and fodder crops on agricultural land of the municipality is equal to or greater than 50 %, and number of livestock unit /ha on these areas is lower than 1, OR hectare yield of grains is lower than 80% of national average (3.89 t/ha).</p>	<p>Yield of agricultural land is less than 80% of national average (27 points).</p>	<p>Density of population is lower than 72 inhabitants per km². Share of agricultural workers on economically active population is equal to or greater than 12%.</p>

⁸ A system for scoring the productivity of the natural environment is applied, using a measure of yield per hectare, where 100 points are assigned to the most fertile soils.

<p>Finland</p> <p>Dir. 95/412/EC</p>	<p>The areas have been defined using an agricultural comparability index known as the 'Nikula index' and notably the 'potential natural yield' index. The index is based on natural productivity (soil quality and climatic conditions) the value of which is adjusted using factors such as heterogeneity of the land, natural drainage conditions etc., including production conditions other than natural ones. The maximum value of the index for the Less Favoured Areas is fixed at 440 (maximum value in Finland 460), but in specific cases the index is not taken into account for the less favoured farming areas where permanent grassland and pasture cover more than 70% of the UAA.</p>	<p>Density of not more than 50 inhabitants per km² (of permanent land), without reference to the national average density which is only 17 inhabitants per km², or an annual depopulation rate exceeding 0.5%, with the working population engaged in farming forming a significant proportion of the total working population of the municipality.</p>
<p>Sweden</p> <p>Dir. 95/498/EC Last amended Dec. 96/287/EC</p>	<p>Calculated using a standard index of yields of the main annual crops and the gross value added for holdings per annual work unit (GVA/AWU); Both average indices fixed at a maximum of 80% of the national average index; The average index of standard yields is not taken into account where fodder land covers more than 70% of the UAA.</p>	<p>Population density not exceeding 50 inhabitants per km² without reference to the national average (21 inhabitants per km²), OR an annual depopulation rate exceeding 0.5% of the working population engaged in farming when this forms a significant proportion of the total working population of the community.</p>

<p>United Kingdom</p> <p>Dir. 84/169/EEC Last amended Dec. 91/25/EEC</p>	<p>Grassland accounting for more than 70 % of the total UAA, a stocking rate of less than 1 LU per forage hectare and farm rents not exceeding 65% of the national average.</p>	<p>Labour income per man-work must not exceed 80% of the national average.</p>	<p>The maximum average population density is 55 inhabitants per km², excluding the population of urban and industrial centres (the national and community averages being 229 and 163 inhabitants per km² respectively); minimum percentage of the total working population engaged in agriculture is 30%, excluding urban and industrial areas.</p>
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Malta, Denmark and the Netherlands do not apply Article 19 of Regulation (EC) no 1257/1999 (Other Areas).

Table 1.3 Classification Criteria of Less Favoured Areas According to Article 20 of Regulation (EC) no 1257/1999 (Areas Affected by Specific Handicaps)

Member State Legal Base, Changes to Boundaries and Unit of Classification	Criteria
<p>1. Unit of classification = other areas.</p> <p>This represents a change from Art.25, Reg.950/97, in which the unit of classification is ‘small areas’.</p>	<p>“Less Favoured Areas may include other areas affected by specific handicaps, in which farming should be continued, where necessary and subject to certain conditions, in order to conserve or improve the environment, maintain the countryside and preserve the tourist potential of the areas or in order to protect the coastline.”</p> <p>An emphasis on ‘conserving and <i>improving</i> the environment’ compared to ‘conserving the environment’ in Art.25, Reg.950/97.</p>
<p>Belgium</p> <p>Rural Development Programme for Flanders 2000-2006 Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2970 on 06.10.00</p>	<p>Areas affected by a specific handicap are defined as areas subject to flooding. In Flanders, only the flood areas that are situated in “vulnerable nature zones” in which a total ban on the spreading of manures is imposed are classified as “less favoured area”.</p>

<p>Czech Republic</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Territories of municipalities or cadastral areas in foothill regions in the north west and east of the Czech Republic, with average land productivity lower than 34 points using the Czech Index system for measuring agricultural productivity.</p> <p>Individual territories of municipalities and cadastral areas with land productivity lower than 34 points, or cadastral areas with land productivity lower than 38 points combined with a slope of more than 12.3% (7°) over an area greater than 50% of the agricultural land, situated within favoured (non-classified) areas.</p>
<p>Denmark</p> <p>Dir 98/9/EC</p>	<p>Small Islands where no bridge connection is available: Agersø, Anholt, Askø, Avernakø, Barsø, Birkholm, Bjørnø, Bågø, Drejø, Egholm, Endelave, Fanø, Fejø, Femø, Fur, Hjarnø, Hjortø, Lyø, Læsø, Mandø, Nekselø, Omø, Orø, Samsø, Sejerø, Skarø, Strynø, Tunø, Venø, Ærø and Aarø.</p>
<p>Germany</p> <p>Dir. 86/465/EEC (Formerly Dir. 75/270/EEC) Amended Dec. 92/092/EEC (Neue Länder) Last amended Dec. 97/172/EEC</p>	<p>Occurrence both of unfavourable natural production conditions (LVZ generally lower than 25) and of handicaps resulting from coastal protection and the preservation of the countryside.</p>
<p>Estonia</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Municipalities in islands (Saaremaa, Hiiumaa) and independently identified municipalities in the sea (Vormsi, Kihnu, Ruhnu) and in Lake Peipus (Piiirisaar). Small islands are also included in this category if they are administratively part of mainland municipalities, because there is agricultural land that needs to be maintained (Prangli, Naissaar, Aegna, Pakri islands etc).</p> <p>Municipalities with sea border, except municipalities close to Tallinn (Harku and Viimsi, as well Keila and Jõelähtme municipalities), where most of the people work in Tallinn and the population does not depend on agriculture.</p> <p>Municipalities in the east border of Estonia, situating mostly on the coast of Lake Peipus.</p>

<p>Ireland</p> <p>Directive 85/350/EEC (Formerly Dir. 75/268/EEC) Amended Dec. 96/52/EEC Last amended Dir. 99/251/EC</p>	<p>Areas affected by specific handicaps where unfavourable natural production conditions (island position, excessive ambient salinity, violent wind and low soil potential) exist.</p>
<p>Greece</p> <p>Dir. 81/645/EEC Amended Dec. 85/148/EEC Last amended Dec. 94/516/EEC</p>	<p>The existence of naturally unfavourable conditions reflected in low yields and incomes and the existence of constraints resulting from the location of these areas.</p>
<p>Spain</p> <p>Dir. 86/466/EEC Last amended 97/306/EEC</p>	<p>Island location, soil salinity, strong winds, wet marshy soils, soil suffering from desertification through drought, protection of the environment and conservation of pine forests formerly used as production areas for resin.</p> <p>Areas with high ecological value such as the surrounding areas of National Parks.</p>
<p>France</p> <p>Directive 75/271/EEC (contains only criteria for mount. Area) Amended Dir. 76/401/EEC Amended Dir. 77/178/EEC (France)</p> <p>Amended Dir. 76/631/EEC (DOM) Last amended Dec.98/280/EC</p>	<p>Existence of unfavourable natural conditions of production namely poor soil potential, poor drainage conditions, presence of steep slopes, excessive levels of salinity, and handicaps resulting from constraints related to the conservation of the countryside, preservation of tourist potential and the isolated nature of certain areas.</p> <p>Existence of unfavourable aspects of natural conditions of production – climatic phenomena of an adverse nature and of frequent occurrence such as cyclones, prolonged periods of drought or very irregular rainfall, and often very rugged land surface, or handicaps resulting from isolation and remoteness from the mother country giving rise to an increase in the cost of products.</p>
<p>Italy</p> <p>Dir. 75/273/EEC Amended Dec. 92/94/EEC</p>	<p>Existence of unfavourable natural production conditions: Unstable water table, excessive levels of salinity and the presence of zones liable to periodic flooding, and handicaps resulting from constraints imposed by laws aimed at the preservation of the countryside.</p>

<p>Cyprus</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Farms in communes which border occupied territory are eligible if part of their land is occupied or where farming is not safe. (The disadvantage is mainly related to the safety of farming in an occupied territory or in the belt dividing the two areas (occupied and non-occupied) and less to do with disadvantages related to costs or the environment).</p>
<p>Lithuania</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Grain and perennial grass should not exceed 40 - 50 % and 40 - 60 %, respectively, of the total crop structure. In some cases, only meadows are eligible. Planting of cultivated crops (potatoes, vegetables, sugar beet) is forbidden or is limited to no more than 10% of crop structure.</p> <p>In some cases, the use of fertilisers is forbidden or it is subject to restrictions. The use of chemical plant protection materials in some cases is forbidden; in other cases it is limited to particular chemicals.</p>
<p>Luxembourg</p> <p>Dir. 75/274/EEC</p>	<p>Existence of unfavourable natural production conditions due to heavy clay and excessively wet soils (short period of time suitable for cultivation) and, on the other hand, of handicaps resulting from constraints due to numerous leisure activities.</p>
<p>Malta</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>The specific handicaps in terms of the LFA measure as applied in Malta apply to all agricultural land in the country, and correspond to several specific severe handicaps that limit agricultural productivity. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The limited agricultural land area as a result of urbanisation and land abandonment. b) The small and fragmented nature of farms, exemplified by the fact that the average size of a holding is 0.876 hectares, and that 59% of holdings have less than 1 hectare of land. c) The ageing labour workforce where only 20% of the total farming population is under 40, and 28% are over 60 years old. d) The insularity factor; considerable transport costs are incurred to import required raw materials. e) The lack of water resources. f) The low level of soil organic matter, and high soil erosion rates. g) The high population density of Malta (the highest in Europe with 1,250 persons per square kilometre).

<p>Hungary</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Increased acidity of soils, which sets serious constraints on productivity (pH is lower than 4.5); Extreme alkalinity of soils, which sets serious constraints on productivity (level of alkalinity is over 0.15%); Extreme circumstances for management of water resources (soils prone to capping to water-logging represent a strong impediment to cultivation, since these areas are frequently flooded which can seriously reduce production and farm incomes); Extreme circumstances, concerning physical soil characteristics (dense clay and light sandy soils can seriously restrict productivity and income, and can represent obstacles for working the land). Those areas are eligible for support, in which at least two of the four special conditions are fulfilled.</p>
<p>Netherlands</p> <p>Dir. 75/275/EEC Amended Dec. 92/92/EEC Last amended Dec. 93/240/EEC</p>	<p>The specific handicaps refer to; Deep peat meadows, river valleys and flood areas, slopes, small scale landscapes.</p>
<p>Austria</p> <p>Dir. 95/212/EEC Last amended Dec. 98/15/EC</p>	<p>Account is taken of the occurrence of unfavourable natural conditions (BZ) below 30 and of specific permanent handicaps characteristic of: extremely hilly areas with pronounced slopes wet or marshy areas; areas subject to regular flooding; EU border areas.</p>
<p>Poland</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Gminas (municipalities) and districts located in upland areas (at least 50% of the total area should be higher than 350m above sea level) which according to the Act on Agricultural Tax of 15 November 1984 are covered by agricultural tax reductions due to natural handicaps. Moreover, those areas should exhibit complex problems related to fragmented structure and unfavourable land relief, and at the same time should be significant for the development of tourism as well as landscape and cultural heritage protection. Gminas within which LFAs are delimited should fulfil at least two out of the four following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • average farm area below 7.5 hectares; • soils are threatened with erosion; • the share of farms that have ceased agricultural activities exceeds 25% of all the farms; • the share of permanent grasslands exceeds 40% of agricultural land.

<p>Portugal</p> <p>Dir. 86/467/EEC Last amended Dec. 89/133/EEC</p>	<p>Isolation giving rise to heavy transport costs between the islands and the mainland and/or between the islands themselves and lack of unity in the small local markets; In the Azores, more than 50% of the islands above 300m, and fragmented relief, strong winds, high humidity, but lack of water retention; In Porto Santo, soil salinity, very low rainfall, lack of water reserves which together with the broken relief leads to soil erosion problems, on the mainland calcareous soils with very rocky outcrops.</p>
<p>Slovenia</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Areas with frequent flooding, strong North wind (burja - bora), Ljubljana marsh, Karst⁹ and “soft erodible hills in central and eastern parts of Slovenia”.</p>
<p>Slovak Republic</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Areas with specific handicaps are integrated within the cadastral areas of municipalities which cover: Water-logged soils which are greater than or equal to 50% of the measurement of agricultural lands; Extreme dry – sandy soils of the measurement larger than or equal to 50% of the measurement of agricultural lands; Skeletal soils (extremely shallow soils) which are greater than or equal to 50% of the measurement of agricultural lands; Flysch soils areas mainly found in mountainous areas; Low-production soils (yield rate of up to 27 points); Intermediary soils areas.</p>

⁹ Karst is a distinctive type of earth which derives its name from the region Kras bordering Trieste Bay.

<p>Finland</p> <p>Directive 95/412/EC</p>	<p>Defined by occurrence of unfavourable natural conditions (index below 450) and of specific permanent handicaps characteristic of:</p> <p>A humid and marshy area, an area affected by a poor groundwater balance, an area affected by low temperatures on account of its relatively northern geographical position, an urbanised area with a population density exceeding 50 inhabitants per km².</p> <p>In view of the specific geographical situation unfavourably affecting the economy of their agricultural holdings, all the offshore islands in Finland, all the islands of the Aland archipelago and of the Laani of Kyme are included in these areas.</p> <p>New areas were included in southern Finland. The criteria used included a) problems connected to the northern location and b) aspects stated in Art. 20 as follows:</p> <p>a) Problems of northern location, location north of 59th latitude, length of the growing season maximum 180 days, efficient growth temperature sum (cumulative sum of average daily temperature degrees exceeding 5 degrees Celsius) maximum 1.300.</p> <p>Criteria stated in Art. 20:</p> <p>b) Special areas of water protection (sensitive to pollution), valuable landscape areas, traditional landscape areas, areas of rapid decline in farm numbers, agricultural employment and population, importance of farm tourism, protection of the Baltic Sea.</p>
<p>Sweden</p> <p>Directive 95/498/EC Last amended Dir. 96/287/EC</p>	<p>The same index as in Article 19. However, Article 20 is applied if the value of the land is lower than the national average and if special disadvantages can be shown: moist and wetland areas, archipelago, areas prone to occasional flooding, destroyed field structures because of landscape circumstances. Islands not connected to land are included.</p>
<p>United Kingdom</p> <p>Dir. 84/169/EEC Last amended Dec. 91/25/EEC</p>	<p>The existence of both adverse natural production conditions (steep slopes, very strong winds, poor drainage) and handicaps resulting from the geographical situation (island location).</p>

Latvia does not apply Article 20 of Regulation (EC) no 1257/1999 (Areas Affected by Specific Handicaps).

Table 1.4. Classification Criteria of Areas Subject to Environmental Restrictions According to Article 16 of Regulation (EC) no 1257/1999

<p>Member State Legal Base, Boundaries and Unit of Classification</p>	<p>Criteria</p>
<p>Article 16 is an addition under Reg.1257/99 and does not correspond to Articles in previous legislation.</p>	<p>“Payments to compensate for costs incurred and income foregone may be made to farmers who are subject to restrictions on agricultural use in areas with environmental restrictions on agricultural use based on Community environmental protection rules (Directive 79/409/EEC "Wild Bird Directive" and 92/43/EEC "Habitat Directive"), if and in so far as such payments are necessary to solve the specific problems arising from such rules.”</p>
<p>Belgium</p>	
<p>Rural Development Programme for Flanders 2000-2006 Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2970 on 06.10.00</p>	<p>Parcels within “vulnerable nature zones” where a total ban on the spreading of manures is imposed OR the special protection areas of “Natura 2000” sites, or areas with “desirable natural structure” (defined as areas that are part of structural nature development plans which indicate key natural areas for nature conservation).</p>
<p>Czech Republic</p>	
<p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Bird Protection Areas (SPA) pursuant to Council Directive 79/409/EEC within the 1st zone of national parks and protected landscape areas. It is prohibited to apply fertilisers in these areas (this results from Act No. 114/1992 Coll. on nature and landscape conservation).</p> <p>Areas pursuant to Council Directive 92/43/EEC listed in a list approved by the European Commission, which are found within the 1st zone of national parks and protected landscape areas. It is prohibited to apply fertilisers in these areas (this results from Act No. 114/1992 Coll. on nature and landscape conservation).</p>

<p>Germany</p> <p>Rural Development Programme for North Rhine-Westphalia 2000-2006 Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2520 on 07.09.2000</p> <p>Rural Development Programme for Bremen 2000-2006 Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2896 on 04.10.2000</p> <p>Rural Development Programme for Hamburg 2000-2006 Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2689 on 18.09.2000</p> <p>Rural Development Programme for Schleswig Holstein 2000-2006 Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2625 on 08.09.2000</p> <p>Rural Development Programme for Thuringia 2000-2006 Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2907 on 29.09.2000</p> <p>Rural Development Programme for Brandenburg 2000-2006 Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2898 on 29.09.2000</p>	<p>Payments to compensate for costs incurred and income foregone may be made to farmers who are subject to restrictions on agricultural use in areas with environmental restrictions on agricultural use based on Community environmental protection rules, if and in so far as such payments are necessary to solve the specific problems arising from such rules. Within Natura 2000 areas, inside and outside LFAs classified under other Articles.</p>
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<p>Lithuania</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Natura 2000 sites were selected according to the national criteria for selecting Sites of Community Importance (SCI) and Special Protected Areas (SPA). For RDP 2004-2006, 83 Natura 2000 territories for protection of wild birds have been selected in Lithuania.</p> <p>Within these sites it is prohibited to transform meadows and pastures into arable land and to mow grass until 15 August.</p>
<p>Austria</p> <p>Rural Development Programme for Austria 2000-2006 Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 1973 on 14.07.2000</p>	<p>Agricultural land in Natura 2000 sites under a management plan is eligible. In case of general degradation restraints, Agri-Environmental measures shall be applied. If degradation of the site has already occurred or can be expected, Article 16 shall be applied. The maximum eligible area is 385,000 hectares. To date, this article has not been used in practice.</p>
<p>Slovak Republic</p> <p>Council Regulation (EC) 1257/1999 OJ L160 26.6.99, as amended by the Treaty of Accession to the EU for the new Member States, OJ L236 23.9.2003</p>	<p>Payments to compensate costs incurred and income forgone are made to farmers in Natura 2000 sites subject to environmental restrictions. Farmers have to comply with measures in Agri-Environment schemes.</p>

Denmark, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom do not apply Article 16 of Regulation (EC) no 1257/1999 (Areas Subject to Environmental Restrictions)

2 ANNEX 2. SURFACES CLASSIFIED AS LFA ACCORDING TO ARTICLES 18, 19, 20 AND 16 OF REGULATION (EC) NO. 1257/1999

Table 2.1. Number of hectares (*1000) of Utilised Agricultural Area classified as LFA in the EU-15, 1975-2005

Member State	1975	1981	1985	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1996	1998	2005 ¹⁰	UAA (1990)
Belgium	269	288	288	288	288	288	288	0288	273	273	283	1,357
Denmark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	30	2,770
Germany	4,882	5,580	5,631	8,659	8,659	9,118	9,118	9,118	8,522	8,521	8,530	17,012
Greece		5,011	5,011	5,011	5,011	5,017	5,017	5,017	5,280	5,280	6,903	6,408
Spain				16,430	16,430	16,588	16,588	17,773	19,546	19,545	21,389	26,330
France	9,934	10,924	11,554	12,004	12,004	13,535	13,535	13,535	13,897	13,898	12,279	30,011
Ireland	2,505	2,710	2,837	2,837	2,837	2,837	2,837	3,493	3,468	3,468	2,331	4,892
Italy	6,219	6,978	8,429	8,429	8,429	8,561	8,561	8,561	8,841	8,840	6,724	16,496
Luxembourg	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	124	125	123	127
Netherlands	0	12	18	32	48	48	48	48	111	111	225	2,011
Austria									2,419	2,446	2,553	3,524
Portugal				3,022	3,022	3,022	3,022	3,022	3,433	3,433	3,346	3,998
Finland									2,164	2,163	2,231	2,549
Sweden									1,869	1,870	1,600	3,634
United Kingdom	6,727	7,623	9,810	9,810	9,810	9,810	9,828	9,828	8,342	8,343	8,424	18,685
EU-9	30,660	34,240	38,692	42,185	42,201	44,323	44,341	44,997	43,578	43,602	38,949	93,361
EU-10		39,251	43,703	47,196	47,212	49,340	49,359	50,014	48,858	48,883	45,852	99,769
EU-12				66,648	66,664	68,951	68,969	70,810	71,837	71,860	70,587	130,097
EU-15									78,289	78,340	76,971	139,804

¹⁰ The data for 2005 suggests that the area of UAA designated as LFA has dropped significantly since 1998 in France, Italy and Ireland. However, this contradicts national data reports for Ireland and France whilst there is some uncertainty about the situation in Italy.

Source: Own calculations based on STAR Document VI7675/98 (for the years 1975-1989 and 1998); STAR document VI/1601/92 (1990 and 1991); European Commission (1997), Rural Developments DG Agriculture, Working Document, Brussels (1996); and Council of the European Union (2005), Proposal for a Council Regulation on Support for Rural Development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) – redefinition of intermediate Less Favoured Areas, Working Party on Agricultural Structures and Rural Development, Working Document (7971/05), Brussels, 15 April 2005.

Table 2.2. LFA as a share of Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA 1990) in the EU-15, 1975-2005 (%)

Member State	1975	1981	1985	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1996	1998	2005	UAA (1990) *1000
Belgium	19.8	21.2	21.2	21.2	21.2	21.2	21.2	21.2	20.1	20.1	20.9	1,357
Denmark	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	1.1	2,770
Germany	28.7	32.8	33.1	50.9	50.9	53.6	53.6	53.6	50.1	50.1	50.1	17,012
France	33.1	36.4	38.5	40.0	40.0	45.1	45.1	45.1	46.3	46.3	40.9	30,011
Ireland	51.2	55.4	58.0	58.0	58.0	58.0	58.0	71.4	70.9	70.9	47.6	4,892
Italy	37.7	42.3	51.1	51.1	51.1	51.9	51.9	51.9	53.6	53.6	40.8	16,496
Luxembourg	98.4	98.4	98.4	98.4	98.4	98.4	98.4	98.4	97.6	98.4	96.9	127
Netherlands	0.0	0.6	0.9	1.6	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	5.5	5.5	11.2	2,011
United Kingdom	36.0	40.8	52.5	52.5	52.5	52.5	52.6	52.6	44.6	44.7	45.1	18,685
EU-9	32.8	36.7	41.4	45.2	45.2	47.5	47.5	48.2	46.7	46.7	41.7	93,361
Greece ¹¹		78.2	78.2	78.2	78.2	78.3	78.3	78.3	82.4	82.4	82.6	6,408
EU-10		39.3	43.8	47.3	47.3	49.5	49.5	50.1	49.0	49.0	46.0	99,769
Spain				62.4	62.4	63.0	63.0	67.5	74.2	74.2	81.2	26,330
Portugal				75.6	75.6	75.6	75.6	75.6	85.9	85.9	83.7	3,998
EU-12				51.2	51.2	53.0	53.0	54.4	55.2	55.2	54.3	130,097
Austria									68.6	69.4	72.4	3,524
Finland									84.9	84.9	100	2,549
Sweden									51.4	51.5	44.0	3,634
EU-15									56.0	56.0	55.1	139,804

¹¹ For 2005 the share of LFA is based on UAA 2005.

Source: Own calculations based on STAR Document VI7675/98 (1975-1989 and 1998); STAR document VI/1601/92 (1990 and 1991); European Commission (1997), Rural Developments DG Agriculture, Working Document, Brussels (1996); and Council of the European Union (2005), Proposal for a Council Regulation on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) – redefinition of intermediate Less Favoured Areas, Working Party on Agricultural Structures and Rural Development, working document (7971/05), Brussels, 14 April 2005.

Table 2.3. LFA as a share of Utilised Agricultural Area (UAA 2005) in the EU-10, 2005 (%)

Member State	Total UAA (*1000) ha	Total LFA in 2005 (*1000) ha	Area classified under Article 18 (*1000) ha	Area classified under Article 19 (*1000) ha	Area classified under Articles 20 & 16 (*1000) ha	LFA as share of UAA (%)
Hungary ¹²						14.1
Estonia	850	338	0	45	293	39.8
Lithuania	3,356	1,467	0	27	1,440	43.7
Slovak Republic	2,439	1,226	487	348	391	50.3
Czech Republic	4,038	2,034	590	274	1,170	50.4
Poland	16,899	8,851	198	518	8,135	52.4
Latvia	1,595	1,160	0	0	1,160	72.7
Slovenia	486	359	268	72	19	73.9
Cyprus	156	141	14	28	99	90.4
Malta	10	10	0	10	0	100.0
EU-10	29,829	15,586	1,557	1,322	12,707	52.3

Source: Own calculations based on Council of the European Union (2005), Proposal for a Council Regulation on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) – redefinition of intermediate Less Favoured Areas, Working Party on Agricultural Structures and Rural Development, Working Document (7971/05), 15 April 2005.

¹² The figure for Hungary is from 2004 and was calculated on the basis of data national consultant. See Table 5 in Annex 2.

Table 2.4. The surface area covered by Less Favoured Areas in 2004 under Articles 18, 19, 20 & 16 of Regulation 1257/1999 as a proportion of the total area classified as LFA

Member State	Area of UAA classified as LFA, under Articles 18, 19, 20 & 16	Area of UAA classified under Article 18		Area of UAA classified under Article 19		Area of UAA classified under Article 20		Area of UAA classified under Article 16	
		In 1000 ha	% of LFA under Article 18	In 1000 ha	% of LFA under Article 19	In 1000 ha	% of LFA under Article 20	In 1000 ha	% of LFA under Article 16
Belgium	289	0	0	276	95.6%	3	1.0%	10	3.4%
Czech Republic	2,139	622	29.1%	1,219	57.0%	298	14.0%	0	0 ¹³
Denmark	29	0	0	0	0	29	100%	0	0
Germany	9,992	369	3.7%	8,857	88.7%	199	2.0%	567 ¹⁴	5.7%
Estonia	465	0	0	394	85%	71	15%	0	0
Ireland (2003)	3,270	0	0	3,254	99.5%	16	0.5%	0	0

¹³ Designated zones are in the process of being approved.

¹⁴ Designation of Natura 2000 sites is ongoing.

Greece	2,635	1,380	52.4%	1,090	41.3%	165	6.3%	0	0
Spain	20,315	8,365	41.2%	11,134	54.8%	816	4.0%	0	0
France	12,262	4,020	32.8%	8,242	67.2%	015	0	0	0
Italy ¹⁶	6,453	4,573	70.9%	1,745	27.0%	135	2.1%	0	0
Cyprus	90	19	21.6%	49	53.7%	22	24.7%	0	0
Latvia	1,897	0	0	1,809	95.4%	0	0	8817	4.6%
Lithuania	1,497	0	0	1,440	96.2%	27	1.8%	30	2.0%
Luxembourg	123	0	0	123	100%	018	0	0	0
Malta	10	0	0	0	0	10	100%	0	0
Hungary	884	0	0	395	44.7%	488	55.3%	0	0

¹⁵ In France, areas classified under Article 19 and Article 20 areas are aggregated together.

¹⁶ Data are only available for the total area of land designated as LFA which includes a large amount of non-LFA land. The figures in the table were calculated using total area of land designated as LFA to obtain the proportion of land under each Article. Data from the 2003 Farm Structure Survey were used to calculate the total area of UAA designated as LFA.

¹⁷ In Latvia Article 16 LFAs were designated in 2005.

¹⁸ According to data provided by the national consultants for Luxembourg, approximately 2% of the country's LFA is designated under Article 20. However, figures for 2004 were not available.

Netherlands	109	0	0	0	0	109	100%	0	0
Austria	2,497	2,045	81.9%	228	9.1%	224	9.0%	0	0
Poland	9,048	191	2.1%	8,066	89.1%	790	8.8%	0	0
Portugal	3,402	1,020	30.0%	2,130	62.6%	252	7.4%	0	0
Slovenia (2003)	490	365	74.5%	26	5.3%	99	20.2%	0	0
Slovakia	1,226	487	39.7%	391	31.9%	348	28.4%	0 ¹⁹	0
Finland	2,178	1,152	52.9%	468	21.5%	558	25.6%	0	0
Sweden	986	302	30.6%	507	51.4%	178	18.0%	0	0
United Kingdom	8,342	0	0	8,341	99.9%	1	0.1%	0	0
Total area for EU-25	90,628	24,910		60,184		4,839		693	
% of total LFA	100%		27.5%		66.4%		5.3%		0.8%

Source: The data in this table have been provided by national consultants except where noted.

¹⁹ Classifications under Article 16 took place in Slovakia in 2005 and therefore figures for 2004 are not available.

Table 2.5 The surface area covered by Less Favoured Areas under Articles 18, 19, 20 & 16 of Regulation 1257/1999 as a proportion of the total Utilised Agricultural Area, in 2004

Member State	Total UAA	Area classified under Article 18		Area classified under Article 19		Area classified under Article 20		Area classified under Article 16		Total Area classified as LFA, under Articles 18, 19, 20 & 16	
		In 1000 ha	In 1000 ha	% of UAA under Article 18	In 1000 ha	% of UAA under Article 19	In 1000 ha	% of UAA under Article 20	In 1000 ha	% of UAA under Article 16	In 1000 ha
Belgium	1,394	0	0	276	19.8%	3	0.2%	10	0.7%	289	20.7%
Czech Republic	4,273	622	14.6%	1,219	28.5%	298	7.0%	0	0	2,139	50.1%
Denmark	3,117	0	0	0	0	29	0.9%	0	0	29	0.9%
Germany	18,611	369	2.0%	8,857	47.6%	199	1.1%	567	3.0%	9,992	53.7%
Estonia	770	0	0	394	51.2%	71	9.2%	0	0	465	60.4%
Ireland	4,297	0	0	3,254	75.7%	16	0.4%	0	0	3,270	76.1%
Greece	4,036	1,380	34.2%	1,090	27.0%	165	4.1%	0	0	2,635	65.3%

Spain	25,270	8,365	33.1%	11,134	44.1%	816	3.2%	0	0	20,315	80.4%
France	27,856	4,020	14.4%	8,242	29.6%	0	0	0	0	12,262	44.0%
Italy ²⁰	13,062	4,573	35.0%	1,745	13.4%	135	1.0%	0	0	6,453	49.4%
Cyprus	152	19	12.8%	489	31.8%	22	14.7%	0	0	90.3	59.3%
Latvia	2,488	0	0	1,809	72.2%	0	0	88	3.5%	1,897	76.2%
Lithuania	2,396	0	0	1,440	60.1%	27	1.1%	30	1.3%	1,497	62.5%
Luxembourg	123	0	0	123	100%	0	0	0	0	123	100%
Malta	10	0	0	0	0	10	100%	0	0	11	100%
Hungary	6,280	0	0	395	6.3%	488	7.8%	0	0	884	14.1%
Netherlands	2,027	0	0	0	0	109	5.4%	0	0	109	5.4%
Austria	3,524	2,045	58.0%	228	6.4%	224	6.4%	0	0	2,497	70.9%
Poland	16,899	191	1.1%	8,066	47.7%	790	4.7%	0	0	9,048	53.5%
Portugal	3,863	1,020	26.4%	2,130	55.1%	252	6.5%	0	0	3,402	88.1%

²⁰ Data are only available on the total area of land classified as LFA which includes a large amount of non-LFA land. The figures in the table were calculated using total area of land classified as LFA to obtain the proportion of land under each Article. Data from the 2003 Farm Structure Survey were used to calculate the total area of UAA classified as LFA.

Slovenia (2003)	663	365	55.1%	26	3.9%	99	14.9%	0	0	490	74.0%
Slovakia	2,439	487	20%	391	16%	348	14%	0	0	1,226	50.0%
Finland	2,178	1,152	52.9%	468	21.5%	558	25.6%	0	0	2,178	100%
Sweden	2,660	302	11.4%	507	19.1%	178	6.7%	0	0	986	37.1%
United Kingdom	18,437	0	0	8,341	45.2%	1	0.01%	0	0	8,342	45.2%
Total area for EU-25	166,820	24,910		60,184		4,839		693		90,628	
% of total UAA	100%		14.9%		36.1%		2.9%		0.4%		54.3%

Source: The data in this table have been provided by national consultants except where noted.

3 ANNEX 3. FINANCIAL DATA ON COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCES, REGULATION (EC) NO 1257/1999

Table 3.1. Compensatory Allowances According to Articles 18, 19, 20 & 16 of Regulation (EC) 1257/1999

Member State	Year	Total Eligible Public Expenditure on all types of LFA		Contribution by EAGGF to all types of LFA		
		EUR ('000)	National Currency	EUR ('000)	National Currency	As a % total eligible public expenditure
Belgium²¹	1994	8,938	BEF 343,945,846	2,234	BEF 85,986,461	25%
	1996	17,293	BEF 675,287,420	4,323	BEF 168,821,855	25%
	1998	-		-		-
	2000	-		-		-
	2003*	€2,005		€1,003		50%
	2004	€600		€300		50%
	Czech Republic	2004	€90,335	CZK 2,900,000	€72,268	CZK 2,300,000

²¹ 1994 & 1996 figures refer to Article 19 in Wallonia. 2003 figures from national consultants refer to Articles 20 & 16 in Flanders. CAP-IDIM data for Belgium in 2004 refer only to Article 20 in Flanders.

Denmark	1998	€1,005	DKK 7,500,000	€214	DKK 1,600,000	21%
	2000	€1,362	DKK 10,200,000	€341	DKK 2,500,000	25%
	2002	€1,359	DKK 10,100,000	€680	DKK 5,100,000	50%
	2004	€1,539	DKK 11,400,000	€770	DKK 5,700,000	50%
Germany	1994	€433,651	DM 807,916,977	€108,413	DM 201,979,244	25.0%
	1996	€378,577	DM 745,106,932	€103,993	DM 204,703,605	27.5%
	1998	€352,000	DM 689,000,000	-	-	-
	2000*	€314,000	DM 609,000,000	€122,000	DM 239,000,000	39%
	2002	€317,353		€117,937		37.2%
	2004	€335,437		€212,580		63.4%
Estonia	2004	€7,417	EEK 116,100,000	€5,933	EEK 92,800,000	80%
Ireland	1994	€164,378	Ir£134,190,640	€106,846	Ir£87,223,916	65%
	1996	€143,437	Ir£109,328,917	€94,435	Ir£71,979,741	65.8%
	1998	€156,178	Ir£123,300,000	€78,342	Ir£61,700,000	50%
	2000	€146,760		€73,380		50%
	2002	€235,600		€117,800		50%

	2004	€230,000		€115,000		50%
Greece	1994	€105,694	DRA 30,676,580,412	€68,701	DRA 19,939,777,079	65%
	1996	€114,490	DRA 34,699,571,312	€74,418	DRA 22,554,722,004	65%
	1998	€91,208	DRA 31,079,200,000	€59,285	DRA 20,201,500,000	65%
	2000	€115,590		€46,230		40%
	2002	€95,876		€30,680		32%
	2004	€166,461		€28,697		17.2%
Spain	1994	€83,190	Pta 13,506,293,761	€53,690	Pta 8,716,934,835	64.5%
	1996	€79,994	Pta 13,256,082,900	€51,240	Pta 8,491,267,155	64.1%
	1998	€58,600	Pta 9,752,400,000 Pesetas	-	-	-
	2000*	€65,637		€45,873		70%
	2002	€119,426		€83,418		69.8%
	2004	€126,148		€88,370		70.0%
France	1994	€320,054	FF 2,073,996,473	€82,435	FF 534,186,568	25.7%
	1996	€406,116	FF 2,696,401,318	€103,708	FF 688,570,049	25.5%
	1998	€375,836	-	€93,958	-	25%

	2000*	€371,048		€184,952		49.8%
	2002	€443,098		€224,674		50.7%
	2004	€475,399		€241,438		50.8%
Italy	1994	29,512	ITL 64,657,676,508	14,651	ITL 32,099,461,344	49.6%
	1996	97,899	ITL 188,481,458,657	54,741	ITL 105,390,093,458	55.9%
	1998 ²²	€45,520		-		-
	2000*	€35,826		€13,142		37%
	2002	€73,218		€32,272		44%
	2004*	€101,164		€80,610		80%
Cyprus	2004*	€9,397	CYP 5,500,000	€4,699	CYP 2,750,000	50%
Latvia	2004	€45,758	LVL 32,000,000	€36,607	LVL 25,600,000	80%
Lithuania ²³	2004*	€56,487	LTL 194,900,000	€45,190	LTL 155,900,000	80%
Luxembourg	1994	€10,600	BEF 405,625,960	€2,650	BEF 101,406,490	25%

²² Compensatory allowances were integrated with payments for other measures under Regulation 950/97. Moreover, in this period, the monitoring activity gathered only aggregated data.

²³ In practice, expenditure was higher than planned in the Rural Development Plan.

	1996	€10,460	BEF 411,332,178	€2,615	BEF 102,833,044	25%
	1998	-	-	-	-	-
	2001	€15,403		€3,850		25%
	2002	€14,860		€3,715		25%
	2004	€15,786		€3,946		25%
Malta²⁴	2004*	€2,223	MTL 960,671	€1,778	MTL 768,537	80%
Hungary	2004*	€25,000	HUF 6,182,000,000	€20,000	HUF 4,946,000,000	80%
Netherlands²⁵	1994	€3,196	NLG 6,652,355	€799	NLG 1,663,089	25%
	1996	€3,610	NLG 7,992,017	€903	NLG 1,998,004	25%
	1998	€3,342	-	€835	-	25%
	2000	€20,326		€5,081		25%
	2002	€117		€29		25%
	2004	€1,250		€314		25%
Austria	1996	€170,179	2,360,440,177	€42,545	590,110,014	25%

²⁴ Amounts differ significantly from European data but have been checked with Maltese Authorities.

²⁵ CAP-IDIM data for the Netherlands between 2000 and 2004 are extremely variable.

	1998	€209,950	-	€44,240	-	21%
	2000	€181,062		€90,531		50%
	2002	€276,906		€65,504		23.7%
	2004	€276,202		€75,535		27.3%
Poland	2004	€225,073	-	€180,058	-	80%
Portugal	1994	€29,897	Esc 5,865,051,122	€22,423	Esc 4,398,788,342	75%
	1996	€37,957	Esc 7,676,076,759	€28,468	Esc 5,757,057,569	75%
	1998	€47,834	Esc 9,590,000,000	€35,875	Esc 7,192,000,000	75%
	2001	€58,440		€45,109		77.2%
	2002	€67,953		€51,906		76.4%
	2004	€93,262		€70,782		75.9%
Slovenia	2004	€38,867	SIT 9,355,100,000	€31,071	SIT 7,484,000,000	79.9%
Slovakia	2004	€71,464	-	€56,871	-	79.6%
Finland	1996	265,708	FMK 1,567,656,514	€74,007	FMK 436,638,075	27.8%
	1998	€272,301	-	€75,608	-	28%

	2000	€416,543		€127,244		30.5%
	2002	€424,697		€129,896		30.6%
	2004	€426,198		€133,578		31.3%
Sweden	1996	€72,742	SEK 607,024,246	€21,075	SEK 175,869,668	29.0%
	1998	-	-	-	-	-
	2001	€66,814	-	€33,407	-	50%
	2002	€66,737	-	€16,684	-	25%
	2004	€22,528	-	€11,145	-	49.5%
United Kingdom	1994	€109,312	GB£91,694,446	€33,271	GB£27,933,745	30.4%
	1996	€132,146	GB£92,693,959	€39,688	GB£27,839,083	30.0%
	1998	-	-	-	-	-
	2000*	€152,600	GB£109,000,000	-	-	-
	2002	€266,253	GB£165,000,000	€42,653	-	16%
	2004	€236,948	GB£150,000,000	€46,719	-	19.7%
EU-25 Expenditure	2004	€3,074,765		€1,561,170		50.8%

Sources: The 1994 -1996 figures come from the STAR Committee report (V17675/98). 1998 figures have been provided by national consultants, where data is available. 2000 – 2004 figures come from the Commission’s Agriculture and Rural Development Monitoring Data System CAP-IDIM. Any exceptions to this are marked with an asterisk (*) to indicate that the data comes from the national consultant for that country. Where no data are available from any source, this has been indicated with a dash (-). In some cases CAP-IDIM data for 2001 or 2003 has been used when no other data for 2000, 2002 or 2004 are available.

4 ANNEX 4. STATISTICS ON COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCES (ARTICLES 18, 19, 20 AND 16 OF REGULATION (EC) NO 1257/1999)

Table 4.1. Number of Holdings Receiving a Compensatory Allowance, 1976 - 2004

Member State	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1996	1998	Reg. 1257/1999														
								2000					2002					2004				
								18	19	20	16	TOTAL	18	19	20	16	TOTAL	18	19	20	16	TOTAL
Belgium ²⁶	11,674	10,336	9,193	8,309	7,450	6,168	-	0	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	0	4,142	2,586	-	6,728*
Czech Republic	n/a																3,445	3,645	1,481	0	8,571	
Denmark	n/a						486	0	0	631	0	631	0	0	602	0	602	0	0	606	0	606
Germany	89,805	70,105	84,002	235,392	234,292	220,823	162,181	15,306	135,497	2,218	1,287	154,308*	14,657	133,472	899	2,410	151,438	14,108	129,994	924	2,780	147,806
Estonia	n/a																0	7,160	1,163	0	8,323	
Ireland	89,805	85,775	72,515	95,839	118,274	101,664	-	0	95,600	Neg.	0	95,600	0	99,000	Neg.	0	99,000	0	100,144	Neg.	0	100,144
Greece	n/a		195,010	269,193	197,789	169,242	161,068	128,245	69,079	0	0	197,324	72,368	31,051	4,970	0	108,389	72,068	32,842	5,301	0	110,211
Spain	n/a			116,315	210,027	178,193	143,641	57,961	85,153	545	0	143,659*	46,066	66,015	3,167	0	115,248	49,561	75,367	3,506	0	128,434
France	97,467	140,394	135,211	165,260	153,435	127,658	113,616	62,271	53,022	0	0	115,293*	61,762	46,106	0	0	107,868	68,127	42,656	1,894	0	112,677

²⁶ 2004 figures aggregate Article 20 and Article 16.

Italy ²⁷	-	91,495	41,721	92,569	68,923	32,782*	38,227*	20,243	930	0	0	21,173*	41,097	2,548	0	0	43,645	42,694	16,833	0	0	59,527*
Cyprus	n/a																	-	-	-	0	10,890*
Latvia	n/a																	0	50,552	0	0	50,552
Lithuania	n/a																	0	-	-	-	106,979*
Luxembourg	4,683	3,129	3,338	3,126	2,779	2,313	-	0	2,003	0	0	2,003*	0	1,590	0	0	1,590	0	1,545	0	0	1,545
Malta ²⁸	n/a																	0	0	5,864	0	5,864*
Hungary ²⁹	n/a																	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands		49	-	443	1,866	3,617	4,260	0	0	1,072	0	1,072	0	0	355	0	355	0	0	1,829	0	1,829
Austria	n/a					96,606	93,570	91,678	10,661	14,396	0	116,735	83,447	9,780	13,075	0	106,302	76,789	10,881	17,378	0	105,048
Poland	n/a																	12,675	463,316	44,145	0	520,136
Portugal	n/a			133,844	120,370	79,705	64,076	48,405	10,429	-	0	58,834*	78,200	16,668	4,019	0	98,887	92,259	18,339	3,584	0	114,182
Slovenia	n/a																	31,786	2,440	8,879	0	43,105
Slovakia	n/a																	1,241	925	1,025	0	3,191
Finland ³⁰	n/a					88,534	68,479	42,574	15,479	15,825	0	73,878	41,101	14,844	15,218	0	71,163	39,726	14,392	14,685	0	68,803

²⁷ Incomplete data set; estimates from the STAR report are based on previous years.

²⁸ This figure is higher than that found in CAP-IDIM data because the Commission only has figures for part of that year.

²⁹ Individual holdings had not been considered eligible when CAP-IDIM data were published.

³⁰ Figures for 1996 were not available so figures for 1997 have been used.

Sweden	n/a					23,453	23,858	7,804	10,917	3,814	0	22,535*	7,963	11,437	1,779	0	21,179	6,899	11,097	1,682	0	19,678
United Kingdom ³¹	46,246	43,840	43,309	55,843	55,257	56,129	-	0	-	Neg.	0	-	0	51,160	Neg.	0	51,160	0	47,544	Neg.	0	47,544
Total EU-15	339,735	445,123	584,632	1,173,278	1,166,125	1,187,674	873,462					1,003,045					976,826					
	(6 MS)	(8 MS)	(8 MS)	(11 MS)	(11 MS)	(14 MS)	(11 MS)					(13 MS)					(14 MS)					
Total EU-25																						1,782,373
																						(24 MS)

Sources: The 1976 -1996 figures come from the STAR Committee report (V17676/98). 1998 figures have been provided from national consultants, where data is available. 2000 – 2004 figures come from the Commission’s Agriculture and Rural Development Monitoring Data System CAP-IDIM. Any exceptions to this are marked with an asterisk (*) to indicate that the data comes from the national consultant for that country. Where no data are available from any source, this has been indicated with a dash (-). When Member States have not been part of the EU or have not had an LFA scheme this has been indicated as ‘non-applicable’ (n/a). All data relating to Article 16 have been obtained from national experts as CAP-IDIM does not contain information on this Article.

³¹ Figures for 1996 were not available so figures for 1997 have been used.

Table 4.2. Number of Livestock Units Used as Calculation Base for Compensatory Allowance, 1988-2000(+)

Member State	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2000+
Belgium	193,600	184,400	116,000	108,000	97,041			
Denmark	n/a					4,681		
Germany ³²	3,134,800	1,292,834	3,230,000	3,199,000	3,064,993	2,557,470		
Ireland	1,357,800	1,271,900	2,113,000	1,884,000	1,960,274			
Greece	1,525,900	1,300,200	1,242,000	1,170,000	1,268,860	1,319,884		
Spain	980,900	-	1,642,000	1,357,000	1,439,508	1,110,794		
France	3,920,600	4,419,000	4,903,000	4,205,000	4,125,519	4,021,359	4,233,099	
Italy ³³	778,900	545,171	1,392,000	376,000	387,272*	459,866		
Luxembourg	93,500	62,717	58,000	53,000	55,066			
Netherlands	4,400	11,226	14,000	33,000	36,221	47,335	37,728	38,680

³² Data for 1996 refer only to Mountain Areas.

³³ Incomplete data set; estimates in STAR report are based on previous years.

Austria	n/a				1,057,316	1,035,369	1,082,776	
Portugal	576,900	522,900	609,000	447,000	384,627	451,659	404,885	
Finland	n/a				54,857	65,475		
Sweden	n/a				502,153	513,518		
United Kingdom ³⁴	2,564,500	2,873,000	2,833,000	3,106,000	3,005,367	2,996,000		
Total EU-15	15,131,800	12,483,348	18,152,000	15,938,000	17,440,074	14,583,410		

Source: The figures in this table have been derived from the STAR Committee report (1976-1996) and from national partners (1998+). Where data from 1998-1996 have been provided by national consultants, this has been indicated with an asterisk (*).

³⁴ Figures for 1996 were not available so figures for 1997 have been used.

Table 4.3. Number of Hectares Used as Calculation Base for Compensatory Allowance, 1988 - 2004

Member State	Reg. 1257/1999																		
	1988	1992	1996	1998	2000					2002					2004				
					18	19	20	16	TOTAL	18	19	20	16	TOTAL	18	19	20	16	TOTAL
Belgium ³⁵	-	-	241,838	-	0	-	0	0	-	0	-	0	0	-	0	206,675	5,690	-	212,365*
Czech Republic	n/a														350,000	246,000	125,000	0	721,000
Denmark	n/a			9,633	0	0	24,270	0	24,270	0	0	23,577	0	23,577	0	0	24,000	0	24,000
Germany ³⁶	1,035,817	2,291,934	2,653,586	1,983,023	319,221	4,589,100	75,467	30,134	5,013,922*	319,139	4,716,574	47,567	42,711	5,125,991*	324,953	4,661,796	97,740	44,000	5,128,489*
Estonia	n/a														0	297,000	-	0	297,000
Ireland	-	-	-	-	0	-	Neg.	0	-	0	2,614,000	Neg.	0	2,614,000	0	2,614,000	Neg.	0	2,614,000
Greece	834,100	575,606	469,770	465,826	-	-	-	0	582,113	-	-	-	0	1,830,000	-	-	-	0	1,893,000
Spain	-	982,000	1,016,735	800,066	-	-	-	0	7,666,000*	-	-	-	0	6,697,000	-	-	-	0	8,102,000
France	-	15,281	-	-	1,888,026	566,378	0	0	2,454,404*	2,422,013	1,975,756	0	0	4,397,769*	2,408,770	1,919,892	0	0	4,328,662*

³⁵ 2004 figures aggregate Articles 20 and 16.

³⁶ Data for 1996 refer only to Mountain Areas.

Italy ³⁷	185,465	436,347	179,924*	349,321	349,000	21,000	0	0	370,000*	696,000	52,000	0	0	748,000*	702,000	526,000	0	0	1,227,000*
Cyprus ³⁸	n/a														7,728	54,402	-	0	62,266*
Latvia	n/a														0	815,000	0	0	815,000
Lithuania	n/a														0	-	-	-	-
Luxembourg	-	40,328	39,259	-	0	20,000	0	0	20,000*	0	113,000	0	0	113,000	0	117,000	0	0	117,000
Malta	n/a														0	0	5,000	0	5,000
Hungary	n/a														0	127,507	84,524	0	212,031*
Netherlands	-	14,326	36,526	46,918	0	0	34,000	0	34,000	0	0	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	14,000	0	14,000
Austria	n/a		487,927*	518,166	-	-	-	0	1,512,000	1,224,862	150,142	157,932	0	1,532,936*	1,233,586	152,364	162,202	0	1,548,152*
Poland	n/a														53,362	4,597,315	202,536	0	4,853,213
Portugal	433,327	360,267	257,796	262,966	14,8874	88,536	-	0	237,410*	473,356	371,008	-	0	844,364*	512,130	412,512	-	0	924,642*
Slovenia	n/a														215,700	14,500	56,400	0	286,600
Slovakia	n/a														-	-	-	0	1,107,000

³⁷ Incomplete data set; estimates in STAR report are based on previous years.

³⁸ Data for Articles 19 and 20 are aggregated.

Finland ³⁹	n/a		1,570,984	1,606,366	1,114,734	462,193	553,985	0	2,130,912*	1,145,755	467,049	558,974	0	2,171,778*	1,152,413	467,553	558,434	0	2,178,400*
Sweden	n/a		572,867*	589,029	206,390	258,971	90,489	0	555,850*	201,329	260,670	91,083	0	553,082*	-	543,601	-	0	543,601*
United Kingdom	-	-	-	-	0	-	Neg.	0	-	0	5,576,000	Neg.	0	5,576,000	0	4,420,000	Neg.	0	4,420,000
TOTAL EU 15	2,488,709 (4 MS)	4,716,089 (8 MS)	7,527,212 (11 MS)	6,631,314 (10 MS)					20,230,881 (11 MS)					32,227,497 (14 MS)					40,345,155 (22 MS)
TOTAL EU 25																			

Sources: The 1988 -1996 figures come from the STAR Committee report. 1998 figures have been provided by national consultants where data are available. 2000 – 2004 figures have been sourced from the Commission’s Agriculture and Rural Development Monitoring Data System CAP-IDIM. Any exceptions to this are marked with an asterisk (*) to indicate that the data come from the national consultant for that country. Where no data is available from any source, this has been indicated with a dash (-). When Member States have not been part of the EU or have not had an LFA scheme this has been indicated as ‘non-applicable’ (n/a). All data relating to Article 16 have been obtained from national consultants as CAP-IDIM does not contain information on this. CAP-IDIM aggregates the areas for Articles 18, 19 & 20. Therefore it has not also been possible to always allocate figures according to each Article.

³⁹ Figures for 1996 were not available so figures for 1997 have been used.

5 ANNEX 5. APPLICATION OF COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCES IN THE MEMBER STATES: REGULATION (EC) NO 1257/1999

General Conditions

- Compensatory allowances are restricted to those who farm a minimum area of land – to be defined;
- Allowances are granted to farmers per hectare of land used for agriculture;
- Allowances are granted to those who pursue a farming activity for at least five years from the first payment;
- Recipients of the aid must apply usual Good Farming Practices compatible with the need to safeguard the environment and maintain the countryside;
- Producers who are found to have used banned substances (hormones) in cattle and failed to comply with relevant Community legislation will be disbarred from their compensatory allowances.

Amount and Modulation of Allowances

- Minimum amount of compensatory allowances: €25 per hectare, with exceptions;
- Maximum average amount of compensatory allowances: €250 per hectare, with exceptions (for Articles 18, 19, 20);
- For Article 16 areas, maximum initial payment, € 500 per hectare, degressive over five years, otherwise maximum €200 per hectare;
- The amounts of the compensatory allowance shall be fixed according to a level which is sufficient to make an effective contribution to compensate for existing handicaps and avoids overcompensation.

1 BELGIUM

1.1 National Legal Base

Federal Rural Development Programme of Belgium 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2967 on 06.10.00

Rural Development Programme for Flanders 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2970 on 06.10.00

Rural Development Programme for Wallonia 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2725 on 25.09.00

1.2 Implementation Levels

Separate measures in Flanders and Wallonia.

1.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

1.3.1 LFA Scheme “Sud-Est” Wallonia

The applicant shall:

- not be over 65 years of age;
- have at least 3 hectare. of UAA;
- have fodder crops in LFA;
- if farming livestock have a minimum of 1.4 LU per ha.

1.3.2 LFA Scheme Flanders (Article 20)

- The applicant shall be registered at the Manure Bank (Mestbank), which implies they have at least 2 ha of utilised agricultural area or a minimum P₂O₅ production of 300 kg;

The designation of areas as “area with environmental restrictions” is based on:

- the Flemish Decree of 23 January 1991 on the protection of the environment against pollution by fertilizers (Decreet van 23 januari 1991 inzake de bescherming van het leefmilieu tegen de verontreiniging door meststoffen);
- the Flemish decree of October 21st 1997 regarding nature preservation and natural environment (Decreet van 21 oktober 1997 betreffende het natuurbehoud en het natuurlijke milieu).

1.4 System of Premiums

1.4.1 LFA Scheme “Sud-Est” Wallonia

The compensatory allowance is fixed at 122 Euro per ha and is limited to 1736 Euro per beneficiary (ARW2003), confirmed by ARW2004.

The allowance of 122 Euro per ha can only be paid when the average stocking density per ha of grassland is between 0.6 LU and 3.5 LU per ha and will be decreased by 20% per 0.1 LU exceeding the 3.5 LU/ha unit.

1.4.2 LFA Scheme Flanders

The compensatory allowance is a flat rate payment of 200 Euro/ha/year.

The payment is supposed to compensate for the adverse effects arising from the prohibition to use manure and pesticides, namely:

- yield reduction as a consequence of the non application of manure;
- yield reduction as a consequence of the non application of pesticides;
- additional labour force requirements for mechanical weed control.

2 CZECH REPUBLIC

2.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for the Czech Republic 2004-2006
Approved by Commission Decision (2004) CZ 06G DO 001 on 3.9.2004

2.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

2.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- farm at least 5 ha. of agricultural land (on the territory of national parks or protected landscape areas 2 ha. for organic farming 1 ha);
- not exceed a livestock density of 1.5 LU per hectare of each agricultural parcel farmed by the applicant;
- Paid only on grassland.

2.4 System of Premiums

	Criteria	Euro/ha.
Article 18	Basic rate	140.25
	Municipality or cadastral area meeting the criteria of minimum altitude and slope	147.26
	Municipalities or cadastral areas within mountain areas not meeting the criteria of minimum altitude and slope	126.23
Article 19	Basic rate	104.40
	Municipalities or cadastral areas with land productivity below 34 points	109.62
	Municipalities or cadastral areas within other LFA with land productivity equal to or above 34 points	88.74
Article 20	Basic Rate	107.50

3 DENMARK

3.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Denmark 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2894 on 29.09.2000

3.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

3.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- have permanent residency on the farm. If the farm is part of a co-operative the subsidies may be granted if one of the participants owning or renting 1/5th or more of the cooperative has permanent residency at the farm;
- farm a minimum of 5 hectares;
- Meet conditions as specified in 1257/99 §14.3 (Ministerial Order No. 223 of 31 March 2003 § 9).

If a farm is part of a co-operative, areas farmed by the co-operative may be included in an application as a proportion of the part of the co-operative owned by the applicant. The remaining conditions should be met; the co-operative should be organized as a partnership with personal liability and the objective of the co-operative should be farming.

The state, counties, municipalities or companies cannot apply for subsidies.

3.4 System of Premiums

	Criteria	Euro/ha.
For all Articles	Basic Rate	58
	Maximum Payment - €5800 (100 hectares)	
	Minimum - €290	

4 GERMANY

4.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Bavaria 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2527 on 07.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Rheinland-Pfalz 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2895 on 29.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Baden-Württemberg 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2524 on 07.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Hessen 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2906 on 29.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for North Rhine-Westphalia 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2520 on 07.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Lower Saxony 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2905 on 29.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Saarland 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2897 on 29.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Bremen 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2896 on 04.10.2000

Rural Development Programme for Hamburg 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2689 on 18.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Schleswig Holstein 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2625 on 08.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Saxony-Anhalt 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2522 on 07.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Saxony 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2519 on 07.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Thuringia 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2907 on 29.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Brandenburg 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2898 on 29.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Berlin 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2001) 1488 on 29.05.2001

4.2 Implementation Levels

Implementation is at Land, not federal level. The LFA measure is currently implemented in 14 Länder (not Hamburg or Lower Saxony)

4.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- have at least 3 hectares within the LFA; less for Article 16 areas in some Länder;
- not to be able to claim compensatory allowances if receiving a state retirement pension;
- not be more than 25% owned by public authorities;
- (for Articles 18, 19 and 20) not producing corn, beets, vegetables, wheat, grapes, hops, fruits (apples, pears, peaches), tobacco, flowers, ornamental plants and other permanent crops e.g. Christmas trees;
- (for Article 16) manage land in Natura 2000 sites and have limitations in farming practice due to environmental restrictions. These restrictions vary between the Länder. In most Länder, restricted to grassland.

Some Länder have additional regulations for ineligible forms of production: in NW and HB only grassland and pastures are eligible, in MV only grassland, pastures and tuber and root crops. In ST the eligibility of land under different crops depends on available budget funds.

Some Länder have additional eligibility criteria, for example, limiting the total income of eligible couples' farm land. Income must not exceed €90,000 per annum in BW. There are similar conditions in HB, SH and RP.

Some Länder pay allowances on voluntary set-aside land, some only on compulsory set-aside and some do not pay any allowance on set-aside land.

4.4 System of Premiums

	Criteria	Euro/ha.
Article 18	Minimum – Maximum	25-180
Article 19	Minimum – Maximum	25-180
Article 20	Minimum – Maximum	25-180
Article 16	Minimum – e.g. for not using liquid manure	30

	Maximum – e.g. for the conversion of arable land into extensive grassland or for the permanent set-aside of arable land in environmentally sensitive sites	200
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Article 18:

In areas where the use of machines is not possible or is hardly possible, (e.g. because of high slopes, wetness etc.), in Mountain Areas and in areas with slopes of more than 50% funding rise to a limit of 200 Euro per hectare.

The relationship between the measure of the handicap and the amount of payment in Germany is the LVZ (Landwirtschaftliche Vergleichszahl, an agricultural index measuring the quality of farming conditions). This figure is used in nearly all Länder to measure the handicap⁴⁰. Länder which do not use the LVZ use a similar figure, the BMZ.

Several Länder may in their specific Directives depart from the minimum and maximum amount per hectare but they have to stay within the framework.

Articles 19 and 20:

Land in these areas is graded into at least four distinct strata, with different payment levels depending on the natural handicap, (with the exception of islands, dykes and other areas of importance for coastal protection).

Funding for arable land is half that for grasslands and pastures (other than cultivation of fodder plants, which is treated like grasslands and pastures).

Generally: the minimum funding is 250 Euro per farm.

Some Länder e.g. BY and SL: the minimum funding is 100 Euro per farm.

ST: the minimum funding is 500 Euro per farm.

Any farm not eligible for the relevant sum will not be funded.

Generally: the maximum payment is 16,000 Euro per farm.

For cooperatives: the maximum premium funding is 64,000 Euro per cooperative.

In farms with more than two FTE: the maximum may be exceeded by 8,000 Euro per FTE. (This applies particularly in the new Länder.)

5 ESTONIA

5.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Estonia 2004-2006

Approved by Commission Decision C(2004) 2936 on 02.08.2004.

5.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

5.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

⁴⁰ The LVZ can be between 0 (worst) and 100 (best). The figure is a complex value including soil conditions, humidity, size and form of surfaces.

- farm at least 1 hectare of agricultural land (arable land, permanent grassland and land temporarily out of production). Support may be applied for registered land for fields of 0.3 hectares or greater;
- have land where the whole block of fields is situated within the LFA.

5.4 System of Premiums

	Criteria	Euro/ha.
For all Articles.	Unless otherwise decided by the Minister of Agriculture	25

Payments may be scaled back if limited funds are available in a specific year. The Minister of Agriculture may choose to reduce funding by up to 30% if the application covers 300 hectares or more of agricultural land or by up to 15% if the application covers 200 hectares or more of agricultural land. There was no need to apply these limits in 2004.

6 IRELAND

6.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Ireland 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2750 on 28.09.2000

6.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

6.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

An eligible hectare for payment is defined as each hectare of land or part thereof which is claimed as forage area on an Area Aid application, which is designated as More Severely Handicapped (lowland), Less Severely Handicapped (lowland) or Mountain Type Grazings and which is used for grazing of cattle, sheep, horses, goats or deer.

The applicant shall:

- be a registered herd owner aged 18 years or over who currently holds a herd number issued by the Department of Agriculture and Food;
- occupy and farm at least 3 hectare of forage land in the LFA;
- reside within daily commuting distance (70 miles) of the holding on which compensatory allowance is being claimed;
- own, possess and maintain the livestock required to establish the minimum stocking density on his/her holding, that being an average of 0.15 LU per forage hectare in the calendar year. The minimum stocking density must be maintained for a minimum period of 4 continuous months in 2004. In calculating the average stocking density on the holding for the purposes of the minimum 0.15 LU per hectare requirement, the average bovine LU equivalents was taken at five dates throughout the year. The minimum stocking level may not apply where agri-environmental or other recognised environmental measures require a lower stocking density on the grounds that the land in question has been degraded or is in danger of becoming degraded.

In the case of first-time applicants for the Disadvantaged Areas Compensatory Allowance Scheme, the minimum stocking density on the holding, calculated as set out above, is based on stocking density throughout 2004.

The livestock required to establish the minimum stocking density must be owned and maintained by the applicant on his/her holding.

6.4 System of Premiums

Mountain Land

- €101.58 on first 10 hectares or part thereof and €88.88 per hectare on remaining hectares subject to an overall payment ceiling of 45 hectares (maximum payment of €4,126.60).

More Severely Handicapped (Lowland)

- €88.88 per hectare on up to 45 hectares (max. payment of €3,999.60).

Less Severely Handicapped (lowland) and Areas with Specific Handicaps (Coastal Areas)

- €76.18 per hectare on up to 45 hectares (max. payment of €3,428.10).

Where a farmer farms a combination of the various types of land, allowances are paid on the mountain type land firstly, lowland (More Severely Handicapped) secondly, and lowland (Less Severely Handicapped) and Areas with Specific Handicaps (Coastal Areas) lastly, subject to an overall payment ceiling of 45 hectares. In the case of common pastures, allowances per hectare are paid on a percentage share of common pastures used.

During the transitional years 2001-2003, a safety net system was in operation.

7 GREECE

7.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Greece
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2733 on 27.09.00

7.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

7.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- have at least 2 hectares;
- be aged between 18 and 65;
- not receive a pension;
- receive at least 25% of their income from farming;
- not have a permanent off-farm occupation (paid occupation of less than 140 work days);
- have family income not more than 150% of the Reference Income (17,608 Euros for 2003);
- be permanent resident of a commune designated in the LFA;
- have the legal rights of a farm that is located within the boundaries of the designated LFA.

Stocking densities apply within the code of Good Farming Practice

7.4 System of Premiums

	Recipient	Maximum
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		Yearly Allowance (Euro)
Article 18	Generally	4,500
	Young farmers	5,500
	Young Farmers with Green Certificate (Training) and Sustainable Farm	6,000
	Residents of Aegean Islands	5,000
Article 19 and 20	Generally	4,000
	Young farmers	5,000
	Young Farmers with Green Certificate (Training) and Sustainable Farm	5,500
	Residents of Aegean Islands	4,500

Compensatory Allowances in Mountainous Areas (€/ha)

Land Use	Young Farmer		Other Recipients	
	With Green Certificate (Training)	Other Young Farmers or Successors of Early Retiring Compensatory Farmers	Residents of Small Aegean Islands	All other Areas
Fodder Legumes, aromatic and pharmaceutical plants, and	120	110	100	90

non-food plants				
All other cultivations (including irrigated land)	70	70	70	70
Grazing land for fodder for on farm consumption	140	130	120	100
Grazing land no fodder	120	110	100	90

Compensatory Allowances in Article 19 and 20 LFAs (€/ha)

Land Use	Young Farmer		Other Recipients	
	With Green Certificate (Training)	Other Young Farmers or Successors of Early Retiring Farmers	Residents of Small Aegean Islands	All other Areas
Fodder Legumes Aromatic and Pharmaceutical Plants Non Food Plants	110	100	90	90
All other cultivations (including irrigated land)	55	55	55	55
Grazing land for fodder for on farm consumption	130	120	110	100
Grazing land no fodder	110	100	90	80

A maximum area of 15 cultivated hectares or 50 hectares of grazing land is eligible for payments. Areas cultivated with industrial crops (tobacco and cotton), sugar beet, citrus tree plantations, flowers and vegetables (except potatoes) do not qualify for compensation.

8 SPAIN

8.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Spain (Horizontal Programme 1) 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 3549 on 24.11.2000

Rural Development Programme for Catalonia 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2658 on 14.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Aragon 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2657 on 13.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for the Balearic Islands 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 3546 on 24.11.2000

Rural Development Programme for Rioja 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2929 on 05.10.2000

Rural Development Programme for Madrid 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2673 on 15.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Navarre 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2660 on 14.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for the Basque Country 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2930 on 05.10.2000

Rural Development Programme for Spain supporting horizontal measures
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 3549 on 24.11.2000

8.2 Implementation Levels

There is a national measure established through national legislation, a Real Decreto, with individual Autonomous Communities responsible for its administration

8.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- be legally registered as an individual, member of a SAT (Sociedad Agraria de Transformación/Agrarian Society) or member of a Co-operative. The SAT or co-operative must have at least one full-time farmer as a partner;
- farm a minimum area of at least 2 hectares (may vary by Autonomous Community, 1 hectare in the Canary Islands);
- reside in the same or neighbouring municipality as that of the farm;
- not receive a retirement, unemployment or any other public pension
- receive at least 50% of his/her income from farming activities and dedicate more than 50% of his/her time to farming activities;
- farm totally or partially within the LFA;
- have a maximum of 1 LU per forage hectare, or 2 LUs where rainfall exceeds 800 mm per annum.

8.4 System of Premiums

Payment levels are set by means of a basic rate per hectare, which is adjusted according to several variables. The basic rate is:

- Article 18 €75
- Article 19 €45
- Article 20 €120

Two reducing coefficients are applied to this rate:

a) Total eligible surface of the holding:

- up to 5 hectares: 1.0
- more than 5 and up to 25 hectares: 0.75
- more than 25 and up to 50 hectares: 0.5
- more than 50 and up to 100 hectares: 0.25
- more than 100 hectares: 0.0

b) The declared income of the farmer:

- The allowance is multiplied by 1.2 when the declared income of the farmer is less than 50% of the Reference Income calculated by the Ministry of Agriculture;
- The allowance is multiplied by 1.0 when the declared income of the farmer is more than 50% of the Reference Income calculated by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The eligible area is adjusted as follows:

- Irrigated area subject to a maximum of 5 hectares;
- Forage area subject to the following reduction co-efficients: 1.0 for permanent pasture; 0.5 for pastures with 2 to 6 months of use; 0.15 when the area is fallow or uncultivated land is used as pasture;
- The cultivated area is multiplied by a factor of 1 when it is irrigated, by 0.5 when it is of extensive cultivation and non-irrigated, and by 0.3 in the case of crops that are not classified as forest in order to obtain the number of hectares used as calculation base for the allowance.

The eligible surface is then calculated by adding the forage area (with the reducing coefficients) to the total number of hectares used as the calculation base for the compensatory allowance.

The payment per holding is the result of a multiplication of:

- The adjusted eligible surface (in hectares);
- The basic rate (in € per hectare);
- co-efficient applied to the basic rate

The payment cannot to be less than 300 Euro per farm. A maximum of 2,000 Euro per farm was established in 2002-2003-2004. In 2005, the maximum was increased to 2,500 Euro.

9 FRANCE

9.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for France 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2521 on 07.09.2000

9.2 Implementation Levels

National measure setting main framework with some scope for Regions and Départements to adapt the criteria and designate local sub areas in the application of the policy.

9.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- hold at least 3 hectares (2 hectares in the DOMs) with 80% in the LFA;
- not be over 65 years of age;
- not be retired or receiving an early retirement payment;
- receive at least 50% of his/her income from agriculture. (There are a few exceptions, depending on size of income);
- have permanent residency and registered holding in the LFA area;

There are specific criteria for stocking density:

	High Mountain	Mountain	Piedmont	Simple LFA
Specific Stock density criteria	Min 0,15 Max 1,9	Min 0,25 Max 2	Min 0,35 Max 2	Min 0,35 Max 2
Dry areas	Min : 0,1 Max: 1,8	Min 0,15 Max 1,9	Min 0,35 Max 2	Min 0,35 Max 2
In Western marshes • Drained wetlands grassland “marais desséchés” • Wet marshes grassland “marais mouillés”				Min 0,35 Max 1,6 Min 0,35 Max 1,6

And for Production Characteristics:

Animal production	Crop cultivation
At least 3 ha of fodder area (2ha in the DOMs) And at least 3 eligible Livestock Units	At least 1 ha of eligible crops (0,5 ha in the DOMs) At least 80% of the UAA and the main home in dry mountain or high mountain area Dry area payments are reserved for mountain and high mountain areas on the continental French territory except in the DOMs. In mountain and high mountain areas, the crops include fruits; seed production, some cereals e.g. maize for human consumption Greenhouse production, other cereals, fallow, grapevines, industrial set aside and honey production plants, are not eligible

9.4 System of Premiums

In normal conditions, payments are per hectare of fodder area only. In dry areas, crops are eligible.

There is a maximum of 50 hectares eligible per farm.

The allowance for the first 25 ha is 20% higher than the premium for the following 25 hectares.

Premium amount per zones:

- Per hectare of fodder area:

The precise amounts are fixed at the local level by Department authorities. Each Department defines the amounts for each sub-zone. Nevertheless, the local adaptation must comply with the national average/ha. The national basis for the calculation is:

	High Mountain		Mountain		Piedmont		Simple LFA			
	Dry	Ordinary	Dry	Ordinary	Dry	Ordinary	Dry	Ordinary	Dry marshes	Wet marshes
Per hectare of Fodder area	223	221	183	136	89	55	80	49	60	121

- For crop cultivation (only in dry areas) 172€/ha.

The premium is increased by 30% in Piedmont and the simple LFA zones, and by 10% in mountain and high mountain LFA if sheep and goat production on the holding represents more than 50% of the stock and if the animals graze between the 15th of June and the 15th of September.

There are two safety net mechanisms in France. The first one is at farm level – the maximum payment is set at 105 to 110% of the previous year's payment (except for a few categories of farmers) – and the second one is at national and Department level. This second safety-net mechanism means that the level of allowances is capped at the beginning of the administrative process at 70% of the previous total. Each department has a total envelope (as a % of the national budget) that has to be respected. The Departments can define their own budget 'stabilisators' at department level or at sub-zone level.

10 ITALY

10.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Lazio 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2144 on 20.07.2000

Rural Development Programme for Piemonte 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2507 on 07.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Abruzzi 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2151 on 20.07.2000

Rural Development Programme for Umbria 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2158 on 20.07.2000

Rural Development Programme for Marche 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2726 on 26.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Emilia Romagna 2000-2006

Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2153 on 20.07.2000

Rural Development Programme for Tuscany 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2510 on 07.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Friuli-Venezia Giulia 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 107173⁴¹ on 29.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Veneto 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2904 on 29.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Trento 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2667 on 15.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Liguria 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 1712 on 26.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Lombardy 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2669 on 15.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Valle d'Aosta 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2903 on 26.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Bolzano 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2668 on 15.09.2000

Rural Development Programme for Campania 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2001) 1166 on 03.05.2001

Rural Development Programme for Apulia 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2001) 479 on 02.03.2001

Rural Development Programme for Basilicata 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2001) 4977 on 18.01.2002

Rural Development Programme for Calabria 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2001) 1600 on 15.06.2001

Rural Development Programme for Sicily 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2001) 135 on 23.01.2001

Rural Development Programme for Molise 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2001) 718 on 16.03.2001

10.2 Implementation Levels

Regional rather than national level. The policy was applied in all regions except for Toscana, Puglia, and Sicilia for the period 2000-2006.

⁴¹ This Decision number comes from the 2004-2006 Rural Development Programme Country Profile for Italy, however, it is inconsistent with other figures given for Commission Decisions.

10.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

Precise rules vary, but in most regions applicants:

- Must be farmers resident in the LFA with the farm business based in the LFA
- In many regions; e.g. Piemonte, Emilia Romagna, Lazio, Basilicata, Puglia, Calabria or Sardegna (Sardinia) farmers must not receive a pension or exceed pensionable age and should be based within the LFA;
- In many regions, eligibility is linked to continued livestock and forage production (Veneto, PA of Bolzano, Emilia Romagna, Basilicata, Marche and Umbria).
- In Puglia or Sardegna (Sardinia) this condition applies to 'other LFA' not mountain areas.

Other eligibility criteria and management conditions:

Region	Minimum Area	Other Relevant Criteria and Management Conditions
Piemonte	3 ha UAA	Permanent activity
Valle d'Aosta	meadow 1 ha UAA grazing 2 ha UAA orchard, viticulture, cereals, other production: 0,4 ha UAA	-
Liguria	Forage with livestock activity: 3 ha UAA Viticulture (Doc e Igt): 0,2 ha Olive-growing: 0,5 ha	First 10 ha: at least 0,7 LU/ ha forage area For the following ha: at least LU/ha forage area=1
Lombardia	Forage: 3 ha UAA Viticulture (Doc-Docg), Olive-growing (Dop), orchard: 0,5 ha UAA	0,5< LU/ha forage area <3
Veneto	3 ha UAA in mountain area and at least 51% of total farm area in mountain area	Presence of livestock activity
PA Bolzano	2 ha UAA	Livestock activity (at least 1LU) At least 30 disadvantage points calculated on slope, altitude, accessibility
PA Trento	2 ha UAA	Not permitted: livestock activities with LU/ha >3 no-soil production forage areas with ha/LU>2,5
Friuli-Venezia Giulia	Orchards, flowers, vegetables: 1ha UAA Other productions: 2 ha UAA	-
Emilia- Romagna	3 ha UAA	Only livestock activity (max 2LU/ha forage area) Complying with environmental regulations
Toscana	2 ha UAA	-

Umbria	3 ha	Presence of livestock activity $0,15 < \text{LU/ha forage area} < 2$
Marche	3 ha UAA	Only livestock activity ($0,5 < \text{LU/ha forage area} < 2$) No GMO
Lazio	2 ha UAA	Production: forage ($0,5 < \text{UL/ha} < 1,4$ – min 3UL) field crops (except industrial production, vegetables, maize) specialised tree crops and olives
Abruzzo	2 ha UAA	-
Objective 1 Regions	Minimum land area	Other relevant criteria and management conditions
Molise	2 ha UAA	-
Campania	Mountain area: 2 ha UAA Other LFA: 3 ha UAA	-
Puglia	Mountain area: 2 ha UAA (meadow, grazing and/or forage, viticulture, citrus) Other LFA: 5 ha UAA (meadow, grazing, forage)	Presence of livestock activity $\text{LU/ha} < 1,4$
Basilicata	2 ha UAA	Presence of livestock activity (max 2LU/ha forage area)
Calabria	2 ha UAA	-
Sicilia	1,5 ha UAA (0,5 ha UUA in the islands)	$\text{LU/ha} > 0,5$ Complying with environmental regulations Not permitted: intensive perennial productions
Sardegna (Sardinia)	Livestock activity: 10 ha UAA No Livestock activity: 2 ha UAA	No livestock activity only in mountain area

10.4 System of Premiums

Regions	Differentiated on according to	Euro/ha.	Maximum premium amount or maximum hectares
Piemonte	Production type	Forage (1 ha per LU): average premium 130 Euro/ha max premium 162,5 Euro/ha Officinal plants, small fruits, vegetables, flowers,	Max 40 ha per holding

		<p>strawberries, potatoes: average premium 160 Euro /ha max premium 200 Euro /ha</p> <p>Chestnut: average premium 100 Euro/ha max premium 125 Euro/ha</p> <p>soft wheat, maize, oil crops, others: average premium 60 Euro/ha max premium 75 Euro/ha</p>	
Valle d'Aosta	<p>Production type</p> <p>Production method (poor/rich pasture)</p> <p>Land area</p> <p>Main production</p> <p>Accessibility</p>	<p>Mountain pasture (1,5 ha per LU admitted to premium): from 10 Euro/ha to 250 Euro/ha on the basis of land area and production method (for difficult entry: +50% of premium/ha)</p> <p>Other forage area (0,5 ha per LU admitted to premium): from 20 Euro/ha to 600 Euro/ha on the basis of land area and production method (no livestock activity: -50% of premium/ha)</p> <p>Orchard, viticulture, others: ha total <2 800 Euro/ha 2-4 total ha 600 Euro/ha 4-8 total ha 400 Euro/ha total ha >8 200 Euro/ha</p> <p>Cereals, chestnuts, walnut trees: first 4 ha total 400 Euro/ha total ha > 8 200 Euro/ha</p>	Mountain pasture: max 2000 Euro
Liguria	<p>Production type</p> <p>Area: natural parks or other areas</p> <p>Production method: organic or conventional (only for forage production)</p>	<p>Olive-growing: 400 Euro/ha in natural park 200 Euro/ha in other zones</p> <p>Viticulture: 500 Euro/ha in natural park 700 Euro/ha in other zones</p> <p>Forage (average premium): 212,5 Euro/ha in natural park or organic method 162,5 Euro/ha in other zones</p>	<p>Forage: max 100 ha per holding</p> <p>Viticulture: max 2 ha per holding</p> <p>Olive-growing: max 10 ha per holding</p>
Lombardia	Production type	Forage: from 50 to 150 Euro/ha	Forage: max 100 ha per

		Viticulture, olive-growing, orchard: from 100 to 200 Euro/ha (from 100 to 300 Euro/ha in Province of Sondrio area due to high slope)	holding Viticulture, olive-growing, orchard: max 8-10 ha per holding
Veneto	Priority: forage area with LU/ha<2	First 45 ha 200 Euro/ha 46-60 ha 150 Euro/ha	Max 60 ha per holding
PA Bolzano	Disadvantage points based on slope, altitude, accessibility	Min and max limits: 30 points: 50 Euro/ha above 90 points 200 Euro/ha	Max 20 ha per holding
PA Trento	Area: particularly disadvantaged area, disadvantaged area Score based on slope, production type, economic structure, agro-environmental measures adoption	Specific algorithm	Max 325 Euro/ha per holding
Friuli-Venezia Giulia	Production type Area of disadvantage Economic structure	Viticulture: from 40 to 60 Euro/ha Orchard, flowers, vegetables, livestock: from 100 to 300 Euro/ha Other productions: from 80 to 160 Euro/ha	6,000 Euro per holding, further 6,000 Euro per each employee
Emilia-Romagna	-	Max 100 Euro/forage ha	Max 100 Euro/forage ha
Toscana	Beneficiary type: IATP or others	IATP: 200 Euro/ha from 2 to 15 ha 120 Euro/ha from 16 to 30 ha 80 Euro/ha from 31 to 200 ha Others: 120Euro/ha from 2 to 15 ha 80 Euro/ha from 16 to 30 ha 50 Euro from 31 to 200	max 200 ha per holding

		ha	
Umbria	LFA categories: Art. 18 and Art. 19 Priority: extensive livestock activities and farm with resident employee	Art 18: annual or specialised perennial production 200 Euro/ha other production 120 Euro/ha Art 19: annual or specialised perennial production 150 Euro/ha other production 100 Euro/ha	Mountain: max 15000 Euro per holding Other LFA: max 10000 Euro per holding
Marche	Negative variation rate of population	Areas with Low rate: 200 Euro/forage ha Areas with Negative rate: 150 Euro/ha Other areas: 100 Euro/ha	Max 7500 Euro per holding
Lazio	Farm size	from 2 to 10 ha 150 Euro/ha from 11 to 20 ha 120 Euro/ha from 20 to 30 ha 80 Euro/ha	Max 30 ha per holding
Abruzzo	LFA category Farm size	Mountain: from 200 to 20 Euro/ha per cluster of hectares Other LFA: from 120 to 12 Euro/ha per cluster of hectares	Max 100 ha per holding
Molise	LFA category Farm size	Mountain: from 200 to 60 Euro/ha per cluster of hectares Other LFA: from 120 to 36 Euro/ha per cluster of hectares	-
Campania	LFA category Farm size	Mountain: from 200 to 60 Euro/ha per clusters of hectares Other LFA: from 120 to 36 Euro/ha per clusters of hectares	-
Puglia	LFA category Production type	Mountain: meadow and grazing 55 Euro/ha forage 120 Euro/ha Other LFA: meadow and grazing 45 Euro/ha forage 100 Euro/ha	-

Basilicata	Area: protected areas or other areas	Up to 10 forage ha: 50Euro/ha Up to 20 forage ha: first 10 ha 50 Euro/ha 10-20 ha 40 Euro/ha Forage ha >20: first 10 ha 50 Euro/ha 10-20 ha 40 Euro/ha for the following ha 30 Euro/ha Protected areas: +10%	Max 50 forage ha per holding
Calabria	LFA category	Protected areas and particularly disadvantaged areas: 2 - 5 ha 200 Euro /ha 6 - 12 ha 160 Euro /ha 13 -30 ha 100 Euro/ha 31 - 100 ha 40 Euro/ha Also for young (<40) and woman Other LFA: -20%	Max 100 ha per holding
Sicilia	LFA category (Art. 3 dir 75/268)	Area Art.3 par. 3 and 5: up to 40 ha 100Euro/ha ha >40 50 Euro/ha Area Art. 3 par. 4: up to 40 ha 90Euro/ha ha> 40 ha 45 Euro/ha.	-
Sardegna (Sardinia)	LFA category Livestock activity: presents or not	Mountain (per clusters of hectares): livestock activity from 40 to 5 Euro/ha other production from 100 to 70 Euro/ha Other LFA (per clusters of hectares): From 37 to 4 Euro/ha	Mountain: 50 ha per livestock holding – 10 ha per no livestock holding Other LFA: 50 ha per livestock holding

Furthermore, specific criteria are used to select applications if there is a budget shortfall. The main positive criteria are:

- young entrepreneur
- female farmer
- entrepreneur in mountain areas, in natural parks or protected areas
- entrepreneur at main title - fulltime
- organic method of production.

Payments are made at Regional level.

11 CYPRUS

11.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Cyprus 2004-2006

Approved by the Star Committee on 11.05.2004, and by the Commission on 06.07.2004.

11.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

11.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

Applicants may be persons or legal entities (producer groups, enterprises, producer cooperatives, local authorities, monasteries, social or charitable institutions) who or which:

- have the legal rights (i.e. are owners or managers) of a farm with owned or leased agricultural land, that is located within the boundaries of the designated LFAs;
- cultivate at least 0.3 ha of agricultural land, either on his/her own or as part of a farm household;
- be permanently resident in the commune where the specific agricultural/livestock holding is located, or of another commune, both within the boundaries of the designated LFA;
- undertake the obligation to cooperate with national and European inspection and monitoring mechanisms.

11.4 System of Premiums

The maximum yearly compensatory allowance per ha. of agricultural land for period 2004-2006:

LFA Category	Recipient	Maximum Allowance (Euros/ha)
Article 18 (Categories 1 & 2)	General	250
Articles 19 and 20 (Categories 3-5)	Areas up to and including 10 ha.	150
	Areas over 10 ha.	100

For areas cultivated with cereals and fodder crops as well as arable land under set-aside, the compensatory allowance is calculated after taking into account the respective Single Payment per hectare (SAPS), so that the total payment per hectare (i.e. SAPS plus Compensatory Allowance) does not exceed 280 Euro in the case of Categories 1-2 and 230 Euros in the case of Categories 3-5. In the case of cultivated LFA land specified as non-eligible for SAPS,

farmers still qualify for the allowances of 250 Euros per hectare. Categories 1-2 and 150 and 100 Euro per hectare respectively.

12 LATVIA

12.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Latvia 2004-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2004) 2893 on 30.07.2004

12.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

12.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- actively farm at least 1 hectare of agricultural land;
- fields should not be smaller than 0.3 hectares;
- keep the land in good agricultural condition.

12.4 System of Premiums

	Criteria	Euro/ha.
Article 18	-	-
Article 19	For the 1 st category	33
	For the 2 nd category	46
	For the 3 rd category	64
Article 20	-	-
Article 16	If the area does not overlap with another LFA	38
	If the area overlaps with the 1 st category	33
	If the area overlaps with the 2 nd category	30
	If the area overlaps with the 3 rd category	26

13 LITHUANIA

13.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Lithuania 2004-2006

13.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

13.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

Compensatory allowances are payable to private or legal persons registered in the Agriculture and Rural Development Register. Eligible hectares of utilizable agricultural land include arable land, pastures, and permanent crops. In areas with environmental restrictions, only meadows or pastures are eligible.

The applicant shall:

- farm at least 1 hectare within the LFA;

- if farming meadows or pastures in an area with environmental restrictions be farming a minimum 1 hectare within that area;
- not take Early Retirement scheme payments;
- register as being in the designated LFA or area with environmental restrictions;
- maintain the land in a good agricultural condition (except areas with environmental restrictions).
- not have debts to the budget of the Republic of Lithuania or to the budgets and funds of municipalities;

Beneficiaries receiving support for Natura 2000 are not eligible for support under the Landscape Stewardship scheme (Agri-Environment measure).

13.4 System of Premiums

Aid is differentiated to reflect different levels of severity of permanent natural handicap experienced within LFAs. LFA land is subdivided into two land classification categories as follows:

- Highly Disadvantaged Areas (HDA)
- Less Disadvantaged Areas (LDA).

The compensatory allowances per hectare are provided in the table below:

Area	Compensatory allowance
	EUR
HDA	75.3
LDA	56.4

Areas with environmental restrictions cover LFA and non-LFA areas. The compensatory allowance is set at **89 EUR/ha (308 Lt/ha)** and will be paid starting 2005.

14 LUXEMBOURG

14.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Luxembourg 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2893 on 29.09.2000

14.2 Implementation Levels

National measure

14.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- not be over 65 years of age;
- have at least 3 hectares of UAA;
- not be receiving an old age pension or pre-retirement pension;
- have land wholly within the LFA;

- have a minimal agricultural area of 8 standard units of dimension (unités de dimension économique, UDE). This corresponds to a standard gross margin of 387.263 LUF. The aim of this criterion is to exclude non-professional farmers.

14.4 System of Premiums

For arable crops a compensation of 186 Euro/ha/year is paid. For fodder crops 198 Euro/ha/year is paid. A system of modulation applies with limits on payments to larger farms and limits on total payments

15 MALTA

15.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Malta 2004-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2004) 2978 on 23.06.2004

15.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

15.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

Uniquely all Maltese agricultural land (11,000 hectares) is eligible for support under Article 20.

The applicant shall:

- have a minimum area of 1 tumolo of land (0.1124 hectares).

15.4 System of Premiums

For the year 2004, the amount of premium per hectare for the LFA scheme was 250€. There is no maximum premium; payment is in proportion to the land under tenure by a farmer on a flat rate basis.

16 HUNGARY

16.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Hungary 2004-2006

16.2 Implementation Levels

National measure.

16.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- have land within the designated LFA area;
- have at least 1 hectare cultivated as grassland or arable land for fodder crops;
- receive funds only for parcels larger than 0.3 hectares;
- not produce: winter or spring wheat, rice, sunflower, corn, sugar beet, potatoes, industrial crops (such as rape, flax, cannabis, hop) or vegetables.

16.4 Payment Structures

Payments are as follows:

- Article 19 areas – EUR 85.9/year/ha;
- Article 20 areas – EUR 10.94/year/ha.

There is no minimum payment but degressivity is applied, according to the size of the farm, as follows:

Area (ha)	Level of support
1-50	100%
51-100	90%
101-300	80%
301-500	70%
501-	50%

Claims for payments are subject to the availability of funding in the year in question.

17 NETHERLANDS

17.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for the Netherlands 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2751 on 28.09.2000

17.2 Implementation Levels

National measures

17.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant for Article 20 based support shall:

- have land within the designated LFA area;
- have a minimum of 0.5 hectares;
- not pursue activities having a negative effect on existing values of nature and landscape, e.g. change in parcelling, micro relief, soil structure, soil profile;
- not pursue activities leading to lowering of the groundwater level or change landscape elements.

The active management measures (over 20 different measures) all have very specific criteria, depending on the objectives. Examples are the presence of certain species, land use, minimum and maximum area, soil cover, etc.

17.4 System of Premiums

The standard payment is €94 per hectare

18 AUSTRIA

18.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Austria 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 1973 on 14.07.2000

18.2 Implementation Levels

National measure

18.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The following eligibility criteria apply:

- The applicant must manage the farm throughout the year;
- The farm business should not be more than 25% owned by local authorities;
- The applicant must have at least 2 hectares within the LFA;
- The applicant must maintain the availability of appropriate farm buildings;
- The applicant must not produce fodder crops, wheat, grapes, fruits (apples, pears, peaches). Production of wine and sugar beet is not eligible in Other LFAs and Areas Affected by Specific Handicaps;
- For grazing on community land, premia calculated according to the share of LU needs to be (needs to be documented in yearly listings);
- The applicant must not receive payments for set-aside land.

18.4 System of Premiums

The amount of the premium per hectare depends on a number of factors combined using a formula. The key variables are:

Number of Eligible Hectares of Agricultural Land

Three levels of payment with no differentiation between Art.18, 19 or 20 Areas:

- Area payment 1: Highest payment; available for maximum 6 hectares of LFA land.
- Area payment 2: Available for all agricultural land classified as LFA. This payment is granted up to a maximum 100 hectares, but modulated from 60 hectares.

Degression of Area Payment 2 depending on eligible area:

Area in hectares	Allowable Percentage (area aid 2)
Up to 60 hectares	100 %
60 to 70 hectares	80 %
70 to 80 hectares	60 %
80 to 90 hectares	40 %
90 to 100 hectares	20 %
More than 100 hectares	0%

Area payment 3: Supplement for dairy farms with difficult transport conditions due to a location with difficult access to milk collection sites, maximum 2,000 Euro per holding.

The amount of this payment is calculated as follows: $LF \times FF \times FS$

LF = location factor

- under 1 km distance: $LF = \text{distance} \times (1 + \text{BHKP} / 100)$
- above 1 km distance: $LF = \text{distance} / 2 \times (1 + \text{BHKP} / 100)$

FF = grassland or pasture eligible for LFA compensatory payments

FS = payment per ha FF (max. 14.53 Euro)

The Severity of Handicaps

Each LFA holding was assessed and classified by a system called “Mountain Farm Register” (“Berghöfekataster” - BHK). This system addresses the externalities of mountain farming more clearly than the former four “categories of handicap”. A detailed system of attributing points up to a theoretical maximum of 570 (severest handicaps) integrates 16 kinds of handicaps in three groups:

- internal handicaps: e.g. steepness of slopes (highest weight: maximum 320 BHK-points)
- handicaps due to farm location: e.g. difficulty of access to the farm holding, distance to public transport facilities (maximum 100 BHK-points)
- soil and climate (maximum 150 BHK-points).

The Type of Agricultural Land Use

- Grasslands and pastures
- Other agricultural land; The mathematical formula for area aid 1 for other land use than grasslands and pastures is different. The payments are lower. The production of fodder crops, wheat, grapes, fruits (apples, pears, peaches) are not eligible all LFAs. Production of wine and sugar beet are not eligible in Other LFAs and Areas Affected by Special Handicaps.

The Type of Agricultural Holding

- with/ without roughage-feeding animals, with/ without alpine pastures.

To calculate the payment level a sophisticated model is used⁴²:

Farm type	receives	Area payment 1 (in €)	Area payment 2 (in €)
Holding with roughage feeding LU under 6 ha GF	per ha FF	$\frac{181,68 + (8,72 \times \text{number BHKP})}{6}$	$94,47 + (0,38 \times \text{number BHKP})$
	per ha SF	$\frac{45,42 + (2,18 \times \text{number BHKP})}{6}$	$72,67 + (0,29 \times \text{number BHKP})$
Holding with roughage feeding LU above 6 ha GF	per ha FF	$\frac{181,68 + (8,72 \times \text{number BHKP})}{\text{GF}}$	$94,47 + (0,38 \times \text{Anzahl BHKP})$
	per ha SF	$\frac{45,42 + (2,18 \times \text{number BHKP})}{\text{GF}}$	$72,67 + (0,29 \times \text{number BHKP})$
Holding without roughage feeding LU under 6 ha GF	per ha FF or SF	$\frac{45,42 + (2,18 \times \text{number BHKP})}{6}$	$72,67 + (0,29 \times \text{number BHKP})$
Holding without roughage feeding LU above 6 ha GF	per ha FF or SF	$\frac{45,42 + (2,18 \times \text{number BHKP})}{\text{GF}}$	$72,67 + (0,29 \times \text{number BHKP})$

⁴² LFA implementing directive 2006 - <http://minister.lebensministerium.at/article/articleview/17691/1/5131>

FF = grassland or pasture eligible for LFA compensatory payments
 SF = other agricultural land eligible for LFA compensatory payments
 BHKP = mountain farm register points
 GF = total area of agricultural land eligible for LFA compensatory payments in hectares (FF + SF)
 RGVE = roughage-feeding LU

With rising BHK-points the amount of support (payment rates) per hectare increases, in particular area payment 1. The table below gives examples of the amount of support per hectare payable on different types of farm with livestock: Those farms with the severest handicaps (300 BHK-points) receive 15 times more payment 1 per hectare (for maximum 6 hectares) and 2.2 times more area payment 2 per hectare. Farms without livestock receive less support and the level of support is also lower for land other than forage land. Payment levels above €200 exist and have to be seen in the context of article 15 (1) of Regulation 1257/92 as aiming to compensate handicaps but within a regional average below €200.

19 POLAND

19.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Poland 2004-2006
 As outlined in the Commission document CCI No 2004 PL 061 PO 001 (07.07.2004)

19.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

19.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- have all or some land within the LFA, though only agricultural plots within the LFA will be funded;
- have at least 1 ha. of land used for agricultural production within the LFA;
- farms larger than 300 ha are not eligible

19.4 System of Premiums

The rates of compensatory allowance for farming per hectare on LFAs are the following:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| • Mountain | 320 (PLN/ha) |
| • Lowland I | 179 (PLN/ha) |
| • Lowland II | 264 (PLN/ha) |
| • Areas with specific handicaps | 264 (PLN/ha) |

LFA allowances decrease depending on the size of area submitted for the allowance by one beneficiary.

1-50 ha	100% of the payment in a particular zone for each hectare,
50-100 ha	50% of the payment in a particular zone for each hectare,
100-300 ha	25% of the payment in a particular zone for each hectare,
Over 300 ha	No payment for area above 300 ha.

If a plot is situated in several types of LFA with different payment rates, the rate for the LFA where a greater part of the plot is situated is applied.

20 PORTUGAL

20.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for mainland Portugal 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 3368 on 22.11.2000

Rural Development Programme for the Azores 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2001) on 01.13.2001

Rural Development Programme for Madeira 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2001) 1159 on 30.04.2001

20.2 Implementation Levels

Three separate measures for mainland Portugal, the Azores and Madeira

20.3 Main Eligibility Conditions (Portuguese Mainland)

The applicant shall:

- have permanent residence or their business headquarters in the LFA;
- farm within the LFA;
- have at least 0.5 hectares of UAA within the LFA;
- have an economic size less than 40 EDU;
- if farming livestock, have up to 3 LU per hectare in mountain areas or farms that have less than 2 hectares of UAA;
- if farming livestock, have up to 2 LU per ha. of forage surface in non-mountain LFAs on farms and more than 2 hectares of UAA;
- re-apply annually to receive the compensatory allowance. When re-applying the area applied for may be changed;
- open their farm to inspections.

20.3.1 PDRu Açores

Individual farmers or associative operation units are eligible if they fulfil the following requirements:

- permanent residence on farm or have their headquarters in the Autonomous Açores Region;
- are full time farmers (for individual farmers using at least 50% of their working time on the farm and gaining at least half their income from farming activities. For associative farms, there are similar rules; the farm has at least 0.5 ha of UAA;
- have a maximum livestock density of 2.5 LU/ ha of forage surface.

20.3.2 PDRu Madeira

Individual farmers or associative operation units are eligible if they fulfil the following requirements:

- permanent residence on farm or have their headquarters in the Autonomous Madeira Region;

- farm has at least 0.15 hectares of UAA;
- maximum livestock density of 2 LU per hectare of UAA.

20.4 System of Premiums

RURIS

Payments differ between LFA categories and from size as well as employment status. The table shows the amounts in Euros per hectare granted as compensatory allowances on the Portuguese Mainland in 2004 following some recent changes.

Full-Time Farmers are farmers that dedicate at least 50% of their total working time to the farm and obtain at least 25% of their total revenue from the farm.

The UAA considered refers to the area with permanent crops, clean arable land and orchards, excepting areas use for annual forage crops and permanent pastures. However, if the farmer has livestock the UAA includes the forage area that will be eligible for the payment up to a stock density of 1 LU/ha.

20.4.1 PDRu Açores

Compensatory allowance (Euro/ha)		
UAA	S. Miguel and Terceira Islands	The Other Islands
≤ 7 ha	190	200
> 7 ha ≤ 14 ha	119	125
>14 ha ≤ 21 ha	107	112
>21 ha ≤ 80ha	52	55

20.4.2 PDRu Madeira

UAA	Compensatory allowance (Euro/ha)
≤ 0.15 ha ≤ 0.5 ha	750
> 0.5 ha ≤ 1 ha	550
> 1 ha ≤ 2 ha	400
> 2 ha ≤ 5 ha	200
> 5 ha ≤ 50 ha	100

21 SLOVENIA

21.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Slovenia 2004-2006

As outlined in the Commission document CCI 2004 SI 06 GDO 00 on 24.08.2004

21.2 Implementation Levels

National measure

21.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- have at least 1 hectare per eligible agricultural holding;
- not receive funds for wetlands, overgrown land or land used for vineyards.

21.4 System of Premiums

The level of compensatory allowances depends on the classification of agricultural holdings into certain categories with regard to delimitation of LFAs and environmental characteristics of individual areas.

LFA category	Compensatory allowances per hectare (€)
Year 2005	
Mountain	201.6
Alpine pasture	201.6
Steep slope	172.4
Karst	172.4
Hilly	141.8
Different unfavourable conditions	69.5
Basic	25.3

The payments are implemented through a flat rate system paid by land category and size of eligible agricultural land area. Slovenia operates the system of capped payments which are increased each year, relating to the scale of contribution from the EAGGF.

22 SLOVAKIA

22.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for the Slovak Republic 2004-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2004) 3238 on 27.08.2004

22.2 Implementation Levels

National Measure

22.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- manage at least 1 hectare of agricultural land within the LFA;
- keep detailed records of management necessary for inspecting and monitoring;
- have a good level of education (minimum secondary school education in an appropriate subject or a re-qualification course or three years of practice).

22.4 System of Premiums

Compensatory allowances are calculated per hectare of agricultural land, differentiated by separate types of Less Favoured Areas. The payments are paid for the land blocks and there is no maximum or minimum premium amount. The tables

below, indicating payments for each LFA category and sub-category, are adopted from the Rural Development Programme for Slovakia for the period 2004-2006.

Basic Payments of Compensatory Allowances for LFA

LFA	Basic payment per ha (in Euro)		
	2004	2005	2006
Mountains areas	103	105	107
Other less favoured areas	51	52	53
Areas with specific handicaps	38	39	40
Areas with environmental restrictions	-	42	42

Note: 1Euro=37, 37 SKK

Payments in Mountain Areas

Type of area	Characteristics	Percent of basic payment	Compensation allowances in Euro /ha		
			2004	2005	2006
H1	Average altitude of the municipality higher than or equal to 700 metres above sea level	110 %	113	115	118
H2	Average altitude of the municipality higher than 600m and lower than 700 metres above sea level	100 %	103	105	107
H3	Slope rate of the territory of the municipality higher than or equal to 20% (11.18°) on an area larger than 50% of municipality area	90 %	93	94	96
H4	Average altitude of the municipality higher than or equal to 500 metres above the sea level and less than 600 m above sea level in combination with the slope rate of the municipality higher than 15% (8.31°) on the area larger than 50% of agricultural	75%	77	79	80

Payments in Other Less Favoured Areas

Type of area	Characteristics	Percent of basic payment	Compensation allowances in Euro/ha		
			2004	2005	2006
O1/1	Yield rate of soils less than 17 points	155 %	79	80	82
O1/2	Yield rate of soils higher than or equal to 17 and less than 22 points	120 %	61	62	64
O1/3	Yield rate of soils higher than or equal to 22 and less than 27 points	100 %	51	52	53

O2	Permanent grassland and fodder over 50%	70 %	36	36	37
O3	Yield rate (cereals) less than 80% of the national average	55 %	28	29	29
O4/1	Average yield rate of soil the region of Banská Bystrica less than 27 points	120 %	61	62	64
O4/2	Average yield rate of soil districts of Bardejov, Humenne, Medzilaborce, Snina, Stropkov, Svidnik, Vranov nad Toplou less than 27 points	130 %	66	67	69
O4/3	Average yield rate of soil surrounding the district of Košice	95 %	48	49	50

Areas with Specific Handicaps

Type of area	Characteristics	Percent of basic payment	Compensation allowances in Euro /ha		
			2004	2005	2006
S1	Water-logged soils area larger than or equal to 50% of agricultural land of cadastral area	90 %	34	35	36
S2	Dry – sandy soils area larger than or equal to 50% of the agricultural land of the cadastral area	55 %	21	21	22
S3	Skeletal soils area larger than or equal to 50% of the agricultural land of cadastral area	125 %	47	48	49
S4	Flysch soil areas	85 %	32	33	34
S5	Low productive soil areas	130 %	49	50	51
S6	Intermediary soil areas	95 %	36	37	38

Areas with Environmental Restrictions

Type of area	Characteristics	Percent of basic payment	Compensation allowances in Euro /ha		
			2004	2005	2006
E1	Protected Bird Areas	100 %	-	42	43

The payment system uses data on agricultural land (area) valuation - "Valuation of agricultural soil reserves of SR". This provides an index of soil value according to agricultural locality conditions in terms of nature, production, ecology and economics. The basic mapping and valuation unit to estimate quality is the soil-ecology unit (SEU).

23 FINLAND

23.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Finland (Horizontal Programme) 2000-2006

Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 1640 on 27.06.2000

Rural Development Programme for continental Finland outside Objective 1 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2148 on 20.07.2000

Rural Development Programme for the Åland Islands 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2937 on 05.10.2000

23.2 Implementation Levels

Principal measure for continental Finland, separate measure for the Åland Islands

23.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

The applicant shall:

- be between 18-65 years of age;
- have at least 3 ha of agricultural land;
- live on the farm or at a reasonable distance from the farm to be able to operate it;
- harvest the yield;
- purely natural pastures, meadows or non-rotational fallow land are not eligible.

23.4 System of Premiums

Current payment levels are 150 Euro/ha in zone A (south), 200 Euro/ha in zones B-C1 (central), and 210 Euro/ha in zones C2-C4 (north). The aid zones are the same as in the national aid schemes. The zoning is based on the severity of the natural handicaps and on socio-economic conditions and it reflects the generally deteriorating preconditions for farming towards the north-east. The flat rate scheme (per aid zone) is applied to all farmers meeting the eligibility criteria, with no limits per farm.

The change from headage payments to area payments in 2000 redistributed the funds between farms and regions. As a safety net, the national aid schemes were adjusted and since 2005 a nationally funded supplement for the compensatory allowance was introduced. This area payment is higher for livestock farms than for arable farms.

24 SWEDEN

24.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for Sweden 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2508 on 07.09.2000

24.2 Implementation Levels

National measure.

24.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

Only ley and pasture is eligible for compensatory allowances, except in the North where cereals and potatoes are eligible.

The applicant shall:

- reside within the area;
- have a minimum of 3 hectares of UAA per farm;
- the applicant is ineligible if he/she takes a full early retirement or old age pension;

- if applying for pasture land be funded for plots no smaller than 0.1 hectares;
- respect minimum stocking densities of 1.0 LU/hectare except in Forest areas (1.3 LU) and area 4 in North Sweden (1.1);
- maximum stocking densities apply via GFP;
- have at least 2 LU cattle, or 5 ewes or female goats which have lambed or are older than one year;
- either pasture or harvest his/her land yearly.

Farmers who share common pasture with other farmers may receive funding according to the proportion of pasture they use. The usage must be documented with a map.

24.4 System of Premiums

Payments are made per ha of pasture or ley, with variations according to the ‘support area’ and area of eligible land. Support areas broadly reflect regional average yields – with areas 1-3 in the North, 5 in the South. The table shows payment per hectare in Euro.

Support Area	0-60h	Over 60h
F	267	134
1-3	213	107
4-a	197	98
4-b	110	55
5-a	132	66
5-b	77	39

Aid for potato is paid in areas 1-3 and F. The aid is at present € 190 per hectare for 0-60 hectares and € 95 for areas over 60 hectares. Corresponding figures for cash crops are € 92 and € 46.

25 UNITED KINGDOM

25.1 National Legal Base

Rural Development Programme for England 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 3003 on 11.10.2000

Rural Development Programme for Northern Ireland 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 3638 on 04.12.2000

Rural Development Programme for Scotland 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 3670 on 06.12.2000

Rural Development Programme for Wales 2000-2006
Approved by Commission Decision C(2000) 2932 on 11.10.2000

25.2 Implementation Levels

There are separate LFA schemes in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, with some common and several distinctive features.

25.3 Main Eligibility Conditions

These vary between the four countries. All schemes focus on forms associated with livestock production. In England, applicants must:

- Have a minimum of 10 hectares of eligible LFA forage land, which may include a share of forage land. (Northern Ireland 3 hectares, Scotland 3 hectares, Wales 6 hectare)
- Keeps breeding sheep and/or cattle
- Respect a minimum stocking density of 0.15 LU/ha
Or less if restricted by an agri-environment agreement (0.20 in Northern Ireland)

25.4 System of Premiums

England Payment Rates, 2004 £/ha

	Severely Disadvantaged land (SDA)	Disadvantaged Land (DA)	Moorland or Common Land *
Basic payment, first 350 ha	38.14	20.62	14.44
Next 350 ha of eligible land	19.07	10.31	7.22
Increased payment when notional livestock density < 1.0	+20%	+20%	+20%
Increased payment where notional livestock density > 1.0 and at least one of five	+10%	+10%	+10%

extra conditions apply or at least two conditions apply	+20%	+20%	+20%
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* Covers moorland/common land in both DA and SDA

Northern Ireland Payment Rates per hectare, 2004 £/ha

Severely Disadvantaged Land (not common land)	Disadvantaged Land (not Common Land)	Common Land
40	20	20

N.B – Payments can be increased by an amount determined by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development if at least 25% of the livestock units on the farm during the period are suckler cows and heifers.

Scotland Payment Rates per hectare, 2004 £/ha

	More Disadvantaged Land (DA)	Less Disadvantaged Land (DA)
Very fragile (islands)	47.0	41.50
Fragile (mainland)	45.0	39.50
Standard	39.0	33.50

N.B. The payment rate refers to the 'payable area' with the total eligible area subject to a number of adjustments, effectively reducing payments where livestock density is low and increasing it where a significant proportion of livestock consist of cattle. The minimum payment is £350.

Scotland Historic Grazing Category Weight

Category	Stocking density during base period	Weight
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A	Less than 0.2 LU/ha	1/6
B	Less than 0.4 LU/ha but greater than or equal to 0.2 LU/ha	1/3
C	Less than 0.6 LU/ha but greater than or equal to 0.4 LU/ha	2/3
D	Greater than or equal to 0.6 LU/ha	4/5

N.B. The base reference period to be used to allocate businesses to a Grazing Category will be a single year, namely 2001. Once allocated, the category allocated to a farm and to the individual fields that make up that farm, cannot be altered, although there will be an avenue for appeal for businesses that can argue, with good reason, that 2001 was an atypical year.

Scotland Enterprise Mixture Coefficient

	Coefficient
At least 50% of livestock units are made up of suckler cows	1.70
At least 10% but less than 50% of livestock units are made up of suckler cows	1.35
Other	1.0

Payments under the Scottish LFA scheme are calculated as follows:

$$\text{Number of hectares} \times \text{Grazing Category weight} \times \text{Enterprise Mix Coefficient} \times \text{Payment Rate per Hectare} = \text{Payment}$$

For more details about the please refer to the Scotland section in the previous theme (2. Extent to which the UK countries have added their own objectives to the criteria)

Wales Payment Rates £/ha

	Severely Disadvantaged Land (SDA)	Disadvantaged Land (DA)
First 140 ha of eligible farming land	35:00	23:00
Between 141 and 650 ha of land	22:75	14:95
Beyond 651 ha of land	10:50	6:90

Increased environmental enhancement project where one of seven conditions met	Up to 10%	Up to 10%
Increased environmental enhancement project where two or more of the conditions met	Up to 20%	Up to 20%

NB The previous 'safety net' system had ceased to operate by 2004

Table 5.1. Standards for Good Farming Practice in the EU-25

STANDARD	MEMBER STATE
Nutrient management	
Minimum storage capacity for manure/liquid manure & dealing with excess manure	SLN, LA, EST, SW, LI, LU, HU, POL, BE-WA
at least 5 months capacity	NE
6 month solid and 7 month liquid manure	LA
8 months	EST, SW
6 month cattle, horses, sheep and 8 months pig/poultry	LI
6 months for manure	LU
8 months manure and 4 months for slurry	HU
4 months for manure, 6 months in vulnerable zones	POL
4 months for liquid manure (6 months in case of new investments)	BE-WA
12 months for manure	FI
For farms > 10LU the farm must have enough land to spread the manure	SW
Spread contracts between farms to balance livestock activities	BE-WA
If have excess N, spread on other farms with permission of relevant authority	LU
Suitable storage facilities	CZ, EI, MA, HU, SLN, SLK, SW, CY, LA, POL, POR, EL
Suitable storage of organic material (i.e. leak proof)	CZ, EI, FI, MA, NE, HU, SLN, SLK, SW, CY
Suitable storage of fertiliser products (i.e away from products for human or animal consumption)	EI, LA, POL, POR, SLK, CY
Storage of fertiliser a certain distance from a watercourse or tank	NE, POR, CY, EL
Restrictions on location of livestock buildings, manure and silo storage	LA
Limits to application of N	AU, BE-WA, CY, DE, HU, LA, LU, UK-E, EL, EST, LI, POL, SLK

up to 120 kg organic N/ha per year for arable crops, up to 210 kg for pasture	BE-WA
up to 160kg N/ha in 2 applications for winter grains	EL
up to 170Kg manure per year	EST, FI, LI
up to 170 kg N/ha	FR
up to 170Kg 'natural fertiliser' per year	POL
up to 170Kg N/ha organic fertiliser per year	SLK
up to 170 kg N/ha on arable crops and 210 kg N/ha on grassland (manure only)	AU, DE
Up to 170 kg N/ha/year of organic fertilisers; 130kg N/ha/year in water protection areas	LU
up to 210 Kg 'natural fertiliser' per year	NE
up to 210kg organic manure for first 4 years, then 170Kg N	LA
up to 350 kg N/ha total N application (organic & mineral) for pasture	BE-WA
Up to 40kg NH4 or 80 kg N/ha of liquid fertiliser or manure can be applied in Autumn after harvest	DE
No more than 80 kg N/ha can be applied between 1 Sept and 1 Mar	LU
Apply 20 kg of pure nitrates per ha per year	CY
Dry manure < 0.5t/ha/yr for grains; 1t/ha/yr for irrigated cultivations	CY
crop specific maximum amounts	FI
possibility of derogation when specific quality efforts are performed	BE-WA
Closed period for organic fertiliser/manure/liquid manure	BE-FL, DE, EI, EST, HU, LA, LI, LU, MA, POL, SLN, UK-E
1 Sept to 1 Feb	NE
15 Sep onwards	FI
15 Oct to 15 Mar	MA
15 Oct to 1 Mar on bare soils	LU
15 Oct to 15 Feb on covered soils (except meadows and pastures)	LU
1 Nov to 31 Mar	EST
15 Nov - 15 Jan	DE
15 Nov to 1 Mar	LA
Nov and Dec	EI

	1 Dec- 15 Feb	HU
	1 Dec - 1 Mar	POL
	1 Dec - 31 Mar	LI
	Account for closed periods for slurry application	SLN
	Varies according to soil type	BE-FL
Closed period for mineral fertiliser		EI, EST, HU
	1 Nov to 31 Mar	EST
	Nov and Dec	EI
	16 Nov to Jan 31 for sandy soils	NE
	1 Dec- 15 Feb	HU
Guidelines or rules for N application		AU, BE-FL, BE-WA, CY, CZ, DK, EI, EL, ES, EST, HU, LI, LU, MA, POL, SLK, SLN
	Comply with NVZ rules, nitrate regulations, nitrate guidelines	EI, ES, FI, FR, MA, HU, BE-WA, IT, NE, UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-W
	Do not exceed nitrogen quota for farm	DK
	Follow management prescriptions	SLN, BE-FL, BE-WA
	Farm Nutrient Plans or equivalent	DK, SLN, SLK, BE-FL, DE
	Be aware of recommendations for storage and spreading of organic manure	EI
	Spread fertilisers in due time (no more specification)	FR
	Follow decrees on input of dangerous substances and plant nutrients into soil	SLN
	Nutrients applied according to crop requirement (and soil condition)	AU, CY, GR, IT, SLN, BE-FL, BE-WA, CY
Nutrient application restrictions on slopes		CZ, EST, EI, HU, NE, POL, AU, BE-WA, CY, EL, LU
	On slopes > 20% only fertiliser during growth period	AU
	On slopes > 8% without cover fertilisers must be worked into soil on same day as application	LU
	Only apply liquid manure on bare soil when no risk of runoff; requires immediate incorporation	AU
Nutrient application restrictions in respect to watercourses		
	Prevent nutrient runoff (various methods proposed: crop rotation, straw and crop residuals under soil surface)	BE-FL, BE-WA, LU

Nutrient application restrictions on waterlogged/frozen/snow covered ground	EI,ES, FI, FR, HU, NE, POL, SLK, AU, BE-WA, CY, LU
Above rule only applies 15 Oct to 15 Apr	FI
No application of chemical fertiliser near watercourse (e.g. <1.5m)	EI, MA, NE, SLK, EL
No application of organic fertiliser near watercourses	LI, MA, POL, SLK, BE-WA, EL, LU, NE
Apply mineral fertilisers in opposite direction to water flow	LU
Prohibition of putting N fertiliser into watercourses	LU
No manure (dung heaps) storage permitted near watercourse	EST, NE
Buffer Zones near watercourses	EI, LA, LI, MA, AU
Restricted use of manure on pasture	BE-FL
Nutrient application restrictions on groundwater protection areas	NE
Nutrient testing	
Soil nutrient testing	HU, SLN, BE-FL, BE-WA, DE
Manure nutrient analysis	BE-FL, DE
Specification of livestock density for nutrient loading reasons	AU, BE-WA, LA, LI
1.7 LU/ha	LA, LI
< 3.5 LU/ha until Dec 2002; < 2.7 LU/ha from 2003	AU
More LU permissible if approved in accordance with water law	AU
on pasture: livestock density in between 0,6 and 3,5 LU/ha	BE-WA
Other restrictions on N application	
Fertiliser and manure only applied if crop cover in place, or within a certain time frame	HU, POL, AU, BE-WA
Incorporation of liquid and solid manure into soils within certain time frame/immediately	FI, MA, POL, DE, SW
No use on natural grasslands	EST
Apply fertilisers according to specified limits (these account for local conditions etc)	LU
Ban on use of fertilisers or manure in certain areas	FI
Wash seaweed that is used to increase organic matter	MA
Reduce nitrogen losses from animal fertilisers	SLN
Take account of recommendations on aerobic treatment of slurry	SLN
Use only fertilisers listed in register, authorised fertilisers	FR, SLK
Min plant cover (50-60%) in autumn and winter	SW
Account for irrigation method and nutrient content of irrigation water	CY

Conditions for staged applications	AU, CY, EL
Manure application forbidden on vegetables, fruit, medicinal herbs	AU, BE-WA
Prohibition on using liquid fertiliser on plants for direct human consumption	POL
Combine organic and mineral fertilisers in given ratio (e.g. in favour of organic N)	BE-FL, BE-WA, LU
Limit nutrients through applying manure in rows	BE-FL
Avoid application during adverse weather e.g. windy days	EL
Disposal of fertiliser packaging	EL, LU
Rules for animal waste treatment	EL
Record keeping	
Record of chemical fertilisers and organic material entering/leaving farm	EI, NE
Fertiliser (mineral and organic) application/records record keeping	CZ, EST, MA, HU, SLK, DE, FI, FR
Condition of spreading equipment	
Fertiliser application equipment in line with tech specifications	SLN, AU, DE
Farmer's responsibility to have appropriate spreading equipment and to not apply in higher risk periods	LU
Spreading equipment must not be cleaned in a way that may pollute water	LU
Keep spreading equipment in good order	EL
Water pollution standards (not including those related to nutrient management)	
Suitable silage, slurry or fuel oil storage	UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI
Do not pollute water	UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI
Protection of groundwater	FI, UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI
Disposal of sheep dip	UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI
Avoid direct and indirect pollution of water from cattle effluents	LU
Follow regulations, law on water protection	FR, SLN
(Domestic/polluted) sewage discharge into groundwater	LI, POL
Standards relating to sewage sludge	
Based on legislation	IT
Sewage sludge record keeping, receipt, certification	EST, LA, POL, SLK, AU

Sewage sludge usage restrictions/plan required	LA, LI, HU, POL, SLK, AU, CY
Untreated wastewater sediment use forbidden	EST
Prohibition on using sludge on vegetables, fruit etc	EST, POL, CY
No use on wet, snow covered, frozen ground or slopes	AU
Application of sewage sludge and slurry not permitted in same year	AU
Sludge to come from producer with license	CY
No use if there is a risk of polluting water sources	CY
No use on grazed land	CY
Can only be used on grass if applied 12 months before harvesting	CY
limit contamination by heavy metals in soil	BE-WA
Standards relating to pesticide use/plant protection products	
Following rules	
Compliance with plant protection and pesticide regulations	UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI
Use only authorised plant protection products	AU, FI, LA, HU, NE, POL, POR, SLN, SLK, AU, BE-FL, BE-WA
Follow rules, instructions or codes of good practice	EI, ES, FI, LI, MA, HU, POL, SLN, SLK, SW, AU, BE-WA, CY, DE, EL, IT
User of plant protection products trained or certified	EST, LA, LI, POL, SLN, SW, AU, CY
Equipment	
Equipment in good order, certified	EST, LI, HU, POL, SLN, BE-FL, BE-WA, CY, EL
Careful cleaning of used equipment	BE-FL, BE-WA, CY
Storage	
Follows rules on storage and handling of chemicals	CZ, LA, BE-FL, BE-WA, NE
PPP should be used immediately and not stored for longer than 3 months	CY
Safe storage/transportation of pesticides, plant protection products	EI, LA, MA, NE, HU, POR, BE-FL, BE-WA, CY, EL
Storage prohibition of PPP near water bodies	HU, POR
Suitable storage of farm chemicals, sheep dip, oils etc (to avoid pollution)	EI, LA
Application restrictions	

No use on natural grasslands	EST
No use in buffer zones next to watercourses	LA
Use correct dose and use selective products with a low dose	BE-FL
Use products efficiently and keep doses as low (use minimum) as possible	BE-FL, BE-WA, CY
Abide by application rates as set in national regulation	SLK, BE-FI, BE-WA
Respect maximum dose limits	LU
Apply recommended amount	FI
Comply with doses and dates for spraying (e.g. bee season)	POL, BE-FL
Apply PPP at correct time and avoid destroying useful insects	EL
Special test required to use most dangerous products	FI
Do not apply pesticides to certain landscape features	MA
Spray at a suitable distance from vulnerable sites (watercourses, biotopes, nests)	LU, POL, BE-FL, DE, SLN
Spray only in suitable weather conditions (i.e. not in windy conditions)	POL, BE-FL, LU
Use drift minimising techniques	DE
Apply integrated or organic production methods if available	BE-FL, BE-WA, DE, EL, IT, MA, SLN
Choose varieties resistant to harmful organisms; choose suitable production system, plants and rotation suitable to the site; alter use of active substances; change frequency of spraying	SLN, BE-FL, BE-WA, EL
Sow at appropriate time so as not to accelerate growth of harmful organisms	SLN, BE-FL
Choose less environmentally harmful products	BE-FL
Regular monitoring of the crops (and weeds or diseases)	BE-FL
Take notice of experience from previous years, other info	SLN, BE-FL
Adoption of advice and alert system (e.g. warnings when certain treatment should be applied in a crop)	BE-FL, BE-WA
Use pesticides according to a needs assessment	FI
Use of PPP site and plant specific and limited to necessary extent	DE
Respect conditions for drinking water protection zones	LU
Disposal of containers	ES, MFI, A, NE, HU, BE-FL, BE-WA
Record keeping	
Record of pesticides entering/leaving farm, stored on farm	EI, SLN, BE-WA
Records of chemical/pesticide applications	DK, EST, LA, MA, HU, SLN, SLK, BE-WA

Standards relating to irrigation	
Comply with water use regulations/local authority rules	ES, EL,FR
Maintenance of irrigation systems	ES
Restrictions on agricultural activity neat water bores	LA
Restrictions on irrigation activity	MA, NE
Register boreholes	MA
Irrigation prohibited	HU
Irrigate to depth of roots and avoid deep percolation	EL
Avoid surface flow irrigation (especially on slopes >3%)	EL
Adjust irrigation flow rate/method according to soil type	EL, IT
Time periods for irrigation	EL
Do not irrigate in windy conditions	EL
Do not irrigate if water is salty	EL
In zones with a negative water balance replace old equipment	EL
Adjust irrigation to soil, water supply, climate, crops	IT
Standards relating to soils	All MS below to be entered here
Soil cover during winter	DK, MA,
soil cover during winter after maize, potatoes	BE-WA
if sand content > 50%	EL
Soil cover during winter on slopes	HU, CY
Restriction on arable conversion of grassland	CZ
Soil erosion	SLK
Tillage restrictions on windy days	MA
Conditions for out-wintered animals	EI
Rules on supplementary feeding	EI, UK-E, UK-W, UK-NI, UK-S
Retain green erosions breaks, buffers	HU
Maintain non-cultivated belts of 1-2m and at margins of parcels, forests, water ditches	EL
Avoid overgrazing	POL
Annual crops prohibited depending on erosion risk of parcel	POR

New forest, shrubby growth, or pasture crops only permitted with approval depending on erosion risk of parcel	POR
Do not use inappropriate technology	SLN
Avoid compaction	SLK, BE-FL, DE, IT
Production restrictions on slopes	CZ, LI, HU
Contour ploughing/machinery use	CZ, ES, LI, MA, HU, EL
Avoid going on land when wet, cultivation in rainy months	BE-FL, CY
Insert contour furrows on slopes	IT
Keep hedges, ridges, terraces if essential for soil protection	DE
Manage soils after autumn rain and not in summer	EL
Site-adapted land use (slopes, water, wind conditions, habitats)	DE, MA, SLK
Comply with local soil protection plans in mountain areas	FR
Soil fertility	
Crop rotation rules	MA, HU, BE-FL, BE-WA, DE, IT
No potatoes on same parcel within 3 years	BE-FL, BE-WA
No cultivation of same plot for more than 4 years (exceptions for certain crops)	EL
Use appropriate methods	SLN
Use liming if necessary	BE-FL, BE-WA
Maintain humus content	DE
Fallow in a way that does not reduce the productive capacity of the land	FI
Soil structure	DE
Tillage	IT
Only deep tillage in specific conditions	BE-FL
Tillage over 40cm depth to be avoided	EL
Change tillage depth every year	HU
Machinery use	HU
Rules regarding deep cultivation	HU, CY
Reduced no. cultivations	HU
Reduce number of soil operations	BE-FL
Restrictions on soil tillage according to weather conditions	DE
Avoid mechanical treatment of soil	EL

Maintain sluice gates and water collectors	IT
Retain terraces	HU
Soil organic matter	
Stubble management (work into soil)	LA, HU, CY, EL
Keep crop stubble	MA
Restrictions on stubble burning	EST, EI, MA, HU, POL, EL, UK-E, UK-W
Burning in winter months away from forest areas; water needed	EL
Special restrictions for fire protection	EST, EL
Record keeping	
Keep a 'field book' (soils, yields, ploughing)	EST
Standards relating to animal husbandry	
General rule on animal husbandry	DK
Record keeping/animal registration	EST, EI, FR, LA, MA, HU, DE, EL, NE
Animal housing	BE-FL, BE-WA, FI
Animal welfare	CZ, DK, EST, EI, FI, FR, LI, MA, HU, SLN, BE-FL, BE-WA, EL, LU, NE
Animal health (e.g. disease control)	CZ, FI, FR, HU, BE-FL, BE-WA, NE
Hygiene (milk)	EI, DE
Hygiene of livestock products	BE-FL, BE-WA
Hygiene poultry and pig farms	NE
Access to safe feed and drinking water	CZ, EST, BE-FL, BE-WA
Use appropriate fodder from a dietary perspective	SLK
Quality of animal feed (approval, labelling, authorised)	AU, FI, FR
Stocking densities (not clearly related to nutrient or soil management)	EL
Pigs: 0.3-2 LU/ha	EL
Bovine: 0.3-1.9 LU/ha	EL
Sheep/goat on islands: 0.1-1 LU/ha	EL
Sheep/goat on mainland: 0.3-1.4 LU/ha	EL

Comply with defined limits of livestock densities according to type of LFA (min 0.1 LU - max 2.0 LU)	FR
Standards relating to biodiversity and landscape	
Concerning protected wildlife habitats/species (e.g. SAC/SPA compliance)	EI, FI, LA, LI, MA, POL, POR, BE-WA, DE, EL, IT, UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI
Avoid damage to natural and semi-natural habitat through ag activities	HU, UK-NI
Field boundaries/linear features (incl. Hedgerows, stone walls)	HU, CY, EL, FR, UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI, LU
Buffer strips (riparian, windbreaks, hedges)	SLN
Time of cutting bog	HU
Retain veteran trees, trees, forest belts	HU, EL
Permission needed for cutting trees in forests and obligation to replant cut trees within 3 years	NE
Retaining windbreak trees	MA
Report nests of protected species	HU
Preserve small ponds	HU
Natural landscape elements, landscape features	BE-WA, LU
Protect/maintain paths	CY, EL, FR
Timing of hedgerow trimming	UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI
Maintenance of external farm boundaries (fencing, walls)	EI, MA, HU
Heritage Conservation (archaeological remnants, monuments)	EI, MA, HU, UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI
Maintenance of grassland (grazing/mowing)	
Retain permanent grasslands	HU
G or M at least once a year	EST, LA, LI, HU
G or M at least twice a year	CZ
Time restriction of mowing/grazing	CZ
Removal of cuttings from parcel	CZ, EST, LA
Maximum stocking rates:	ES, HU
1.8 LU/ha in non-NVZs	HU
1.4 LU/HA in NVZs	HU

Overgrazing and/or undergrazing	
Avoid overgrazing and undergrazing	HU, UK-E, UK-W, UK-S
Inspection of all farms >1.4 LU/ha; min density of 0.15 LU/ha	UK-E
Inspection of all farms > 1.8 LU/ha; min density of 0.1 LU/ha	UK-W
Inspection of all farms >1.4 LU/ha; Unspecified min density	UK-S
3 LU/ha of UAA in mountain areas on farms with less than 2ha of UAA; 2 LU/ha elsewhere	POR
Avoid overgrazing	
Avoid overgrazing (inspections of all farms > 1.8 LU/ha	UK-NI
Adapt stocking densities according to condition of vegetation	LU
If >2.35 LU/ha the farmer must record details of cattle, period grazed	LU
Prohibition of winter grazing	HU
Maintenance standards	
Remove straw bales from land within 1 month	HU
Reporting/registering of grassland conversion	HU
No conversion of forests to agricultural land	LU
No grass burning	LA, HU, POL
Restrictions on changing parcel size	HU
Avoid weed infestation/scrub encroachment/undesirable vegetables	HU, CY, EL, IT
Keep thistle growth under control	FR, LU
Wild oats (<i>Avena fatua</i>) must be destroyed	FI
Mechanical weed control before flowering of weeds	HU
Appropriate harvest/post-harvest practices/cutting methods	ES, FI, HU
Abandonment of crop production prohibited	ES
Clearing cutting at the end of the season	HU
Draining prohibited	HU
Use only natural materials for building night shelters for animals	HU
Herdsmen's shelters to be use traditional materials and methods	HU
Straw, manure etc can only be placed on cultivated land	HU
Impact assessment for land consolidation projects	BE-WA
Weeds on set-aside should be ploughed in, applied with pesticides or cut.	CY
No ploughing up of grassland in riparian areas or areas endangered by erosion	DE

Site-adapted and sustainable land use required	DE
Use crop varieties suitable according to cultivation zone	FI
Minimum densities for perennial crops	FI
Other standards	
Waste handling (tyres, plastic wrappings etc)	ES, FI, MA, HU, POR, IT
Burning of waste materials (clean air)	UK-E, UK-W, UK-S, UK-NI
Cultivate regularly and maintain agricultural area	SLN
Farmyard appearance	EI, LI, HU, POL
Energy use/fuel efficiency (farm machinery)	ES, MA
Construction regulations for new farm buildings (Commission question whether this is part of GFP but Martin says it was include for these countries –Jba)	FI, HU, NE
Keep agricultural roads in good condition	HU
Maintain machinery for drainage works in good technical condition	POL
Re-parcelling agricultural lands	SLN
Prevent damage to agricultural land & take measures to protect, maintain and revitalise the natural qualities of agricultural land	SLK
Pipelines for municipal waste water	CY
Plant residues should be used for household energy or composting	EL
Prune according to vegetation size and remove dry/diseased parts	IT
Heather and grass burning, muirburn	UK-E, UK-W, UK-S
Felling licence required for tree felling	UK-E, UK-W, UK-S
No new drainage works without authorisation	LU
Other unspecified rules	ES