



Circular 1 /2012

18th January 2012

To: Each AEOS 2011 Scheme Participant and FAS Planners.

AEOS 2 – Soil Analysis

This Circular applies to farmers who have received letters of approval for participation in the AEOS 2011 Scheme.

Paragraph 8.4 of the AEOS 2 Scheme Terms and Conditions is amended as follows, in order to clarify the requirement to have soils analysed:-

'Undertake to have soil analysis of all lands declared on SPS in 2011 carried out in accordance with Schedule 1 of SI 610 of 2010 (Nitrates Regulations) before 31 March 2012 provided the land is being farmed in 2012, once he/she has been approved into the Scheme. Evidence of having soils analysed on or after 1 January 2010 will fulfil this requirement for 2011 applications. Any Commonage land farmed shall be excluded from this requirement.

Full LPIS parcels of privately owned mountain type land and rough grazing will also be exempted from the requirement to have soils analysed provided that

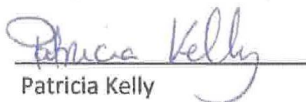
- *A declaration is submitted in writing that the exempted land will receive no applications of organic or chemical fertilisers for the duration of the AEOS 2 contract.*
- *The declaration shall be co-signed by a Farm Advisory System (FAS) registered planner*
- *All exempted land will be assumed to be at phosphorus Index 4 for cross compliance purposes.*

For the purposes of AEOS 2 rough grazing is defined as land that cannot receive chemical or organic fertiliser by mechanical means.'

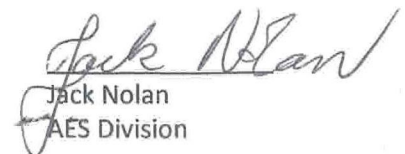
A full list of FAS planners is available on the Department's website at the following link:
<http://www.agriculture.gov.ie/farmerschemespayments/crosscompliance/farmadvisorysystem/>

Any farmer availing of the provisions of this Circular and found to be in breach of the declaration submitted shall be excluded from the Scheme and payments already made shall be recouped.

Declaration Form (SS) is attached and must be used by farmers to (a) declare that they have carried out sampling on eligible land and (b) to avail of the exemption on privately owned mountain type land and rough grazing, if applicable. No declaration is needed for Commonage land. Closing date for receipt of the declaration form is **30th April, 2012.**


Patricia Kelly

AEOS Section


Jack Nolan
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