



An Roinn Talmhaíochta  
Iascaigh agus Bia  
Eastát Chaisleán Sheonach,  
Contae Loch Gorman,  
Éire.

Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Food  
Johnstown Castle Estate,  
Co. Wexford,  
Ireland.

25 November 2010

To: **AES inspectors, RI, AS, DS & SAO.**  
**All approved planners**

**The Rural Environment Protection Scheme**

(Administered in accordance with Council Regulations (EC) NO. 1698/2005 and Commission Regulations (EC) Nos. 1974/2006 and 1975/2006)

**REPS Circular 13/2010**

**The Management of Biomass Crops in REPS 4**

The following change is being made to the *Specification for REPS Planners in the Preparation of REPS 4 Plans*:

**Measure 9 – Tillage Crop Production: Part C. The Management of Biomass Crops Page 72**

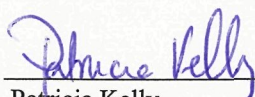
The following must be complied with on all lands growing biomass crops:

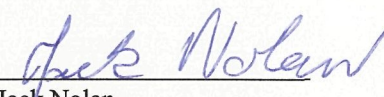
- The maximum area allowed is 10 hectares.
- Must not be grown on habitats identified under Measure 4 or Natura 2000/NHA sites
- The uncultivated margin must extend to 4 metres

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Where the area planted with biomass exceeds the maximum area allowed the REPS contract will cease and the Department will seek recoupment of all monies already paid.

An applicant who planted biomass prior to the date of this circular was allowed to plant a maximum area of 10 hectares or 25% of the REPS contract area, whichever is the greater. In these cases there will be no REPS payment on any area which was planted in excess of 10ha or 25% of the REPS contract.

Signed:   
Patricia Kelly  
Agricultural Structures Division

Signed:   
Jack Nolan  
AES Division