



Country update: Ireland
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Context

- 11% tree cover (EU 45%)
- Ireland = 1.7 % of EU-27 land area
- 3.1 % of EU-27 farmland
- 9 % of EU-27 beef meat
- 5.2 % of EU-27 milk
- 13.6 % of EU-27 sheep & goats meat

Eurostat (2020) Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery Statistics: 2020 edition.

Agroforestry support in Ireland

- Provided by Dept. Agri. Food & the Marine (DAFM) Forest Service
 - Exchequer funds (not Pillar II)
 - Afforestation Grant GPC 11
 - » Commenced 2014
 - Programme for Government
 - » Agroforestry included for first time

Afforestation Grant – GPC 11

- 5 × 5 m (400 stems ha⁻¹) / 6 × 1.5 (1,111 stems ha⁻¹)
- Free-draining mineral soil
- Max 100 kg N for pasture
- Minimum 0.5 ha, 20 m wide
- Square 4” stake + half-round & 1.5 m shelter
- Sheep / calves
- Poultry
- Max. 15% fruit/nuts

Establishment grant

GPC	1st grant	2nd grant	Fencing	Total (€/ha)
1. Unenclosed	1,605	535	600	2,740
2. Sitka spruce / lodgepole pine	2,330	775	600	3,705
3. 10% diverse conifer	2,410	805	600	3,815
4. Diverse conifer	2,785	925	600	4,310
5. Broadleaf	3,960	1,320	600	5,880
6. Oak	4,215	1,405	600	6,220
7. Beech	4,215	1,405	600	6,220
8. Alder / birch	2,695	900	600	4,195
9. Native woodland (oak/birch/holly/hazel)	4,215	1,405	600	6,220
10. Native woodland (alder-oak)	3,960	1,320	600	5,880
11. Agroforestry	4,215	1,405	600	6,220
12. Forestry for fibre	2,410	805	600	3,815

Annual Premium payments

GPC	<10 ha	>10 ha	Duration (yrs)
1. Unenclosed	185	190	15
2. Sitka spruce / lodgepole pine	440	450	15
3. 10% diverse conifer	510	520	15
4. Diverse conifer	590	600	15
5. Broadleaf	605	620	15
6. Oak	645	660	15
7. Beech	645	660	15
8. Alder / birch	605	620	15
9. Native woodland (oak/birch/holly/hazel)	665	680	15
10. Native woodland (alder-oak)	665	680	15
11. Agroforestry	645	660	5
12. Forestry for fibre	510	520	15

Current situation

- 64 grant applicants at various stages
 - 198 ha
- 18 people receive payments
- Interest from
 - Poultry
 - Organics



- Promote, demonstrate and encourage agroforestry
- Act as a coordinated voice
- Develop proposals to introduce trees onto farms
- Propose that agroforestry be supported as both an agri and forestry measure