



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Terms and Conditions of the

Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme - Suckler

Introduced by the

MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND THE MARINE

CLOSING DATE 15 May 2020

All details of this Programme can be accessed on the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine website

www.agriculture.gov.ie

BEEP-S payments are fully funded by the National Exchequer.

1. General Outline and Legal Basis

These are the administrative provisions for the implementation of the Programme drawn up in accordance with the Ministers and Secretaries Act 1924.

2. General Provisions

- 2.1 The Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme - Suckler is to be of one year's duration.
- 2.2 The Programme shall be administered by the Department and shall operate throughout the State in respect of eligible beef suckler herds.
- 2.3 The principle of costs incurred, and income foregone shall apply. State Aid de minimis provisions shall apply.
- 2.4 Participation in the Programme is voluntary.

3. Definitions

For the purpose of the Programme:

- 3.1 "**The Department**" shall mean the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- 3.2 "**Minister**" shall mean the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine.
- 3.3 "**Farmer**" shall mean a natural or legal person, or a group of natural or legal persons, whatever legal status is granted to the group and its members by national law, who has a herd number issued by the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine and who exercises an agricultural activity.
- 3.4 For the purpose of this Programme, **Registered Farm Partnership** means a partnership which
 - a. operates in accordance with the Partnership Act 1890
 - b. is operative for the period of the participation of this Programme,
and

c. is entered in “The Register” of Farm Partnerships

- 3.5 “**Holding**” shall mean all the production units managed by a farmer during 2018 and subsequent years and situated within the territory of the Republic of Ireland.
- 3.6 “**Applicant**” shall mean a farmer or farm partnership who applies for participation in the Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme-Suckler. An applicant may submit only **one** such application.
- 3.7 “**Herdowner**” or a person, who has applied for a herd number, means the nominated company or entity or person(s) associated with a specific herd number to whom any payments are made. The "keeper" role is classified as a non-financial role and therefore it is not possible to make payments to “keepers”.
- 3.8 “**BEEP-S**” shall mean the Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme – Suckler.
- 3.9 “**BPS**” shall mean Basic Payment Scheme.
- 3.10 “**Application**” shall mean an application for a contract under the BEEP-S in accordance with the Terms and Conditions set out herein.
- 3.11 “**ICBF**” shall mean the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation.
- 3.12 “**AIM**” shall mean the Department’s Animal Identification and Movement system.
- 3.13 “**Beef breed**” shall mean any breed except the following: Angler Rotvieh (Angeln)-Rod-dansk maelkerace (RMD), Ayrshire, Armoricaire, Blue Albion, Bretonne Pie-Noire, Brown Swiss, Fries Hollands (FH), Francaise frisonne pie noire (FFPN), Friesian-Holstein, Holstein, Black and White Friesian, Red and White Friesian, Frisona Espanola, Frisona Italiana, Zwartbonten van Belgie/Pie noire de Belgique, Sortbroget dansk maelkerace (SDM), Deutsche Schwarzbunte, Schwarzbunte Milchrass (SMR), Groninger Blaarkop, Guernsey, Jersey, Malkekorthorn, Normande, Norwegian Red, Swedish Red, Danish Red, Reggiana and Valdostana Nera, Itasuomenkarja, Lansisuomenkarja, Rotbunt and Pohjoissuomenkarja.

4. Objective of the Programme

The objective of BEEP-S is to further increase economic and environmental efficiency in the suckler herd through improvement in the quantity and quality of performance data that is collected. This will be done through the enhancement of the national herd dataset for genetic evaluations, with a view to supporting the adoption of best practice and more informed decision making at farm level. The Programme will target the weaning efficiency of suckler cows and calves through the collection of the live weights of cows and progeny in the herd of each participant; improving the welfare of suckler calves at the time of weaning; and controlling liver fluke in adult suckler cows.

5. Conditions for the Grant of Aid

- 5.1 The Programme will be open to all beef farmers who commit to completing the mandatory actions required for the full duration of the Programme.
- 5.2 In the event of the Programme being oversubscribed, a linear cut will be applied to payments.
- 5.3 The Minister reserves the right to alter the Terms and Conditions of the Programme, close the Programme and/or alter the grant-aid at any time.
- 5.4 The submission of a valid application does not guarantee entry to the Programme.
- 5.5 All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application for participation in the Programme.

6. Eligibility

An eligible applicant shall:

- 6.1 be aged eighteen years or over on date of submission of the application for participation.

6.2 be the holder of an active herd number with Herd Owner Status. **Herd Keeper is not acceptable.**

6.3 be farming a holding in respect of which a valid Basic Payment Scheme application is submitted in 2020 to the Department.

An eligible suckler cow shall mean a suckler cow which:

6.4 Belongs to a **beef breed or is sired by a beef breed bull.**

6.5 **Is not a cow used to supply milk commercially.**

6.6 Is part of a herd intended for rearing calves for meat production.

6.7 Rears a calf by suckling.

6.8 Is in the ownership and possession of the applicant and maintained on the holding.

6.9 Is properly tagged, registered and recorded in accordance with AIM rules. EC Regulation 1760/2000 refers.

6.10 Is inseminated either through natural service or AI, by a bull of a beef breed.

6.11 Gives birth to an eligible live calf, in the applicant's herd, which is tagged and registered to that cow in accordance with EU Regulation 1760/2000.

An eligible calf shall mean a calf which:

6.12 Was born in the herd of the applicant between 1st July 2019 and 30th June 2020

6.13 Belongs to a beef breed, i.e. is born out of an eligible Suckler Cow and sired by a beef breed bull.

6.14 Is part of a herd intended for rearing calves for meat production.

6.15 Is in the ownership and possession of the applicant since birth and maintained on the holding.

6.16 Calf must be alive at the time of weighing.

6.17 Has been tagged and registered with the Department's Registration Agency, Clonakilty, Co. Cork within 27 days of birth in accordance with EU Regulation 1760/2000. Failure to register a calf within 27 days of birth will result in the animal being ineligible for payment. It is the farmer's responsibility to ensure that the registration is received by the Registration Agency within 27 days of birth.

7. Obligations of the Programme

There are a number of actions in the Programme, with action one being compulsory. Applicants then also have the option to choose action 2, and/or action 3.

7.1 Action 1; Weighing and Submission of Weights to ICBF.

This is a compulsory action. Participants must weigh each unweaned calf and its dam and submit weights to ICBF within 7 days.

Requirement 1 - All Calves being submitted for weighing must have been born between 01 July 2019 and 30 June 2020.

Requirement 2 – Unweaned Live Calf and Dam must be weighed on the applicants holding on the same day.

Requirement 3 – Only scales registered and used in accordance with the requirements of Annex 1 may be employed for the purposes of this Programme.

Requirement 4 – Weights must be submitted between 01st January 2020 and the 1st of November 2020 in accordance with Annex 1.

Participants should carefully read Annex 1 for further details on this action.

7.2 Action 2.

Applicants have a choice of either;

7.2.1 Meal Feeding pre-weaning and post weaning.

Introduce meal feeding for a period of 4 weeks pre-weaning and 2 weeks post-weaning to reduce the stress on calves at weaning time and record action. Calves

must be supplemented with compound feeding stuffs containing appropriate minerals and vitamins. Participants should carefully read Annex 2 for further details on this action.

OR

7.2.2 Vaccination

Implement a Vaccination programme for respiratory diseases in suckler calves for respiratory diseases and record details of vaccination. Participants should carefully read Annex 3 for further details on this action.

7.2 Action 3; Faecal Egg Testing

Faecal Egg Testing is targeted at the control of liver fluke in adult suckler cows. Samples must be taken and submitted to approved laboratories (these can be found on the Department website, [here](#) before the 01st of November 2020. Participants should carefully read Annex 4 for further details on this action.

7.3 Payment Calculation

The payment rate for action 1 is €50 per first ten cow/calf weighing per herd and €40 per cow/calf weighing thereafter to a maximum of 100 pairs in total.

An additional payment for completion of action 2 is €30 per calf, with payment for action 3 being an additional €10 per cow.

In summary, payment is as follows;

Action 1 (Mandatory) – Weighing	€50 for first 10 cow/calf pairs weighed - €40 thereafter to a maximum of 100 cow/calf pairs in total.
Action 2 (Optional) – Can select one of the following:	Meal Feeding @ €30 per calf weighed to a maximum of 100 calves. or Vaccination @ €30 per calf weighed to a maximum of 100 calves.
Action 3 (Optional) – Can be selected in addition to Action 1 and/or Action 2.	Faecal Egg Testing @ €10 per cow a maximum of 100 cows.

In the event of oversubscription, a linear reduction will be applied.

Payment will only be made on cow/calf pairs born on the holding between 1st July 2019 and 30th June 2020 and where the weights of both the live calves and their live dams have been recorded and submitted to ICBF in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

If data is deemed to be unusable as a result of failure by an applicant to comply with these Terms and Conditions, payment may be withheld. Only one payment will be made per calf.

7.4 Penalties - Failure to complete either selected option under Action 2 will result in non-payment for that action and an administrative penalty of 50% of the value of the payment that would have been made under the action being applied.

8. Application Procedure

8.1 Applications can only be made using the online facility. Applicants not already registered for the Department's online services will need to register first at www.agfood.ie.

8.2 An application to join the Programme will only be accepted up to midnight on the 15th May 2020. Applications will not be accepted after this date.

9. Administrative and Compliance Checks

- 9.1 All applications for support and payment claims will be subject to administrative checks, crosschecks with relevant databases (including AIM), and any other controls deemed necessary, before payments are made under the Programme.
- 9.2 Applicants shall facilitate such administrative and on-the-spot checks as the Department deems necessary. On-the-spot checks will be carried out at farm level to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Programme.
- 9.3 No payment shall be made in favour of beneficiaries where the Department establishes that they have artificially created the conditions required for obtaining such payments with a view to obtaining an advantage contrary to the objectives of the Programme.
- 9.4 No BEEP-S payment will be made unless all BVD Persistently Infected (P.I.) animals born prior to the 1st January 2020 have a date of death recorded on the Animal Identification and Movements (A.I.M.) system prior to the 31st March 2020.
- 9.5 Applicants will be required to complete a record showing the commencement of meal feeding or the administration of vaccination to suckler calves. In addition, meal purchases receipts (or evidence of use of own farm produced cereals) and vaccination purchase receipts or any prescriptions must be retained on farm and made available for inspection.

DAFM may also request a copy of the records sheets from an applicant during the year as part of an administrative check to verify compliance with these measures.
- 9.6 Each applicant must maintain a record to demonstrate the completion of the actions chosen for the Programme.

The Department will supplement compliance inspections with Administrative Control checks whereby a percentage of farmers will be required to submit

their records and associated documentation to the Department upon request at various times in the programme year. These records will be examined as a means of checking compliance with actions. It is a requirement of the Programme that the applicant must fully comply with such request to submit information to the Department.

Failure to produce or forward the records when requested will be a breach of the programme obligations and will result in no payments for the relevant year and a 50% administrative penalty based on the overall amount which would have been payable in the year for that action will be imposed.

- 9.7 BEEP-S participants will not be eligible for payment under the Suckler Health and Welfare Top Up unless they carry out the BEEP-S requirements in full.

10. Payments under the Programme

The Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine will make payment directly to the applicant's bank account.

Payments under BEEP-S shall comply with EU State aid rules applicable to enterprises engaged in agricultural production under Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1408/2013 (de minimis regulation). In accordance with that Regulation, the total amount of de minimis aid granted to a single undertaking shall not exceed €25,000 over any period of 3 fiscal years.

Participants should note that successful participation in BEEP-S shall not confer an automatic entitlement to a payment under the Programme and that crosschecks will be made by DAFM to ensure that payments made to individual participants in the respect of the previous 3 fiscal years do not exceed the de minimis ceiling.

11. Review and Appeal System

In cases where payment is withheld, applicants will be given 21 working days after formal notification in which to seek a review by the Department. Any request for a review should

clearly set out the grounds for a review and should be accompanied by supporting documentation where appropriate. The applicant will be informed in writing of the outcome of that review. This initial review shall be without prejudice to the right to any subsequent appeal to the Agricultural Appeals Office.

An applicant who has had a payment withheld under the Programme may appeal that decision to the Agriculture Appeals Office. Appeals must be lodged within three months of the date of the Department's review letter. Appeals should be addressed to the Agriculture Appeals Office, Kilminchy Court, Portlaoise, Co Laois.

12. Force Majeure

12.1 Where an applicant withdraws from the Scheme all monies paid under the Scheme shall be repaid to the Department except in cases of Force Majeure.

12.2 Where a beneficiary is unable to continue complying with the requirements of the Scheme for reasons beyond his/her control a case may be made under Force Majeure to terminate participation in the Programme. In such cases the applicant, or his or her representative, should inform the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Beef Schemes Section, Old Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois in writing, with relevant evidence, within fifteen working days from the date on which the beneficiary or the person entitled through them, is in a position to do so.

12.3 Without prejudice to the actual circumstances to be taken into consideration in individual cases the following categories of *force majeure* may be recognised:

- death of the beneficiary,
- long term professional incapacity of the beneficiary,
- expropriation of all or a large part of the holding if that expropriation could not have been anticipated on the day of lodging the application,
- a severe natural disaster gravely affecting the holding,
- the accidental destruction of livestock buildings on the holding,
- an epizootic or a plant disease affecting part or all of the beneficiary's livestock or crops respectively.

13. Transfer of Holding

Where the holding is transferred by gift or inheritance, an application under the Programme by the new applicant(s) may be taken as a transfer of the contract provided that the transferee undertakes in writing to adhere to the requirements of the Programme for the remainder of the contract. Leases between family members may meet this undertaking provided the lessee meets the requirement outlined above.

14. Partnerships

- 14.1 Farmers in a Farm Partnership registered with the Department are eligible to apply for the Programme, provided that:
- 14.2 The application is made under the same Registered Farm Partnership Number as the Basic Payment Application for 2020 and signed by each partner.
- 14.3 A maximum threshold of 200 animals will apply to a Registered Farm Partnership.
- 14.4 Each partner delivers all the commitments related to their holding. All partners are jointly and severally responsible for delivery of all Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme- Suckler requirements.

15. Inspections

- 15.1 The Minister reserves the right to carry out inspections at reasonable times of any land, premises, plant, equipment, livestock and records of applicants.
- 15.2 In submitting an application, applicants agree to permit officials or agents of the Department to carry out on-farm inspections, with or without prior notice at any reasonable time(s) and without prejudice to public liability.
- 15.3 If an on-farm inspection cannot be carried out through the fault or action of the farmer or his/her representative, the application shall be rejected resulting in no payment.

- 15.4 When notified of an on-farm inspection, the applicant should arrange to be present for the inspection or have a representative nominated in his/her place to assist the inspecting officer.
- 15.5 Every on-the-spot (ground) inspection will be the subject of a report and the applicant or his/her representative will be given an opportunity to sign the report indicating his/her presence at the inspection and to add his/her observations if he/she so wishes. Signing this document does not imply that the applicant or his/her agent accepts the inspection findings.

16. Responsibility of Applicant

- 16.1 It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to familiarise him/herself with the Programme's Terms and Conditions and with the consequences for breaches of the Programme.
- 16.2 The approval or payment of aid under the Programme does not imply the acceptance by the Minister of any responsibility as regards the obligations undertaken by the applicant.
- 16.3 The applicant must maintain a record to demonstrate the completion of the actions chosen for the Programme.
- 16.4 The applicant must retain all receipts, documentation and other evidence to prove compliance with the programme action for the duration of participation in the programme.
- 16.5 The record must be made available on request for inspection and administrative checks by the Department - see section 24 infra.

17. Failure to abide by the Terms and Conditions of the Programme

- 17.1 Where, for the purposes of obtaining payment under the Programme to which these Terms and Conditions relate, the applicant knowingly makes a false or misleading statement or withholds essential information, or if there

is any material change in the circumstances of the applicant which would be in conflict with the letter or the spirit of the Programme his/her participation in any or all of the Programme may be terminated and all or part of the aid paid shall be reimbursed.

17.2 The Minister reserves the right to recover such amounts in accordance with the law. The Minister also reserves the right to exclude such a person from further participation in any other Department programme for such period as shall be determined, but in any event not exceeding a period of 6 years.

18. Review of Financial Aids

18.1 The Minister reserves the right to restrict the availability of the Programme and to vary, where occasion so demands, the amount of financial aid wherever specified in the Programme.

18.2 The obtaining of aid or the attempt to obtain aid under the Programme by fraudulent means by the applicant or others acting alone or together may render such persons liable to prosecution.

19. Conditions of payment

Every payment under this Programme shall be subject to conditions laid down by the Minister, which must be complied with in full by the applicant.

Payments under BEEP-S shall comply with EU State aid rules applicable to enterprises engaged in agricultural production under Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1408/2013 (de minimis regulation). In accordance with that Regulation, the total amount of de minimis aid granted to a single undertaking shall not exceed €25,000 over any period of 3 fiscal years.

Participants should note that successful participation in BEEP-S shall not confer an automatic entitlement to a payment under the Programme and that crosschecks will be made by DAFM to ensure that payments made to individual participants in the respect of the previous 3 fiscal years do not exceed the de minimis ceiling.

20. Tax Clearance Requirement

Payment of financial aid as provided for in this Programme may be subject to the condition that a tax clearance certificate from the Revenue Commissioners be furnished before a payment can be issued.

21. Data Protection

Your attention is drawn to the Data Protection Notice in Annex 5.

22. Further Conditions

22.1 The Minister may at any time lay down further conditions under this Programme.

22.2 The Minister reserves the right to alter from time to time the procedures to be followed in the operation of the Programme.

23. Interpretation

The Department may expand upon, explain, interpret or define the meaning of any aspect of the Terms or Conditions of the Programme.

24. Record

All applicants accepted into the programme must maintain a record of all compliance actions. It is essential that the record and any associated documents are retained and updated to reflect the completion of actions undertaken by applicants under the programme.

The Department will supplement compliance inspections with Administrative Control checks whereby a percentage of farmers will be required to submit their action records and associated documentation to the Department upon request at various times in the programme year. These records will be examined as a means of checking compliance with actions. It is a requirement of the programme that applicants must fully comply with such requests to submit information to the Department.

Failure to produce or forward the records when requested will be a breach of the programme obligations and will result in no payments for the relevant programme year and 50% administrative penalty based on the overall amount which would have been payable.

Annex 1.

Action 1. Weighing and Submission of Weights to ICBF. Process for recording weight data as part of BEEP-S.

There are two options available to herd-owners for the recording of weight data as part of BEEP-S. These are: (i) a Rental model, whereby participants rent scales from an approved field service agent to undertake the BEEP-S weight recording process, or (ii) an owned, borrowed or third party service model, whereby participants have access to a set of scales and they are availing of these scales to undertake the BEEP-S weight recording process.

An overview of the process to follow for weight recording according to each of these options is given below.

Rental Model.

- If availing of the Rental model for weight recording, then please use the central booking facility to book the scales. Details can be found on www.icbf.com.
- Participants operating the rental model for their weight recording service, should only use the rental scales for their animals. This is to minimise potential disease risk associated with the movement of equipment from farm to farm.
- When collecting scales from the field service agent, you will be required to pay a rental charge for the day and undertake to comply with the set requirements for use of the rental scales. NB Failure to comply with the requirements for use of the rental scales may lead to your data being deemed unusable and consequently your payment is at risk. Each set of scales includes; (i) a clock which registers the weights of the animals, (ii) a set of weigh beams, which weighs the animal and then registers the weight with the clock and (iii) a portable platform, which is to be placed on the floor of the crush to carry out the weight recording process. All the material is portable. Please note that a step by step guide on how to carry-out the weight recording process on the

farm, including the assembly of the relevant material, is available on the ICBF and field service agent's websites.

- In terms of recording weights of cows and calves, herd-owners are encouraged to use electronic options to record this data as this will ensure more accurate and timely recording of the data. Electronic options include apps, ICBF webpage and Farm Software.

If you are recording the data by paper, you must use the weight recording sheet provided by ICBF. This can be printed off from the participant's ICBF user account or ordered directly from ICBF in advance of the weight recording visit. Please complete all relevant information on the sheet. This includes; (i) the unique registration number of the rental scales, (ii) the date of the event, and (iii) weights of cows and calves, recorded as part of the event. The information must then be posted to ICBF for manual data keying.

- In terms of weight recording, herd-owners must record animals one at a time, i.e., cows and calves separately and one animal on the platform at a time. Only weigh un-weaned calves and their dams. Valid calf weights are from birth date of the calf to weaning date of the calf. Calves (and their dams) that are weaned should not be weight recorded.
- Please note that BEEP-S payments will only be made on weight records recorded and validated on the ICBF database. All records *should* be submitted within 7 days of the completion of the weight recording process. If weight records are deemed unusable as a result (inter alia) of failure to comply with the requirements for use of the scales, then payment may not issue under the Programme.
- To help streamline the weight recording process for participants in the programme, ICBF will be writing to participants with a suggested 4-week window based on your calving pattern within which herd-owners are encouraged to weigh their cows and calves. We would ask programme participants to please adhere to this suggested 4-week window, in order to maximise the efficiency of the programme on the ground.

- All scales must be returned in a fully clean and operational state, in accordance with the rental T&Cs.

Owned, borrowed or using a third-party service providers' scales.

- If you own a set of scales (either existing or new) and plan to use them (or lend them to another person) for the purpose of BEEP-S, then you must pre-register the scales before the weight recording event. Scales already registered with ICBF for BEEP 2019 do not need to be re-registered, *however a new registration number will be allocated for this year's programme.*
- To register scales, please go onto the ICBF website (www.icbf.com) and register the scales using the "Registration of scales for BEEP" input screen. We encourage you to complete this process electronically. *Alternatively, you can contact ICBF to register scales.* You must return this sheet to ICBF, who will then register the scales for the programme.
- For the purpose of registration of scales, the following information will be requested; (i) Name and address of owner of scales, (ii) scales manufacturer, (iii) indicator model, (iv) indicator serial number, and (v) year of purchase.
- DAFM and its agents (i.e. ICBF) reserve the right to inspect scales as part of BEEP-S. In circumstances where scales are not deemed to meet minimum validation criterion regarding accuracy of weight recording, such scales will be deemed ineligible for use in the programme.
- Once the registration of scales is complete, a unique "BEEP scales registration number" will be issued. This number must be used and/or referenced (depending on data recording option) when recording any weight data for animals as part of BEEP-S. Please note that without this number, you will not be able to submit cow and calf weight data as part of BEEP-S and therefore will not receive any payment from the programme.
- Herd-owners using scales that are sourced from a third-party service provider must, for inspection purposes, retain documentary evidence establishing the scales procurement. This document must at a minimum record the ICBF registration number of the scales, the name and signature of the person to whom the scales are registered, the name and signature of the person

borrowing the scales, the date they were borrowed and the date they were returned. A sample template document is available in Annex 1A.

- Herd-owners using scales that are sourced from a third-party service provider must ensure that the scales are clean and disinfected before and after use to minimise any potential disease risk from the movement of equipment between farms.
- When recording weights of cows and calves, herd-owners are encouraged to use electronic options to record this data as this will ensure more accurate and timely recording of the data. Electronic options include apps, ICBF webpage and Farm Software.
- If you are recording the data by paper, you must use the weight recording sheet provided by ICBF. This can be printed off from the participant's ICBF user account or ordered directly from ICBF in advance of the weight recording visit. Please complete all relevant information on the sheet. This includes; (i) the unique registration number of the scales, (ii) the date of the event, and (iii) weights of cows and calves, recorded as part of the event. The information must be then posted to ICBF for manual data keying.
- In terms of weight recording, herd-owners must record animals one at a time, i.e., cows and calves separately and one animal on the platform at a time. Only weigh un-weaned calves and their dams. Valid calf weights are from birth date of the calf to weaning date of the calf. Calves (and their dams) that are weaned should not be weight recorded.
- Please note that BEEP-S payments will only be made on weight records recorded and validated on the ICBF database. All records should be submitted within 7 days of the completion of the weight recording process. If weight records are deemed unusable as a result (inter alia) of the scales used being unfit for purpose, then payment may not issue under the Programme.
- To help streamline the weight recording process for participants in the programme, ICBF will be writing to participants with a suggested 4-week window within which herd-owners are encouraged to weigh their cows and calves. We would ask programme participants to please adhere to this

suggested 4-week window, in order to maximise the efficiency of the programme on the ground.

Annex 1A. Sample document for use by applicant sourcing scales from a third party.

ICBF Scales Registration Number: _____

Name of Owner: _____

Address of Owner: _____

Signature of Owner: _____

Name of BEEP-S participant using scales: _____

Address of BEEP-S participant using scales: _____

Signature of BEEP-S participant using scales: _____

Date scales taken: _____

Date Scales Returned: _____

Annex 2

Action 2 Option 1

Meal Feeding pre-weaning and post weaning

Calves must be supplemented with a compound feeding stuff containing appropriate mineral and vitamins for four weeks pre weaning and two weeks post weaning.

Participants may feed purchased compound feed containing minerals and vitamins or straights (feed materials). If straights (feed materials) are being fed, participants should consult their advisor or nutritionist to ensure that a correct level of nutrition is being achieved. Straights (feed materials) must be supplemented with a suitable complementary mineral feeding stuff.

If two or more straights are being mixed together on-farm, for example using a mixer wagon or loading shovel, then participants must register with DAFM as a home-mixer. Registration forms are available at the following link:

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/foodindustrydevelopmenttrademarkets/feedingstuffs/formsguidancedocuments/4AppRegFormPrimaryProducersIncHomeMixers130618.doc>

Receipts, invoices and labels of all compound feeding stuffs, and/or straights (feed materials) and complementary mineral mixtures purchased must be retained and made available for inspection and administrative check.

All feeding stuffs (including mineral feeds) must be sourced from registered or approved feed business operators. A list of approved businesses is available here:

[\(https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/agri-foodindustry/feedingstuffs/listsoffbos-registeredandapproved/\)](https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/agri-foodindustry/feedingstuffs/listsoffbos-registeredandapproved/)

Minerals must be fed in accordance with the instructions given on the label. The level of supplementation must be an adequate rate to provide the required level of nutrition. Participants should supplement in accordance with manufacturers label recommendations.

Participants will be required to retain sales documents for any cow/calves sold which along with the feed delivery dockets and date of weaning will verify the calf was fed four weeks pre weaning and two weeks post weaning.

Participants must record the date of weaning of each animal that is being submitted for payment under this action. Where groups of calves are weaned on different dates record the different weaning dates for each group.

Annex 3

Action 2 Option 2

(ii) Vaccination

Veterinary advice should be sought for a suitable vaccination programme where the attending veterinarian has specific knowledge of the farm. Vaccinations help reduce the probability of disease but cannot solely be depended upon for prevention. The management system pre-weaning and post-weaning will assist the successful outcomes of a bovine respiratory disease vaccination programme.

It is advised that all applicants should consult with their veterinary surgeon for the most suitable vaccination programme for their specific farm.

Pathogen	Vaccine availability	Comment
Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	Live intranasal (IN) Live intramuscular (IM) Dead sub cutaneous (SC)	Principal pathogen in weanlings 6-12 months of age
Parainfluenza-3 (PI-3) virus	Live intranasal (IN) Live intramuscular (IM) Dead sub cutaneous SC)	
Bovine herpes virus type 1 (BoHV-1) virus (Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis IBR)	Live intranasal (IN) Live intramuscular (IM) (Inactivated sub cutaneous; SC)	BoHV-1 also present in weanlings diagnosed with BRD
<i>Mannhaemia haemolytica</i>	Dead sub cutaneous (SC)	

Applicants must choose one of the following vaccination protocols:

Option 1. (if there is a short time before risk period or if cattle can only be handled once)

- Single RSV and Pi3 Intranasal 2 to 4 weeks before weaning/housing/sale
- At the same time, a Single (or 2 dose program) IBR live intra-muscular injection (2 to 4 weeks before weaning/housing/sale)

Option 2. (if there is more time before risk period or a broader coverage including bacteria is required)

- First subcutaneous injection of RSV, Pi3 and *Mannhaemia haemolytica* dead, 6 to 8 weeks before weaning/housing/sale
- Second subcutaneous injection of RSV, Pi3 and *Mannhaemia haemolytica* dead, 2 to 4 weeks before weaning/housing/sale
- At the same time as the second injection, a Single IBR live intra-muscular, 2 to 4 weeks before weaning/housing/sale

The procedures in both options must be completed in full and are equally applicable to both spring and autumn born calves.

Special precautions:

- IBR vaccine must not be used in breeding bulls destined for AI centres and special precautions taken if IBR control is necessary on a pedigree farm, cohorts should be vaccinated with an inactivated form or if IBR Marker live is used, it must be given IM
- If IBR Marker inactivated is used, it must be given SC.

Participants with breeding bulls destined for AI centres are not required to comply with the requirement to administer an IBR vaccine on **those bulls only**. Any participant who wishes to avail of this derogation must inform the DAFM [**DAFM scheme address**] before the commencement of your vaccination programme.

DAFM recommend that you discuss with your vet an appropriate vaccination programme as well as the effective management of all relevant risk factors including parasite control in order to reduce the instances of respiratory disease in your herd. A record must be kept by each participant in this option of the purchase and use of vaccines.

Annex 4

Action 3. Liver Fluke Faecal Egg Testing (FET)

Procedure for Liver Fluke Faecal Egg Testing for BEEP -S Scheme

Faecal egg testing will be targeted at the control of liver fluke infection in adult suckler cows. Samples will be required to be taken and submitted to approved labs before 1st November 2020.

All faecal samples collected must be fresh.

Stage 1 – Collection of faecal samples

Collection of faecal samples:

1. The applicant must contact a Department approved laboratory to request the sampling pack (empty sample containers, submission form and Ziplock bags) and to arrange a payment procedure.

Faeces may be submitted to a laboratory in a 30 ml screw cap plastic, universal container. (containers with push on caps are not suitable because gas production in the sample may cause the cap to become dislodged thereby leading to spillage).

2. The list of approved laboratories and veterinary practices can be found on the Departments website: [here](#).
Where a participant fails to use a laboratory from the list of Department approved laboratories for the purpose of the parasite control action (liver fluke FET), this action will be considered to have not been fully completed in line with the programme conditions and will therefore not be eligible for payment.
3. Cows should be placed in a clean pen. Rectal faecal samples should be collected directly into a container. If this is not possible then animals should be closely observed, and faeces should be picked up off the ground as soon as they are passed.

Submission of faecal samples

4. Using gloves, collect faecal samples from at least 10 different fresh faecal deposits and place them in 10 separate containers (You must collect at least a heaped teaspoonful of faeces). Place all filled containers of faeces in a leak and crush proof container (jiffy bag) and marked “biological sample” before being placed in the post.
5. Post samples with the submission form on the day of sampling, or the following day at the latest. Ideally, avoid posting samples of Thursday or Friday so samples are not left in the post over the weekend.
6. If samples are collected at the weekend store them in a cool place preferably in a fridge not used for domestic purposes (DO NOT FREEZE or PLACE IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT) and post on Monday.
7. It is important that samples are clearly labelled and correspond to the correct animal ID number(s)
8. Include any relevant information on the animal’s history such as animal age, clinical signs if present as well as details of any prior treatment and grazing history.

Results:

These results will be reported to you directly and to DAFM.

Interpretation of results:

You should discuss your results with your private veterinary practitioner or agricultural advisor.

Cows should be dosed based on the result.

Anthelmintic Administration

- Dose in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations.
- Check calibration of dosing gun / syringe prior to dosing.
- Check expiry date of drug.
- Shake bottle/container with anthelmintic well prior to use.

- Record the name of the product you used and which anthelmintic class it belongs to.

Annex 5. GDPR considerations in the sharing of data between DAFM, ICBF and any third-party service providers.

Data Protection Notice:

Part A:

Information applicable to all Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine customers:

- The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is fully committed to keeping all personal data submitted by its customers, fully safe and secure during administrative processes. All necessary technical measures have been put in place to ensure the safety and security of the systems which hold this data.
- Transparency and openness in the use of personal data held is important to the Department and therefore we aim to fully inform all our customers about the purpose(s) for which their data will be used and why, where it may be shared elsewhere and why and how long their data may be held by the Department. Information on the rights of the customers will also be provided.
- The current legislation for Data Protection in Ireland is the Data Protection Act 1988 as amended by the 2003 Data Protection Act, The Data Protection Act 2018 and The General Data Protection Regulations (EU 2016/679)
- The Data Controller for the collection and processing of all personal data in the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is the Department itself, as a legal entity.
- The Data Protection Officer can be contacted as follows:
Data Protection Officer
Data Protection Unit, Corporate Affairs,

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Grattan Business Park, Dublin Road,

Portlaoise, Co Laois.

R32 RY6V

Phone: 057 8694301

Email: dataprotectionofficer@agriculture.gov.ie

- Personal data processed by the Department will only be used for the specific purpose (s) as outlined when the data is collected, or in later communications, and will only be used in accordance with the Data Protection legislation in force.
- Rights of the individual in relation to personal data held by the Department:
- When you, as a customer, provide personal data to the Department you have certain rights available to you in relation to that data. These rights are outlined below and can be exercised by contacting the Data Protection Officer, as detailed above, indicating which right(s) you wish to exercise. Up to 25 May 2018, our customers had the following rights:
 - access to their data
 - rectification of their data
 - erasure of their data
 - right to lodge a complaint with the Supervisory Authority

Since 25 May 2018 all Department customers also have the following additional rights:

- restriction of processing
- data portability
- objection to processing
- to withdraw consent if they previously gave it in relation to processing of their personal data or relating to automated decision making, including profiling.

Part B – Information specific to the personal data being collected

The following data is specific information in relation to the personal data processed for the submission of an application under the BEEP-S Programme

1. Specified purpose:

The personal data sought from the data subject is required for the purpose of making an application under the BEEP-S Programme. Failure to provide all the personal data required to facilitate the processing of the application, including data testing, under the programme will result in DAFM being unable to process the application.

2. Legal basis:

The BEEP-S Programme is implemented pursuant to the Ministers and Secretaries Acts 1924 and is operated by DAFM.

3. Recipients:

Information provided as part of the BEEP-S Programme application will be shared, for the purposes of processing your application with:

- The Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (ICBF)
- Capita Customer Solutions

4. Transferred outside the EU:

Information provided in support of an application under the Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme is not currently transmitted outside of the EU.

5. Retention Period:

The data submitted in support of the application by the data subject under BEEP-S will be retained by DAFM only if there is a business need to do so in line with the purposes for which it was collected.

After this time, it will be marked for destruction and will be destroyed in line with internal guidelines or guidelines for destruction received from the National Archives Office or associated permissions received from them.

6. Data provision being statutory or contractual obligation:

The data provided for this purpose is being requested under the requirements of The Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme and if the customer chooses not to provide this information their application for the BEEP-S Programme cannot proceed.

7. Automated Decision Making:

Personal data provided in the submission of an application under BEEP-S will be processed automatically for the purpose of the efficient running of the programme, and the timely payment of participants.

Automated decision making will also be used for the purposes of selecting participants for inspection in accordance with the regulations.

8. Information from Third Party:

Information from third parties is not currently received in relation to applicants under the Beef Environmental Efficiency Programme.

9. Technical information on data collected:

Technical information on the cookies used on our Department's website is available at the following link:

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/legalnotices/privacy/>