

the Field Data Sheets (SAF 2) under land use codes FR1 grass for grazing, hay or silage, rough grazing, grazed heather, lucerne, sainfoin, clovers, forage vetches or OT3 grazed orchards or grazed woodlands.

land, each must ensure that they meet the full requirements of the respective schemes to which they are applying. Failure to meet these requirements may result in penalties being applied. In conacre and leasing agreements, great care should be taken to avoid both parties claiming under the same scheme for the same land.

What happens next?



LFACA claims made on the Single Application Form within the application period and signed by the claimant will usually be acknowledged within 10 to 15 working days of receipt. Unsigned forms are invalid and will be returned.

Applications will then be subject to validation checks, during which any obvious completion errors will be identified. We will write to claimants to try and resolve these.

After these initial validation checks, claims go through eligibility checks which cover:

- Validation on the areas claimed; and
- Checks on the number of eligible livestock maintained throughout the qualifying periods.

Will there be any on-farm inspections?

We must carry out on-farm inspections on at least 5% of applicants to see if the requirements of the scheme are complied with. In addition, a further 1% minimum of applicants will also be inspected for cross compliance purposes.

Will any penalties be applied?

LFACA payments will be based on eligible forage area after account has been taken of any penalties that reduce your land, because of, for example, overdeclaration. You may also be penalised if, for example, we get your application late. You may be penalised if you do not adhere to the cross compliance requirements. Any penalties will be proportionate to the severity, extent, permanence and repetition of the non-compliance.

Frequently asked questions



Can I claim LFACA on conacre land?

Many farmers claim LFACA on conacre land. With the introduction of the Single Farm Payment (SFP) Scheme, some landowners established SFP entitlements on the LFA land that they let in conacre. Landowners could establish and claim SFP entitlements on land they owned and continue to let to farmers provided they retained sufficient management control of the land to enable them to maintain it in GAEC. However, the farmer to whom the land is let may use this conacre land to support claims for LFACA payment. In circumstances where the landowner is claiming SFP and the tenant is claiming LFACA for the same

Where can I find out more?



If you would like to find out more please contact us:

Tel: 0845 3044 509

Website: www.rdpni.info

Email: rdp@dardni.gov.uk

Write to us at: Rural Development Programme, Room 141, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 3SB

or call in to your local DARD office.