



What land is eligible for the Organic Farming Scheme?

Only land included on a DARD Farm Business map is eligible for OFS. Land that has already been certified at the time of application as fully organic is not eligible. Any horticultural land, arable land, improved and semi-improved land that has been registered as "in conversion" to organic production after 1 January 2007, and meets the other eligibility criteria, may enter an agreement.

What level of funding is available?

Land classified as horticulture (including top fruit) will be paid £670 per hectare. Arable land at a rate of £570 per hectare and other improved or semi-improved land at £470 per hectare. These payments will be apportioned over the five years.

Can I enter only part of my farm into the Organic Farming Scheme?

Yes. A minimum area of one hectare per application of horticultural land, or three hectares in total of arable, improved and semi-improved land, can be entered into the Organic Farming Scheme. It may be possible to enter additional parcels of land into the Scheme under a separate agreement(s) in later years through the normal application process.

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.

