



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

Circular 4/2020

22 October 2020

To: GLAS Advisors

Re: LESS Declaration Forms to 2020 Nitrates Derogation Applicants

Dear GLAS Advisor

This circular relates to GLAS applicants who have applied for a Nitrates Derogation for 2020.

GLAS supports the voluntary uptake of environmental actions. The new regulation S.I. No. 40 of 2020, the European Union (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) (Amendment) Regulations 2020, makes the use of Low-emission Slurry Spreading (LESS) technologies mandatory for Nitrates Derogation farmers with effect from 15 April 2020. Under EU regulation a GLAS payment cannot issue for mandatory actions.

Accordingly, a GLAS participant with the LESS action who has also applied for a Nitrates Derogation for 2020 will only be eligible for payment under GLAS for slurry spread before 15 April 2020. Once a final decision is made on the 2020 Nitrates Derogation application, the 2020 GLAS claim will be reviewed and any outstanding GLAS payment will be made. Please also note that no GLAS payment can issue for LESS for future years where a derogation also applies.

As the introduction of the above regulation alters the payment claim of a GLAS participant, they now have the option to terminate their GLAS contract without the recoupment of money paid to date. However, if a GLAS participant continues with their GLAS contract, their other GLAS actions will not be affected and payment for these actions will issue once their claim clears the payment validation process.

LESS Declaration Forms have now issued to applicable GLAS participants. The forms must be completed in order to process 2020 GLAS payments. The fully completed claim form must be returned by Wednesday 18th November 2020, to GLAS, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Wexford, Y35 PN52.

Please note that the form must also be completed and returned where no slurry has been spread. Failure to return this form may result in the GLAS participant becoming ineligible for payment for the LESS action and/or the Scheme itself

GLAS Section

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