



## SUSTAINABLE FARMING INCENTIVE 2022

The Sustainable Farming Incentive in 2022 will be an early rollout of the SFI scheme. Starting in mid-2022, it will be open to all farmers who claim Basic Payment Scheme and those in Countryside Stewardship, as long as the SFI is compatible and does not create double-funding.

Agreements will last 3 years, with amendments allowed at 12-monthly points to add land, add standards or increase ambition levels. SFI 2022 will include the following 3 standards:

- Improved grassland soils
- Arable and horticulture soils
- Moorland and rough grazing (introductory level)
- It will also pay for an annual livestock health and welfare review.

SFI payments will be made to farmers on a quarterly basis and in 2022 there will not be an SFI capital grant scheme but capital grants will be available through Stewardship.

SFI 2022 is a starting point - more standards and ambition levels are set to be added to the scheme during this early rollout phase from 2022-2025, as well as expanding eligibility and drawing on information from the SFI pilot.

A summary of the SFI 2022 Improved grassland soils standard is below and note these payments are different to those under the SFI pilot.

Level	Actions
Introductory £28/ha	Test soil organic matter Complete a soil assessment and soil management plan No more than 5% bare ground over winter.
Intermediate £58/ha	Test soil organic matter Complete a soil assessment and soil management plan No more than 5% bare ground over winter Establish/maintain herbal leys on at least 15% of land in the standard.

### **Moorland and rough grazing standard**

SFI 2022 will only offer an introductory level for this standard, paying £148 per agreement per year, plus up to £6.45 per hectare, for actions such as peatland and vegetation surveys and evaluating moorland condition. At present there is a significant lack of detail on these actions and the associated payment. Common land will be eligible through group agreements only.

This is a short summary of the main points - click [HERE](#) for the full announcement.