

PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS (PPP): USER REGISTRATION

Defra require all professional users of PPP (pesticides, herbicides, adjuvants etc) **to register by the 22nd June 2022.**

Farmers are professional users even if they only use a knapsack sprayer to control thistles, docks and nettles or employ a third party (contractor) to apply PPP.

The form requires the addresses of any additional premise where PPP may be stored and an estimate of the annual quantity used. Future inspections will be based on risk.

Further information and a registration form can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/professional-plant-protection-products-ppps-register-as-a-user>

- The completed form should then be emailed to: GB-OCR-Notification@defra.gov.uk
- If you require a paper form these can be obtained by emailing ocr-ppp@defra.gov.uk

PLEASE BE AWARE IT IS AN OFFENCE NOT TO REGISTER

ADDING VALUE GRANT

Defra have announced the opening in June of a new strand within the Farming Investment Fund to give a 40% grant to projects adding value to agricultural production.

As the grant is competitive applications will be scored on the wider benefits they will provide to other businesses and the environment.

The minimum grant is £25,000 (40% of £62,500). The maximum grant is £300,000. Second-hand items will be eligible with conditions to ensure value for money.

There will be a two-stage application process with an initial “online checker” to see if a proposal scores highly enough for the RPA to invite the submission of a full application.

SUSTAINABLE FARMING INCENTIVE 2022

Defra are intending to launch a skeleton version of SFI in late June (this may slip) as a fore runner to the full launch in 2024 the initial standards are listed below:

| Standard | Level | Payment |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Arable and Horticultural Soils | Introductory | £22 per hectare |
| | Intermediate | £40 per hectare |
| Improved Grassland Soils | Introductory | £28 per hectare |
| | Intermediate | £58 per hectare |
| Moorland | Introductory | £10.30 per hectare |
| | Additional Payment | £265 per agreement |

There will also be an additional annual payment of £6.15 per hectare for common land entered into a separate SFI standards agreement.

Annual animal Health and Welfare Reviews will form part of SFI 2022 and are scheduled to be introduced in the summer. It is noted that there is no Natural or Semi Natural Grassland Standard in the package that has been announced which is greatly to the detriment of this area. However, Defra intend to add additional standards and levels to the scheme as they are developed.

For further advice and assistance please call UTASS 01833 641010.

Richard Betton.