

# SOIL NUTRIENT HEALTH SCHEME



A free soil sampling & analysis programme  
for Northern Ireland's farmers

## Why take part?

The Soil Nutrient Health Scheme (SNHS) will provide farmers with vital, detailed information on managing soil nutrients and carbon on their farms. This will help them to optimise the application of crop nutrients, improve farm profitability while reducing the potential for nutrient loss to the environment. Each farm will receive:

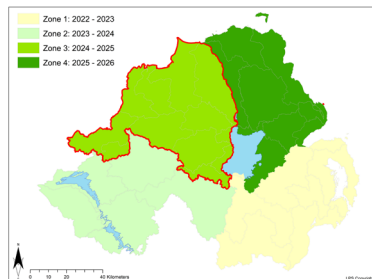
- Detailed information on the nutrient status of their soils
- Farm-level estimates of carbon stored in the soils, hedgerows and trees
- Runoff risk maps for nutrient loss to waterbodies for each field
- CAFRE training on the interpretation of soil nutrient reports and generation of farm nutrient management plans.

***Your data will NOT be used by DAERA for enforcement purposes. Participation in SNHS will be a requirement to receive payments under future farm support schemes. This conditionality requires that you participate in the SNHS and complete the CAFRE SNHS training when it is offered to you.***

[www.afbini.gov.uk/articles/soil-nutrient-health-scheme](http://www.afbini.gov.uk/articles/soil-nutrient-health-scheme)

## How does it work?

Farmers in Zone 3 - Co Tyrone & Co Derry/ Londonderry (West of the Bann) can register from late June 2024 until 31 August 2024. Zone 4 - Co Antrim, will be able to register late June 2025 until 31st August 2025. All work will be carried out by AFBI and our sub-contractors



## Once registered:

- RPS Group will contact each farmer to arrange sampling, normally between November and February.
- Contact the SNHS help desk by email ([snhs@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:snhs@afbini.gov.uk)) to log a current mobile phone number.
- After sampling, AFBI and RPS will quality assure & send the samples off for analysis.
- Receive your results 4-6 weeks after sampling.
- CAFRE on-line SNHS training, including Nutrient Management Planning, training will be available at [www.cafre.ac.uk/snhs-training](http://www.cafre.ac.uk/snhs-training).

## How will the results be used?

The results for **your farm** are **yours!** This scheme provides essential information to enable you to make management decisions for your farm. Soil nutrient management can save you money by ensuring you are applying nutrients in the right place and at the right levels for crop needs.

AFBI may also use the information in future research to support agriculture in NI-  
**but it will always be anonymised.**

To register:

- visit: [www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/daera-online-services](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/services/daera-online-services)
- email: [snhs@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:snhs@afbini.gov.uk)
- scan the QR code opposite
- phone the SNHS Helpdesk: 02890 255 212

