



# Barriers to Uptake

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# EFS...



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# What's missing?

Long Term  
commitment

Reflective of  
ecosystem  
services

Results Based

Year 1 - 5:  
£40.00/ha (0.10 – 50ha),  
£20.00/ha (50.01 – 100ha),  
£10.00/ha (>100ha)

**WILD AT LANTIC NATURE LIFE** Peatland Habitat Score Card

Farmer ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Surveyor: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_ /100  
Plot number: \_\_\_\_\_ Survey date: \_\_\_\_\_ (A+B+C)

Blanket bog  Heath  Mosaic of heath & bog  Mosaic of heath with grassland

**A Ecological Integrity** Total score A (sum of A1 to A5): \_\_\_\_\_ /55

**Positive Indicators:** (tick those present)  
Moss Layer:  Branched Mosses  Non-crustose (bushy) Lichens  Sphagnum Mosses  White-beaked Sedge  
Sedge / Herb Layer:  Bog Asphodel  Bog Bean  Bog Cotton  Deer Grass  Lousewort  Sundews  White-beaked Sedge  
Shrub Layer:  Bell Heather  Bilberry  Bog Myrtle  Cross-leaved Heather  Ling Heather  Western Gorse

**Negative Indicators:** (tick those present)  
 Bramble  Girdlers (Sitka Spruce or Lodgepole Pine)  European Gorse  Nettle  Rhododendron  Other alien invasive

**A1** How many positive indicators are present in the plot?  
Count total number of positive indicators present:  
Low: 0-4  0  High: 7-8  5   
Medium: 5-6  2  Very high: 9+  10

**A2** What is the combined cover of positive mosses & lichens (listed above) throughout the plot?  
Rare: 0-5%  0  Abundant: 21-30%  15   
Frequent: 6-20%  10  Dominant: >30%  20

**A3** Presence of non-native species within the plot (Rhododendron, self-sown conifers, other alien invasive)?  
Present  -10  Absent  0

**A4** What is the combined cover of all negative indicators/weeds (listed above) throughout the plot?  
High: >25%  -15  Med-low: 1-10%  -5   
Medium: 11-25%  -10  Absent/negligible  10

**A5** Quality of vegetation structure?

<b>Very Poor</b> Vegetation height is uniformly low. Little or no heather present on wet heaths. Often lacking moss and shrub layer. Often resulting from over grazing or recent peat cutting. Score: -15	<b>Poor</b> Rank sward. Purple moor grass/mat grass and rank sward present on wet heather dominating. Litter cover high, thatch forming in large continuous patches. Poorly developed ground layer. Often resulting from under grazing. Score: -10	<b>Moderate (High grazed)</b> Significant areas (>25%) of the plot have tight uniform vegetation although not throughout. Score: 0	<b>Moderate (low grazed)</b> Significant areas (>25%) of the plot have rank vegetation although not throughout. Score: 0	<b>Good</b> Sward in good condition, abundant grass and sedge-like vegetation on blanket bog with hummock, hollow, and pool complexes on bog. On heath, all stages of heather / shrub growth present, mostly >30cm. Mix of bog and / or heath vegetation at varying heights throughout. Well structured vegetation with all three layers (moss, sedge / herb, and shrub) well represented. Score: 15
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July 2021



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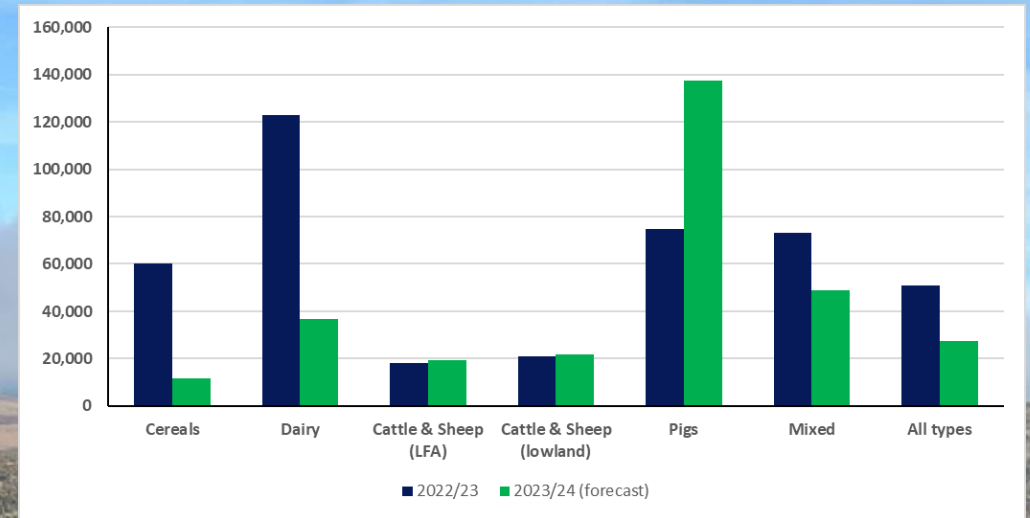
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# Other economic considerations...

- **Cost of Initial works**
- **Long term nature**
- **Opportunity Cost**
- **Lack of funding**

Graph 4: Average Farm Business Income by type of farm (£ per farm)



# Carrying out initial works...

- Fear of making mistakes
- Access to information
- Availability on contracts and consultants.





# Management implications...

- **Change in stocking density**
- **Winter grazing**
- **Limited Options**
- **Access to information**





# Awareness, Education, and Support.





# Social barriers...



Misconceptions

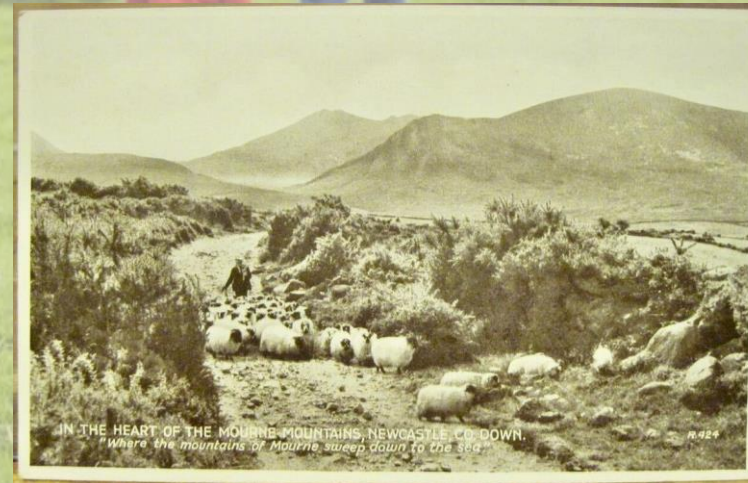
Terminology

Public perceptions



# Cultural considerations

- **Generational renewal**
- **Traditional practices**
- **Farmers want to Produce!**



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# Moving forward - Solutions!



**Uplands Symposium 2024**

Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November

Ballymascanlon Hotel, Dundalk, Co. Louth

Logos for Teagasc and CAFRE are also present.

**ARE YOU A FARMER WHO MANAGES PEATLAND IN THE GLENS OF ANTRIM?**

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU**

**EVENT DETAILS**

Ulster Wildlife, in partnership with the Ulster Farmers' Union (UFU) and other supporting organisations, is delivering peatland management projects across the Glens of Antrim. Our goal is to collaborate with farmers to implement hydrological and nature-friendly land management practices, supporting both biodiversity and sustainable farming. An outreach event has been organised to provide a comprehensive overview of our projects. All farmers who manage peatlands are welcome to attend to find out more. We would like to take this opportunity to engage with farmers and landowners, gather valuable feedback on how you can participate in our efforts, and share insights with policymakers about the unique perspectives of upland farming communities on peatland management.

**GLENS OF ANTRIM**  
**Monday 25th of November 2024, 7PM**  
 The Old Mill,  
 70 Main St,  
 Cloughmills,  
 BT44 9LF

**FURTHER INFORMATION**  
 ☎ **07748741515**  
 ✉ [peatlands@ulsterwildlife.org](mailto:peatlands@ulsterwildlife.org)

**BENEFIT YOUR LAND AND LIVELIHOOD WITH NATURE FRIENDLY FARMING**

Thank you!

