

# Interpreting your On-the-Spot Check (OTSC) Report



Department of  
**Agriculture, Environment  
and Rural Affairs**

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## Appendix 1 – Interpreting your On-the-Spot Check (OTSC) Report

These notes provide details and explanation relating to the layout of the On-the-Spot Check (OTSC) report to help you understand the findings.

### Section 1 – General details

This section provides information relating to the farm business as provided on the Single Application Form (SAF). It also includes information relating to the type of OTSC undertaken i.e. Remote Sensing (interpretation of satellite/aerial photography) or Land Inspection (involving a field visit).

The table below outlines the specific OTSCs that were completed. An explanation for each of these checks is explained under each section below.

Code	OTSC Type
LIN	Land Eligibility
CC	Cross Compliance
EFA	Ecological Focus Area
CDV	Crop Diversification
NGR	Greening Requirement Assessment
PGS	Permanent Grassland Sensitive
YUF	Young Farmers' Payment
ACF	Active Farmer
ANC	Area of Natural Constraints

The sections below on your report will only be completed if the specific OTSC was required for your business.

### Section 2 – Land Eligibility

This section shows the Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) Claimed Area declared by your business on the 2016 SAF. The area shown in your report is the total claimed area for all fields that have been **inspected**. i.e. the claimed area displayed in this section excludes field areas that have not been inspected but were included on your SAF claim e.g. Common Land (which is inspected separately) may not be included.

This section also includes the total eligible area determined following the OTSC.

NB. This area may **not** reflect the area that is eligible for payment as it will be subject to further validation by Payments Branch. Any reductions or penalties relating to your payment will be calculated by them and you will receive a letter confirming the total determined eligible area. You should note that you cannot be paid for more than the amount of land you originally claimed.

### **Section 3 – Permanent Grassland Sensitive (PGS)**

This section reports any area of permanent grassland designated as environmentally sensitive that has been ploughed or converted.

### **Section 4 – Ecological Focus Area (EFA)**

This section shows the area of EFA determined at the OTSC. Please note that the purpose of the EFA inspection is to determine that you have met the minimum 5% EFA requirement for your holding. Consequently, we may not have inspected all of the EFAs that you declared on your EFA Data Sheet (form SAF4).

### **Section 5 – Areas of Natural Constraint (ANC)**

This section reports the number of eligible livestock found at OTSC. DARD will continue to use other assessments, such as the Animal and Public Health Information System (APHIS), to confirm livestock densities.

### **Section 6 – Young Farmers' Payment (YUF), Section 7 – Active Farmer (ACF) & Section 8 – Statutory Management Requirements (SMR) Cross Compliance**

These sections identify if your business has been referred for further checks as a result of the farm visit.

If necessary, this will be forwarded to the relevant Competent Control Authority (such as Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA)) to complete a follow-up OTSC. You will be informed of the outcome of this OTSC at a later date.

### **Section 9 – Cross Compliance**

If a GAEC Cross Compliance inspection has been completed as part of the OTSC, any findings in relation to GAEC will be reported in this section with an explanation of the breach found. For any detected non-compliance an assessment of the severity, extent, permanence, repetition and location on the farm will be provided. This information will be used to determine the level of Cross-Compliance penalty that will be applied in respect of the breach. Information on how Cross-Compliance penalties are calculated can be found at:

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/cross-compliance-penalties>.

Once the final penalty is calculated you will receive a letter informing you of the penalty that will be applied. Cross-Compliance penalties are applied to all your area-based scheme applications i.e. BPS, ANC, NICMS and/or OFS.

Any GAEC breach that is classed as rectifiable must have the work to rectify the non-compliance completed as soon as possible but no later than 4 months from the date of the OTSC. A follow-up check to ensure work has been completed may be undertaken.

## Land Eligibility Detail

Key:	
	Shows the field information
	Shows the result for <u>eligible</u> land uses.
	Shows <u>ineligible</u> land uses.

Field No	Claimed Eligible Usage	OTSC Usage	BPS Area Activated	ANC Area Claimed	OTSC Area	Effective Date	LPIS Code	Comment	OTSC PGS Ploughed Area	OTSC EFA Area
6/066/066/1									0.1	1.1
	FR1	FR1	1.25	1.25	1.09					
		OT13			0.27	2013	OT13 >50%			

This is the **eligible** Land Use code found

This is the **ineligible** Land Use code found (see page 7 for explanation of each code)

This is the **eligible** usage area found

This is an **ineligible** usage area found

This is the year in which the change on the ground was detected.

This provides further information on the ineligible feature identified (see page 7). e.g. scrub with a density greater than 50%.

Additional comments relating to the field

PGS field area ploughed or converted.

Total EFA converted area found in the field.

We have listed the information that you declared on your SAF (noted as **BPS area activated and ANC Area Claimed**) and the usage and area found by us at the OTSC. You should note that this area may be different from your claim if you requested a map update after you submitted your claim (using a Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS) correction form for example). The '**Field Comments**' provide you with some detail relating to changes found at the OTSC where;

- an area has been deducted from your field, due to the presence of a building or other permanent feature; or
- a new field has been found and added; or
- a field has been split.

### *Split fields*

Where a field has been split, the original field number will be shown with a '0.00' area found at inspection, and the new field number(s) of the split field(s) will contain the original field area subdivided as appropriate. You will also note that the original field number will be shown with the area you claimed, and the new split field numbers will have a '0.00' area for the claim line. This will not affect your claim as the area you claimed will be allocated to the new split fields.

## LAND USE CODES 2016

### Eligible Features

Code	Description
	<b>Forage</b>
FR1	Grass
	<b>Cereals and Oilseeds</b>
CO1	Spring Barley
CO2	Winter Barley
CO3	Spring Wheat
CO4	Winter Wheat
CO5	Spring Oats
CO6	Winter Oats
CO7	Maize including Forage Maize
CO8	Rapeseed
CO9	Winter Oilseed rape
CO10	Spring Triticale
CO11	Winter Triticale
CO12	Linseed
CO13	Winter Linseed
CO14	Spring Rye
CO15	Winter Rye
CO16	Wild Bird Cover
CO17	Beet
	<b>Horticulture – Vegetables</b>
HV1	Potato
HV2	Turnip
HV3	Winter Turnip rape
HV4	Cabbage
HV5	Carrots
HV6	Parsnips
HV7	Onions
HV8	Asparagus
HV9	Aubergine
HV10	Butternut Squash
HV11	Celeriac
HV12	Chicory
HV13	Cucumber
HV14	Herbs
HV15	Horseradish
HV16	Lettuce
HV17	Parsley
HV18	Spinach
HV19	Radish
HV20	Squash

Code	Description
	<b>Horticulture – Fruit</b>
HF1	Strawberry
HF2	Tomato
HF3	Rhubarb
HF4	Raspberries, Mulberries, Blackberries, Loganberries, Currants, Cranberries, Bilberries
	<b>Nitrogen Fixing Crops</b>
NF1	Spring Peas
NF2	Spring Field Beans
NF3	Winter Field Beans
NF4	Spring Sweet Lupins
NF5	Winter Sweet Lupins
	<b>Fallow Land</b>
FL1	Fallow land for EFA* and CDV*
FL2	Fallow land for CDV- Grass
FL3	Fallow land for CDV – Non-Grass
	<b>Energy Crops</b>
EC1	Short rotation coppice
EC2	Hemp
EC3	Miscanthus, Reed Canary Grass
	<b>Other</b>
OT1	Flowers
OT2	Lawn Turf
OT3	Non-commercial grazed orchards, grazed woodlands or areas in agroforestry.
OT4	Ornamentals and Nurseries
OT5	Commercial Orchards
OT9	Conversion - Forestry
OT10	Conversion – Agri Environment Scheme
OT11	Forestry Set-aside
OT12	Agri Environment Set-aside
OT20	Conservation – Habitats Directive
OT21	Water Framework Directive.
OT22	Wild Birds Directive.
OT23	Seed mixture – mixed crop
MS1	Only used if the relevant land use code is not listed.

\* Ecological Focus Area

\* Crop Diversification



## Ineligible Features

Code	LPIS Code	Description
OT6	OT6	Woodland
OT7	OT7Bu	Buildings
	OT7H	Horticulture
	OT7Y	Yard / Hard Standing
	OT7L	Roads / Laneways
	OT7Re	Recreational
	OT7Be	Beaches
	OT7Q	Quarries
	OT7Ra	Railways
	OT7Ap	Airports
	OT7Ro	Rocky outcrops of varying densities
OT13	OT13	Scrub of varying density
	OT13Ru	Ineligible Rush of varying densities
	OT13Br	Bracken of varying densities
	OT13M	Ineligible Mixed Vegetation of varying densities
OT14	OT14H	Wide Thorn Hedge
	OT14Wh	Wide Whin Hedge
OT15	OT15	Watercourse
	OT15A	Pond / Lake
	OT15B	Bog / Swamp / Reed bed
OT16	OT16B	Bare Ground
	OT16E	Equipment Storage
	OT16F	Farm Storage / Waste
	OT16R	Rutted tracks
	OT16S	Silage bales
	OT16O	Other
OT17	OT17	Ineligible heather of varying densities
NAU	NAU	Primary Purpose not agriculture (Not in Agricultural Use)

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