

# WALLOON RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

## Agri-Environmental and Climatic Measures (AECM) - 2023-2027

Title Partial specifications (more complete sheets are available on [www.natagriwal.be](http://www.natagriwal.be))

Amount of subsidy / year



### “Ecological network elements” section



These measures, supported in the 2014-2020 programme, are now eligible for the mechanisms of the eco-scheme “Green infrastructure”




### “Grassland” section Permanent grasslands



	Natural grasslands MB2 <sup>1</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Min. €100 for the measure</li> <li>Farming only between 16/06 and 31/10 by grazing and/or by mowing (with harvest and maintenance of 5% as unmown refuge area<sup>1</sup>)</li> <li>Forage or concentrate feed supply, mineral fertilisation and pesticides<sup>2</sup> are prohibited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Max. 50% of the permanent grassland area of the farm (the first 10 hectares are exempted)</li> <li>Intervention for molehills leveling control or repair of damage caused by wild boars only between 01/01 and 15/04 included</li> </ul>	€ 220 / ha
	High nature value grasslands MC4 <sup>4</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AECM-advisor report required (targeted measure)</li> <li>Orchard grassland eligible under specifications</li> <li>Periods and management practices provided in the AECM-advisor report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Min. 10% of unmown refuge zone in case of mowing<sup>1</sup></li> <li>Fertilizers, soil improvement, forage or concentrate feed supply and pesticides<sup>2</sup> prohibited, excepted for some restricted exceptions</li> </ul>	€ 470 / ha

### “Arable land” section MB5 + MC7 + MB12 measures = Max 25% of arable land area



	Grass margins MB5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commitment to a surface area of min. 0,20 ha</li> <li>10 to 20 m width, with a min. of 10 m herbaceous cover</li> <li>Unauthorized implementation on plots that have been declared as permanent grassland within the last 5 years</li> <li>Eligible diversified mix (grasses + legumes), packaging has to be kept as proof</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjacent along its length to at least one parcel in cultivated land under plowing</li> <li>Mowing or sheep grazing between 16/07 and 31/10, fodder harvest mandatory. An unmown strip<sup>2</sup> of min. 2 m wide must be maintained at each cutting</li> <li>Not accessible to motor vehicles. Crossing is allowed for farming purposes if no other access exists</li> <li>Fertilizers or other soil improvement, pesticides<sup>2</sup> and stockpiling prohibited</li> </ul>	€ 1 200 / ha
	Targeted plots MC7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commitment to a surface area of min. 0,20 ha, plot surface area between 0,02 and 1,5 ha</li> <li>AECM-advisor report required (targeted measure)</li> <li>Unauthorized implementation on plots that have been declared as permanent grassland within the last 5 years</li> <li>Pesticides<sup>2</sup> and stockpiling prohibited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plant species composition and management regime depending on the targeted aim</li> <li>Not accessible to motor vehicles. Crossing is allowed for farming purposes if no other access exists</li> <li>No fertilization or other soil improvement, except where specified and justified in the AECM-advisor report</li> <li><u>Different variants</u>: erosion-control, arable plant conservation, strips/plots for pollinators, strips/plots for arable land fauna</li> </ul>	€ 1 800 € / ha
	Unharvested crops MB12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No new commitments possible from 2024 onwards</li> <li>Commitment to a surface area between 0,5 ha and 10 ha, plot surface area between 0,02 and 0,5 ha</li> <li>The <b>entire</b> declared plot is unharvested and the cover crop can't be destroyed before the last day of February</li> <li>Unauthorized implementation on plots that have been declared as permanent grassland within the last 5 years</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plots at least 100 m apart and at least 50 m away from woodland (&gt; 0,3 ha)</li> <li>Plots are sown, <b>at the usual densities</b>, with a cereal<sup>3</sup>, a cereal mix or a mix of cereals and legumes<sup>4</sup>, implementation on different plots each year</li> <li>Installation of a minimum of 2 lark pads or 2 perches per plot</li> <li>Insecticides and growth regulators prohibited</li> </ul>	€ 1 600 / ha




## “Animal” section



	<b>Threatened local breeds MB11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <u>Bovine breeds</u> (&gt; 2 years): Belgian Blue Mixed, East Belgian Red and White</li> <li>▪ <u>Equine breeds</u> (&gt; 2 years): Ardennes Draft Horses, Belgian Draft Horses<sup>5</sup></li> <li>▪ <u>Ovine breeds</u> (&gt; 6 months): Belgian dairy sheep, Entre-Sambre-et-Meuse, Mergelland, Ardennes speckled, Ardennes red<sup>5</sup></li> <li>▪ <u>Pig breed</u> (&gt; 1 year): Pig Piétrain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Animals registered in the herd-, stud-, flock- and pig-book</li> <li>▪ Cattle are registered in Sanitrace</li> <li>▪ Sheep, horses, and pigs listed in the animal registration app</li> </ul>	200€/bovine animal 200€/equine animal 40€/ovine animal 100€/pig animal + 50€/sow <sup>6</sup>
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## “Global approach at farm level” section



	<b>Agri-environmental plan MC10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ AECM-advisor report required (targeted measure)</li> <li>▪ Farming using ecological agricultural practices</li> <li>▪ Environmental diagnosis of farming and practices to be carried out (management of biodiversity, landscape, fertilization and soil management, pesticides use, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ List of actions and schedule pending</li> <li>▪ Short-, medium- and long-term objectives pending</li> <li>▪ Annual monitoring of the commitment</li> </ul>	Payment according to a dedicated formula function of AECM, eco-schemes and organic production subsidy
	<b>Fodder autonomy MB13</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commitment to min. € 100</li> <li>▪ <u>Two variants</u>:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Farm-level load between 0,6<sup>7</sup> and 1,4 LU/ha of grass and/or dedicated to fodder crops areas.<sup>8</sup></li> <li>- Subsidy reduction if &lt; 0,6 LU/ha</li> <li>- Farm-level load up to 1,8 LU/ha of grass and/or dedicated to fodder crops areas.<sup>8</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Subsidy paid for permanent grassland hectares only</li> <li>▪ Spreading of organic fertilizers limited to farm animal droppings (possibility to use other farm fertilizers up to &lt; 0.6 of the “ground bounding rate” if no mineral nitrogen is used)</li> <li>▪ Pesticides<sup>2</sup> prohibited in eligible grasslands</li> <li>▪ The presence of animals other than those used to establish the farm-level load on eligible grassland is prohibited</li> <li>▪ Areas under grazing contract not counted</li> </ul>	€ 60 / ha if < 1.4 LU/ha  € 30 / ha if < 1/8 LU/ha
	<b>Soil MR14<sup>9</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ AECM based on the ratio of total organic carbon content (“TOC”) and clay content of the soil</li> <li>▪ <u>Objective</u>: to maintain or increase the carbon content of crops and grasslands during the 5 years of commitment</li> <li>▪ Mandatory commitment in “Long soil cover” eco-scheme during the 1<sup>st</sup> year (advance declaration before 15/12) and the following years in order to obtain the final bonus (if improvement of the “TOC”)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commitment of at least 90% of eligible plots for 5 years</li> <li>▪ Min. area of the farm arable land &gt; 30%</li> <li>▪ <u>Eligible plots</u>:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Arable land that has not been declared as grassland for the last 5 years, permanent crops and grasslands</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Payment according to initial/final assessment + € 500 package for analysis + paid bonus if improvement of the “TOC/clay”

<sup>1</sup> The location of the refuge area remains at the same place during the current year.

<sup>2</sup> **Only localized treatments** by lance or knapsack sprayer against creeping thistle and bitter dock, with a selective product, are authorized.

<sup>3</sup> In pure cultivation, the only authorized cereals are spelt (winter of spring varieties), wheat (w or s var.), triticale (w of s var.).

<sup>4</sup> In intercropping, all cereals and legumes are authorized (min. 50% of crops et 20% of legumes).

<sup>5</sup> Belgian Draft Horses, Dual-purpose Belgian Blue and Ardennes red must belong to the main section of their respective stud-, herd- and flock-book. They must be descended from parents and grandparents belonging to the breed.

<sup>6</sup> Sow with at least one litter recorded within the year.

<sup>7</sup> For farms accounting solely for sheeps or goats, the lower limit of stock density reduced to 0,4 LU/ha.

<sup>8</sup> **Farm-level load calculation**: Sheep and goat: 0,10 LU. Equids: 0,8 LU. Cattle under 1 year of age: 0,4 LU. Cattle from 1 year to less than 2 years: 0,7 LU. Male cattle over 2 years of age: 1 LU. Heifers over 2 years of age: 0,8 LU.

Dairy cows: 1 LU. Other cows over 2 years of age: 0,8 LU. Deer and camelids: 0,2 LU. The Farm-level load to be considered shall be the average annual pressure for the calendar year in question.

The pressure calculation is based on all forage areas included in the “grasslands and fodder crops” category of organic farming (in particular: permanent grasslands, temporary grasslands, clovers, alfalfa, other fodder (code 743), corn silage).

<sup>9</sup> MR14: “Mesure au Résultat”; result-based measure.