

## SCHEDULE 6

Regulation 2(3)

### Interpretation of Schedules

In Schedules 1 to 5 and this Schedule—

“arable land” means land on which cereal or oil-seed rape crops are grown;

“archeological features” means all above ground historic or archeological sites which are landscape features and which have been identified by the Department of the Environment in the Sites and Monuments Record;

“Area of Special Scientific Interest” means an area of land declared to be an area of special scientific interest under Part VI of the Nature Conservation and Amenity Lands (Northern Ireland) Order 1985<sup>(1)</sup>;

“buffer strip” means a strip of unfertilised land adjacent to an Area of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserve, Natura 2000 site, watercourse, lake or woodland, at least 100 metres long and at least 5 metres wide;

“carr” means an area of wet woodland of which at least 50% is covered in willow, birch and alder or a combination of all three;

“closed grazing period” means a time of year when livestock must be excluded;

“coastal farmland” means land which comprises semi-natural vegetation and is either clifftop, cliff-face, sand dune or grazed salt-marsh and which fronts the sea and is subject to farming practices;

“conservation crop margin” means an area of crop with a minimum width of 6 metres and a maximum width of 12 metres which is grown with minimal use of pesticides and fertilisers;

“field boundaries” means hedgerows, sod banks, or dry stone walls and associated features;

“fen” means an area which is waterlogged and flooded in the winter and remains damp in the summer with a vegetation characterised by the absence of terrestrial plants;

“habitat” means the normal abode or locality of animals or plants;

“heather moorland” means land supporting at least 5% cover of heather, bell heather, cross-leaved heath, bilberry and western gorse;

“heritage feature” includes below ground archeological sites and rural features of historic interest;

“improved land” means grassland on which more than 20% of the sward is comprised of rye-grass, timothy, red-fescue or white clover;

“inter-drumlin lough” means a body of standing water at least 0.5 hectare in area with a maximum of 15 farm businesses in the catchment area;

“lapwing breeding sites” means improved or unimproved land where lapwing are present during the breeding season (ie early March - early June);

“lowland raised bog” means intact or cut-over dome shaped peatland;

“lowland wet grassland” means managed grassland below 200m with a naturally high water table at least until mid-June and generally liable to seasonable flooding;

“marginal hill land” means enclosed farmland on the periphery of an open hill comprised of a sward of low productivity grasses;

“National Nature Reserve” means land declared to be a national nature reserve under Article 18 of the Nature Conservation and Amenity Lands (Northern Ireland) Order 1985;

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(1) [S.I. 1985/170 \(N.I. 1\)](#) as amended by [S.I. 1989/492 \(N.I. 3\)](#)

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“Natura 2000 site” means an area designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) under Council Directive [92/43/EEC](#)(2) or as a Special Protection Area (SPA) under Council Directive [74/409/EEC](#)(3);

“nutrient management plan” means a programme of fertiliser application based on crop requirements, soil analysis and soil type and profile approved in writing by the Department;

“reed bed” means a wetland dominated by stands of the common reed where reed cover is greater than 75%;

“restricted grazing period” means a time of year when limits to stocking levels apply;

“rough grass field margin” means land forming a strip with a minimum width of 2 metres around arable fields in which cereal, oilseed or protein crops are being grown and on which a suitable grass mixture is sown;

“rough moorland grazing” means coarse grassland vegetation comprising wholly or mainly mat-grass, purple moor-grass, cotton-grasses, wavy hair grass and sedges;

“the Sites and Monuments Record” means the information system maintained by the Department of the Environment holding all known archeological and historical sites from 7000 BC onwards;

“scrape” means a shallow depression temporarily or permanently holding water created for the benefit of breeding waders;

“scrub” means woody vegetation under 2 metres tall;

“semi-natural grassland” means grassland characterised by sward of low productivity grasses, sedges or rushes and a high cover of herbaceous plants;

“semi-natural farm woodland and scrub” means vegetation dominated by a minimum of 50% cover broadleaf trees and shrubs, containing a minimum of 80% native species with a height greater than 2 metres;

“species rich acid grassland” means grassland occurring on base poor soils with a low cover of mat-grass and a high cover of herbaceous plants;

“species rich grassland” means grassland with a sward of low productivity grasses and a high cover of herbaceous plants; rye-grass timothy and white clover must comprise less than 20% of the sward;

“species rich hay meadows” means species rich grassland used for the production of hay;

“traditional orchard eligible for restoration” means an orchard no greater than 0.4 hectares containing a minimum of 4 standing fruit trees of 50 years of age at least and with a potential area for 12 fruit trees and a maximum of 50 fruit trees;

“traditional orchard eligible for recreation” means an orchard planted with old traditional varieties on improved land, no greater than 0.4 hectares;

“unimproved land” means grassland containing less than 20% rye grass, timothy, red fescue or white clover;

“upland breeding wader sites” means sites of enclosed marginal hill land used by breeding waders and which are identified by the Department;

“wetlands” means an area with a naturally high water table, at least until mid-June and generally liable to seasonal flooding;

“wild bird cover crop” means a crop mixture which is not normally used for agriculture production and where the individual components cannot be harvested separately;

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(2) O.J. No. L103, 25.4.79, p. 1

(3) O.J. No. L206, 22.7.92, p. 7

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“winter feeding sites for migratory swans and geese” means fields of grassland or winter cereals or oilseed rape which have been regularly used for winter grazing by a minimum of 25 swans or geese (except Canada goose and feral Greylag goose) for at least two of the previous three winters.