
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Common Agricultural Policy Single Payment and Support Schemes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 ([S.R. 2005/256](#)) (“the principal Regulations”).

The principal Regulations make provision in Northern Ireland for the administration of Council Regulation [\(EC\) No. 1782/2003](#) (O.J. No. L270, 21.10.2003, p. 1) (“the Council Regulation”), Commission Regulation [\(EC\) No. 795/2004](#) (O.J. No. L141, 30.4.2004, p. 1), Commission Regulation [\(EC\) No. 796/2004](#) (O.J. No. L141, 30.4.2004, p. 18) and Commission Regulation [\(EC\) No. 1973/2004](#) (O.J. No. L345, 20.11.2004, p. 1) in relation to establishing a new system of direct support schemes (including the Single Payment Scheme) under the Common Agricultural Policy, which came into force on 1st January 2005.

As well as making some minor and technical amendments to the principal Regulations, these Regulations substitute a new regulation for regulation 6 of the principal Regulations so that—

- (i) a farmer may choose up to two start dates for the beginning of the 10 month period referred to in Article 44(3) of the Council Regulation in respect of his holding; and
- (ii) if a farmer does not choose any such date, the 10 month period in respect of his holding shall start on 1st February of the year of application.

A full regulatory impact assessment has not been produced for these Regulations as they have no impact on the costs of business.