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January 2020

In this month's update...

[New on NetRegs](#), [New Legislation](#), [Consultations](#) and [Updates](#)

New on NetRegs



New eLearning available on NetRegs

NetRegs have published a new eLearning course on septic tanks.-

All you need to know about your septic tank

In this tool you will learn:

- How to check if you have a septic tank and what type
- Why it is important to manage and maintain your septic tank
- What you can and can't put into one

The NetRegs eLearning courses are FREE to use.

[Login or Register to the e-learning here >>>](#)

New Legislation



The Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019

These Regulations amend the Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 to implement the requirements of Directive (EU) 2018/350.

Directive (EU) 2018/350 introduces more detailed rules in respect to the environmental risk assessments which are to be made before the release of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs). With a focus on the information required before the release of Genetically Modified Higher Plants.

The Regulations came into force on 06 January 2020.

[Read more here >>>](#)

The Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019

The Waste Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019 update relevant waste legislation to ensure that the requirements of the Waste Framework Directive have been met. In particular, the Regulations substitute references to the Waste Management Strategy with references to the Waste Management Plan (published by DAERA in 2019).

The Regulations came into force on 16 January 2020.

[Read more here >>>](#)

Consultations



DAERA Innovation Strategy 2020-2025

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is seeking views on a draft Innovation Strategy 2020-2025, to establish an enabling external environment for innovation to flourish in businesses operating in the sectors for which DAERA has responsibility as well as supporting innovation across the Department.

This consultation exercise gives you the opportunity to express your views on whether you consider the proposed DAERA Innovation Strategy to be relevant and appropriate from your organisation's or your sector's perspective, as a means of driving innovation and delivering better outcomes. This exercise will inform the direction of the Innovation Strategy and the Department encourages you to share your views with it.

This Consultation closes on **05 March 2020 at 17:00**

You can [read the full Consultation and how to respond here >>>](#)

Waste Prevention Programme for Northern Ireland 2019

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs is seeking views on the Waste Prevention Programme for Northern Ireland 2019, aimed at maintaining a downward trend in waste arisings, which in turn will have a significant impact on meeting the EU landfill diversion targets. The programme is also aimed at supporting and promoting resource efficiency and the sustainable use of resources in Northern Ireland, whilst ensuring a shift towards a more circular economy.

This Consultation closes on **18 March 2020 at 17:00**

You can [read the full Consultation and how to respond here >>>](#)

Updates

Changes to Record Keeping for High Phosphorous Poultry Manure

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has published a timely reminder of the changes to record keeping for High Phosphorous poultry manure. Last year saw a revision of nitrogen and phosphorous excretion rates for poultry systems. The changes to Nutrients Action Programme will affect some poultry producers and involve extra record keeping requirements for the farms in question.

[You can read more here >>>](#)



Cross Compliance 2020

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has published new verifiable standards booklets setting out the requirements that must be met under each of the Statutory Management Requirements (SMR) and Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC). As these standards may change from year to year it is important, if you are affected, that you read these documents to familiarise yourself with the requirements.

Recent changes include:

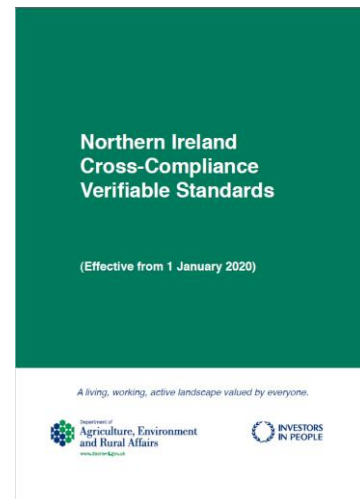
Nitrates Action Programme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 (as amended) and the Phosphorus (Use in Agriculture) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 have now been replaced by the Nutrient Action Programme Regulation (Northern Ireland) 2019 (as amended). Revisions have been made to SMR1 and GAEC1.

SMR6: Pig Identification and Registration.

SMR7: Cattle Identification and Registration.

SMR8: Sheep and Goat Identification and Registration.

You can read the **2020 Cross Compliance and Variable Standards Full and Summary Booklets** here.



Edwin Poots appointed as Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Minister



Welcoming his appointment, Minister Poots has that said his role presented some challenges but also many opportunities.

You can read more here <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/news/edwin-poots-appointed-agriculture-environment-and-rural-affairs-minister>

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