

Greening Key Dates

Do you know your Greening dates?

This document highlights the key Greening dates that farmers who apply to the Basic Payment Scheme need to know. Further information on the Greening requirements can be found at: <https://www.ruralpayments.org/publicsite/futures/topics/all-schemes/basic-payment-scheme/>



January

- 1st Start of compliance with Greening (Permanent Grassland, Crop Diversification and Ecological Focus Areas (EFAs)).
- 15th Start of the EFA fallow period.

March

- 1st Do not trim EFA hedges from this date, except for road safety reasons.
- 1st Start date to establish an EFA catch crop i.e. in the spring.
- 31st Laying of EFA hedges can be carried out until this date.

May

- 15th A newly planted EFA hedge must be established by this date.

June

- 9th Nitrogen fertiliser and lime plan for Permanent Grassland must be completed by this date.

July

- 15th End of the EFA fallow period.
- 15th EFA margins can be cut (including for silage or hay) after this date.
- 15th EFA margins that do not contain a watercourse or are not adjacent to a watercourse can be grazed after this date.

August

- 1st EFA nitrogen fixing crops can be harvested from this date.
- 31st EFA hedges can be cut after this date.

November

- 1st EFA green cover must be established by this date.

December

- 31st End date for retention of EFA catch crop.
- 31st End date for retention of EFA green cover.
- 31st End of compliance with Greening (Permanent Grassland, Crop Diversification and Ecological Focus Areas (EFAs)).

