

Lothians smallholder discussion group



Cross Compliance



GAEC 1- Buffer Strips along watercourses



- **You must not**
 - apply pesticides within 2m of the top of a bank
 - apply nitrogen fertilisers to land if there is significant risk of nitrogen entering surface water
 - apply organic manure or locate field heaps* to/on any land which is situated within
 - 10 metres of any surface water
 - 50 metres of any well, borehole, etc for the supply of water
 - Cultivate land within 2m of the top of a bank of surface water

GAEC 1- Buffer Strips along watercourses



FARM
ADVISORY
SERVICE



GAEC 4 – minimum soil cover



You must:

- protect soil against erosion after harvest until the end of winter.
- retain the stubble of the previous crop or sow grass or sow another crop, unless:
 - conditions are such that cultivating land would be detrimental to the use for the land for agricultural production
 - the land is being prepared for sowing the subsequent crop. Secondary cultivations and final seed beds must only be created very close to sowing.

GAEC 5 - Minimum land management reflecting site specific conditions to limit erosion

You must

- prevent the erosion of the banks of watercourses, watering points and feeding areas from overgrazing or heavy poaching by livestock
- put in place appropriate measures to limit soil erosion if agronomic or weather conditions prevent the subsequent crop or a cover from being sown



GAEC 6 – maintenance of soil organic matter



You must:

- comply with the requirements of the Muirburn Code as they relate to the maintenance of soil organic matter.

You must **not**:

- 1. burn arable stubble except for disease control or to eliminate plant pests
- 2. plough rough grazing or other semi-natural area

Thank You

