

Cross compliance checklist

SMR 1 - Nitrate Vulnerable Zones

The aim of SMR 1 rules is to reduce the pollution of waters caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and to prevent such pollution occurring in the future. If you farm in an NVZ you must comply with the conditions of the NVZ Action programme. Answer each question below with a yes, no or n/a to help check if you have adhered to the rules. If the rules are applicable to you, and you are compliant, your answers to the questions should be yes.

- Have you prepared a Fertiliser and Manure Management plan by 1 March?
- Does your Fertiliser and Manure Management plan contain the following:
 - If applying organic manure, an accurate Risk Assessment for Manures and Slurries (RAMS) map?
 - If relevant, a calculation and record of the capacity of slurry storage facilities?
 - A calculation and record of the 170 kg/N/ha loading limit for livestock manure?
 - An Nmax calculation for each crop type grown on the farm, including grassland?

Note: The Risk Assessment for Manures and Slurries (RAMS) map should indicate location of all surface water, wells, boreholes and other water supplies; areas where no application of organic manures can take place; areas of land with slope >12°; areas of high risk; location of field heaps and date created.

- Where yield or market adjustment factors have been used to increase the standard Nmax is this justified by sufficient supporting records?
- Have you got records containing the following information:
 - The area of the farm within the NVZ?
 - The area of each field within the NVZ?
 - The soil type in each field?
 - The date crops were sown in each field and crop type?
 - The type and quantity of chemical fertiliser and organic manure applied to each field and the date of application?
 - The number of livestock kept on the farm, detailing the species, the age category and the length of time kept on the farm?
 - The type, quantity and nitrogen content of livestock manure moved off the farm, the date of movement and the name and address of the person receiving it?
 - The type, quantity and nitrogen content of organic manures imported onto the farm, the date of movement and the name and address of the supplier?
 - The quantity and type of chemical fertiliser brought onto, used and retained on the farm?

Note: Records must be retained for a period of 3 years from the end of the year to which the records relate.

- Do you have sufficient livestock manure storage to meet the minimum requirements?

Note: You must provide 26 weeks storage capacity for pig slurry; for all other livestock slurry you must provide 22 weeks storage capacity.

- Are all your storage facilities for livestock manure and silage effluent maintained so that they are structurally sound and do not leak?

- Is your permanent storage facility for livestock manure (other than slurry):

- Sited on an impermeable surface and covered by a waterproof covering?
- Have collection facilities for collecting run-off, etc?

- Is your silage (except wrapped or bagged silage) stored in a facility that has an impermeable base and facilities for collecting run off?

- Have you ensured that you have **not**:

- Applied chemical fertiliser or organic manure with a high available nitrogen content during the relevant closed period?
- Exceeded the quantitative restrictions either side of the closed period for organic manure with high available N content e.g. poultry manure, slurry and liquid digested sludge?
- Applied organic manure with high available N content to bare ground or stubble during July, August, or September and the crop(s) were not sown within six weeks of the first applications (subject to general compliance with the closed periods)?
- Applied livestock manure within three weeks of a previous application?
- Exceeded the relevant farm limit for livestock manure and field-based limit for organic manure?
- Applied slurry with a raised splash plate (except on growing arable crops)?
- Stored non-solid manure in a temporary field heap?
- Stored neat poultry manure in a temporary field heap without an impermeable cover?
- Located field heaps within 10m of surface water, 50m of a water supply or on any other site that is a high risk or a no spreading area?
- Stored livestock manure in a temporary field heap for longer than 12 months?
- Created a temporary field heap on a site of a previous heap within 24 months?
- Applied nitrogen fertiliser in an inaccurate manner?
- Applied nitrogen fertiliser to land when the soil is waterlogged or flooded?
- Applied nitrogen fertiliser on soil that has been frozen for 12 hours or longer in the preceding 24 hours or is covered by snow?
- Applied organic manure within 10m of surface water, or 50m of a water supply?
- Allowed nitrogen fertiliser of any type to enter a water course, or applied nitrogen fertiliser resulting in there being a significant risk of fertiliser entering a water course?
- Exceed the Nmax for any crop type?

Further information can be found at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/Environment/NVZintro/NVZGuidanceforFarmers>