

Information note: DE MINIMIS AID & FOREST PREMIUMS

De minimis aid is small amounts of State aid paid to an individual or enterprise/company from any State body, agency or Department. The total de minimis aid which can be given to an individual or enterprise must not exceed €200,000 over a 3-year period.

Under the EU Regulation, before your afforestation premium payment can be made, you must declare any other de minimis aid (other than the premium currently being claimed) that has been paid to you or any enterprise you represent during the current and previous two years.

In 2015, the way forest owners claim their forest premiums has changed to include a de minimis declaration; this declaration is an EU Regulatory requirement. The Forest Service is providing the amount of forestry de minimis payments made to each farmer during the current and the previous two years.

Farmers are being asked to make a declaration of any other de minimis aid they have received during the current and the previous two years. The following is a list of other schemes where payment is currently (or in the planning phase) being recorded under Agriculture de minimis:-

- Bord Bia BLQAS (Beef/Lamb Quality Assurance Scheme)
- BVD Eradication
- Beef Technology Adaption Programme
- Sheep Technology Adaption Programme
- Development Programme for Dairy
- Imported Fodder Transport Scheme
- Milking Skills Programme
- Beef Genomics Programme
- Kerry Cattle Scheme

Failure to abide by this requirement could lead to delays in receiving payments.