

Rural Development Programme for England

Environmentally Sensitive Areas Information Sheet

Somerset Levels and Moors ESA

This sheet contains essential information for farmers about the Somerset Levels and Moors ESA. It should be read in conjunction with the booklet *Guidelines for Farmers*.

You will need to refer to this information when making an application for a Conservation Plan (Form NE-CPA) in the Somerset Levels and Moors ESA.

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Tiers and Payment Rates

Tier 1 – Permanent Grassland	£125 per ha	Buffer Strip Supplement	£110 per ha of strip
Tier 1A – Extensive Permanent Grassland	£200 per ha	All-Year Penning Supplement on Peat Soils	£18 per ha
Tier 2 – Wet Permanent Grassland	£225 per ha	Raised Water Level Area Supplement	£80 per ha
Tier 3 – Permanent Grassland Raised Water Level Areas	£430 per ha	Public Access Tier	£350 per ha



Conservation Plans (Rates as from 1 January 2004)

For those items with a Standard Payment Rate, payment at the corresponding percentage of actual costs may be given at the Department's discretion where the necessary costs of the work are exceptionally high.

Work Code	Eligible Item	Standard Payment Rates	Percentage Grant
1	Protection of Historic Features	-	80
2	Tree Planting	£1.60 each	60
3	Hedge Planting	£5/m	40
	– protective fencing: sheep fencing	£1.80/m	
	post and wire fencing	£1.20/m	
4	Hedge Laying	£5/m	
	– protective fencing: sheep fencing	£1.80/m	
	post and wire fencing	£1.20/m	
5	Creation of New Ponds	–	50
6	Restoration of Ponds	–	50
7	Management of Scrub	–	50
	– 25 % density	£228/ha	
	– 25% to 75% density	£376/ha	
	– over 75% density	£583/ha	
	A single payment is available for management of scrub on small free-standing features of archaeological interest	£50	
10	Renovation of Traditional Farm Buildings	–	40
11	Hedge Coppicing	£5/m	40
	– protective fencing: sheep fencing	£1.80/m	
	post and wire fencing	£1.20/m	
12	Creation of Scrapes	–	50
13	Creation or Reinstatement of Gutters, Dykes and Ditches	–	80
14	Construction of Water Penning Structures (Bunds, Sluices and other works)	–	80
15	Re-creation of Herb-Rich Meadows	–	50
19	The Provision of Wooden Gates and Associated Wing Fencing	–	50
25	Initial introduction and re-introduction of Willow Pollarding	£89/tree	80
26	Conversion of Arable to Grassland	–	80
27	Re-creation of Shelter Belts	£1.60 per plant	50
28	Removal of Fencing	£0.60/m	50
29	Construction of Culverts	–	50
30	Improvement of Drovers	–	40
37	Restoration and replanting of traditional orchards		80
	– tree surgery	£89 per tree	
	– frameworking	£43 per tree	
	– maiden fruit trees	} £17 each	
	– standard fruit trees		
	– orchard tree guards	£3.30 each	
40	Provision and restoration of gates for public access		80
	– bridle gate	£220 each	
	– kissing gate	£245 each	
	– kissing gate for the disabled	£290 each	
41	Provision and restoration of stiles for public access		80
	– timber stile	£100 each	
	– ladder stile	£12 5 each	
	– step-over stile in stone wall	£115 each	
	– step-through stile in stone wall	£85 each	
42	Provision and restoration of footbridges for public access	£315 each	80
50	Other works for the restoration or enhancement of wildlife habitats	–	80