Delivering farm productivity while sustaining water quality improvements - NAP 2013-17

Fertiliser Association of Ireland
Spring Scientific meeting
February 2014

Jack Nolan

- Concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources
Whole territory or NVZ

Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)
Map of Nitrile Vulnerable Zones
2012

NVZ status
- territory is designated as NVZ
- Member States applying an action programme to the whole national territory in line with Art. 3(b) of the Nitrates Directive
- non-EU countries
Legislative background

1st Action programme 2005


Irelands third Action Programme SI 31 2014
Action Programme highlights

- Water quality generally stable or improving
- Large investment in farm facilities
- Agricultural Catchments Programme
- N and P limits
Revision of Action Programme

- Review by EPA
- Public consultation
- 30 submissions
- Nitrates review group
- SI 31 2014
3rd Action Programme

- Maintain and support progress already made
- that the NAP3 regime should be designed to operate as efficiently as possible, (FH 2020) sustainable farming practices
- incremental improvements to the existing NAP that will build on the considerable achievements made to date and contribute to the delivery of WFD objectives
Ireland’s Derogation

• Provision to exceed 170 Kg’s

• vote on Feb 5\textsuperscript{th} 2014
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Maximum phosphorus fertiliser rates

Increased for all farms > 85kgs/ha

New band for farms < 85 kgs/ha
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Farms < 85 kgs/ha

Hay/silage sold off farm

Table 15
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Concentrates

- First 300kgs fed/85kg discounted

Availability of P in organic fertilisers

- Index 1 and 2 50%
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Maize-Index 4 P allowance

High pH soils, cereal P allowance

SMC 1.5 kg P/ton
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Soil samples valid for 5 years
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

2m uncultivated buffer from streams/rivers on 6” maps
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Farmyard manure buffer to waters now 20m

Supplementary feeding buffer 20m

Provision for reduced buffer removed
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Buffer increased to 10m for two weeks before and after prohibited spreading period
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Soiled water
definition amended

New facilities (01/01/15) must have 15 days storage
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Green cover

Seed crops, crops destined for human consumption

Can spray 25% of area after 15th Oct without req. to replace green cover
Main changes to Nitrates Regulations

Winter barley and spring wheat
N allowance increased by 20kgs/ha
Broccoli, topdressing allowance increased by 100kgs/ha
NAP 2013-2017

- Survey of storage capacity
- Ongoing research – ACP
- Review in 2017
NAP 2013-2017

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