

What's the problem?

All farms across the UK are up against it when it comes to money, time, and improving existing infrastructure to meet Government rules and regs.

We want to help farmers by promoting where extra help and funding can be found.

There are a number of grants available to farmers in all devolved nations currently. These are focused largely on preventing pollution to water, by making improvements to infrastructure, and the overall management of yards including manure storage.

Preventing pollution and supporting farmers are part of Defra's big 5 priority list.

- Cleaning up British rivers, lakes and seas
- Creating a roadmap to move Britain to a zero-waste economy
- Supporting farmers to boost Britain's food security
- Ensuring nature's recovery
- Protecting communities from flooding

First: what are the rules and what should we all be doing?

The big rules for farmers in England are included as part of the below:

[Rules for farmers and land managers to prevent water pollution - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rules-for-farmers-and-land-managers-to-prevent-water-pollution)

[Storing silage, slurry and agricultural fuel oil - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/storing-silage-slurry-and-agricultural-fuel-oil)

[Nitrate vulnerable zones - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nitrate-vulnerable-zones)

There are parallel regulations for devolved nations which are very similar to the English versions.

Wales: [The Water Resources \(Control of Agricultural Pollution\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2021: guidance for farmers and land managers | GOV.WALES](https://www.gov.wales/guidance/the-water-resources-control-of-agricultural-pollution-wales-regulations-2021)

n.b. All of Wales is now an NVZ as covered in the above regs.

Scotland: [Know The Rules - Farming and Water Scotland](https://www.gov.scot/topics/farming-and-water/know-the-rules)

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Northern Ireland: [Silage Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil \(SSAFO\) storage | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)

What are the things all farmers using manure need to do?

The main rules for farmers when using organic manures are found here: [Use organic manures and manufactured fertilisers on farmland - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

You should calculate the crop nutrient requirement for each land parcel using the [Defra Fertiliser Recommendations RB209](#) or a professionally produced nutrient management plan (for example produced by an agronomist).

You can also use farm software like [PLANET](#) or nutrient management tools like [Tried and Tested](#).

Record the total and available nitrogen in organic manure that is readily available to crops using the PLANET Nutrient Management software's [MANNER-NPK function](#).

[nvz-guidance-blank-completion-data-tables_201312.xlsm \(live.com\)](#)

Find out what percentage of readily available nitrogen for each of these organic manures you can use in [MANNER-NPK](#) or [section 2 of RB209](#).

Is there any money to help with this?

There are a number of Sustainable Farm Incentives which farmers can apply for in **England**

[Funding for farmers, growers and land managers - GOV.UK](#)

There is currently a grant available for slurry storage improvements, this is for **England**.

[About the Slurry Infrastructure grant round 2, who can apply and what it can pay for - GOV.UK](#)

There was a similar **Sustainable Production Grant for Wales** covering slurry lagoons but this closed in 2020. However, there are many other active rural grants available here. [Rural grants and payments | Sub-topic | GOV.WALES](#)

To apply for the slurry storage grants, it is recommended that farmers use the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) [slurry wizard](#) to work



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out how much slurry storage you need. Make sure you use the latest updated version (July 2022 or later).

A similar grant for slurry storage is available in **Scotland** [Slurry Storage](#)

And for **Northern Ireland** [Farming Grants | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs](#)