

What is available for Miscanthus in 2023?

With the latest version the SFI pays farmers to adopt and maintain sustainable farming practices that can protect and improve the environment. You can apply for a 3-year SFI agreement to do environmental land management actions to help you manage your land in a more sustainable way.

For Miscanthus classified as *non-horticultural permanent crop* three action plans are available:

- SFI actions for soils (SAM)
- SFI actions for nutrient management (NUM)
- SFI actions for integrated pest management (IPM)

10 HA

Example: 10 ha of Miscanthus with 6m of field margins

£ 2,645

Total yearly SFI payment per farm

£ 264/HA

Yearly SFI payments per ha over a 3 year period



SAM

The SFI actions for soils are focused on improving soil health, structure, organic matter and biology. These actions can help with the long-term productivity and resilience of the soil to benefit food production. They can also provide environmental benefits, such as better water quality, improved climate resilience and increased biodiversity.



NUM

The SFI actions for nutrient management are focused on increasing nutrient management knowledge, supporting more efficient use of nutrients and encouraging more effective use of organic sources of crop nutrition.



IPM

The SFI actions for integrated pest management are focused on increasing knowledge and identifying opportunities for an integrated pest management, creating habitats for natural crop pest predators, using companion cropping to suppress weeds, reduce diseases and provide protection from crop pests and minimising use of insecticides.

In particular, of interest to Miscanthus growers are the following action plans:

- **SAM1** - Assess soil, produce a soil management plan, test soil organic matter
- **NUM1** - Assess nutrient management and produce a review report
- **IPM1** - Assess integrated pest management and produce a plan
- **IPM2** - Flower-rich grass margins, blocks, or in-field strips (land use compatibility)
- **IPM4** - No use of insecticide on arable crops and permanent crops

Source:

Guidance about how the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) 2023 offer will work for farmers.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfi-handbook-for-the-sfi-2023-offer>

SFI Handbook for the SFI 2023 offer



10 ha square field example scenario:

For simplicity purposes, we have based our example calculations on one square field of 10 hectares with field margins of 6 meters around the field edges (this equates to 0.74 ha of field margins and 9.82 ha of area planted with Miscanthus).

Because some of the SFI payments are paid per agreement independent of hectareage (*Whole Agreement Actions*), this can affect the £ per hectare return figure. This means that when increasing the planted area, it reduces the price per hectare figure, equally reducing the planted area will increase it. This is due to the *Whole Agreement Actions* effectively being diluted by the larger cultivated areas. We feel that because of this, the better comparison figure is the total yearly payment, as it still increases in line with field sizes.

The SFI payments in the example are currently available over a 3 year period and the amounts shown below are yearly amounts.

£ 58

SAM1 /ha for a total of 10ha

£ 95

SAM1 fixed amount / year

£ 589

NUM1 fixed amount / year

£ 989

IPM1 fixed amount / year

£ 498

IPM2 /ha for a total of 0.74 ha

£ 416

IPM4 /ha for a total of 9.28 ha

Disclaimer



All figures are indicative and subject to eligibility.

Please consult the RPA for exact calculations.

Some actions have associated costs.

These are not included as they vary from case to case.

In addition to the above, the SFI management payment are also available (up to the first 50 ha entered into the relevant SFI actions per SBI).

£ 8,537

over the total agreement period (3 years)

For a detailed analysis of your farm and fields, please contact:



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