



GAEC standard	2021 provisions	2024 EC proposals
1	Maintenance of permanent grassland, 5% maximum decrease compared to the reference year 2018	Member States can "adjust" the 2018 reference ratio once in 2023-27. Derogation from the obligation to replant grassland
2	Minimum protection of wetland and peatland	No change
3	Ban on burning arable stubble, except for plant health reasons	No change
4	Establishment of buffer strips along water courses	No change
5	Cultivation techniques against soil degradation (es.: tillage management)	MS may exempt certain crops, soil types and farming systems
6	Minimum soil cover to avoid bare soil in sensitive periods	MS may exempt certain crops, soil types and farming systems. MS allowed to determine the main elements of the standard, to take into account crop, soil and climatic conditions
7	Crop rotation on arable land	MS may exempt certain crops, soil types and farming systems. Compliance also through crop diversification
8	Minimum share (4%) of arable land devoted to non-productive features, keeping existing landscape features	Obligation on the minimum share removed. MS must establish an incentivisation scheme instead. Protection of existing features remains
9	Ban on converting or ploughing environmentally sensitive permanent grassland in Natura 2000 sites	Ploughing to restore permanent grassland in Natura 2000 sites allowed in case it is damaged due to predators or invasive species.

Source: Euractiv research, based on Euractiv coverage by Angelo Di Mambro and Maria Simon Arboleas

Visualisation: Esther Snippe

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