

Reconstitution Ash Dieback Scheme (RADS)

Previously known as RUS

Getting started

1. Make contact with a registered forester.
2. Decide what you want to replant the site with (see table 1 below).
3. Forester submits RADS application to Forest Service.
4. Application assessed by DAFM.
5. Approval sent to forester and forest owner*.

Site clearance

Option 1: Contractor clears the trees & timber left on site

- Forest owner pays contractor an agreed price and keeps the timber

Option 2: Contractor clears the trees and takes the timber

- Cost neutral or forest owner receives a payment from the contractor for the timber

Financial outcome for forest owner depends on volume and quality of the standing ash trees

6. Form 2 *Site Clearance Claim* submitted by forester
7. Site inspection by Forest Service inspector
8. Payment to forest owner of **€2,000/Ha**

Replanting

Option 1: Replanting mandated to forester/forestry company

Option 2: Forest owner undertakes ground works and replanting

9. Ground works and replanting completed and paid for by forester (option 1) or forest owner (option 2).
10. Form 2(a) *1st instalment grant* submitted by forester.
11. Site inspection by Forest Service inspector.
12. Payment of 75% of the replanting grant amount to forester (option 1) or forest owner (option 2) following successful inspection.

Maintenance

Option 1: Maintenance mandated to forester/forestry company

Option 2: Forest owner undertakes all maintenance

13. Site maintained, including vegetation control and failed tree replacement, by forester (option 1) or forest owner (option 2)
14. Form 3 *2nd instalment grant* submitted after 4 years by forester.
15. Site inspection by Forest Service inspector.
16. Payment of remaining 25% of the replanting grant amount to forester (option 1) or forest owner (option 2) following successful inspection.

Application of 1st instalment of CAPP

Application for 2nd instalment of CAPP

*RADS approval may have additional conditions (archaeological, silvicultural and/or environmental) and it is the responsibility of the forest owner to ensure all works are carried out in compliance with these conditions.

Costs to forest owner

- Payment to forester for all applications/forms submitted (except in cases where the grant has been mandated).
- Payment for any environmental or archaeological surveys/reports requested by the Forest Service.

Notes on maintenance

- A site with ash dieback will invariably have well-established competing species, such as brambles and ferns, that are difficult to maintain.
- The site needs to be inspected on a regular basis by the forest owner.
- Regular and timely maintenance is essential.
- Later maintenance on these sites is very costly.
- Ultimately, responsibility for the successful reconstitution of the forest rests with the forest owner.

Climate Action Performance Payment (CAPP) Scheme

General information

- Only open to forest owners of grant-aided ash plantations who have had their sites cleared and replanted through one of the Department’s Ash Dieback Reconstitution Schemes.
- Application to CAPP scheme is done by the forest owner (see instructions on how to apply below).
- Total payable to forest owner is €5,000/Ha.
- Scheme opened September 2024.
- Payments exempt from income tax but subject to PRSI and USC.

Payment schedule

- 1st instalment of CAPP **€2,500/Ha**
 - Application can be made after the 1st instalment grant (replanting grant) payment has been made.
- 2nd instalment of CAPP **€1,250/Ha**
 - Application can be made after the 2nd instalment grant (4 years after replanting) payment has made *and* the forest owner is out of premiums or at the end of their premiums (i.e. the forest owner must be out of premiums before application for the 2nd instalment).
- 3rd instalment of CAPP **€1,250/Ha**
 - Application can be made **one year** after the 2nd instalment has been received—5 years after site has been replanted.

Example 1

- Out of premiums
- 1st instalment of RADS grant (after replanting) paid in 2024
- 2nd instalment of RADS paid in 2028

CAPP payments

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| 1 st CAPP | 2024 |
| 2 nd CAPP | 2028 |
| 3 rd CAPP | 2029 |

Example 2

- Premiums end in 2029
- 1st instalment of RADS grant (after replanting) paid in 2024
- 2nd instalment of RADS paid in 2028

CAPP payments

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| 1 st CAPP | 2024 |
| 2 nd CAPP | 2029 |
| 3 rd CAPP | 2030 |

Example 3

- Out of premiums
- Both 1st and 2nd instalment of RADS grant have been paid

CAPP payments

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| 1 st CAPP | 2024 |
| 2 nd CAPP | 2025 |
| 3 rd CAPP | 2026 |

Example 4

- Premiums end 2027
- Both 1st and 2nd instalment of RADS grant have been paid

CAPP payments

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| 1 st CAPP | 2024 |
| 2 nd CAPP | 2027 |
| 3 rd CAPP | 2028 |

Links

- [DAFM Scheme Documents](#)
- [Irish Forest Owners](#)
- [Teagasc](#)

4. Application Procedure

Applicants can apply online for the Climate Action Performance Payment (CAPP) as follows:

- Log on to www.agfood.ie
- Enter your Username.
- Enter the requested digits from your Personal Access Code (PAC).
- Enter your Password.
- Select Logon.
- Select (Forestry Grants & Premiums) from the menu of applications.
- Select option to Apply or update your Climate Action Performance Payment
- Select a contract by highlighting your contract number
- Select Start Submission.
- De minimis declaration will be displayed. (see [Section 7](#) for more information)
- You will be given the option to select "yes" (I have received other de minimis payments in addition to those payments listed in table 1) or "no" (I have not received any other de minimis payments besides those listed in table 1).
- If you select "no" then click "Save the Declaration" and continue.
- If you select "yes" you must complete relevant details in the tables provided where appropriate and when complete, click "Save the Declaration" and continue.
- Enter the original Afforestation Contract Number
- Tick the box for "I/we confirm that I/we are the current landowner(s)".
- Enter the Folio Number if known
- Tick the box for "I/we confirm that the forest area affected by ash dieback has been replanted, is growing satisfactorily and the trees in the reconstitution are being maintained.
- Tick "I accept these terms and conditions and wish to proceed"
- Tick "I confirm that the ash trees have been cleared....."
- Submit your application.
- If you have more than one contract, select home and then repeat the process for the next contract.

If you have not already registered with the Department's Online Services (agfood.ie) you will need to do so in the first instance. Once registered, you will obtain a Username and Password, you will be able to log-in through the Department's website and submit your CAPP application. If you require assistance registering with the Online Services you can contact the Online Helpdesk on 049 4368288 or at agfood@agriculture.gov.ie

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford.
053-9163425.

Alternatively, you can contact the relevant section by email.

| Email Addresses | Queries |
|--|---|
| forestryappeng@agriculture.gov.ie | Reconstitution Scheme |
| Forestry.CAPPayments@agriculture.gov.ie | Climate Action Performance Payment Scheme |

Table 1: Forest types and replanting grant amounts available to forest owners under RADS

| | Forest Type | Grant/ Ha |
|------|--|--------------|
| FT1 | Native forests | €6,744 |
| FT6 | Broadleaf, mainly oak/beechn | €6,744 |
| FT7 | Diverse broadleaf | €4,314 |
| FT8 | Agroforestry | €8,555 |
| FT10 | Continuous Cover Forestry | €5,452 |
| FT11 | Mixed high forests: diverse conifer, minimum 20% broadleaves | €4,452 |
| FT12 | Mixed high forests: mainly Sitka spruce, minimum 20% broadleaves | €3,858 |