



Agriculture And Rural Development
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Communication Display Page

Communication information

Form number: 000433 (000432)	Member state: Belgium
Name: Flanders - Further environmentally sensitive permanent grassland areas	Status: SENT
Business process: Direct support	Sector: Horizontal
Reference period: 01/01/2016 to 31/12/2020	Encoding period: 15/11/2016 08:00 to 15/12/2016 17:00
Legal base: Commission Regulation - R 0639/2014 Art. 65(1)(b)	
Description: According to the last subparagraph of Article 41 of Regulation (EU) No 639/2014 Member States may designate newly sensitive permanent grassland areas as referred to in Article 45(1) second subparagraph of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013. Following Article 65(1)(b) of Regulation (EU) No 639/2014, by 15 of December of the year concerned Member States shall notify this decision. Article 74 of the same Regulation states that the Commission has the possibility to ask further details. The further environmentally sensitive areas were already notified in previous years as stated in Article 65(1)(a)(ii) of Regulation (EU) No 639/2014 (form N 432 Further environmentally sensitive permanent grassland areas). Please fill in the form only if the MS wish to review the decision already taken in previous years (including the decision to not change the designation of environmentally sensitive areas) or if it is needed to update the table in section 6 (data on designation of environmentally sensitive permanent grassland areas). In case the MS doesn't want to review the previous decision, send the form as "nil".	

How to copy/paste tabular data

1. Designation of further environmentally sensitive permanent grassland areas outside Natura 2000

MS that already designated in previous years further environmentally sensitive permanent grassland (ESPG) outside areas covered by Directives 92/43/EEC or 2009/147/EC in accordance with Article 45(1) second subparagraph of Regulation (EU) No 1307/2013, should confirm this decision answering YES. In case the MS didn't designate ESPG outside Natura 2000 areas but intend to do it from the current year, indicate as well YES. If a MS which didn't designate these areas in previous years would like to confirm this decision please answer NO. If the answer to this question is YES, please continue with section 2.

Designation of further permanent grassland?	
	Yes

2. New designation of further environmentally sensitive permanent grassland areas outside Natura 2000

Where the Member State decided to designate further areas in question 1, please indicate the intention to designate other areas not yet included in previous years (newly designated areas). If the answer to this question is YES, please designate other areas not yet notified in the previous years. If the answer to this question is NO please confirm the designation already notified in previous years.

Designation of newly designated permanent grassland?	No
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3. Environmentally sensitive grasslands: criteria for designation of areas outside Natura 2000

In case the Member State decided to designate further areas in question 1, the criteria for their definition are requested in this section. The first subparagraph of Article 41 of Regulation (EU) No 639/2014 states that these areas shall be designated on the basis of one or more of the criteria specified in the points from (a) to (h) of the same subparagraph, synthesized in the following table. The Member State can choose which criterion from Article 41 intends to apply (at least one of them) and describe the corresponding national criteria used to define the areas. This section should be filled in regardless if new areas are designated or not. If the MS designate new areas in the current year, criteria used for those new areas shall be clearly distinguished in the description with respect to each criterion.

Criteria used to designate the areas.	Yes or No	Description
(a) covering organic soils with a high percentage of organic carbon, such as peat land or wetlands	No	
(b) hosting habitats listed in Annex I to Dir. 92/43/EEC or protected under nat. legislation	No	
(c) hosting plant species listed in Annex II to Dir. 92/43/EEC or protected under nat. legislation	No	
(d) being of significant importance for wild bird species listed in Annex I to Dir. 2009/147/EC	No	
(e) being of significant importance for wild animal species under Dir. 92/43/EEC or nat. legislation	No	
(f) covering permanent grassland of high nature value defined by criteria established by the MS	Yes	Since 2016, Flanders has designated environmentally sensitive grasslands outside Natura 2000 in the region De Polders. It

3. Environmentally sensitive grasslands: criteria for designation of areas outside Natura 2000

		concerns historical permanent grassland designated as such by the Flemish Government by decree of 27 November 2015. It includes both permanent grassland that is protected under the nature decree and permanent grassland in agricultural areas with typical relief elements which give them a high nature value.
▶	(g) covering soils with a high risk of erosion	No
▶	(h) located in a sensitive area within river basin management plans pursuant to Dir. 2000/60/EC	No

4. Areas designated as further environmentally sensitive permanent grassland outside Natura 2000

Please upload files with a complete national description of the designated further environmentally sensitive areas outside Natura 2000 or other relevant documents. This section should be filled in only if new areas are designated in the current year. If the MS already designated ESPG outside Natura 2000 in previous years, those new areas shall be clearly distinguished in the documents provided.

Content of the file	File	
▶ The original ministerial decree with the designation of ESPG in N2000 (art. 5 and Annex 1)	BS_20150819_LE_VL_20150713_MB-Vergroening_BS.pdf	<input type="button" value="Detail"/>
▶ MD amending MD of 13/7/2015 which foresees the designation of ESPG outside N2000	BS_20151230_LE_VL_20151214_wijzigingsMB-Vergroening_BS.pdf	<input type="button" value="Detail"/>

5. Cartography

Please upload files in pdf format with cartography of further designated environmentally sensitive permanent grasslands areas. When uploading cartography, please include information on the territorial context where the areas are inserted. It is possible to upload even digital cartography (vectorial files), possibly in shape format. This section should be filled in only if new areas are designated in the current year. If the MS already designated ESPG outside Natura 2000 in previous years, those new areas shall be clearly distinguished in the documents provided.

Content of the file	File	
▶ Designated ESPG outside Natura 2000 in 2016	EKBG_toegevoegdvanaf2016.zip	<input type="button" value="Detail"/>

6. Data on designation of newly environmentally sensitive permanent grassland areas

Please fill in the following table giving figures on newly sensitive permanent grassland areas designated under the last subparagraph of Article 41 of Regulation (EU) No 639/2014.

Total area of newly des. grassland outside N2000 (Art. 45(1) II subp. and Art. 41 Reg. 639/2014)	
▶	ha

7. Additional comments (if any)

Please indicate here any other comments, including references to national legislation if needed.

▶ Comments	On 18 November 2016, the Flemish Government has decided to withdraw the designation of some parcels as environmentally sensitive from 2017 on. These parcels (approximately 10 ha) are situated in agricultural areas outside N2000 in the Polders. See http://www.vlaanderen.be/nl/nbwa-news-message-document/document/09013557801acd1f
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