



Grassland Pesticide Training Course

Qualifies you as a
Pesticide Adviser
(Grassland)

- Comply with the Sustainable Use Directive
- Produce Integrated Pesticide Management strategies
- Advise on weed control options in grassland

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Overview

This course will comprehensively cover grassland weed control and how grassland can be effectively managed to reduce reinfection. The course covers weed growth habits, factors which increase weeds, cultural and chemical control measures, risks to the environment, etc. The course uses online learning, face to face lectures, workshops and integrates a suitable local tutor into the learning model.

Who is this course for?

- Company representatives advising grassland farmers
- Advisors working with grassland farmers

Learning Outcomes

- Appraise the biology and control of weeds pests and disease of grassland
- Appraise Integrated pest management, pesticide use and efficacy
- Support farmers preparing for the sprayer test
- Devise integrated pest management practices for grassland including chemical control
- Appraise legislation relating to pesticide use

Additional Requirements

- All participants need to have access to and be computer literate to participate in the course
- All participants will need to identify and work with a mentor through the course
- Attendance at the practical days is mandatory.

Course Fee

- €300 per participant
- €270 ConnectEd members

Course Delivery

The course comprises of 2 days lectures/practical sessions (face to face meetings), supported by online content and mentoring by a senior advisor. Each participant must be mentored by a senior advisor throughout the course. The course requires participant study in the lead up to each practical day. Continuous assessment on-line will feature each week with exams on both workshop days.

Eligibility

- Level 5 in an agricultural course or Handling and Distribution of Pesticides Course; or
- Level 6 (appropriate qualification); and Suitable level of experience (preferably 5 years or more in the industry)

Important note on accreditation

Upon successful completion of this course you will be registered by the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine as a Pesticide Advisor (Grassland ONLY). **Full attendance is required in order to receive certification.**

To maintain your status as a Registered Pesticide Advisor you will need to attend Continuous Professional Education (CPE) through Teagasc/industry training each year.

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Course Schedule	Type learning and time required	Details
Online learning	Log on to Teagasc Online Learning platform (Moodle) and learn week by week. (7 weeks self-directed learning) Three remote lectures	Background information for Day 1 including videos, quizzes.
	Three remote lectures	These lectures will give background information on different topics from Teagasc specialists and DAFM staff.
Practical Day 1	Lectures, workshop and exam.	
Between Day 1 and Day 2	10 weeks of self directed learning through the Teagasc online learning platform.	Each section will be continuously assessed to build points towards a final mark
	Two remote lectures.	These lectures will give background information on different topics from Teagasc specialists
Practical Day 2	Lectures and workshops	More detail to compliment reading material which was studied during previous 10 weeks, including field walks.
	Exam	Exam on material presented to date. Candidates need to pass each assessment throughout the course.
Finalise Course	Submit assessments through Teagasc eCollege	Integrated Pest Management strategies submitted online in conjunction with identified mentor.

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Mentor (senior advisor) for a Pesticide Advisor (Grassland) student

The mentor should be an experienced advisor working in the area where the student is based. The mentor should be available to the student through the duration of the course and until all modules are complete. The mentor's key role is to bring experience and good practice to how the student approaches the control of weeds in grassland.

Who is a suitable to be a Mentor?

The mentor should have:

- At least 5 years' experience of managing grassland and weed control in grassland
- Have a good working knowledge of Integrated Pest Management
- Be available to work with the student
- Be willing to take the student on farm visits focused on grassland management and weed control in grassland

Role of the Mentor

The key role of the mentor is to:

- help and guide the student learning in the grassland area
- allowing the student to shadow on-farm visits and guide assessments of weeds and control
- bring their experience to help the student to effectively communicate recommendations to a farmer
- monitor and review the students grassland recommendation templates

Some Questions and Answers

Can I mentor somebody outside my company or organisation?

Yes providing the mentor is suitable and has enough time to spend with the student through the year.

How much time will being a mentor take up?

This is dependent on the needs of each student. Outside the time spend by the student shadowing the mentor during normal farm visits there will probably be a couple of short meetings again helping the student to better understand good grassland management.

Does the mentor have to provide details of their experience to the course organiser?

This will not initially be requested however spot checks will be made throughout the course especially where student assignments are not up to an acceptable standard.

How many times should a mentor bring the student into the field?

Ideally as often as possible especially to show the student different scenarios where control measures may or may not be needed.

