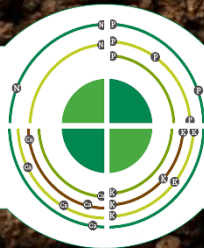


# NMP Online User Update

Issue 52 (Version 20) | 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026



**NMP**  
Online

## **Table of Contents**

1. Important Note to all NMP Users: - Clear your cache today!.....	2
2. The 6 <sup>th</sup> Nitrates Action Plan (NAP) update to NMP users.....	2
3. Increased Slurry Storage for Dairy Cows from 01/10/2028.....	2
4. Soiled Water and Dairy Washing Calculations 6 <sup>th</sup> NAP and recent DAFM clarifications .....	4
5. Soiled Water – Dairy Herd Section has changed in NMP.....	5
6. Soiled Water -Dairy Washing Summary has changed in NMP.....	7
7. Preparing plans where there was Stocking Rate Alterations in the previous year.....	9
8. Milking Platform – 3Km pin drop .....	10

**1. Important Note to all NMP Users: - Clear your cache today!**

- CTRL+F5 for desktop or FN+F5 for laptops and if there is still issues do a full Clear Cache (delete browsing history all time) [Watch the Video](#)

**2. The 6<sup>th</sup> Nitrates Action Plan (NAP) update to NMP users**

This release includes: -

1. New feature in the slurry storage summary section to show the increased storage from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2028 and comparing this to existing storage requirements and storage currently on farm.
2. Changes to soiled water calculations where dairy washings are created on the farm.
3. A new feature to show the increased soiled water storage from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2028 and comparing this to existing storage requirements and storage currently on farm.
4. Dairy Parlour 3km radius Pin, for grazing platform (first part and second part will issue in a few weeks)
5. New entrant and stocking rate alterations to use current/projected GSR in the current year to give fertiliser allowances.

**3. Increased Slurry Storage for Dairy Cows from 01/10/2028**

The table below is from the 6<sup>th</sup> Nap and explains that the slurry storage/dairy cow will increase from 0.33m<sup>3</sup>/cow/week to 0.40m<sup>3</sup>/cow/week from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2028.

Table 2 Slurry storage capacity required for cattle, sheep and poultry

Livestock type	m <sup>3</sup> /week <sup>1</sup>
Dairy cow	0.33 <sup>2</sup>
Suckler cow	0.29
Cattle > 2 years	0.26
Cattle (18-24 months old)	0.26
Cattle (12-18 months old)	0.15
Cattle (6-12 months old)	0.15
Cattle (0-6 months old)	0.08
Lowland ewe	0.03
Upland ewe	0.02
Lamb-finishing	0.01
Poultry — layers per 1000 birds (30% DM)	0.81

<sup>1</sup>An additional 200 mm freeboard must be provided in all covered tanks and 300 mm freeboard in all uncovered tanks. Allowance must also be made for net rainfall during the specified storage period for uncovered tanks.

<sup>2</sup>With effect from 1 October 2028 the slurry storage capacity required per dairy cow shall be 0.40 m<sup>3</sup>/week.

**Example 1 – how this is going to change for NMP users.**

See the Slurry Produced page for a 100 dairy cow farm in Cork (16-week storage Requirement = 528m3).

Animal	No. on Slurry	Weeks slurry produced	Weeks slurry required	Total Slurry Produced (m3)	Storage requirement (m3)
Dairy Cow 100kg N/hd (>8,500kgs & 13 - 14% CP)	100	16	16	528.0	528.0
<b>Total Slurry Produced</b>				528.0 m <sup>3</sup>	116143.6 Gallons
<b>Total Storage Required</b>				528.0 m <sup>3</sup>	116143.6 Gallons

In the Slurry Storage Balance there is a new section at the bottom of the page which is labelled “Total Slurry Storage from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2028”, outlined in blue below to show the current storage required and the future storage required.

Farm Slurry Storage Balance		Total Slurry to be stored on Farm	Volume of Cattle Slurry for Spreading
Slurry Produced (Animals)		528.0 m <sup>3</sup>	528.0 m <sup>3</sup>
Cattle Slurry Imported			0.0 m <sup>3</sup>
Cattle Slurry Exported			0.0 m <sup>3</sup>
Slurry Produced (Dirty Yards)		0.0 m <sup>3</sup>	0.0 m <sup>3</sup>
Slurry Produced (FYM Seepage)		0.0 m <sup>3</sup>	0.0 m <sup>3</sup>
Slurry Produced (Dairy Washings)		0.0 m <sup>3</sup>	0.0 m <sup>3</sup>
Slurry Produced (Rainfall in open tanks - 16 weeks)			201.3 m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Total Slurry Produced</b>		528.0 m <sup>3</sup>	729.3 m <sup>3</sup>
Dilutes Added to Slurry		116143.6 Gallons	160423.4 Gallons
Dilution factor			201.3 m <sup>3</sup>
			72.4 %

Slurry stored in Slurry Storage	
<b>Total Slurry Storage (Currently)</b>	
Required (slurry produced)	528.0 m <sup>3</sup>
Available (current storage)	546.7 m <sup>3</sup>
Surplus Storage Available	18.7 m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Total Slurry Storage from 1st October 2028</b>	
Required (slurry produced)	640.0 m <sup>3</sup>
Available (current storage)	546.7 m <sup>3</sup>
Additional Storage Required	93.3 m <sup>3</sup>

Total Slurry Storage from 1st October 2028		
Required (slurry produced)	640.0	m <sup>3</sup>
Available (current storage)	546.7	m <sup>3</sup>
Additional Storage Required	93.3	m <sup>3</sup>

#### 4. Soiled Water and Dairy Washing Calculations 6<sup>th</sup> NAP and recent DAFM clarifications

The 6<sup>th</sup> NAP has provided guidance for dairy washings calculations and DAFM have provided additional clarity below.

- (2) (a) In these Regulations “soiled water” includes, subject to this sub- article, water from concreted areas, hard standing areas, holding areas for livestock and other farmyard areas where such water is contaminated by contact with any of the following—
- (i) livestock faeces or urine or silage effluent or animal feed,
  - (ii) chemical fertilisers,
- (b) Notwithstanding sub-paragraph (a), soiled water may also include water that has become contaminated through it being used in the washing of a milking parlour(s), livestock handling area(s), livestock handling equipment, transport vehicles and trailers, other farm equipment, mushroom houses, vegetables, potatoes, fodder beet or sugar beet.
- (c) In these Regulations, “soiled water” does not include any liquid where such liquid has either—
- (i) a biochemical oxygen demand exceeding 2,500 mg per litre, or
  - (ii) a dry matter content exceeding 1% (10 g/L),
- (d) For the purposes of these Regulations, soiled water which is stored together with slurry is deemed to be slurry.

And there is a new table in [https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2025/si/588/made/en/pdf\\_page\\_37](https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2025/si/588/made/en/pdf_page_37)

Table 3 Soiled water storage capacity required for dairy cows

Livestock type	m <sup>3</sup> /week <sup>1,2</sup>
Dairy cow	0.21

<sup>1</sup>Soiled water which is stored together with slurry is deemed to be slurry.

<sup>2</sup>With effect from 1 October 2028 the soiled water storage capacity required per dairy cow shall be 0.30 m<sup>3</sup>/week.

DAFM [Guidance note to aid the calculation of dairy soiled water storage](#) under SI 588 of 2025 which explains how calculation are done.

**NOTE to all Users:** Where there is a deficit in soiled water storage currently and there is a surplus of slurry storage, an enhancement to NMP will take place in a few weeks post this bulletin to take account of dairy washings partial storage with slurry.

## 5. Soiled Water – Dairy Herd Section has changed in NMP

The Soiled Water – Dairy Herd page has changed to accommodate

- The 6<sup>th</sup> NAP increases in storage from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2028, and
- The methodology for the calculation for the storage and the DAFM Guidance note in section 4 above.

To future proof storage requirements NMP 15 days storage is the minimum storage built into NMP from the date of this release or 31 days if the storage requirements as clarified from DAFM are needed.

- Soiled water storage for non-dairy herds is set to a minimum of 15 days (dairy enterprise not ticked in the plan settings)
- If Dairy enterprise is ticked in plan settings, then users are forced to complete the **Soiled Water – Dairy Herd**
- Where dairy enterprise is ticked and the page Soiled Water – Dairy Herd, is incomplete then this warning appears and reports are locked down until the page is completed.

**Warning!** Data to be entered on Page: Soiled Water - Dairy Herd. Reports locked down.

For NMP's with dairy ticked in plan settings, the most important page in NMP to take these changes into account is the **Soiled Water – Dairy Herd**

This page is now broken down into three different sections, and every section must be completed accurately to get the correct calculations for storage required based on the changes in section 4. Users must complete this page accurately as the figures entered will affect the storage required.

**Section 1 (Maximum No. of cows)**

The figures to be entered here are the **Maximum No. of cows** milked on any day in October, November or January. If doing a 2026 NMP then complete the figures for the winter 2025/2026.

**Section 2 (Average No. of cows)**

The figures to be entered here are the **Average No. of cows** milked during December and milked during the storage period. If doing a 2026 NMP then complete the figures for the winter 2025/2026.



Average No. of cows		
milked in December	45	COWS
milked in Storage Period	40	COWS

The storage period is from 1<sup>st</sup> October to end of the 16, 18, 20/22 weeks storage period and the end date is indicated at the top of this page (21<sup>st</sup> January in this 16 week zone).

**Winter Period for Zone A is 16 weeks:**  
01 October 2026 (start of closed period) to 21 January 2027 (end of storage period)

**Section 3 (Is there a period during which all cows are dry)** No change to this but check dates is advised

If the cows are dried off, then tick the box and enter dates. If doing a 2026 NMP then put the start date of the dry period as 2026 and the end date of the dry period as 2027. These dates are considered if dairy washings are stored with slurry, collecting yards are washed down, collecting yard rainfall is stored with slurry.

Is there a period during which all cows are dry?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Start Date of Dry Period	01-12-2026 
End Date of Dry Period	01-02-2027 
Days Milking During Storage Period	62 days

**6. Soiled Water -Dairy Washing Summary has changed in NMP**

In the Soiled Water – Dairy Washings Summary there are improvements to the dairy washings summary page to show the storage surplus/deficit currently and from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2028.

A. **Soiled Water: Dairy Washings Summary** which is the Total Storage Requirements for Dairy Washings

Soiled Water: Dairy Washings Summary		Storage Type & Volume (m3)	
Total Storage Requirements for Dairy Washings		Soiled Water	
Water from Dairy and Parlour		45.0	m <sup>3</sup>
Water from Collecting Yard Washing		0.0	m <sup>3</sup>
Rainwater on Collecting Yards		15.9	m <sup>3</sup>
Rainwater on Other Yards		7.9	m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Total Soiled Water Produced</b>		<b>68.8</b>	<b>m<sup>3</sup></b>

B. **Soiled Water stored only in Soiled Water tank** which compares the Total Storage Requirements for dairy washings against the soiled water storage and shows the storage requirement from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2028

Soiled Water: Dairy Washings Summary		Storage Type & Volume (m3)	
Total Storage Requirements for Dairy Washings		Soiled Water	
Water from Dairy and Parlour		45.0	m <sup>3</sup>
Water from Collecting Yard Washing		0.0	m <sup>3</sup>
Rainwater on Collecting Yards		15.9	m <sup>3</sup>
Rainwater on Other Yards		7.9	m <sup>3</sup>
Total Soiled Water Produced		68.8	m <sup>3</sup>

Soiled Water stored only in Soiled Water Tank			
<b>Total Soiled Water Storage (Currently)</b>			
Required (soiled water produced)		68.8	m <sup>3</sup>
Available (current storage)		55.2	m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Additional Storage Required</b>		<b>13.5</b>	<b>m<sup>3</sup></b>
<b>Soiled Water Storage Required from 1st October 2028</b>			
Required (soiled water produced)		88.3	m <sup>3</sup>
Available (current storage)		55.2	m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Additional Storage Required</b>		<b>33.0</b>	<b>m<sup>3</sup></b>

## 7. Preparing plans in 2026 where there was Stocking Rate Alterations in the previous year

The 6<sup>th</sup> NAP has additional clarifications on: -

- *stocking rate alterations” means situations where the holdings previous calendar year stocking rate is not representative due to factors outside of the holder’s control, including mandatory de-stocking and herd movement restrictions arising from bovine diseases controls*
- *new entrant” means a natural person who has been assigned a herd number in the current or previous calendar year, and who has not previously held, nor has a beneficial interest in a herd number*
- The 6<sup>th</sup> NAP has the following text *“For new entrants or occupiers with stocking rate alterations the grassland stocking rate shall be the lesser of the actual or projected current year grassland stocking rate.”*

Grassland Stocking Rate (kg/ha in previous year) <sup>1</sup>	Available Nitrogen <sup>2, 4, 5</sup> (kg/ha)
≤85	90
86-130	114
131-170	185
For those greater than 170 kg/ha in previous year <sup>3</sup>	
171-210	241
>210 <sup>6</sup>	214

<sup>1</sup> For new entrants or occupiers with stocking rate alterations the grassland stocking rate shall be the lesser of the actual or projected current year grassland stocking rate.

For 2026 NMP’s where **Stocking Rate Alterations** apply, go to plan settings and the general settings tab the **“Use Historic Grassland Stocking Rate”** will be defaulted to Yes, however if the NMP is being completed for New Entrants or stocking rate alterations, as defined above you must select **No** for **Historic Grassland Stocking Rate** and NMP will apply the correct calculations for fertiliser allowances.

**Plan Settings**

General Settings | Optional Settings | Units | SFP Settings

Herd Number: D3426751

County (Zone): Cork

Derogation Applied for in Current Year: Yes

Plan Safety: No

**Use Historic Grassland Stocking Rate\***: Yes

Prev Yr GSR/ha (before Imports & Exports): 0

Prev Yr WFSR/ha (before Imports & Exports): 0

Grazing Platform SR (kg N/ha):

\*Select NO only if the plan is for a new entrant or has stocking rate alterations. "Stocking rate alterations" means situations where the holding's previous calendar year stocking rate is not representative due to factors outside of the holder's control, including mandatory de-stocking and herd movement restrictions arising from bovine diseases controls.

The fertiliser allowances will work off the projected current year grassland stocking rate in the NMP (this must be accurate); and is displayed to users in plan summary (below).

**Plan Summary**

Plan settings Previous Year | **Current year stocking rates**

Grassland Stocking Rate (kg/ha)	0.00	150.00
Whole Farm Stocking Rate (kg/ha) (Before imports and Exports)	0.00	150.00
Net Whole Farm Stocking Rate (kg/ha) (After imports and Exports)		150.00
NMP Total Nitrates ha (Non Commonage ha + Nitrates Commonage Adj.)		20.00 ha
NMP Grassland Ref ha (Including Nitrates Commonage adjusted)		20.00 ha
Non Grass % (>5% crops rule Footnote 2 in NAP Table 12)	0.00 %	0.00 ha
Derogation Grassland % (80:20 rule for derogation, commonage excluded from the calculation)		100.00 %

Any versions or copies made of this plan will default to "Use Historic Grassland Stocking rate" yes and the user will have to edit this accordingly.

**8. Milking Platform – 3Km pin drop**

The 6<sup>th</sup> NAP clarified that the; "milking platform" means the grassland block on the holding within a 3km radius of an active milking parlour that is accessible for grazing by a dairy cow(s) at any stage during the year;

*Requirements for milk producers and arable land in relation to nutrient management*

17. (1) For milk producers and arable land the following requirements shall apply—
- (a) For the purpose of determination of the milking platform organic and chemical fertiliser allowance, milk producers must declare their milking platform each year.
  - (b) For the purpose of determination of the stocking rate on the milking platform, the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine will consider all dairy cows on the holding to be based on the milking platform. If that gives rise to a milking platform stocking rate greater than 259 kg organic N/ha, organic nitrogen produced on the holding must move outside the milking platform or a lower chemical fertiliser allowance will apply as set out in Table 14..

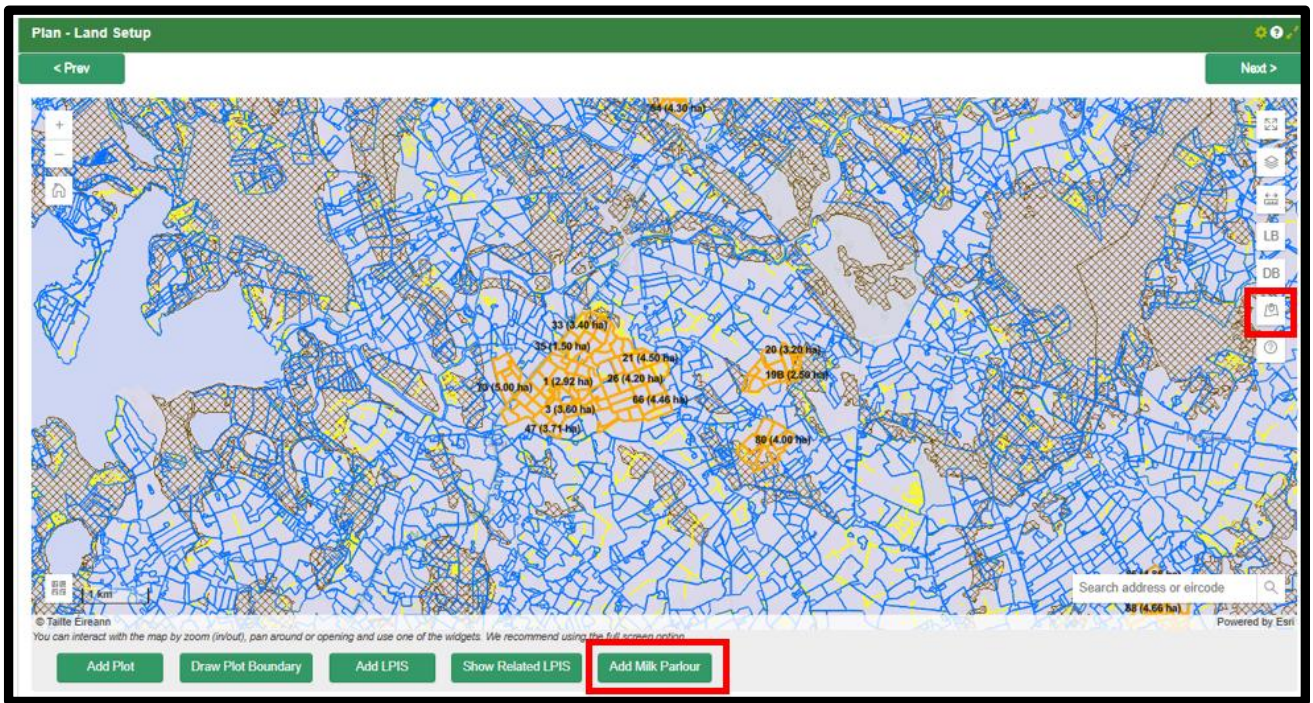
For milk producers with a previous year milking platform stocking rate >259 kg organic N/ha, the holding must adhere to the maximum allowance of chemical Nitrogen based on that milking platform stocking rate and the quantity of organic nitrogen that is moved outside the milking platform as set out in Table 14, of <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2025/si/588/made/en/pdf> as appropriate to the holding.


**NOTE to all Users:** The 3Km milking platform is based on Parcels as declared on BISS and if any part of a parcel is within the 3km of the milking platform then it is eligible. The parcel must be in grassland, (excluding tillage and commonage) and available for grazing by cows (fenced And watered).

NMP is developing the functionality to process the fertiliser allowances from Table 14 but it will not be available for a few weeks.

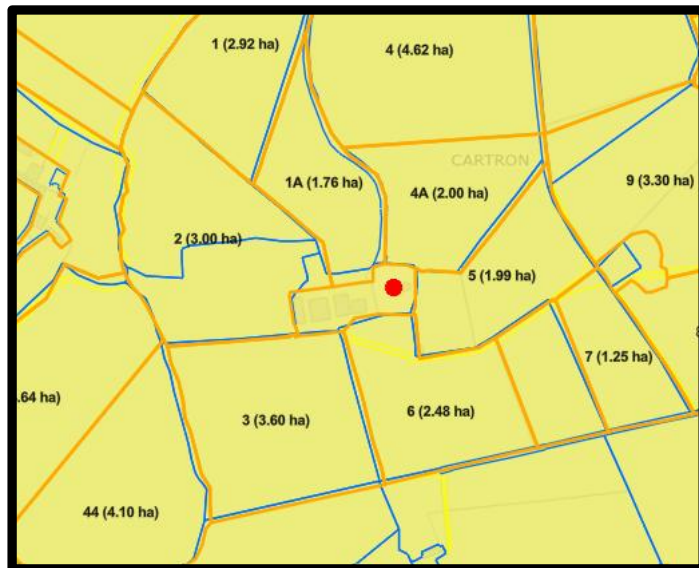
From the date of this bulletin there is new functionality in Land Set-up where a pin can be dropped onto the map onto the milking parlour shed, which will show a 3Km radius. This 3km PIN can be moved or deleted and if there are several milking parlours then multiple pins can be dropped.

The buttons on the Land Set-up outlined in red below give users the ability to drop a pin onto the milking platform and the advice is to zoom in before dropping the pin.



If the green button "Add Milking Parlour" is clicked on it will turn blue 

User can then click on the map and a red dot will appear and this is where the pin is dropped



User can then zoom out and it will look as below. Users can then see what plots are in or outside of the 3km

