

Important dates for greening in 2016	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
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Crop diversification

Start of BPS

Start to think about cropping and crop diversification for 2017

Cropping period					1 May	←	→	30 June				
Fallow period					1 May	←	→	30 June				
Inspection period					1 May	←	→	30 June				

Ecological focus areas

Catch crop period								Catch crops must be established by 31 August	←	→	1 October	
Cover crop period								Cover crops must be established by 1 October	←	→	End of cover crop period is 15 January	
Fallow period	←	→	1 January					30 June				
Nitrogen fixing crops					1 May	←	→	30 June				
Hedges must be present all year	←	→										→
Buffer Strips must be present all year	←	→										→
Cross compliance must be carried out all year	←	→										→

BPS application deadline 16 May

This table provides an indication of how greening obligations could be met, and is intended to be used for guidance purposes only. This only applies in England. You should take independent professional advice on the facts of your particular situation. NFU members can get free initial legal and professional advice from NFU CallFirst 0370 845 8458. This document was prepared on the basis of the latest information available at the time of publication; please consult the latest Defra/RPA guidance for full details of the greening obligations. Although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, neither the NFU nor the author can accept liability for errors and/or omissions. © NFU