



A clear solution for farmers

CATCHMENT SENSITIVE FARMING

Priority Catchment Targeting Summary March 2011 – March 2014

River Basin District: Severn

Catchment: River Worfe

Total Area: 195 km²

Reasons for designation

The River Worfe catchment includes areas of surface and subsurface drinking water resources which need to be protected from pollutants. In general the whole catchment should be protected from the effects of agricultural inputs and losses, in particular phosphates, nitrates and pesticides (including metaldehyde). There are two sub-catchments at GOOD ecological status which should be protected from any deterioration. The whole Worfe catchment is within a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone. There are water company intakes downstream on the confluence with The Severn, at Hampton Loade and Trimpley. The catchment contributes to a Drinking Water Protection Area and the Ground Water Protection Area. There is also evidence of considerable sedimentation from soil loss.

Priorities

There are three sub-catchments (1-3 on map) which the EA have identified for targeting, using training and the capital grant scheme. Protection of drinking water and the groundwater from agricultural pollutants is a key priority. Key pollutants include: phosphates, nitrates and pesticides (including metaldehyde).

Objectives

- Reduce the loss of sediment, and associated and soil-bound phosphate particles through appropriate changes in land management practices
- Reduce losses of fertilizer through improved analysis, calibration techniques and application techniques, plus better use of manures, to reduce leaching to groundwater and run-off to surface waters
- Reduce losses of pesticides in order to protect surface and sub-surface waters through promotion of correct calibration techniques, washing techniques and suitable disposal of swilling.
- Reduce inputs of metaldehyde through promotion dosing rates and use of alternatives

Delivery

Target 100 farms in the target sub-catchments for Diffuse Water Pollution workshop. Farms will be encouraged to sign up for: 1. Whole Farm Plan visits and Infrastructure Audits; 2. Nutrient Management Plan and soil/manure/slurry testing; 3. Slurry/manure handling one-to-one sessions; 4. Pesticides handling and application training; 5. Fertiliser spreader or pesticide sprayer free calibration and testing. Farms will be visited to discuss Diffuse Water Pollution. The CSF Capital Grant Scheme and ELS/HLS will also be promoted where appropriate to encourage uptake of resource protection measures.

Targeting Map

Worfe Catchment

