A clear solution for farmers

CATCHMENT SENSITIVE FARMING

Priority Catchment Targeting Summary
March 2011 – March 2014

River Basin District: North West   **Catchment: Dane**   **Total Area: 80 km2**

Reasons for designation

Drinking Water Treatment Works located just outside the catchment are detecting pesticides above the drinking water standard in its raw water intake. This has lead to the catchment being designated as a Drinking Water Safe Guard Zone. The area is also designated as a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone. The Nitrate concentrations in the area itself are however, not high. The area is designated due to failing monitoring points further down the catchment. The catchment was designated for CSF in 2012 and delivery is undertaken solely by contractors with no Catchment Sensitive Farming Officer (CSFO) input.

Priorities

Drinking Water Surface Water Safeguard Zone – owing to high levels of agricultural pesticides – especially MCPA found at the drinking water treatment works.

Objectives

- Reduce pesticide run-off from agricultural holdings;
- Implement infrastructure improvements to minimise pollution from yard areas;
- Increase slurry storage capacity by reducing rainwater entering slurry stores by roofing stores and separating clean and dirty water in yards.

Delivery

Delivery in the catchment will consist of a number of advice visits and training events for farmers in the catchment to benefit from.

Due to the ongoing problems with pesticides in the catchment, there will be machinery testing and calibration, pesticide use planning and agronomy and pesticide handling and application visits available for use.

Group events on pesticide training (PA1 and PA2) are also available as well as weed control in grassland workshops. There is an opportunity for farmers to also have a whole farm plan and farm infrastructure audit for those interested.

The capital grants scheme will be available in the catchment, with priority items focusing on reducing the risk of pesticides getting into water courses through diffuse pollution and livestock related items that will reduce the risk of waste leaving the yard in rainfall events.

Targeting Map