



Press Statement 7 April 2025

Crop diversification requirements need to go - Tillage Industry Ireland

Crop diversification requirements cannot be included in the next CAP Tillage Industry Ireland (TII) has said following a recent lobbying and information tour to the EU Parliament and Commission.

“The crop diversification requirements, or the two and three-crop rules, have done their job. Farmers should be allowed to make their own decisions.”

“Crop diversification requirements, or the two and three-crop rules, have had a positive impact on the tillage sector in Ireland. However, the requirements have done their job.

“Ireland is over 90% grassland and many tillage farms now have five and six crops. The rule is now making tillage businesses less competitive by limiting the area of profitable crops grown and by adding to workload by splitting land blocks into three different crops adding to travel time and decreased efficiency.

“At a time when the Government’s aim is to increase tillage area the two-crop rule is resulting in farmers putting tillage land back into grass as they cannot justify the workload, input spend or calling a contractor to grow a small area of a second crop.”

“The tillage area is declining. We need to encourage farmers to grow tillage crops not deter them. As negotiations start for CAP 2027 crop diversification requirements should be excluded from these proposals.”

Tillage Industry Ireland is an organisation set up to promote tillage, lobby on policy and promote the betterment of the sector. It is made up of stakeholders in the tillage industry including farmers, merchants, advisers, plant protection product producers and distributors, the seed trade, fertiliser manufacturers and blenders and media.

Who sits on Tillage Industry Ireland?

Acorn Independent Merchants
Animal and Plant Health Association
Federation of Agrochemical Retail Merchants
Fertiliser Manufacturers and Blenders’ Association
Irish Farmers Association
Irish Farmers Journal
Irish Seed Trade Association
Irish Tillage Consultants Association