

Protecting Farmland Pollinators — Ireland's Whole-Farm Scorecard Turns Pollinator Habitat into a Results-Based Payment

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Ireland

Quality score: 40/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

A 40-farm Irish pilot paid farmers for measured pollinator-habitat quality via a 19-action scorecard rather than fixed prescriptions; median farm scores rose 56% over three years and 31 of 40 farms improved, with results independently peer-reviewed.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	3/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-10

[National Biodiversity Data Centre \(Ireland\), EIP-AGRI, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine](#) — accessed 2026-09-10

[National Biodiversity Data Centre midterm report](#) — accessed 2026-09-10

[Journal of Pollination Ecology: Whole Farm Scorecard results](#) — accessed 2026-09-10

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