



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL AFFAIRS

Subsidy system for maintaining semi-natural habitats in Estonia

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Supported area and applicants

In 2017 the number of recipients was 815, the supported area 29 967 hectares.

2020 target:

- 40,000 hectares and 1,500 applicants.
- Total budget of the support is 40.2 million euros (+ from I pillar about 12 million)

***FINANCIAL SOURCE** – „the second pillar” of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP); Rural Development Plan (RDP)

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THE DURATION OF THE MEASURE – min 5 years commitment

PAYMENT AGENCY- Estonian Agricultural Registers and Information Board (ARIB)

MANAGING BODY - Environmental Board

Eligible criterias

- At least 0.1 hectare
- Inside protected area
- In the Environmental Register
- Maintainable - suitable for mowing or grazing
- Predominantly covered with meadow plants (exception for lately restored meadows)
- Coverage of juniper is generally not more than 50% (+ exception)
- No overgrown reed

Problems at the end of the period of 2007-2013

1. Under-grazing
2. Coastal meadows were in the bad condition
3. Meadows with junipers (alvars) were in the bad conditions
4. Low interest to maintain wooded meadows

Response to the problems

<p>1. Under-grazing</p>	<p>1. Specifying the results of grazing</p>
<p>2. Coastal meadows were in the bad condition</p>	<p>2. Specifying eligible criteria (no overgrown reed; eligible are all features characteristic to coastal meadows like ponds, lagoons etc) + beginning date for grazing</p>
<p>3. Meadows with junipers (alvars) were in the bad condition</p>	<p>3. Specifying eligible criteria (juniper coverage can be max 50%)</p>
<p>4. Low interest to maintain wooded meadows</p>	<p>4. 450 euro per hectare (+ single area payment)</p>

Obligations - MOWING

- Generally it is not allowed to mow before 10 July.
- Mowed vegetation must be collected by 1 September.
- Collected mowed vegetation must be removed from the area by 1 April of the subsequent year.
- Meadows larger than 15 hectares must be mowed from the centre outwards or from edge to edge.

Obligations - **GRAZING**

- On coastal meadow grazing starts at least since 31 May.
- As a result of grazing it must be visually identify by **1 October** that grass has been eaten short to the extent of 50% and mostly eaten on the rest of the area.

Obligations..

- Giving additional feed to animals is prohibited.
- The applicant must participate in semi-natural habitat maintenance training.
- An alvar in a good condition may be left unmaintained once during the commitment period.

Environmental Board

- The applicant must maintain the semi-natural habitat in a manner that has been approved by the Environmental Board.
- Environmental Board may do exceptions according to the protection rules.
- Environmental Board can set additional work if it is needed (remove scrub, build extra fences, mow after grazing)

Support rates

Habitats	Previous period (2007-2013)	Current period (2014-2020)	
1. 1630	1. Mowing a wooded meadow €238,07 /ha/year	1. Mowing a wooded meadow €450/ha/year;	
2. 4030		2. Grazing on a wooded pasture €250/ha/year;	
3. 5130	2. All the other habitats €185,98/ha/year	3. Grazing on meadow with junipers €250/ha/year;	
4. 6210		4. Grazing on another meadow €150/ha/year;	
5. 6270		5. Mowing another meadow €85/ha/year;	
6. 6280		6. Maintenance of coastal areas important for the protection of species €232/ha/year.	
7. 6410			
8. 6510			
9. 6430			
10. 6450			
11. 6510			
12. 6530			
13. 5130			
14. 7230			
15. 9070			
	*no I pillar	* I pillar for some meadows	

Support rates 2014-2020

A single area payment (SAP) may also be applied for **wooded meadows** and **other type of meadows** that are eligible for the SAP.



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Thank you!

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