

Glossary

accompanying measures - three regulations introduced in the MACSHARRY REFORM of the CAP: AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATION; EARLY RETIREMENT REGULATION (not implemented in the UK); FORESTRY REGULATION

acid grassland - grassland occurring on soils which have a pH below 5, often on unenclosed hillsides

acidophilic - species preferring acidic conditions

ADAS - commercial providers of consultancy to agriculture, horticulture, food and drink and environment, to UK and international land based industries

aftermath - a term associated with grazed grassland describing the new growth of the sward after management, eg cutting or burning

Agenda 2000 - in July 1997 the European Commission (EC) published *Agenda 2000: for a stronger and wider Europe*. The primary aim was to deepen the reforms of the CAP started in 1992 (MACSHARRY REFORM), in preparation for the next round of WTO negotiations and the enlargement of the EU. This round of reforms was agreed in Berlin on 26 March 1999. The UK Government published draft regulations for reform in this country in 1998 and a consultation process followed. Agenda 2000 is intended to run from 1 January 2000 through to 2006-7

Agenda 21 - international action plan for sustainable development arising from the Rio EARTH SUMMIT in 1992. Local Agenda 21 is essentially about community involvement and partnerships to get consensus and action toward sustainable development

agistment - grazing of farm stock on land on the basis of payment per head per day/week/month, usually away from the home farm

Agri-environment regulation - one of the three ACCOMPANYING MEASURES introduced in the MACSHARRY REFORM. It obliges all Member States to offer farmers a set of incentive payments for pursuing environmental management and extensification of production by means of a number of possible schemes (see ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREA, COUNTRYSIDE

STEWARDSHIP SCHEME). Now replaced by the RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATION

allotment/new take - pasture taken in and fenced from the hill, generally used for grazing and holding stock, they may or may not be improved

alpine plant species - plants which are more normally associated with a central and south European montane distribution, but are absent from arctic regions (see also MONTANE)

anaerobic - in the absence of free oxygen (O₂)

ancient woodland - woodland with continuous cover since at least AD 1600

anthropogenic - originated by man

Arctic plant species - plant species which are entirely absent from central and southern Europe and have their chief continental area lying north of the Baltic

Arctic-alpine plant species - plants which display a central and southern European montane distribution and also appear at high latitudes, often with a circumpolar distribution

asulam - a fern-specific herbicide used for the control of bracken

Asulox - the trade name for the fern-specific herbicide, ASULAM, used for the control of bracken

away winter/tack - send livestock to lowland pasture for the winter

Beef Special Premium (BSP) - a headage based support payment available on male beef cattle (at 10 and 22 months old) subject to stocking density limits and 'regional ceilings'

berm - shallow shelf at the base of the bank of a ditch that is at the level of normal flow and gives extra channel width at high flows

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) - the amount of oxygen needed to break down organic material within a system

biodiversity - "the variability among living organisms from all sources including, *inter alia*,

terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.” as defined in Article 2 of the Convention on Biological Diversity

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) - originating from the Rio EARTH SUMMIT and taken to a national level, the overall goal of the Plan is to conserve and enhance biological diversity within the UK and to contribute to the conservation of global diversity through all appropriate mechanisms

blanket bog or mire - term to describe a wide range of OMBROTROPHIC and RHEOTROPHIC peatlands

bog - OMBROTROPHIC MIRE generally with a low nutrient status

Bronze Age - the period in human history when bronze was the main metal used to make implements. In Britain, approximately 2000 to 500 years ago

BSP - see BEEF SPECIAL PREMIUM

cairn - pile of stones used as way-marker or to denote high point of a hill. Also archaeological term for grave

calcareous - growing on soil derived from the decomposition of calcareous rocks, such as limestone

calcareous grassland - grasslands typically found on soils with a pH range between 6.5 and 8.5, usually found over calcareous substrates

calcifuge - a plant species that does not thrive on soils of high pH, preferring more acid conditions

carr - wet woodland composed of trees such as willow and alder, which is a successional stage between open water and dry woodland

ceilings - maximum level of payment which may be made to an individual farm business

channelisation - artificial modification of channels by widening, deepening, straightening, embanking or concrete lining for the purpose of flood alleviation, drainage of agricultural land or stabilisation

chasmophyte - a plant which grows in the crevices of rocks

chasmophytic - of rocks

climatic climax - a plant community determined and maintained in a given area by the prevailing climatic conditions

climax vegetation - the stable vegetation of an area under the prevailing environmental conditions

clough - a steep-sided gully/valley in northern England

Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) - provides the principal framework for agricultural policy in all countries belonging to the European Union

conserved fodder - fodder conserved for feeding stock over the winter, usually hay or silage

CORINE - Co-ordination of Information on the Environment - an experimental project to collect, co-ordinate and ensure consistency of information on the state of the environment and natural resources in the EC

coppice - a form of woodland management where trees or shrubs are cut regularly at the base to promote regrowth

Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS) - a voluntary scheme of annual payments for ten years where participant agreements contain conditions protecting, enhancing and restoring landscape-based features. The scheme is administered by FRCA for MAFF and covers a wide range of habitats - see RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATION

critical load - a quantitative estimate of exposure to one or more pollutants below which significant harmful effects on sensitive elements of the environment do not occur according to present knowledge

Culm grasslands/Rhôs pastures - local name given to the unimproved pasture of Dartmoor, northern Devon, northeast Cornwall and south Wales, some of which overlies the Carboniferous slates and shales of the Culm Measures

Disadvantaged Areas (DAs) - see LESS FAVOURED AREAS

draft ewe - breeding ewes removed from the flock. Associated with hill flocks where ewes are ‘drafted’ at 4-5 years old to lowland farms for further breeding, because they are considered too old for harsh mountain life

dystrophic - freshwater systems with very poor nutrient levels

Early Retirement Regulation - one of the three ACCOMPANYING MEASURES introduced in the MACSHARRY REFORM. Member States may obtain funding for schemes to promote early retirement of farmers. Not taken up in England. Now incorporated into the RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATION

Earth Summit - United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992. Here the UK Government signed the Biodiversity Convention which brought about the BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

emergent vegetation - plants that grow in water but have leaf structures that emerge above the surface

environmental audit - gathers information on features of environmental interest and may also include a qualitative assessment of condition

environmental conditions - used in the EU to refer to the attachment of environmental conditions to agricultural support payments under the CAP commodity regimes. Sometimes known as cross-compliance

Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) - areas of high landscape and conservation value, designated under EC regulations where 'traditional' farming is under threat, in which farmers enter into ten-year management agreements and receive incentive payments for positive environmental management - see also RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATION

epiphyte - a plant growing upon another, though not parasitic

epilimnium - the surface water layer of a standing water body

ericoid / ericaceous - pertaining to plants of the Heath family (Ericaceae)

European Union (EU) - formally created by the Maastricht Treaty and supported by three pillars, including the European Community, Common Foreign and Security Policy, and Home Affairs and Justice Policy

eutrophic - nutrient enriched

eutrophication - the process of nutrient enrichment

extensification premium - incentive mechanism under the EU beef regime to encourage lower stocking rates for cattle production

fell - northern term for hill

fen - a term that includes all MINEROTROPHIC MIREs, though is often only associated with nutrient-rich tall-herb vegetation

finished - term applied to animals which have been fattened and are ready for slaughter

flush - wet area irrigated by a spring or soak-way

fodder / foddering - animal food/provision of animal food

Forestry regulation - one of the three ACCOMPANYING MEASURES introduced in the MACSHARRY REFORM. It obliges Member States to offer farmers incentive payments to encourage tree planting and forestry management on farmland. Now replaced by the RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATION

FRCA - Farming and Rural Conservation Agency. A science-based organisation which is the Executive Agency of MAFF and the Welsh Office. It manages agri-environment schemes and advises MAFF on agricultural issues. From April 2001 FRCA will be known as The Rural Development Service when it becomes part of the Environment Group of MAFF.

geotextiles - natural or synthetic permeable fabrics used in conjunction with soil for the function of erosion protection

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) - a multilateral agreement between trading nations to promote global trade liberalisation, by acting as a forum for international trade negotiations. Now replaced by WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION

gill/ghyll - name for a valley or mountain stream, especially deeply cut, steep streams liable to drying out in the summer

gimmer - a female sheep from weaning to shearing (ie 6-15 months old), or from first clipping for a further year (ie 15-27 months old, see HOGG/HOGGET)

grip - moorland drainage ditch

hagg / haggling - gullying in blanket bogs

hay meadow - enclosed grassland managed for the purpose of gathering hay, usually cut once a year in the summer

Habitats and Species Directive - an EC Directive that seeks to encourage the maintenance of BIODIVERSITY by establishing a 'favourable conservation status' for specific natural habitat types and species considered to be of community interest

heft - a piece or parcel of land in unenclosed hill and mountain pasture to which sheep are attached, usually because they have been bred on it.

heifer - a female cow more than a year old which has not calved

high forest - forest where the majority of trees are allowed to reach maturity

hill farm - a farm of the highest altitudes of which the majority of land comprises open moorland with little IN-BYE land. Typically, sheep are the main enterprise

Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance

(HLCA) - headage payment available to beef and sheep farmers within LESS FAVOURED AREAS. Now replaced by area-based payments under a Hill Farming Allowance (HFA) Scheme

hill sheep - hardy purebred sheep with an ability to thrive in the harsh conditions of the high moorlands and open hills. The mainstay of the HILL FARM

hogg/hogget - a male or female sheep between being weaned and being shorn for the first time (ie 6-15 months)

hypolimnium - the lower water layer of a standing water body

igneous - rock formed from the cooling of molten magma

improved grassland - grassland which has been agriculturally improved by the application of fertilisers or herbicides, by drainage or by ploughing and reseeding. Such swards generally contain a very limited range of plant species, mainly those which either demand or tolerate high nutrient levels and grazing. They have lost many of the species characteristic of unimproved semi-natural grassland

in-bye - enclosed grassland, often surrounding farm buildings

injurious weeds - weeds listed in the Weeds Act 1959: creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*, spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, curled dock *Rumex crispus* and ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*

instream - occurring within the confines of a river channel

intake - improved pasture taken in and fenced from the hill

karst - geomorphological features created by the weathering of limestone by solution

lamb - male or female sheep from birth to weaning (ie 0-6 months)

lambling percentage - number of lambs born and reared per 100 ewes put to the ram

lapidicolous - living under stones

lentic - freshwater system of standing water

Less Favoured Areas (LFAs) - areas originally designated under EU Directive 75/268. In the UK these are split into DISADVANTAGED AREAS and SEVERELY DISADVANTAGED AREAS. Compensation payments now made under RURAL DEVELOPMENT REGULATION through the Hill Farm Allowance Scheme - see Hill Livestock Compensatory Allowance

ley - a short-term pasture, often cut for SILAGE or hay, sown to last for one or more years, after which it is ploughed and another crop sown

LIFE fund (*L'instrument Financier pour l'Environnement*) (EU) - a financial instrument, established to assist the development and implementation of the EU's environmental policy

limestone pavement - a karst feature of weathered limestone bedding surfaces, consisting of smooth blocks (clints) separated by deep solution crevices (grykes)

littoral zone - zone in a water body colonised by macrophytes

livestock quota - rights for beef and sheep subsidies linked to the holding and tradable between producers

livestock unit (LU) - method of describing different stock types and age groups based on their energy requirements. Standard ratios are used, commonly based on one livestock unit equalling one Friesian dairy cow

	Livestock units (LSU)		Livestock units (LSU)
Cattle		Sheep	
Dairy cow	1.00	Ewes:	
Dairy bull	0.65	Light	0.06
Beef cow	0.75	Medium	0.08
Beef bull	0.65	Heavy	0.11
Heifers in calf	0.80		
Other cattle (not intensive beef):		Breeding ewe	
0-12 months	0.34	hoggs (½-1 year)	0.06
12-24 months	0.65		
Over 24 months	0.80	Other sheep over 1 year	0.08
	0.80	Rams	0.04-0.08
Horses		Lambs	0.04
		Store lambs under 1 year	

These figures are from the MAFF Farm Business Survey (FBS). NB: Not all schemes for the calculation of Livestock Units are comparable.

For example, MAFF definitions include:

- Exmoor pony = 1.00 LU
- 1 sheep = 0.15 LU

Local Nature Reserve (LNR) - areas designated by the local authority, often owned by them and managed by other bodies, such as wildlife trusts

lotic - freshwater system of flowing water

macrophyte - aquatic plant (vascular and non-vascular) that can be seen with the naked eye and is therefore not microscopic

MacSharry reform - unofficial term often used for the CAP reform package adopted in 1992

MAFF - Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

management agreement - contractual term used to describe documented agreements completed with land owners and occupiers regarding their management of land, often within an incentive scheme for example ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS, COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP SCHEME, WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT SCHEME

marl - calcareous mudstone or clay

marl sites - said of freshwater bodies with concentrations of dissolved calcium carbonate greater than 100 mg/l

meadow - enclosed grassland not permanently grazed and cut once a year for CONSERVED FODDER

meristem - a localised group of cells, which are actively dividing and undifferentiated, but which ultimately give rise to permanent tissue

metamorphic - rock that has been changed in texture, structure or composition owing to the effects of temperature and/or pressure

mesotrophic - of a moderate nutrient status

minerotrophic - to be fed by ground water, often used when describing mires

milk quota - production limit per holding above which a superlevy is charged. Can be traded

mire - a general term applied to peat producing ecosystems which develop in sites of abundant water supply. Some workers also include some mineral-based wetland within the compass of 'mire'

MLURI - Macaulay Land Use Research Institute

montane - used to describe the zone above the altitude at which trees naturally occur. Equivalent to the term 'alpine' used by many European ecologists

moorland - the unenclosed land of the uplands supporting upland heath (wet and dry), blanket and other upland mires and upland grassland

Moorland Scheme - UK scheme under the EU agri-environment programme which closed in 1998 and was incorporated into the COUNTRYSIDE STEWARDSHIP SCHEME. It was aimed at

protecting and improving moorland environments by providing incentive payments for farmers in defined areas to reduce livestock grazing

national envelope - funds available under AGENDA 2000 beef reforms which can be used to support particular aspects of the UK beef industry

National Nature Reserve (NNR) - designated areas of national or international importance which are owned or leased by the UK statutory nature conservation agencies or are managed by means of Nature Reserve Agreements with land owners and managers

National Trust - a constituted charity, established for the purpose of promoting the permanent preservation of buildings and land of beauty or historical interest and for the preservation of their natural aspect features and animal and plant life

National Vegetation Classification (NVC) - a classification used to describe British plant communities

nationally rare plants - plant species recorded nationally in 15 or fewer 10km squares of the national grid

nationally scarce plants - species recorded nationally in 16 to 100 10km squares of the national grid

Natural Areas - tracts of countryside which are readily recognised by their characteristic land forms, wildlife and land use. English Nature has divided the whole of England into Natural Areas. They are not designations and they are not confined by traditional administrative boundaries. Natural Areas are intended to provide a framework to identify the priorities and objectives for nature conservation at a local level. They have a key role to play in the translation of national targets for habitats and species into action at the local level, and for setting targets for species and habitats which are important and characteristic locally

Net Farm Income (NFI) - reward to farmer and spouse for their own labour, management and interest on tenant-type capital invested in the farm

new take - see ALLOTMENT

neutral grasslands - grasslands that are mostly found within enclosed field systems on moist mineral soils with a pH between 5 and 6.5

nivation - the localised erosion of a hill slope by post-action, mass-wasting and erosion by

meltwaters at the edges of, and beneath, wetting snowdrifts

NPK - an abbreviation for nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium in describing the composition of a fertiliser

off-winter - remove stock from ground for the winter to allow vegetation to recover

oligotrophic - nutrient poor (not necessarily base poor)

ombrotrophic - supplied solely by water derived from the atmosphere (such as rain, snow and fog)

ombrogenous - generated by precipitation

orogeny - major phase of fold-mountain building

overgrazing regulation - an environmental condition of livestock premia in the UK such as SAPs, BSPs and SCPs. Defined in SI No. 1500/1996 The HILL LIVESTOCK (COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCES) Regulation 1996 as: 'grazing land with livestock in such numbers as adversely to affect the growth, quality or species composition of vegetation (other than vegetation normally grazed to destruction) on that land to a significant degree' (see also UNSUITABLE SUPPLEMENTARY FEEDING). Also attached to the new Hill Farm Allowance Scheme

passerine - a perching bird (literally a 'sparrow-like' bird)

pasture - enclosed grassland for the sole purpose of grazing STOCK

patterned ground - a collective term for the approximately symmetrical forms that are characteristic of, but not necessarily confined to, that part of the ground surface is subject to intensive frost action. It requires a combination of moderate moisture and frequent cycles of freeze-thaw action and also depends on the susceptibility of the soil to frost sorting. Includes POLYGONS, circles and STRIPES

peat - soil of partially decomposed vegetable matter, accumulated under waterlogged (anaerobic) conditions, sometimes made up entirely of *Sphagnum* mosses

perennial - a plant living for three or more seasons, and normally flowering and fruiting at least in the second and subsequent seasons

periglacial - applied to an area bordering the edge of an ice sheet, to the climate of that area and the physical processes associated with it. Perma-frost is often prevalent in the area

ploughing-back - a boulder that moves downslope by frost creep and/or SOLIFLUCTION in a PERIGLACIAL environment

poaching - the trampling of land when wet, by stock, so the soil becomes churned and muddy, often to the detriment of the vegetation

podzolisation - the process which forms podzolic soils (podzols). Podzols are soils which are freely drained and in which iron and aluminium are moved down the profile as organic salts by the downward movement of water (leaching) which occurs when precipitation exceeds evaporation

point bar - bar formed on the convex side of a channel bed

poll - to de-horn cattle or sheep

pollard - woodland management whereby mature trees are cut to promote regrowth above the reach of browsing stock

polled - term for cattle or sheep naturally lacking in horns

polygons - a collection of many-sided geometric figures, occurring as a type of patterned ground, usually formed by frost action in the PERIGLACIAL environment

potable - water which is fit for human consumption

rake - small scale open-cast excavation for early lead extraction. Usually linear, following a rich surface vein. Often rich in plant species

Ramsar Site - wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention 1971, which requires signatory countries to protect internationally important wetlands, especially those used by migratory water birds, and to use wetlands wisely

raptor - a bird of prey

Red Data Book - lists nationally rare species; for example see **NATIONALLY RARE PLANTS**

Regionally Important Geological/ Geomorphological Site (RIGS) - geological and geomorphological sites, excluding SSSIs, that are

considered worthy of protection for their educational, research, historical or aesthetic importance

rheotrophic - influenced by ground water

rhôs grasslands - see **CULM GRASSLANDS**

ride - cleared area in woodland, often linear, for access, fire breaks and to provide open areas for game and wildlife

riparian - relating to or situated on the bank of a river or stream

rip-rap - stones or similar material laid on a river bank to stabilise it and prevent erosion

riffle - a depositional bar in a stream, over which the water flows rapidly with a 'rippled' surface

Rural Development Regulation - "second pillar of the CAP" under AGENDA 2000. Brings together instruments for **LESS FAVOURED AREAS**, **AGRI-ENVIRONMENT**, forestry, **EARLY RETIREMENT**, rural development and **STRUCTURAL FUNDS**

SAP - see **SHEEP ANNUAL PREMIUM**

saproxylie - living on dead or decaying wood

SCP - see **SUCKLER COW PREMIUM**

scree - angular rock debris, often mobile, formed from weathering of parent material, mainly by frost action, and often located below the parent outcrop

sedimentary rock - a rock formed by sediments laid down in layers

semi-improved grassland - grassland which has been modified by the application of fertilisers (generally at a low level over a long period of time), herbicides, intensive grazing or drainage such that its species-richness and diversity is lower than that of unimproved semi-natural grassland but still retains some characteristics of the semi-natural grassland from which it has been derived

semi-natural vegetation - plant associations often created by direct or indirect effects of man - see **CLIMAX VEGETATION**

Severely Disadvantaged Areas (SDAs) - see **LESS FAVOURED AREAS**

shakehole - steep sided depression found commonly in limestone, usually resulting from a collapsed cave roof

shearling - a young sheep between its first and second shears

Sheep Annual Premium (SAP) - headage support payment for eligible ewes kept on the farm, limited by quota

sheep walk - upland areas which have been used long term for sheep management

silage - partially fermented conserved fodder

siliceous - rich in silica. Quartz-rich rocks eg granites are likely to be siliceous. Siliceous rocks are generally base-poor, with low concentrations of irons, magnesiums, etc.

silviculture - the growing and tending of trees as a branch of forestry

SINC - Site of importance for nature conservation. A non-statutory designation of sites at the county/district level. Sites are generally assessed by either local authorities or county wildlife trusts

sinkhole - a steep-sided depression found commonly in limestone, usually the result of solution weathering

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) - designated best examples of habitat types and sites with notable species or groups of species, notified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

slurry - liquefied animal manure

snowfield - area of permanent snow accumulated in a basin-shaped hollow

solifluction - the downhill viscous flow of surface deposits saturated with water, especially when released by thaw, often over still frozen ground beneath

soligenous mire - MINEROTROPHIC MIRE with a constant through-put of water

southern-continental - the large number of European plants whose chief area of distribution is central and southern Europe (Matthews, 1937)

Special Area of Conservation (SAC) - areas designated under the EC HABITATS DIRECTIVE. Sites important for habitats or species listed in the

Directive which contribute to the maintenance of 'a favourable conservation status'

Special Protection Area (SPA) - areas designated under the EC Birds Directive 1979 as important habitats for those species either listed on Annex I of the Directive or those regularly occurring on migration species

steer - a castrated male bovine animal more than a year old

stock - term used to refer to livestock

stock (livestock) density - LIVESTOCK UNITS per unit area

store cattle (stores) - animals kept on a low level of growth for later fattening or sold for fattening

store lambs - lambs requiring finishing (fattening) prior to slaughter

stripes - a type of PATTERNED GROUND oriented down the steepest slope gradient of a terrain influenced by marked thermal activity in the soil

Structural Funds - measures to aid economic and social development in the EU. Objective 5b areas covered large tracts of the English uplands but have been replaced by smaller Objective 1 and 2 areas under AGENDA 2000

submerged vegetation - plants rooted to the bed of a water body and either completely submerged or with only part of their shoots floating or emergent

suckler cow - a cow which is allowed to rear its own calf which is then used for beef production (suckler beef)

Suckler Cow Premium (SCP) - a subsidy to be paid on breeding cows used for beef calf production. This is subject to 'stocking density limits'

supplementary feed - feed used to supplement livestock dietary requirements usually during the winter. This often consists of CONSERVED FODDER, such as hay or SILAGE, feed blocks or concentrates

swale - to winter burn grass or heathland

swamp - a broad term covering mostly tall, emergent vegetation that fills the seral stage between open water and FEN

sward - above ground components of grassland vegetation

tarn - small upland water body

terminal sire - breed of ram mated with crossbred ewes to produce slaughter lambs

thufur - an Icelandic term for an earth hummock, a mound of earth in a PERIGLACIAL environment, having either a core of mineral soil or stones

top - to cut grass sward or selected plant species to favour growth of palatable shoots or for weed control

tor - an isolated exposure of much jointed rock, eg granite, standing as a prominent castellated mass above the general surface of a plateau, notably in Cornwall and Devon

tup - colloquial name for a ram

tupping - when tups mate with ewes

turbidity - reduced transparency in water, caused by suspended solids, giving it a murky appearance

unimproved grassland - grassland that has not been subjected to agricultural improvement through the use of fertilisers, herbicides, intensive grazing or drainage. Such grasslands are often species-rich

upland farm - a marginal farm with both open hill grazing and IN-BYE land, as distinct from a HILL FARM

unsuitable supplementary feeding - (as defined by SI No. 1500/1996 The HILL LIVESTOCK (COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCES) Regulations 1996) 'providing supplementary feed (other than to maintain livestock during abnormal weather conditions) in such a manner as to result in damage to vegetation through excessive trampling or POACHING of the land by animals or excessive rutting by vehicles' (see also OVERGRAZING REGULATION)

viviparous - giving birth to live young

weir - an obstacle preventing maximum river flow, used as a means of harnessing the power of rivers to drive milling machinery, for water level/flood control and in conjunction with locks for navigation

wether - a castrated male sheep

wet heath - heath community on peat soils less than 0.5 m deep

whole farm plan - integrated management plan for a whole farm which incorporates physical characteristics, information on agricultural activities and environmental features. May include management objectives.

Wildlife Enhancement Scheme (WES) - voluntary and flexible scheme run by English Nature providing positive incentives in the form of annual and standard capital payments for the sensitive management of SITES OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST in certain parts of England

Woodland Grant Scheme - provides support for the establishment, by planting or regeneration, and management of woodland

World Trade Organisation (WTO) - body established during the Uruguay Round of the GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT) to supervise and adjudicate implementation of international trading agreements and arrangements