

Water Storage Tanks

Specification extract · Pages 92–94

What this document is

This is an extract of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) document “ACRES Co-operation Non-Productive Investments Specification”, Version 2.2, July 2026. It contains the pages covering the Water Storage Tanks action (pages 92–94 of the full specification).

Because the specification runs each action straight into the next, the first and last pages of this extract may also show the end or beginning of a neighbouring action. The section for this action starts on page 92 (the printed page number matches the page number in the full document).

Always check the current version

DAFM updates the specification from time to time. The full document is the authoritative version and should be consulted before undertaking any work. It is available from:

Full specification (PDF, opens at this action):

https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/f8e2ccf8/NPI_specifications_July_2026_2.pdf#page=92

ACRES NPI page on gov.ie:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/service/f5a48-agri-climate-rural-environment-scheme-acres/#non-productive-investments>

About this action on the ACRES CP website

<https://acresireland.ie/action-projects/npi-water-storage-tanks/>

Picture 10: Example of an installed Solar Pump



Source: ACRES Burren Aran

Water Storage Tanks

Objective

To encourage the installation of a network of clean water sources that will offer multiple benefits for livestock management on species-rich areas.

Background

Having a well-installed water supply and storage system is vital for appropriate livestock management on scored fields. They provide alternative drinking points to natural water sources which can become damaged if overused by stock. They can be strategically installed to encourage grazing in specific areas of a plot. Water storage tanks can play a key role in storing water for these systems.

Site Suitability

- This action can be selected on parcels with an Eligible hectare ≥ 0

- This action is available on CP and Non-CP LPIS parcels that will be claimed by the participant for the remainder of the ACRES contract.
- This action can be selected on fields that have a scorecard submitted and is available on any scorecard. It can also be located in a farmyard, or on improved agricultural grassland (IAG) but must supply at least one water trough, which provides an environmental benefit to the farm i.e., a trough on a scored field or trough on IAG where the water course has been fenced off as part of another NPI.
- Storage tanks should be installed at an accessible, discreet location which makes the most of the local topography (scrub, walls, hollows) while ideally minimising the visual impact.
- The machine access route must be considered when choosing a location. The tank must not be located where there is a risk of damage to habitats and/or archaeology on the route to the proposed site.
- Water storage tanks should not be placed on or within close proximity to an archaeological monument. The machine access route must be considered when choosing a location. The tank must not be located where there is a risk of damage to habitats and/or archaeology on the route to the proposed site. Ongoing monitoring will be required to ensure that archaeological monuments are not impacted upon.

Requirements

1. The initial location of the water storage tank must be identified and marked on the map.
2. All water storage tanks must be purchased new. Each water storage tank applied for is only eligible for one NPI payment and once claimed must be retained for the remainder of the ACRES contract.
3. The minimum water storage tank size permitted is 2500 Litres.
4. Storage tanks must be a **suitable** water storage tank made from plastic or concrete. The use or reuse of old oil/water/slurry tankers or IBCs are not permitted.
5. All storage tanks must be mobile, i.e., not built from blocks on a permanent concrete base.
6. Only one claim for payment is allowed per approved NPI-Annual Works Plan. This action can only be claimed for payment once delivered in accordance with NPI Specification.

Additional Guidance

- Plastic storage tanks should be well anchored to avoid wind-blow. They should only be installed in a sheltered location and always kept partially filled.

Picture 11: Example of a 2500L Water Storage Tank



Source: ACRES Burren Aran

Water Troughs

Objective

To facilitate the installation of a network of livestock drinking points that will offer multiple benefits for livestock management and watercourse protection by installing water troughs.

Background

Having a well installed water supply and storage system is vital for appropriate livestock management on scored fields. They provide alternative drinking points to natural water sources which can become damaged if overused by stock. They can be strategically installed to encourage grazing in specific areas of a plot. Water troughs are an integral part of this system.

Site Suitability

- This action can only be selected on parcels with an Eligible hectare > 0.