

**BETA CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT SYLLABUS****GENERAL INFORMATION**

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## INTRODUCTION

### **BETA Conservation Management - Core Modules**

Effective conservation and environmental land management is key to future UK agricultural policy and its importance is recognised across all areas of food production and land management. Improving on-farm biodiversity, managing our natural resources and the use of sustainable farming practices are all vital as the industry moves towards a more sustainable future.

BETA Conservation Management provides a practical insight into the key legislation, principles, application of measures and understanding of on-farm opportunities for advisers and land managers to carry out effective conservation management. The knowledge acquired through the completion of the course will help to underpin the delivery of agri-environment scheme applications and ongoing management to achieve the desired outcomes.

This course is historically a merge of “BASIS BETA - Biodiversity and Environmental Training for Advisers” and “BASIS Conservation Management”. Therefore, the training is structured into three units: a core module that covers all the general aspects related to the subject and two specific skill areas, one with an agronomic specialism and one with an environmental specialism designed for non-farmed areas.

The core module has been designed to deliver the necessary knowledge and information for farm advisers, environmental advisers, farmers and land managers in the UK. This module can be followed either by one or both of the specific skill modules: Agricultural Specialism or Environmental Specialism.

### **BETA Conservation Management – Agricultural Specialism**

The agricultural specialism is designed to outline aspects of integrated farm management. It covers a wide variety of topics including but not limited to the importance of pollinators and predatory insects, soil biology and practical pest management plans. This specialism is designed and aimed at professionals involved in providing environmental advice on farms and the farmed environment, farmers and land managers.

### **BETA Conservation Management – Environmental Specialism**

The environmental specialism builds on management of the natural environment for both conservation and commercial use. It will include identification skills, landscape management planning and habitat structure. This specialism is designed and aimed at professionals including agronomists, environmental advisers, farmers and land managers.

## WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY

BASIS Registration Ltd is committed to the highest standards of openness and accountability. Therefore, we expect employees, candidates and others who work with BASIS, who have serious concerns about any aspect of our work to voice those concerns.

To this effect BASIS has a Whistle Blowing Policy. This procedure is designed to allow concerns of a public interest kind within BASIS to be raised, investigated and where appropriate, acted upon. Complaints may be made by or about any member of staff, candidates or those contracted to provide services to BASIS.

To view the full Whistle Blowing Policy go to:

<http://www.basis-reg.co.uk/documents/BASIS-whistle-blowing-policy.pdf>

## DYSLEXIA POLICY

BASIS Registration Ltd allows students diagnosed with dyslexia to request special examination arrangements. Proof of dyslexia is required a **minimum of 4 weeks** before the exam date so that BASIS can provide special examination arrangements if required.

For a full copy of our Dyslexia Policy please go to:

<https://basis-reg.co.uk/documents/Dyslexia-Policy.pdf>

## COMPLAINTS POLICY

For a full copy of our Complaints Policy please go to:

<https://www.basis-reg.co.uk/documents/Complaints-Procedures.pdf>

## EXAMINATION GUIDELINES

Examinations are conducted by BASIS for training providers who run training courses for the BETA Conservation Management module in various parts of the UK. The exam procedure and structure for the core module and for the specialism areas are covered in this syllabus.

### EXAMINATIONS

The examination is an online written paper made up of:

- 1 paper consisting of 25 multi-choice questions and 5 short answer questions on the core modules, to be completed in 2 hours 10 minutes.
- 1 paper for each specialism area consisting of 10 multi-choice questions and a choice of 3 from 6 short answer questions, to be completed in 1 hour and 25 minutes each.

Please note that candidates will only be tested on the core modules and 1 skill area on any one exam day.

**The pass mark is 70% in each paper.**

### EXAMINATION PROCEDURE AND STRUCTURE

A typical programme for the examinations is as follows:

09:00	Online examination starts
Time allowed - 2 hours 10 minutes	25 multi-choice questions and 5 short answer questions relating to the core module (2 compulsory and 3 selected from 6 available)
11:10	30-minute break
11:40	Specialism area 1 online examination starts
Time allowed - 1 hour and 25 minutes	10 multi-choice questions and a choice of 3 from 6 questions to answer in the relevant specialism short answer exam paper.
13.05	Examination ends

### GENERAL NOTES

It is recommended that prior to the exam candidates acquire enough practical experience with the full range of topics applicable to the examination. Theoretical knowledge without an understanding of its practical application would not be sufficient for a candidate to pass the exam.

Please note that modules can be carried forward, for example if a candidate was to pass the core modules but fail a specialism (or vice versa), they can be marked as incomplete and carry over the core/specialism another time (within 13 months).

## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

### DO I NEED TO TAKE A TRAINING COURSE IN ORDER TO SIT THE BETA CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION?

Not necessarily, if you feel you already have enough technical knowledge and on-site/in-field experience. However, candidates should ensure that they have been trained satisfactorily, either in-house or externally, and have had sufficient supervised on-the-job experience prior to the examination.

### WHAT FORM DO THE TRAINING COURSES TAKE?

That will depend on the trainer/training provider, the chosen course and on the candidate's previous experience to date. **Courses can run for a minimum of 4 days.**

### WHERE ARE TRAINING COURSES HELD?

Details of trainers and locality can be obtained on pages 23 - 25.

### HOW DO I APPLY TO TAKE A TRAINING COURSE?

Contact the Training Provider of your choice and complete a training course application form or contact BASIS for advice.

### WHEN AND WHERE ARE EXAMINATIONS HELD?

Examinations are held when there are sufficient numbers to make them viable, usually following a training course and at a venue chosen by the training provider and agreed with BASIS or online.

### WHAT DOES THE EXAMINATION ENTAIL?

Details can be found in this booklet on page 4.

### IF I FAIL THE EXAMINATION, CAN I RE-SIT?

Yes, you can re-sit the exam; however, BASIS examinations are accredited on the Higher Education qualifications framework. One consequence of this is that we need to ensure procedures are in place to improve a candidate's chances of success in subsequent examinations following a previous failure.

Where candidates have been examined unsuccessfully on two occasions, they will be required to retrain before attempting the exam for the third time.

Candidates and trainers will be required to complete a form to confirm that they have retrained, particularly covering areas that were identified as 'areas of weakness' at previous exams.

The form should be presented to the exam invigilator at the third exam attempt. Failure to confirm that retraining has taken place will result in a subsequent 'no result' for the exam.

Please help us to help you by asking your training provider to evaluate your training needs and undertake the training required to ensure you can pass the exam.

### WHEN WILL I RECEIVE MY EXAMINATION RESULTS?

We aim to issue results and feedback within 20 working days of the date of examination. **Please note results will not be given over the telephone.**

## BETA CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT SYLLABUS - CORE MODULES

### MODULE 1 - FARMLAND WILDLIFE AND HABITATS – CONSERVATION AND IMPROVEMENT

#### 1.1. Competence

Candidates must be able to demonstrate an understanding of why farmland wildlife populations should be conserved and where practical, increased. They must also be able to demonstrate an understanding of the key farmland habitats and the measures required to protect, link and enhance these areas.

#### 1.2. Essential Knowledge and Skills

Candidates must be able to demonstrate their knowledge in the three key areas outlined below.

##### 1.2.1. Wildlife and Biodiversity Policy

Candidates must have the ability to:

- Describe the key wildlife and biodiversity policy issues and demonstrate how and why they are relevant to agriculture.
- Understand their history, in terms of both international conventions and national agreements or reports, e.g. the Earth Summit (Rio de Janeiro, 1992), World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) and UK's State of Nature report.
- Explain the key targets and milestones outlined in the 25 Year Environment Plan and the National Pollinator Strategy. Recognise the key delivery mechanisms in place to help achieve these targets on a national, regional and local level.
- Recognise the key wildlife habitats present on farms, the species they support and the importance of both habitats and species.
- Understand the reasoning, need and history for Section 41 species and habitats.
- Show an understanding of cross compliance guidelines and their relation to the maintenance of habitats and landscape features.
- Explain how the current and new agri-environment schemes (Environmental Stewardship, Countryside Stewardship and ELMs) work and how funding can be accessed by farm businesses.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the key research behind agri-environment options and outcomes, e.g. The Allerton Project (winter supplementary feeding), RSPB Hope Farm, Demonstration Test Catchments (water catchment research). Describe and demonstrate knowledge of the conclusions from these important farmland and cluster farm wildlife research projects.
- Have awareness of key changes and components of wildlife legislation affecting wildlife law, for example: The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000.

### 1.2.2. Species and Habitat Management

Candidates must have the ability to:

- Define key terms, for example: biodiversity, natural capital, ecosystem services.
- Understand the principles behind the development of a planned approach to species and habitat conservation.
- Recognise which key species have declined and which have increased in agricultural landscapes. Describe the likely causes of these changes, which will include quality of habitat, changes in agricultural practice, changes in rural management, climate change and habitat loss. Include consideration of key migratory species dependant on UK farmland.
- Understand the breeding, feeding and habitat requirements of a range of key farmland species and the type of management required to help support healthy populations of these species.
- Identify a range of key non-native invasive species and demonstrate an understanding of the threats they pose and main management control methods for each.
- Explain the importance of species and habitat conservation for wider society and demonstrate why this is important to agriculture.

### 1.2.3. On-Farm Conservation Management

Candidates must have the ability to:

- Understand the importance of identifying the key habitats and species present on a farm and its immediate locality.
- Identify the key management techniques and options that could be implemented to protect those habitats and species on-farm.
- Recognise how these key habitats could be linked across the farmed landscape and beyond and describe the benefits that these connections can bring to both increase the range and population of associated species.
- Recognise opportunities to enhance and expand important habitats within the constraints of a farm business.
- Understand how the full range of requirements for identified species can be put in place by providing the correct variety of land management and habitat options.
- Recognise how the required management techniques can be provided through the utilisation of agri-environment schemes and other incentives, and how this can fit with a profitable farm business.
- Understand how cross compliance, Statutory Management Requirements (SMRs) and Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions (GAECs), underpin good environmental management.

- Appreciate how on-farm solutions and the implementation of on farm conservation management can impact on a landscape scale.
- Be able to advise farms on managing biodiversity based on Countryside Stewardship (CS), including the Wild Pollinator and Farm Wildlife Packages and understand planned operation of ELMs schemes, including the Sustainable Farming Incentive, Local Nature Recovery and Landscape Recovery.
- Understand the Defra metric, biodiversity net gain and its relevance in funding habitat creation on-farm.
- Outline the role of key UK carbon codes, including the Woodland Carbon Code, Peatland Code and the UK Farm Soil Carbon Code.
- Understand the range of publications and information sources available in the industry that showcase conservation management best practice, for example: Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF), Championing the Farmed Environment (CFE), Agricology, AHDB and the Voluntary Initiative (VI).

## MODULE 2 - FARMING AND THE WIDER ENVIRONMENT

### 2.1. Competence

Candidates must be able to demonstrate a broad understanding of a range of integrated farm management approaches, the key requirements of certified farm assurance standards and the range of opportunities the wider rural environment offers to both farm businesses and general public.

### 2.2. Essential Knowledge and Skills

Candidates must be able to demonstrate their knowledge in the three key areas outlined below.

#### 2.2.1. Farming Systems and Legislation

Candidates must have the ability to:

- Discuss the development and implementation of integrated approaches to farming, which will include Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Crop Management (ICM), Integrated Farm Management (IFM) and regenerative agriculture.
- Understand the basic principles of organic farming systems and the productivity and environmental impacts of such systems.
- Compare the relative merits of organic and conventional farming practices with an understanding of the economic and environmental aspects of each.
- Understand the broad requirements of cross compliance and the Basic Payment Scheme in relation to farming systems.
- Understand the requirements of UK waste regulations and their impact on farm management. This will include; agricultural waste exemptions, moving and disposing of agricultural waste, manure and slurry management, hazardous waste and spreading waste to land.
- Discuss the environmental benefits of minimising farm waste and maximising recycling opportunities.
- Identify and discuss how energy efficiency on-farm can be maximised
- Discuss on-farm renewable energy opportunities, including an awareness of potential funding.
- Discuss biofuels and future opportunities.
- Understand the present and future role of farms and the wider farming sector in dealing with climate change challenges.
- Discuss the methods of calculating carbon emissions on-farm, the key measures to reduce carbon emissions and ways to promote low carbon practices.

#### 2.2.2. Farming Standards, Provision of Public Goods and Education

Candidates must have the ability to:

- Understand key principles and requirements behind Farm Assurance Schemes and protocols in the UK and recognise the major assurance schemes (Red Tractor, LEAF Marque, RSPCA Assured) and their main attributes.
- Understand the certification process for organic farming systems and the importance of this.
- Recognise the importance of encouraging good environmental management in all agricultural operations and through the food supply chain.
- Recognise the important part played in education and the promotion of public awareness of agriculture and its contribution to our environment by organisations, such as The Country Trust and Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF), as well as initiatives such as Open Farm Sunday, FarmerTime, NFU Education.

### **2.2.3. Game Management and Public Access**

Candidates must have the ability to:

- Appreciate the principal legal requirements of statutory access through public rights of way, the CRoW Act and the Countryside Code.
- Understand permissive access.
- Understand the opportunity for diversification and additional farm income, for example from sporting and leisure activities.
- Awareness of the principles of best practice shoot management.
- Understand the role of the Code of Good Shooting Practice and the relationship with shooting and game management.
- An awareness of best practice predator control and snaring.
- An appreciation of the principles of best practice in the control of vermin and the work of the Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use (CRRU) and Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme (WIIS).

## MODULE 3 - SOIL MANAGEMENT

### 3.1. Competence

Candidates will know the principles governing the maintenance and increasing of soil organic matter content, the maintenance and improvement of good soil structure and methods for the prevention of erosion by water and wind. They must have knowledge of the legal and good agricultural practice requirements for the protection of soil, the maintenance of soil health and agricultural productivity.

### 3.2. Essential Knowledge and Skills

Candidates must have the ability to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the principal soil types and their key features.
- Demonstrate a basic understanding of Agricultural Land Classification.
- Recognise the features of soil structure (compaction, panning, capping, slumping, etc.).
- Recognise the features of soil erosion (sheet erosion, soil wash, rills, gullies, deposition).
- Explain how soil type and soil structure influence productivity, erosion and runoff risk.
- Understand the reasoning behind soil related cross compliance requirements appropriate to relevant UK regions.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the requirements for soil management as set out in 'Protecting, our Water, Soil and Air – A Code of Good Agricultural Practice for farmer's growers and land managers (CoGAP)'.
- Understand the Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC) standards for soil management
- Understand how to prepare a soil management plan.
- Understand how to increase soil organic matter levels to improve soil structural stability, for example using cover cropping and organic matter additions.
- Show a working knowledge of cover crop establishment and management.
- Explain the principles of the key soil cultivation and establishment techniques used in crop production and the impact of each of them on the soil structure, properties and soil biology.
- Understand the importance of soil biology, for example earthworms and micro-organisms, play within soils and how they can help to improve crop yields.
- Understand the impact soil material has on the aquatic environment.
- Understand the pathways by which soil can reach watercourses (e.g. tramlines, drainage, roads, ditches) and demonstrate knowledge of what mitigation measures can be put in place.

- Understand best practice for livestock grazing, feeding, density, timing and location, to reduce soil compaction and impacts on water quality.
- Show understanding of the key results from the following research projects: SOWAP (Soil and Water Protection) and Mitigation for Phosphorous and Sediment (MOPS) projects and the Soil Biology and Soil Health Partnership programme.

## MODULE 4 - WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### 4.1 Competence

Candidates must understand the relationships between land management and water quality to enable the best use of land and the minimisation of both point source and diffuse pollution. They must have knowledge of both the legal and best practice requirements for the protection of water and the maintenance of water quality.

### 4.2. Essential Knowledge and Skills

Candidates must have the ability to:

#### 4.2.1. Water protection:

- Understand the need for good water quality.
- Understand the two classifications of water bodies (groundwater and surface water) and the need for their protection, including the role of Groundwater Protection Zones (GPZs).
- Demonstrate an understanding and the implication of legislation and requirements for water management, as set out in the Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ), The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations, Farming Rules for Water and cross compliance regulations.
- Understand the source, pathway, receptor model, which can be used when discussing mitigation measures to improve water quality, on-farm and across a river catchment.
- Understand how to reduce diffuse pollution of water by:
  - Cultural methods and rotations, appropriate to varied soil types and cropping systems
  - Management and orientation of tramlines, field drainage systems, margins, tracks, roadways and hard surface areas
  - Effective use of land management techniques such as buffer strips, beetle banks, sediment traps/ponds and in-field grass areas
  - Identification and of specially designated areas e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's) and other areas where plant protection product use is restricted, along with suitable protection options
  - Utilisation of agri-environment scheme options, where appropriate
- Understand the basic principles of nutrient and manure management with specific reference to:
  - The importance of soil testing, soil pH and nutrient values and their management
  - Nutrient and manure management plans and implications of poor practice on the environment

- The utilisation of organic manures, sewage sludge, green waste and other organic amendments
- The use of low-emission spreading technologies to minimise environmental impact
- Understand the processes involved in sedimentation and eutrophication and the principal sources of agricultural and domestic phosphate in rural watercourses
- Understand the basic principles of pesticide management including:
  - The choice of plant protection products, their benefits and label requirements
  - Emergency authorisations and off-label approvals
  - Advice/recommendations
  - Correct storage, transportation, filling and application
  - Best practice in the application of pesticides including the use of different sprayer equipment/nozzles to prevent drift and/or exposure
  - Sprayer cleaning, wash down, disposal and biobeds/biofilters
  - Identify the risks to non-target species and sensitive areas which need to be taken into account when applying pesticide products, for example wildlife; mammals and birds; bees; non target insects and other arthropods; aquatic life; soil and groundwater, earthworms and soil micro-organisms; non target plants
  - Product stewardship e.g. metaldehyde stewardship, nematicide stewardship and other initiatives
- Understand how livestock management can impact on water quality through:
  - Medication and treatments, such as sheep dip and worming agents
  - Storing, handling and spreading of wastes
  - Animal feed
  - Grazing management, poaching and soil compaction
  - Access to watercourses
- Understand the basic principles of water management on-farm with specific reference to:
  - Field drainage and a knowledge of the key land drainage methods
  - Abstraction licencing and best practice for water abstraction
  - Water storage on-farm
  - Best practice irrigation principles

- Management of rainwater and grey water as a resource
- Understand the sources of information and delivery initiatives, for example Catchment Sensitive Farming, Championing the Farmed Environment, Tried & Tested, Rivers Trust and CaBA programmes.

## BETA CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT – AGRICULTURAL SPECIALISM

### MODULE 5A - NATURAL AND BIOLOGICAL CONTROL, POLLINATORS AND SOIL LIFE

#### 5A.1. Competence

Candidates must be able to demonstrate an understanding of the identification, role and biology of pollinating insects, pest predators, hyperparasites and disease antagonists. They must also be able to demonstrate an understanding of the role and biology of soil macro and microbiota in relation to soil health and nutrient cycling.

#### 5A.2. Essential Knowledge and Skills

Candidates must have the ability to:

- Explain the importance of, and habitat requirements for, pollinating insects for relevant agricultural crops.
- Understand the importance of plant protection product choice, good application practice and liaising with local beekeepers in protecting bees (e.g. via BeeConnected).
- Identify common pests, parasites, pathogens and natural enemies.
- Explain the key monitoring techniques for assessing pest and beneficial insect populations.
- Understand the biology of key predators of pests.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the factors affecting crop pest and predator populations including the weather and farming practices.
- Outline the effects of habitat provision and management on the populations, along with responsible use of IPM practices to optimise the opportunities for conservation biological control.
- Understand benefits and importance of crop rotations, variety choice and the role they can play in avoiding pest/disease attack.
- Appreciate the role of antagonistic microorganisms in the management of plant disease.
- Explain the practical application of economic thresholds for pests and diseases and lag periods.
- Discuss the role of microorganisms in nutrient cycling with reference to nitrogen and the factors affecting their activity.

## MODULE 5B - ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS AND RISK MANAGEMENT OF USING PESTICIDES ON FARM

### 5B.1. Competence

Candidates must be able to demonstrate the importance of an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) and show how practical implementation of the strategies on-farm can ensure effective use of plant protection products and protection farmland biodiversity.

### 5B.2. Essential Knowledge and Skills

Candidates must have the ability to:

- Define and explain the importance of the use of an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP).
- Be competent to advise on how an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) should be completed on-farm.
- Understand the IPM pyramid and hierarchy of measures, including: prevention, cultural, physical/mechanical, biological and chemical controls.
- Recommend best practice measures to ensure that the strategies can be achieved on-farm.
- Recognise the importance of the BASIS Crop Protection Certificate, BASIS Professional Register and use of formal agronomy advice.
- Understand the relevant Codes of Practice, guidelines and sources of environmental and conservation advice.
- Understand arthropod buffer zones and aquatic and restrictions on pesticide use near watercourses.
- Explain how to reduce exposure of non-target organisms to pesticides including vertebrate control products and molluscicides.

## BETA CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT – ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALISM

### MODULE 6 - ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALISM

#### 6.1. Competence

Candidates must be able to demonstrate an understanding of how to create habitats for given species and be able to demonstrate an understanding of the importance of species conservation and the benefits wildlife management can have on the rural environment.

#### 6.2. Essential Knowledge and Skills

Candidates must have the ability to:

##### *Habitat creation/management*

- Identify key natural flora and fauna and be aware of their environmental preferences.
- Understand how to identify, manage, protect and link important existing habitats.
- Demonstrate ways of creating relevant new habitats based on landscape characteristics, soil type, and actual location.
- Identify wildlife species (especially protected wildlife) that are typically associated with farmed land and their typical lifecycle requirements; this will include those species found in or around unpopulated or derelict buildings.
- Understand ways of selecting, siting, establishing and managing agri-environment options and features.
- Explain wetland habitats, their structure, roles and management.
- Show an understanding of methods used to encourage natural regeneration of various ecosystems.

##### *Woodland*

- Explain key methods for the management of woodland habitats, including mature and new woodland, shelterbelts, grazed woodlands, riparian woodlands.
- Demonstrate an understanding of woodland structure and the inclusion of rides/open space.
- Outline management techniques of existing woodland and the importance of that management, for examples species choice, dead wood, coppicing and needs of specialist woodland species, such as dormouse, bats, birds and butterflies.
- Demonstrate knowledge and management of planting of trees and shrubs in the landscape, including in-field trees.
- Understand the principles of agroforestry.

### *Hedges*

- Explain the role of hedgerows in the landscape and the importance of effective hedgerow management.
- Understand hedge planting, trimming and ongoing management.

### *Ditches*

- Understand the importance of ditches and their role for water management and wildlife.
- Identify features of ditches and detail the key management techniques used for biodiversity and water quality.

### *Grassland*

- Define the key features of upland and lowland grassland, including for example: flood meadows, heathland, chalk grassland, hay meadows, silage and permanent vs temporary grassland.
- Identify and understand the key principles behind different grazing regimes, to include extensive grazing and mob grazing. Demonstrate the differences between key livestock types, including an understanding of how they graze, the impact they can have on sward structure and composition and the different timings of grazing.
- Demonstrate a knowledge of grassland production systems, such as haymaking and silage production, how these systems can benefit the environment and how any potential environmental impacts can be minimised.
- Show a knowledge of the potential benefits and impacts of livestock and grassland management systems on soil health, including soil structure and soil biology, and the subsequent influence on water quality. Understand how different leys can influence soil health and livestock production.
- Discuss the use of specific agri-environment options for grassland farming systems.

### *Landscape and catchment scale delivery*

- Explain the benefits of landscape-scale approaches to soil, water and wildlife management.
- Demonstrate an understanding of agri-environment options and landscape scale initiatives, for example facilitation fund or cluster groups, and their role in supporting landscape and catchment scale outcomes.

## SAMPLE MULTI-CHOICE QUESTIONS FOR THE BETA CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT EXAMINATION

The following sample questions give a guideline of the type and presentation of questions candidates will have to answer when taking the BETA Conservation Management examination. They are purely intended as a guide and consist of superseded questions from actual past papers.

- 1. Completing an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) is intended to:**
  - (a) Identify integrated pest management strategies that can be used on-farm in each cropping season
  - (b) Identify the hazards and manage the risks of using plant protection products to an operator
  - (c) Minimise residue levels in crops
  - (d) Help minimise the impact of insecticides on water quality
  
- 2. Access to damp pasture land is of benefit for:**
  - (a) Skylarks
  - (b) Yellowhammers
  - (c) Lapwings
  - (d) Corn buntings
  
- 3. A herbicide sprayed onto an arable crop adjacent to a field growing horticultural crop is more likely to cause damage if it is:**
  - (a) Leachable
  - (b) Persistent
  - (c) Of a high mammalian toxicity
  - (d) Volatile
  
- 4. The Voluntary Initiative is:**
  - (a) An NFU/CLA initiative for the management of voluntary set-aside land
  - (b) A stewardship initiative for the use of crop protection products
  - (c) A stakeholder group involving the manufacturers and distributors of pesticides
  - (d) A stakeholder group from across the agricultural industry seeking to enhance biodiversity
  
- 5. Which is the best type of trap to use in the control of foxes?**
  - (a) Self-locking snare
  - (b) Free running snare
  - (c) Spring traps
  - (d) Dead drop trap
  
- 6. Under the CRRU code for responsible rodenticide use, which of the following is incorrect?**
  - (a) Never leave bait exposed to non-target animals and birds
  - (b) Never use more than one baiting point
  - (c) Always have a planned approach
  - (d) Always collect and dispose of rodent bodies
  
- 7. EAMU's (Extension of Authorisation for Minor Use) are authorised by:**
  - (a) Chemical Regulation Divison (CRD)
  - (b) DEFRA
  - (c) Manufacturers
  - (d) Environment Agency

## USEFUL WEBSITES AND PUBLICATIONS

- **Agricology**  
<https://www.agricology.co.uk/>
- **AHDB GREATSOILS**  
<https://ahdb.org.uk/greatsoils>
- **Catchment Based Approach Demonstration Test Catchments**  
<https://catchmentbasedapproach.org/learn/demonstration-test-catchments-dtc/>
- **Catchment Sensitive Farming**  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/catchment-sensitive-farming-reduce-agricultural-water-pollution>
- **CFE (Championing the Farmed Environment)**  
<https://www.cfeonline.org.uk/>
- **CEH Habitat Creation and Management for Pollinators**  
<https://www.ceh.ac.uk/sites/default/files/Habitat%20Management%20and%20Creation%20For%20Pollinators.pdf>
- **Code of Good Shooting Practice**  
[www.codeofgoodshootingpractice.org.uk](http://www.codeofgoodshootingpractice.org.uk)
- **Defra Guide to Cross Compliance in England**  
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guide-to-cross-compliance-in-england-2021>
- **Defra Protecting our Water, Soil and Air: A Code of Good Agricultural Practice for farmers, growers and land managers (CoGAP)**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protecting-our-water-soil-and-air>
- **Defra Countryside Stewardship**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/countryside-stewardship>
- **Defra Environmental Land Management Schemes**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environmental-land-management-schemes-overview>
- **FarmWildlife**  
<https://farmwildlife.info/>
- **Hedgelink Hedgerow Management Advice**  
<https://hedgelink.org.uk/hedgerows/hedgerow-management-advice/>
- **Integrated Pest Management Plan**  
<https://voluntaryinitiative.org.uk/schemes/integrated-pest-management/>

- LEAF  
<https://leaf.eco/>
- Plantlife  
<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/discover-wild-plants-nature/habitats/arable-farmland>
- RSPB  
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/farming/>
- The Allerton Project  
<https://www.allertontrust.org.uk/research/>
- Think Wildlife Campaign for Responsible Rodenticide Use  
<https://www.thinkwildlife.org/about-crru-uk/>
- Voluntary Initiative (VI)  
<https://voluntaryinitiative.org.uk/>
- WILDCRU Wildlife & Farming Conservation on Lowland Farms Handbook  
<https://www.wildcru.org/files/wildcruhandbook.pdf>
- Wildlife Law in the UK  
<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/uk-wildlife-law>

## BASIS APPROVED TRAINERS

The following Colleges, Trainers and Training Providers are successfully running BETA Conservation Management examinations and have been accepted as BASIS Approved Trainers for BETA Conservation Management.

### **Boston & North Wash Training Group**

Kiln House  
West Fen  
Stickney, BOSTON  
Lincolnshire,  
PE22 8BH

Contact: Margaret Dawson  
Tel: 01205 480898  
Email: [dawsonm@dialstart.net](mailto:dawsonm@dialstart.net)  
Trainer: Simon Goodger  
Web: <http://boston--north-wash-training-group.mytrainingwebsite.co.uk/>  
**Modules: Agricultural Specialisms**

### **Chelmsford & West Essex Training Group**

2 Salisbury Cottages  
Maldon Road  
Hatfield Peverel  
CHELMSFORD  
Essex CM3 2HS

Contact: Debbie Wedge  
Tel: 01245 381193  
Email: [debbiewedge@cwetg.org](mailto:debbiewedge@cwetg.org)  
Trainer: Debbie Wedge  
Web: <http://www.cwetg.org>  
**Modules: Environmental and Agricultural Specialisms**

### **Dorset Training Ltd**

Unit 3  
Deverel Farm  
Milborne St Andrew  
BLANFORD FORUM  
Dorset DT11 0HX

Contact: Anna Chambers  
Tel: 01258 837197 / 07734 079495  
Email: [enquiries@dorsettraining.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@dorsettraining.org.uk)  
Web: [www.hampshire-training.co.uk](http://www.hampshire-training.co.uk)  
**Modules: Environmental and Agricultural Specialisms**

### **Hampshire Training Providers Ltd**

Unit G  
Ashe Warren Farm  
Overton  
BASINGSTOKE  
Hampshire  
RG25 3AW

Contact: Catherine Mercer  
Tel: 07884 260798  
Email: [catherine@hampshire-training.co.uk](mailto:catherine@hampshire-training.co.uk)  
Web: [www.hampshire-training.co.uk](http://www.hampshire-training.co.uk)  
**Modules: Environmental and Agricultural Specialisms**

### **Harper Adams University**

Edgmond  
NEWPORT  
Shropshire  
TF10 8NB

Contact: Lisa Plant  
Tel. 01952 815300  
Email: [lplant@harper-adams.ac.uk](mailto:lplant@harper-adams.ac.uk)  
Web: [www.harper-adams.ac.uk](http://www.harper-adams.ac.uk)  
Trainer: Alastair Leake  
**Modules: Environmental and Agricultural Specialisms**

### **James Christian-Ilett**

8 Painshall Close  
Welton  
LINCOLN  
LN2 3NU

Contact: James Christian-Ilett  
Tel: 07483 282060  
Email: [christian.ilett@btinternet.com](mailto:christian.ilett@btinternet.com)  
Trainer: James Christian-Ilett  
**Modules: Agricultural Specialisms**

**Landbased Training**

Garth Cottage  
Wintringham  
MALTON  
North Yorkshire  
YO17 8HX

Contact: Linda Bower

Tel: 01944 758379

Email: [linda@landbased-training.com](mailto:linda@landbased-training.com)

Web: [www.landbased-training.com](http://www.landbased-training.com)

**Modules: Environmental and Agricultural Specialisms**

**Mid Kent Training**

Kempes Corner Farm  
Boughton Aluph  
ASHFORD  
Kent  
TN25 4ES

Contact: Dianne Qusted

Tel: 01233 813688

Email: [info@mkt.uk.net](mailto:info@mkt.uk.net)

Trainer: Debbie Wedge

Web: [www.midkenttraining.co.uk](http://www.midkenttraining.co.uk)

**Modules: Agricultural Specialisms**

**The Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust:  
The Allerton Project**

Loddington House  
Loddington  
LEICESTER  
LE7 9XE

Contact: Jemma Clifford

Tel: 01572 718730

Email: [allertontraining@gwct.org.uk](mailto:allertontraining@gwct.org.uk)

Trainer: Saya Harvey/Joe Stanley

Web: [www.allertontrust.org.uk](http://www.allertontrust.org.uk)

**Modules: Environmental and Agricultural Specialisms**

**The Training Association (East)**

High Cottage  
St Andrews Lane  
Congham  
KINGS LYNN  
Norfolk, PE32 1DS

Contact: Rob Tarry

Tel: 01485 600225

Email: [rob@traineast.co.uk](mailto:rob@traineast.co.uk)

Trainer: Dr Simon Goodger

Web: [www.traineast.co.uk](http://www.traineast.co.uk)

**Modules: Environmental and Agricultural Specialisms**

**The Training Association (West)**

Northfield  
The Row  
Wereham  
KINGS LYNN  
Norfolk PE33 9AY

Contact: Jo Bruce

Tel: 01366 500050

Email: [jo@traineast.co.uk](mailto:jo@traineast.co.uk)

Trainer: Dr Simon Goodger

Web: [www.traineast.co.uk](http://www.traineast.co.uk)

**Modules: Agricultural Specialisms**

**Vale Training Services**

Marsh Hill Farm  
Marsh  
AYLESBURY  
Buckinghamshire  
HP17 8ST

Contact: Kate Mason

Tel: 01296 612201

Email: [kate.mason@valetraining.co.uk](mailto:kate.mason@valetraining.co.uk)

Trainer: Debbie Wedge

Web: [www.valetrainingservices.co.uk](http://www.valetrainingservices.co.uk)

**Modules: Agricultural Specialisms**

**University of Lincoln**

Riseholme Park  
LINCOLN  
Lincolnshire  
LN2 2LG

Contact: Simon Goodger

Tel: 01522 835295

Email: [sgoodger@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:sgoodger@lincoln.ac.uk)

Trainer: Dr Simon Goodger

Web: <http://www.lincoln.ac.uk/home/>

**Modules: Agricultural Specialisms**

The following Colleges, Trainers and Training Organisations have expressed an interest in running some, or all, of the training modules and/or the BETA Conservation Management examination.

**CAFRE Greenmount Campus**

22 Greenmount Road  
ANTRIM, Co Antrim  
Northern Ireland  
BT41 4PU

Contact: Steven Wallace  
Tel: 02894 426935  
Email: [steven.wallace@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:steven.wallace@daera-ni.gov.uk)  
Trainer: Steven Wallace  
Web: [www.cafre.ac.uk](http://www.cafre.ac.uk)

**Duchy College**

Stoke Climsland  
CALLINGTON  
Cornwall  
PL17 8PB

Contact: Training  
Tel: 01208 873220  
Email: [rbs@duchy.ac.uk](mailto:rbs@duchy.ac.uk)  
Trainer: Alastair Leake  
Web: [www.cornwall.ac.uk/duchy](http://www.cornwall.ac.uk/duchy)

**DJL Agronomics**

Highgrove House  
Cassbrook Drive  
Fulstow  
LOUTH, LN11 0XR

Contact: Jim Lewis  
Tel: 07831 120363  
Email: [djlagronomics@gmail.com](mailto:djlagronomics@gmail.com)  
Trainer: Dr Jim Lewis  
Web: [www.djlag.co.uk](http://www.djlag.co.uk)

**SRUC**

Caledonian Marts  
Stirling  
STIRLING  
FK7 7LS

Contact: Enquiries  
Email: [basis@sruc.ac.uk](mailto:basis@sruc.ac.uk)  
Web: [www.sac.co.uk](http://www.sac.co.uk)

Many companies may wish to arrange their own in-house training, however, those who do not have suitable examination facilities should contact colleges/trainers listed in this booklet. All examinations must be booked in advance with BASIS to ensure sufficient time is available to appoint an independent examiner.

15 October 2021