



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Supports for the Horticulture Sector

Sinead Mulcahy

Horticulture & Plant Health Division

12th October 2022

Scheme of Investment Aid for the Development of the Commercial Horticulture Sector



Aim: To assist in the development of the horticulture sector, including beekeeping.

- The scheme is aimed at those engaging in commercial horticultural production and/or beekeeping.
 - Field vegetables, mushrooms, protected food crops, amenity crops, soft fruit, apples & beekeeping.
- Provides grant aid for capital investments in specialised plant and equipment for the horticulture sector.
- Scheme's objectives are to:
 - promote the diversification of on-farm activities;
 - improve the quality of products;
 - facilitate environmentally friendly practices
 - improve working conditions.

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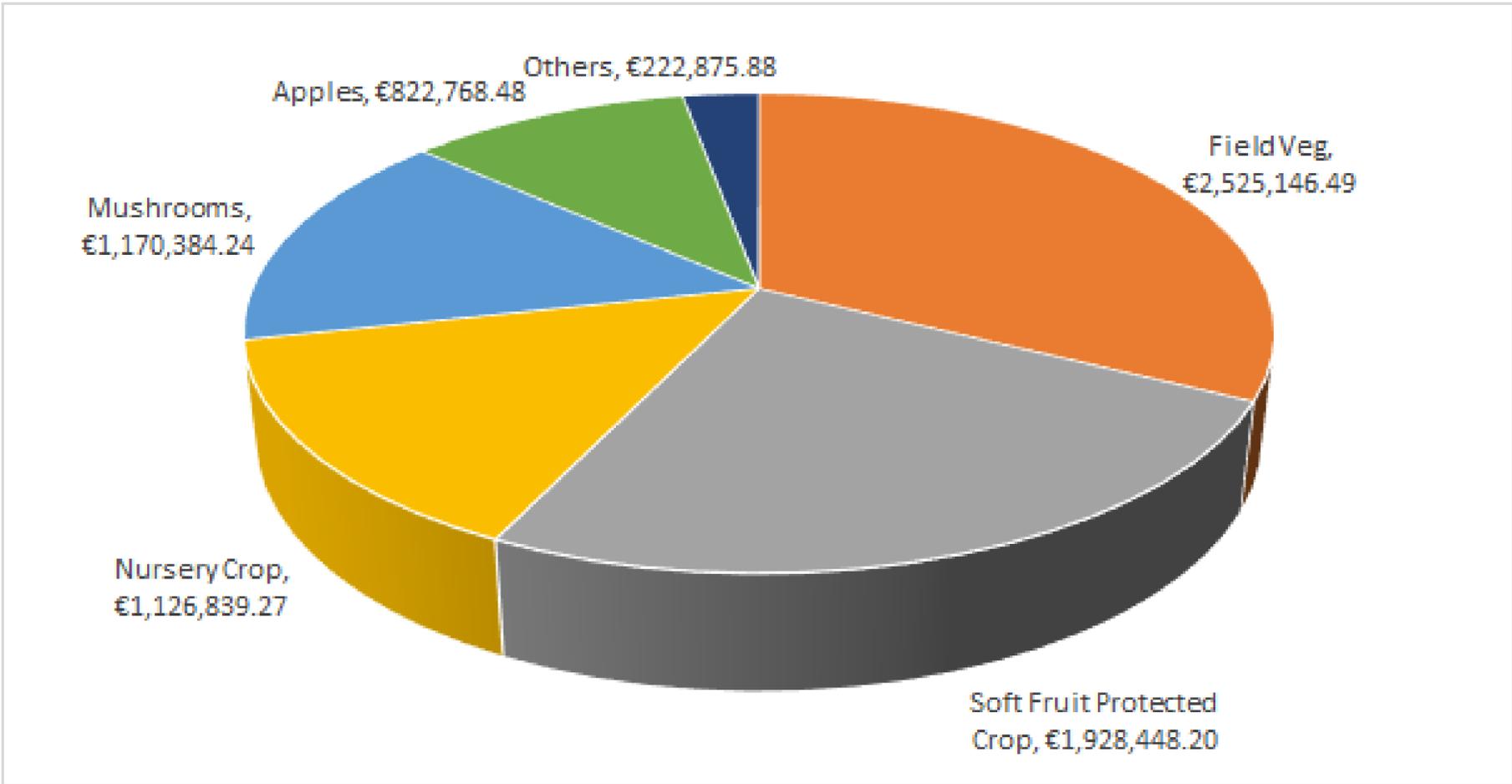


- **2022 Scheme** – Budget €9 million.
- The Scheme is 100% funded by the Irish Government.
- **Grant Aid Rate:** Funding is allocated at a rate of up to 40% (50% in the case of young growers / farmers).
- **Minimum Investment Rate:** €10,000 excluding VAT, (except in the case of beekeeping where a minimum investment of €2,000 excluding VAT applies).
- **Types of Investments:** Mechanisation, Efficiency and environmental, Investments to improve utilisation of existing structures.

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- In 2021 grant aid of €7.8m was paid to growers representing an investment of approximately €19.5 million by horticulture producers.



2021 Grant Aid Per Sector

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- 2023 Scheme of Investment Aid for the Development of the Commercial Horticulture Sector opening shortly.
- More Information:
 - **DAFM Website - Schemes & Services – Horticulture**
 - **Email:** Horticulturegrants@agriculture.gov.ie
 - **Phone:** 01-5058803

Fruit and Vegetable Producer Organisation Scheme



- There are 5 recognised F&V Producer Organisations in Ireland.
- POs market their members' produce, ensuring concentration of supply and must ensure adequate control of expenditure and retention of records to substantiate implementation of actions.
- To be recognised, a PO must have at least 5 active producer members and a minimum VMP (~turnover) of €2,500,000.
- Once recognised, a PO can draw up a 3 to 7 year Operational Programme with actions (drawn from a list of eligible actions) to achieve their own SMART goals. Actions focus on e.g. marketing produce, improving efficiencies, mitigating climate change
- From 1st January 2023, newly recognised or merged POs eligible for at least **60%** and up to **80%** aid on actions in Operational Programmes. Existing POs eligible for at least **50%** and up to **80%** aid on actions in Operational Programmes. Aid is claimed and paid a year in arrears. The budget for an Operational Programme is set as a % of VMP

Early Stage Support for Producer Organisations



- From 1st January 2023, newly recognised POs eligible for additional funding: €10,000 p.a. for the first three years towards administrative costs and €3,000 (one off) towards advisory services.
- DAFM can recognise POs in the fruit and vegetable, tillage, potato, plant amenity, beef and sheep sectors.
- EU funding for Operational Programmes only available for recognised POs in the fruit and vegetable sector.
- Contact PO@agriculture.gov.ie for more information and a copy of the terms and conditions



Thank You