



## **EFA FODDER OPTIONS**

NFU Scotland would like to highlight to members the options that currently exist under Scottish Greening rules within the Ecological Focus Areas (EFAs) as of 10 September 2018.

### **EFA Catch Crop (undersown grass)**

The catch crop (grass) must be maintained until 31 December however, you are allowed to graze the undersown grass immediately after harvesting the nurse crop (cereal).

### **EFA Green Cover**

You must establish the EFA green cover by 1 November and maintain it until the end of the calendar year. Acceptable crops for EFA Green Cover are mixes of two or more of the following crops: alfalfa, barley, red clover, white clover, mustard, oats, phacelia, radish, rye, triticale, vetch.

You must not take to harvest any crop sown as EFA green cover but you can graze the cover from 1 January onwards.

### **EFA Fallow**

Although no agricultural activity is allowed in EFA fallow between 15 January and 15 July, you are allowed to cut or graze after 15 July (including for silage or hay).

### **EFA nitrogen-fixing crops**

You must not harvest the crop before 1 August in order to protect ground-nesting birds but can be grazed or cut after 1 August with the exception that livestock cannot graze in margins that contain or are adjacent to a watercourse.

### **EFA Field Margin**

You are allowed to cut after 15 July (including for silage or hay) and graze after 15 July unless the margin contains or is adjacent to a watercourse.

### **Buffer Strips**

Topping is permissible within the two metre buffer strip, however the above greening rules apply if this land is also part of your Ecological Focus Area (EFA).