

Abstraction licensing – an Agriculture perspective

AHDB SPot Farm Results Week
January 2021



Abstraction Licensing Strategies

- Licensing strategy on a catchment scale
- Resource availability information
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/water-abstraction-licensing-strategies-cams-process>

Collection

Abstraction licensing strategies (CAMS process)

Find out how much water is available in your area by viewing Environment Agency abstraction licensing strategies.

Published 30 April 2014

Last updated 6 January 2021 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Environment Agency](#)

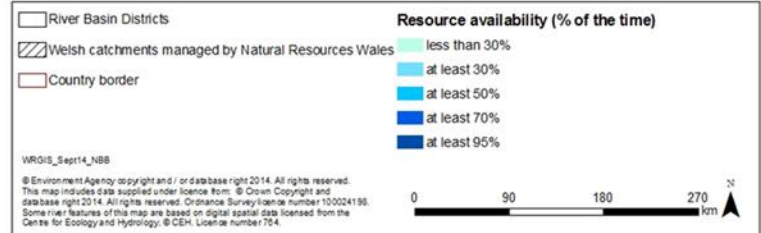
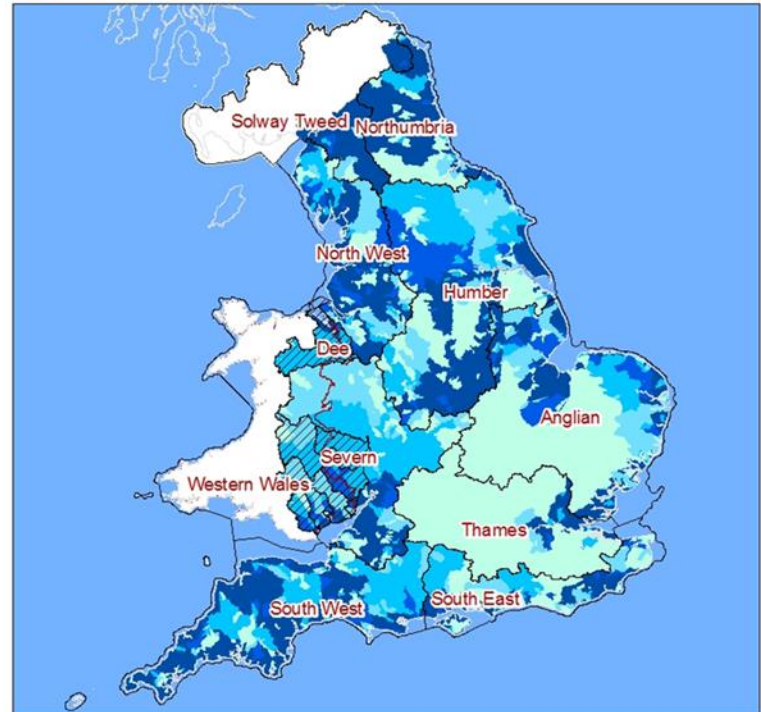
Contents

- [North East \(map area 1\)](#)
- [Cumbria and Lancashire \(map area 2\)](#)
- [Yorkshire \(map area 3\)](#)

Water resource reliability: percentage of time water would be available for abstraction under a new licence



England



Apply for an abstraction licence



Guidance

Apply for a water abstraction or impoundment licence

How to apply to the Environment Agency for a water abstraction or impoundment licence.

- Application fees and (annual charges apply)*

Published 8 May 2014

Last updated 2 October 2020 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Environment Agency](#)

Types of licence

The different types of water resources licence you can apply for are:

- full licence – for most types of water abstraction over 20 cubic metres a day*
- transfer licence – to move over 20 cubic metres of water a day from one source to another without intervening use
- temporary licence – to abstract more than 20 cubic metres of water a day over a period of less than 28 days
- impoundment licence – to create an impoundment structure such as a sluice, weir or dam

Abstraction Licence document

- Licence holder details
- Source
- Point(s) of abstraction
- Purpose
- Season
- Quantities
- Measurement
- Records and returns
- Further provisions
 - Hands off flow conditions
 - Environmental monitoring
 - Fish / Eel screening and passage



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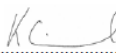
| | |
|--|-----|
| Licence Serial No: | xxx |
| <small>Please quote the serial number in all correspondence about this licence</small> | |

FULL LICENCE TO ABSTRACT WATER

The Environment Agency ("the Agency") grants this licence to:-

xxx Farms
Peterborough
PEX XXX

This licence authorises the Licence Holder to abstract water from the source of supply described in the Schedule of Conditions to this licence and subject to the provisions of that Schedule. The licence commences from the effective date shown below and shall remain in force until the date of expiry shown below. Where no expiry date is specified the licence shall remain in force until revoked.

Signed 

Keith Grimwood
Permitting Team Leader

Environment Agency
Permitting and Support Centre
Water Resources Team
Quadrant 2

Date of issue 14 December 2012

Date effective 14 December 2012

Date of expiry 31 March 2027



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Abstraction returns & charges

- Abstraction returns submitted each year
- Two part Tariff is where there is a basic charge of 50% of the licensed volume for a licence holder, the second portion is charged pro rata dependent on actual usage. If a return is not received the supplementary charge is calculated. Even if no water is abstracted a nil return should still be submitted.
- Application charges & annual charges details at:

Statutory guidance

Scheme of abstraction charges 2020 to 2021

Environment Agency charges for water abstraction and impoundment licences.

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/scheme-of-abstraction-charges-2020-to-2021>

Trickle/Drip Irrigation Abstraction


- Deadline for receiving applications for previously exempt activities (including trickle irrigation) has passed. Any abstraction undertaken without a valid application having been submitted by the deadline is now unlawful and will require a new application. This must be submitted through the normal licencing process before any further abstraction can take place.
- Determining applications - with the first approx. 300 draft licences due out to customers by the end of March 2021.



Courtesy of
AHDB

Manage your water abstraction licence

- <https://manage-water-abstraction-impoundment-licence.service.gov.uk/start>
- you can now set up and manage your water abstraction licence online.
- We will send you a security code by post to the registered address on your licence. You can then view your licence and submit returns online.
- We will be adding new features to the service

 **GOV.UK**

Manage your water abstraction or impoundment licence

BETA This is a new service – your [feedback](#) will help us to improve it.

[< Back](#)

Create an account to manage your water abstraction licence online

You must be a licence holder to create an online account. Once registered you will be able to:

- view your abstraction licence information
- submit abstraction returns

Guidance

Manage your water abstraction or impoundment licence online

Use this service to view and share your licence information and to submit abstraction returns.

Published 27 March 2018
Last updated 1 November 2018 — [see all updates](#)
From: [Environment Agency](#)

Applies to: **England**

Winter time abstraction jobs

- flows are typically now classed as above normal or higher for the time of year.
- **Please take every possible opportunity to top up winter storage reservoirs ready for the start of the irrigation season.**
- **Farmers should be reviewing their abstraction licence needs over the winter to be ready for next summer.** For more information on how to make longer term changes to your licence to meet your business needs, including for drought and dry weather resilience, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/change-a-water-abstraction-or-impoundment-licence>



Guidance

Change a water abstraction or impoundment licence

Complete the correct forms, tell the Environment Agency if the licence holder dies or becomes bankrupt and find out when changes can be enforced.

Published 27 March 2018

Last updated 3 April 2018 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Environment Agency](#)

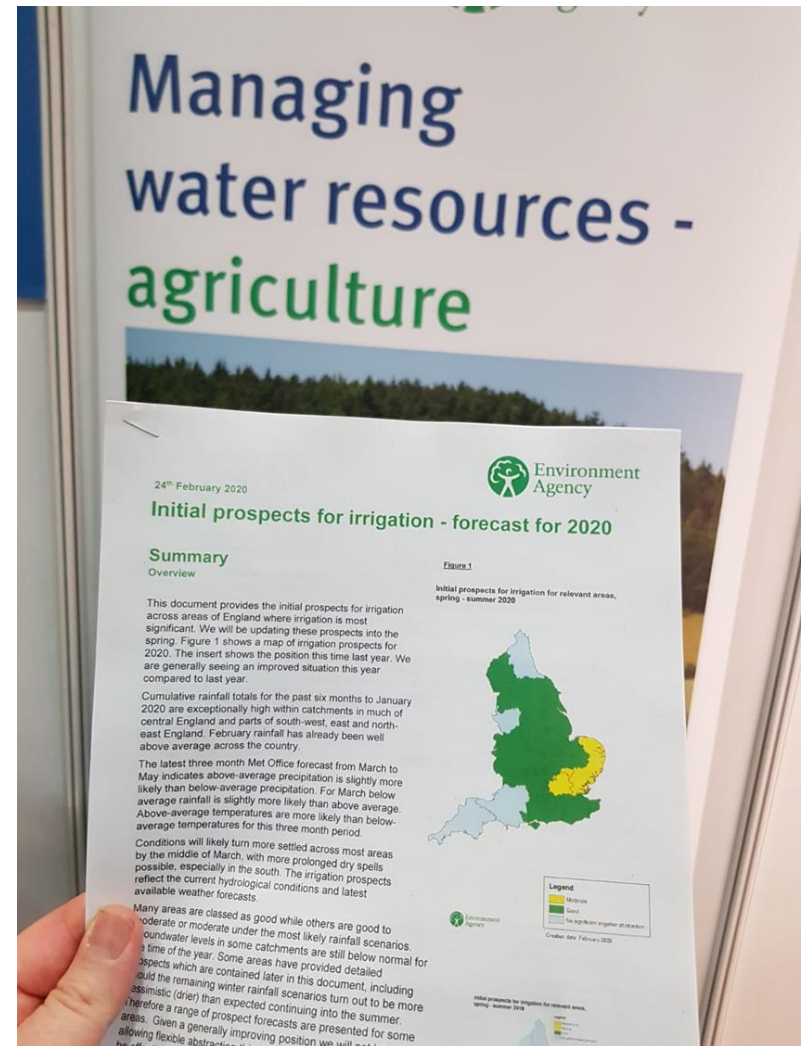
Applies to: England

Irrigation Prospects

- Initial Irrigation Prospects out at the end of February 2021 at: <https://www.farmingadvice.service.org.uk/technical-articles>
- Updated Irrigation Prospects published April/May
- Both will be shared with AHDB

Prospects for spray irrigation are defined as 'Good', 'Moderate' or 'Poor'.

| | |
|----------|--|
| Good | Water levels are average or above average and supplies are expected to be safe. There is a possibility of minor local controls on abstraction from surface water in late summer if the weather is exceptionally hot and dry. |
| Moderate | Water levels are low. Some controls on surface water abstraction are possible by midsummer if the weather is hot and dry. Controls on abstraction from groundwater are possible in small, sensitive groundwater areas. |
| Poor | Water levels are well below average. Soil moisture deficit is developing early and significant restrictions on abstraction from surface and groundwater are probable. |



Hydrological info to help you manage your abstraction and business

- Much more information on the water situation is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/water-situation-reports-for-england>
- Met Office 3 month forecast <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/binaries/content/assets/metofficegov.uk/pdf/business/public-sector/civil-contingency/3moutlook-jfm-v2.pdf>

Water situation reports for England

Monthly water situation reports and weekly rainfall and river flow reports.

Published 1 October 2012

Last updated 11 February 2020 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Environment Agency](#)

[Groundwater: current status and flood risk](#)

Reports

[Rainfall and river flow: weekly reports for England](#)

7 January 2021 Research and analysis

Met Office UK 3-month Outlook

Period: January - March 2021
Issue date: 21.12.20
Next issue: 25.01.21

3-month summary Guide to the Outlook Shifts in likelihood What is average? Q&A

3-month summary

- Higher-than-normal chance of wet conditions
- Increased likelihood of impacts from heavy rainfall and wind
- Near average or dry conditions remain possible
- Large reduction in the chance of cold conditions compared to normal
- Decreased likelihood of impacts from cold weather such as snow, frost and fog
- Cold spells remain possible even in a near average or mild 3-month period

Any Questions?

