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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday 16 January 2021 19:07
To: WildBirdDeclarations
Subject: Crop protection

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I provide a crop protection service to grain and tillage farmers in county Louth. Birds attacking crops include the various members of the corvid family most notably rooks. Woodpigeon are a major problem year round to basicas ,Rapeseed and all cereals. These species are resident and have robust and growing populations. Crop losses of up to 40% are recorded where shooting is not used to protect the crop. Non lethal methods are ineffective as these birds are highly intelligent and quickly learn to ignore scarecrow and gas bangers. I submit that there should be no change to the derogation that currently applies

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