

Iveragh Co-operative Farmers Mart Society Ltd.

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12th December '14

Dear Sir/Madam

Further to your advert in a recent publication of The Farmers Journal, regarding a public consultation process on burning and hedge cutting controls.

As Manager of Iveragh Co-Operative Farmers Mart Society in Cahirciveen, Co. Kerry. I am representing practically all of the farmers in South Kerry and the Iveragh peninsula and I was asked to contact your office at a recent committee of Management meeting which included all the local farmer representatives in the locality

Our main requests includes:

1. That the burning of gorse on hills be allowed until April 1st each year instead of March 1st
2. That the trimming of roadside hedges be brought forward to August 1st instead of September 1st

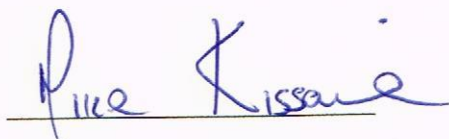
As regards the burning, our hills are overgrown with gorse & scrub and this proposed extension would give farmers a chance to burn off this dead vegetation in early spring and people would again be able to walk the hills unimpeded and it would help farmers greatly as they would not incur further penalties in their single farm payment as a result of being able to clear their land of gorse and scrub in a controlled burning process. Most years the land and weather is not sufficiently dry until March to burn this material and at this stage it is against the law to do so.

It is only a four week extension and we believe it would have no negative effect on wild life as nesting birds don't really get busy until April and May common sense must surely prevail.

Regarding the roadside hedges they are a major hazard to the public and if they could be trimmed from August 1st as opposed to September 1st, we feel this would greatly enhance road safety.

Thank you for this opportunity to put forward our submission and we look forward to a common sense approach and result

Yours Sincerely



Mike Kissane

Manager

Iveragh Co-op. Farmer's
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Co. Kerry