

d) 'active farmers' shall be defined *by Member States* in such a way as to ensure ***that this support is only granted to farmers who contribute to the agricultural production and comply with conditionality requirements. The definition shall also ensure*** that no support is granted to those whose agricultural activity forms only an insignificant part of their overall economic activities, while not precluding from support pluri-active farmers. The definition shall, ***in any event, preserve the family farming model of the Union of an individual or group nature, irrespective of its size, and may take into account, if necessary, the special features of the regions defined in Article 349 TFEU.***

Member States shall list active farmers in their national fiscal or social security register and chose one or more of the following methods to define the active farmer, based on the conditions specific to that Member State:

Income test – MS shall designate a certain percentage/level of income that must come from farming. This calculation must be based on an average over several consecutive years, not on one individual year.

Taxation rules – MS shall consider as active farmers those whose agricultural production is subject to taxation.

Turnover threshold – MS shall designate a minimum turnover that must come from agricultural production.

Minimum agricultural activity – MS shall consider as active farmers those who can demonstrate that they carry out a minimum level of farming activity, e.g. having a minimum stocking density or a minimum area of land under tillage.

Investment in agricultural production – MS shall consider as active farmers those who dedicate a minimum amount of investment to the development of their agricultural production, with the exclusion of purchase of land.

Introduction of a business plan – MS shall consider as active farmers those who assume the risks inherent to their agricultural production and those who present a business plan, laying out the development of their agricultural business. The minimum requirements for this business plan may be similar to those prescribed for young farmers, as laid out in Article 69(3).

Scale of business – MS shall consider as active farmer those above or below a defined threshold of eligible hectares for direct payment support.

Labour input – MS shall consider as active farmer those who have a minimum labour input going into agricultural production.

Additional national measures – MS shall introduce measures to guarantee that direct payments are dedicated to active farmers only.