

FARMING & WATER SCOTLAND



Cultivation

Soils in good health can increase yields and decrease pollution risks. Large quantities of soil, land and nutrients can be lost from the farm in a matter of minutes through water or wind erosion.

Land **must** always be cultivated in a way which minimises the risk of pollution to any surface water or wetland.

Land **must not** be cultivated when it is:

- within 2m of any surface water, wetland or shoreline (Figure 11.1)
- within 5m of any springs where the water is used for human consumption, or uncapped wells or boreholes
- waterlogged

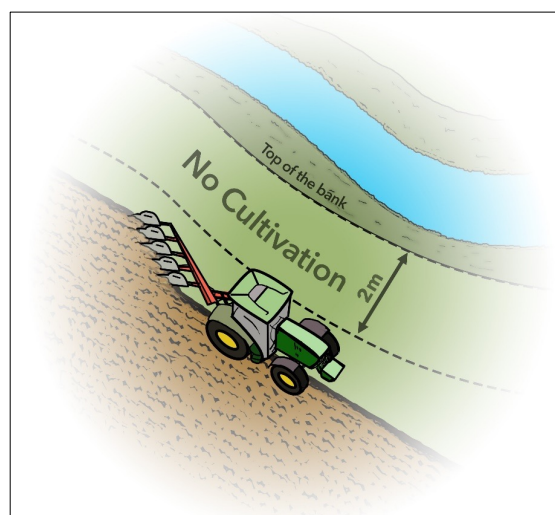


Figure 11.1. A minimum 2m buffer strip must be maintained between the watercourse and any cultivation practices.

Definitions:

Crop – any plant grown for a commercial purpose and includes cereals, root crops, grass and trees.

Cultivation – the preparation of land prior to planting or harvesting any crop.

Surface water – all standing or flowing water on the surface of the land, transitional water and coastal water.