

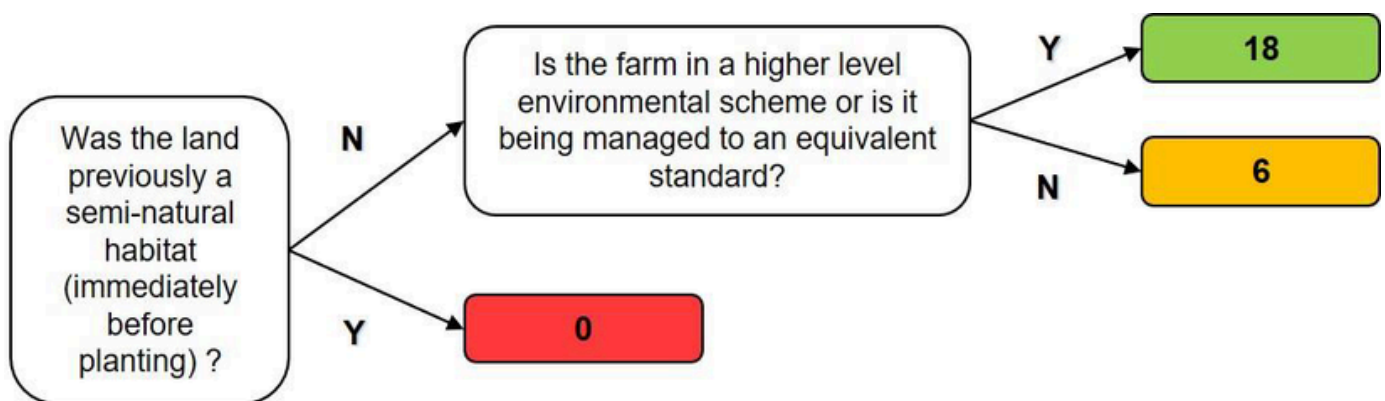


# HABITAT & BIODIVERSITY

## (Agricultural Crops)

### WHAT'S COVERED

- Habitat impacts of farmland used to grow these crops (was natural habitat converted to farmland?).
- The timing of land conversion (recent vs. long-established fields).
- Farming practices that maintain or enhance local biodiversity (e.g., field margins, reduced pesticides).



Farm level not field level assessment

Weighted average score to be generated for batches from multiple farms

### EVIDENCE NEEDED

- A farm or regional map showing that fields are not newly converted from natural habitat.
- If the crop is a by-product (e.g., straw), documentation confirming it's truly a residue, not a dedicated crop.
- Evidence of environmental stewardship or certification (e.g., organic, regenerative agriculture).
- For farmed Sphagnum, data on how it's cultivated and whether it replaces natural peatland habitat.

### WAYS TO IMPROVE

- Prefer established farmland rather than newly cleared areas.
- Source from farms with agri-environment schemes or recognized sustainability standards.
- Encourage suppliers to adopt pollinator-friendly, low-impact farming techniques (e.g., minimal pesticides).
- If possible, aggregate supply from multiple small growers with stable land use vs. large new expansions.