

Tir Gofal farmers lose out to Glastir

May 28 2009 by [Andrew Forgrave](#), Daily Post

WELSH farm leaders have expressed “deep concerns” over elements of the new all-Wales Glastir agri-environment scheme.

NFU Cymru president Dai Davies said farmers on Tir Gofal waiting lists had been “compromised” by the scheme’s suspension.

Many had waited years to join Tir Gofal but would now be in an agri-environment “vacuum” until Glastir’s launch in 2012.

Mr Davies said: “A number of members have contacted me whose long-laid plans for getting into Tir Gofal have now been scuppered.”

The union is also worried about Glastir’s impact on businesses outside of the boundary of the scheme’s targeted tier two support, believing there will be winners and losers.

Mr Davies said Glastir’s prescriptions needed to be “manageable, practical and deliverable at farm level”.

“If it doesn’t work for farmers because the conditions are unworkable or too onerous, it will simply fail,” he said.

The Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group Cymru is concerned at the lack of agri-environment grants.

On Tuesday, June 9 it’s co-hosting a conference with RSPB Cymru to discuss the future of upland farming and agri-environment schemes.

Visitors can also see the machinery involved in restoring the LIFE Blanket Bog near Lake Vyrnwy.Š

The conference is at Lake Vyrnwy Hotel, 10am-4.30pm. Booking: FWAG Cymru, 01341 421456 or cymru@fwag.org.uk.