

Press release

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a.s.r. to reward farmers for sustainable business operations

a.s.r. is going to reward farmers who are committed to sustainable business operations. Farmers who use agricultural land owned by a.s.r. can receive a discount of 5 to 10% on the rent if they manage their land sustainably. In order to make the agricultural sector more sustainable, a.s.r. has for some time been taking steps, together with farmers, to improve soil health and promote biodiversity. With this new step, a.s.r. aims to accelerate the sustainability transition.

In consultation with the agricultural sector, a.s.r. has drawn up practical sustainability guidelines that farmers must meet in order to be eligible for a discount. The elements of soil, biodiversity and the business are central to this. As far as possible, it was sought to link up with existing sustainability certifications, to avoid extra work for farmers.

Dick van den Oever, Director of Rural Real Estate at a.s.r. real estate: 'The pressure to make the agricultural sector more sustainable has increased in recent years. a.s.r. believes that all parties in the agricultural chain are jointly responsible for this transition, not only the farmers themselves. We see that improvements for sustainable farming involve investments by farmers. That's why a.s.r. wants to meet farmers' needs by compensating them financially with a discount.'

Climate-smart farming

Rewarding farmers falls under the climate-smart farming strategy of the ASR Dutch Farmland Fund, the fund that accommodates a.s.r.'s agricultural land. With this strategy, the fund is committed to a sector where fertile land will remain available for future generations of farmers. The fund does this by, among other things, realising a sustainable income with sustainable production, making the agricultural sector climate proof and reducing CO₂ where possible.

Media relations

Jordi van Baardewijk
T: +31 (0)6 51 26 63 59
E: jordi.van.baardewijk@asr.nl
www.asrnl.com

Investor relations

T: +31 (0)30 – 257 8600
E: ir@asr.nl
www.asrnl.com

About a.s.r.

ASR Nederland N.V. (a.s.r.) ranks among the top 3 insurers in the Netherlands. a.s.r. offers products and services in the fields of insurance, pensions and mortgages for consumers, self-employed persons and companies. In addition, a.s.r. is active as an asset manager for third parties. a.s.r. is listed on Euronext Amsterdam and is included in the AEX Index. For more information, please visit www.asrnl.com.

About a.s.r. real estate

As a real estate asset manager, a.s.r. real estate has been managing and investing on behalf of its clients in residential property, retail property, offices, agricultural land and infrastructure for more than 125 years. For professional investors it manages five Dutch real estate funds and individual asset management mandates for (inter)national real estate. a.s.r. real estate looks for long-term value development of real estate and is part of a.s.r., one of the largest insurers in the Netherlands.

About Dutch Farmland Fund

The ASR Dutch Farmland Fund invests in farmland in the Netherlands. The fund facilitates agricultural businesses in land matters, focuses on climate-smart farming and offers institutional investors a stable return combined with a unique diversification effect. The ASR Dutch Farmland Fund portfolio has been built up over more than a century. The fund has a strong focus on long-term value creation, for both investors and agricultural businesses. The fund will continue to grow in the coming years, partly due to sustainability and succession within the agricultural sector.

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