1981 No. 25

FISHERIES

Sea Fish (Minimum Size) Order (Northern Ireland) 1981

Made . . . . . *29th January 1981.*

Coming into operation . . . *1st February 1981*

The Department(**a**) of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 127 of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966(**b**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Sea Fish (Minimum Size) Order (Northern Ireland) 1981 and shall come into operation on 1st February 1981.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

"escallop" means fish of the species *Pecten maximus*;

"lobster" means fish of the species *Homarus gammarus*;

"size" means—

(*a*) in relation to any escallop the size calculated by measuring in a straight line across its greatest length, and

(*b*) in relation to any lobster the size calculated by measuring from the rear of either eye socket to the rear end of the carapace along a line parallel to the centre line thereof.

Prescribed minimum sizes

3. For the purposes of sections 127(1), 127(2) and 127(4) of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966 (which prohibit in Northern Ireland the landing, sale, offering or exposure for sale, or the possession for the purpose of sale or processing or otherwise using in the course of any business, and in certain cases the retention on board any fishing boat in waters adjacent to Northern Ireland, of any sea fish of any description being a fish of a smaller size than such size as may be prescribed in relation to sea fish of that description) there are hereby prescribed—

(*a*) for escallops 11 centimetres; and

(*b*) for lobsters 8 centimetres.

Revocation

4. The Sea Fish (Minimum Size) Order (Northern Ireland) 1980(**c**) is hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 29th January 1981.

(L.S.) *N. E. Morrison*
Assistant Secretary

(**a**) Formerly Ministry: *see* 1973 c. 36 s. 40 and Sch. 5 para. 8(1)
(**b**) 1966 c. 17 (N.I.)
(**c**) S.R. 1980 No. 455