1972. No. 20 **[C]**

ANIMALS

Special Term Bull Scheme

SCHEME, DATED 28TH JANUARY 1972, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE AGRICULTURE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1949.

The Ministry of Agriculture, hereinafter called "the Ministry", in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 9 of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland) 1949(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf and with the approval of the Ministry of Finance hereby makes the following Scheme:

Citation and commencement

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Special Term Bull Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1972 and shall come into operation on 11th February 1972.

Definitions

2. In this Scheme—

"appropriate County Committee" means the County Committee for the County in which the Special Term bull is to be used;

"approved" means approved by the Ministry;

"County Committee" means a County Committee of Agriculture appointed pursuant to Section 2(1) of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland) 1949;

"grant" means the amount of money which a selected farmer or group of farmers may receive from the Ministry to assist in the purchase of an approved bull;

"group of farmers" means a group of 3 or more farmers owning herds in which the total number of cows is at least 50, of which not more than 25 cows or less than 4 cows are owned by any one member of the group;

"purchaser" means a farmer, or a group of farmers, who purchase a bull with the assistance of a grant paid under this Scheme;

"selected" means selected by a County Committee to purchase a bull under this Scheme;

"Special Term bull" means a bull purchased with the assistance of a grant paid under this Scheme.

Purpose of Scheme

3.—(1) The Ministry may pay grants to selected farmers who purchase and keep Special Term bulls for the service of cows locally or to selected groups of farmers who purchase and keep Special Term bulls for the service of cows in their herds.

(2) The approved bulls are to be used to improve the stock bred by farmers resident in and farming in marginal land areas of Counties Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone.

(a) 1949. c. 2.

Eligibility

4.—(1) Grants will be paid only in respect of approved bulls of the Aberdeen Angus, Dairy Shorthorn or other approved breeds provided that grants may also be paid in respect of bulls of the Hereford breed purchased before 1st June 1972.

(2) The bulls shall be purchased at approved sales except where, in special circumstances, the Ministry approves of a bull otherwise than at a sale.

(3) The herd of the purchaser shall be attested and be on the Brucellosis Free Register maintained by the Ministry.

Selection of applicants

5.—(1) Applications by farmers or group of farmers to be selected under this Scheme shall be made to the appropriate County Committee and the selection of farmers or groups of farmers for payment of grant shall be at the sole discretion of the appropriate County Committee.

(2) Applications shall be made in such form and within such time as the appropriate County Committee may determine.

(3) Where a group of farmers is selected by the County Committee to purchase an approved bull, the group shall appoint one of its members to deal with all aspects of the placing out of the bull and the group shall notify the County Committee of the name of the member so appointed.

(4) If a farmer or a group of farmers is selected the County Committee shall notify the farmer or the member of a group of farmers appointed under sub-paragraph (3) of—

(*a*) the amount of subsidy to be paid;

(*b*) the amount of deposit to be lodged;

(*c*) the breed of bull which may be purchased;

(*d*) the shows and sales approved by the Ministry for the selection of Special Term bulls.

(5) The County Committee, immediately after selections have been made, shall forward to the Ministry a list of the selected applicants, showing at which sale each applicant intends to purchase a bull.

(6) As soon as possible after the approved sales, and in any case not later than 31st May in each year, the County Committee shall notify the Ministry of the ownership and the location of Special Term bulls in that County.

(7) The total number of applicants selected by a County Committee to receive grants shall be limited to the total number of bulls approved by the Ministry for that County.

(8) No grant shall be paid in respect of the purchase of any bull which is not first approved by the Ministry and which is not of the breed which in accordance with Paragraph (4) the farmer or group of farmers has been notified may be purchased.

Amount of grant

6.—(1) The amount of grant payable in respect of the purchase of a bull under this Scheme shall in each case be the full price of the animal or £150 whichever is the less, provided that the grant payable on a bull of the Hereford breed purchased before 1st June 1972 shall be £94·50.