1967. No. 285 **[C]**

AGRICULTURE

Orchard Planting

SCHEME, DATED 8TH NOVEMBER 1967, MADE BY THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE AGRICULTURE (TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1954, AS AMENDED BY THE AGRICULTURE (TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE) (AMENDMENT) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1957.

The Minister of Agriculture, with the approval of the Minister of Finance and in exercise of the powers conferred on him by the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) Acts (Northern Ireland) 1954 and 1957(a), and of all other powers him thereunto enabling, hereby makes the following Scheme:

Short Title and Commencement

1.—(1) This Scheme may be cited as the Orchard Planting Grants Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1967.

(2) This Scheme shall come into operation on 8th November 1967.

Interpretation

2. In this Scheme—

"orchard" means an area of land planted with culinary apple trees at a density appropriate to commercial production;

"approved" means approved in writing by the Ministry of Agriculture;

"variety" means variety of culinary apple tree;

"Ministry" means the Ministry of Agriculture;

"acre" means statute acre;

"type" means form of tree and the root stock on which it is grafted.

Object of the Scheme

3. With the object of encouraging the establishment of economic units of apple orchard, the Ministry may pay grant as provided in this Scheme.

Conditions of Eligibility

4. Payment of a grant under this Scheme to an applicant shall not be made unless the Ministry is satisfied that at all times during the period of twenty-four months ending with the date of application for grant not less than four acres of established orchard less than forty years of age and maintained in productive condition have been occupied by the applicant or his predecessor as owner or tenant and that the applicant is the owner of the land on which the approved proposal is to be carried out or is a tenant of the said land for a term which has an unexpired residue of not less than ten years from the date of application.

Application for and Conditions of Payment of Grant

5. It shall be a condition of the making of payment to the applicant in respect of a grant under this Scheme that:

(*a*) There is an application, in writing, in respect of each proposal for the approval of the Ministry, stating the acreage, type and variety of tree to be planted and such other information as the Ministry may require;

(*b*) each proposal is in respect of not less than the planting of three acres with the approved type and variety of tree so that the total acreage

(a) 1954. c. 31; 1957. c. 3.

formed by combining the existing acreage under Article 4 together with the acreage proposed to be planted is not less than ten acres;

(*c*) the Ministry has approved the proposal in writing;

(*d*) no modification of the approved proposal has been carried out except with the approval of, and subject to such conditions as may have been specified by the Ministry in writing;

(*e*) the approved proposal has been carried out and completed to the satisfaction of the Ministry without avoidable delay, and any conditions subject to which approval was given have been complied with;

(*f*) one or both of the following planting systems have been used:

(i) not less than 100 trees of an approved variety and type to the acre;

(ii) not less than 50 trees or more than 100 trees of an approved variety and type to the acre.

Rates of Grant

6.—(1) The rates of grant which may be paid under this Scheme shall be as follows:

(*a*) where the planting system described in Article 5(*f*)(i) is adopted:

(i) £66 per acre on completion of planting to the satisfaction of the Ministry; and

(ii) £11 per acre payable on completion of a period of two years immediately following the date of the planting in respect of the acreage for which grant has been paid under Sub-paragraph (i) provided that the total acreage has been maintained throughout that period in accordance with the rules of good husbandry as defined by Section 15 of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland) 1949(**a**) for a period of two years immediately following the date of the planting; and

(iii) £16 per acre payable on completion of a period of five years immediately following the date of the planting in respect of the acreage for which grant has been paid under Sub-paragraph (i) provided that the total acreage has been maintained throughout that period in accordance with the provisions of Sub-paragraph (ii) above for a period of five years immediately following the date of planting; or

(*b*) where the planting system described in Article 5(*f*)(ii) is adopted:

(i) £33 per acre on completion of planting to the satisfaction of the Ministry; and

(ii) £6 per acre payable on completion of a period of two years immediately following the date of planting in respect of the acreage for which grant has been paid under Sub-paragraph (i) provided that the total acreage has been maintained throughout that period in accordance with the provisions of Sub-paragraph (*a*)(ii) for a period of two years immediately following the date of planting; and

(iii) £9 per acre payable on completion of a period of five years immediately following the date of the planting in respect of the acreage for which grant has been paid under Sub-paragraph (i) provided that the total acreage has been maintained throughout that period in accordance with the provisions of Sub-paragraph (*a*)(ii) for a period of five years immediately following the date of planting.

(a) 1949, c. 2.