1966. No. 191 **[C]**

AGRICULTURE

Accredited Poultry Farms Scheme

SCHEME, DATED 17TH AUGUST 1966, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE AGRICULTURE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1949.

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 9(1) of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland) 1949(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf and with the approval of the Ministry of Finance hereby makes the following Scheme:—

PART I

GENERAL

Citation and Commencement

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Accredited Poultry Farms Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1966 and shall come into operation on the 31st day of August 1966.

Revocation

2. The Accredited Poultry Farms Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1964 and 1965(b) is hereby revoked save that any farm accredited under that Scheme shall be regarded as so accredited until 31st August 1966.

Definitions

3. In this Scheme:—

"Accredited" means approved by the Ministry in accordance with this Scheme.

"Accredited Farm" means a parent breeding farm, supply farm or rearing farm which has been accredited.

"Parent Breeding Farm" means a farm or premises on which poultry breeding stock are maintained primarily for the production and distribution of hatching eggs or breeding stock.

"Supply Farm" means a farm or premises on which poultry breeding stock are maintained primarily for the production and distribution of hatching eggs or day-old chicks.

"Rearing Farm" means a farm on which poultry are reared for any period between day-old and 20 weeks of age.

"Poultry" means domestic fowl but excludes turkeys, geese, ducks, bantams and any other birds whatsoever.

"Growing Stock" means poultry between day-old and 20 weeks of age.

"Licensed Hatchery" means a hatchery licensed by the Ministry under the Poultry Hatcheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1950(c).

"Commercial" as applied to chicks, poultry or eggs means chicks, poultry or eggs used other than for breeding.

"Day-old chick" means a chick not more than 48 hours old.

"Disease" includes any disease which in the opinion of the Ministry would constitute a hazard to the health of poultry in Northern Ireland whether

(a) 1949. c. 2.
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1964, No. 44 and S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1965, No. 123.
(c) 1950. c. 18.

or not within the definition of disease contained in the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 1958(a).

Register of Accredited Farms

4.—(1) The Ministry shall set up and maintain a register of accredited farms in Northern Ireland.

(2) For the purpose of registration accredited farms shall be separated into such categories as the Ministry may determine having regard to the functions of the farms.

(3) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (2) an accredited parent breeding farm or an accredited supply farm may be registered for the production of either hatching eggs or day-old chicks or for both these operations and an accredited rearing farm may be registered only for the production of growing stock.

(4) The register shall comprise separate sections for each category of accredited farm and shall contain such information as the Ministry may deem appropriate having regard to the purpose for which the farm is accredited.

Publication

5. The Ministry may publish the register in whole or in part.

Reservation

6. The Ministry neither gives nor implies any guarantee as to the quality or health of eggs or stock from an accredited farm and the Ministry shall not be liable for losses incurred by any person due to disease or any other shortcoming in such eggs or stock.

Application for registration

7. Application for registration shall be made to the Ministry in such form as the Ministry may require, and the prescribed fee shall be paid at the time of application. Application for renewal of registration shall be made and the prescribed fee paid not later than two months before the date of expiry of the accreditation period.

Fees

8.—(1) The fee for registration or renewal of registration of a farm shall be £5, provided that in respect of any application made during the period ending on the 31st day of May 1967 the registration fee shall be:—

(i) in the case of a supply farm which would have been a contract supply farm within the meaning of the Accredited Poultry Farms Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1964 and in respect of which a fee of £1 would have been payable under Article 5(*c*) of that Scheme . . £1 0s. 0d.

(ii) in the case of any other supply farm . . . . £1 10s. 0d.

(2) The Ministry may refund a first registration fee paid in accordance with Article 7 when the applicant has informed the Ministry that he wishes to withdraw the application before the Ministry has incurred any expenses in connection therewith.

Conditions for Accreditation

9. A farm to which an application relates shall be accredited—

(a) 1958, c. 13.

(*a*) when the Ministry is satisfied on inspection by an authorised officer: —

(i) that the housing, equipment and husbandry on the farm are of a standard which is adequate for the purpose for which the farm is to be accredited;

(ii) that there are adequate facilities for the segregation of different classes of stock.

(*b*) when the stock has passed such tests for disease as the Ministry may deem necessary.

Accreditation

10.—(1) When a farm has been accredited the Ministry shall give the owner written notification of such accreditation.

(2) Accreditation shall remain in force for one year unless revoked or suspended by the Ministry or surrendered by the owner of the farm.

Accreditation Requirements

11.—(1) The owner of an accredited parent breeding farm shall comply with the requirements set out in Parts I, II and III of the Schedule.

(2) The owner of an accredited supply farm shall comply with the requirements set out in Parts I, III and IV of the Schedule.

(3) The owner of an accredited rearing farm shall comply with the requirements set out in Parts I and V of the Schedule.

(4) The Ministry may, in exceptional circumstances, issue written authorisation to the owner of an accredited farm modifying the scheduled accreditation requirements in relation to his farm.

Suspension or Revocation of Accreditation

12.—(1) The Ministry may suspend or revoke the accreditation of any farm or suspend the accreditation of part of a farm—

(*a*) if the requirements of the Scheme applicable to the farm are not complied with;

(*b*) if standards of housing, equipment and husbandry are not maintained to the satisfaction of the Ministry;

(*c*) if the Ministry has reason to suspect the presence of disease on the farm;

(*d*) if any of the stock on the farm fails to pass a test for disease carried out by the Ministry; or

(*e*) if there is a change of ownership or of the premises of the farm.

(2) When accreditation has been suspended or revoked the Ministry shall as soon as possible, give written notice to the owner of the farm. Such notice shall state the reason for the suspension or revocation of accreditation.

(3) Where accreditation has been suspended and the owner of the farm wishes to have accreditation restored he shall continue to comply with the requirements of the Scheme.

(4) Where accreditation has been revoked the farm shall not be re-accredited for a period of at least one year.