1965. No. 7 **[C]**

ACCREDITED PIG HERDS AND PIG TESTING SCHEME (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1965

SCHEME, DATED 19TH JANUARY, 1965, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE AGRICULTURE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1949.

The Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland by virtue and 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 for Northern Ireland, hereby makes the following Scheme:—

Citation and Commencement

1.—(1) This Scheme may be cited as the Accredited Pig Herds and Pig Testing Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1965.

(2) Article 10 shall come into operation on 1st February, 1965, and the remainder of the Scheme shall come into operation on 1st April, 1965.

Revocation

2. Article 9 of the Accredited Pig Herds and Litter Testing Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1961(b) shall be revoked as and from 1st February, 1965, and the remainder of that Scheme together with the Accredited Pig Herds and Litter Testing (Amendment) Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1963(c) shall be revoked as and from 1st April, 1965.

Definitions

3. In this Scheme:—

"approved" means approved by the Ministry;

"authorised" means authorised by the Ministry;

"herd" means the whole breeding stock of pedigree swine, or that portion specified in accordance with sub-paragraph (*e*) of Article 5 as the case may be;

"recognised" means recognised by the Ministry;

"sows" includes gilts.

Register of Accredited Herds

4. With the object of aiding, improving and developing the breeding of swine in Northern Ireland, the Ministry shall set up a register of pig herds to be called "The Accredited Pig Herds Register" in which shall be entered the names and addresses of herd owners and particulars of their herds when the Ministry is satisfied that the owners have complied with the conditions of the Scheme and that the herds have attained the standards set out in the Third Schedule.

Entry to Scheme

5. Entry of a herd to this Scheme shall be subject to the following Rules:—

(*a*) the application for entry shall be in the form set forth in the First Schedule;

(a) 1949. c. 2.
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1961, No. 4.
(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1963, No. 5.

(*b*) the applicant shall be a member of a recognised Herd Book Society for the Large White or Landrace breed;

(*c*) only pedigree pigs of the Large White or Landrace breed shall be eligible for entry into the Scheme and the following paragraphs of this Article refer only to such pigs;

(*d*) where the application is in respect of pedigree pigs of both the Large White and Landrace breeds, each breed shall be regarded as a separate herd for the purposes of this Scheme;

(*e*) where the applicant's herd contains more than twenty-five sows, the applicant shall specify not less than twenty-five sows which together with their respective litters and the stock boars shall be deemed to constitute the herd of the applicant for the purposes of this Scheme;

(*f*) where the applicant's herd does not contain more than twenty-five sows, the applicant shall enter all his breeding stock in the Scheme.

Acceptance

6. The Ministry, on receipt of an application, may intimate its acceptance of a herd into the Scheme provided that in its opinion the herd satisfies the conditions set forth in the Second Schedule and after receipt of notice of such acceptance the herd owner shall observe the following rules with respect to the herd:—

(*a*) mark all pigs to the satisfaction of the Ministry;

(*b*) register with the appropriate Breed Society all stock retained for breeding;

(*c*) give the Ministry written notice of his intention to transfer any sow into the herd at least 48 hours prior to such transfer;

(*d*) a sow which has been removed from a herd shall not be returned to that herd without the Ministry's written permission;

(*e*) maintain not less than six breeding female swine of each breed of swine accepted into the Scheme or where sub-paragraph (*e*) of the preceding Article has applied, maintain not less than twenty-five breeding female swine of each breed of swine accepted;

(*f*) notify the Ministry of all births within one week of the date thereof;

(*g*) record the number of pigs born, the number weaned, abnormalities, ages and weights at slaughter and any other information which the Ministry may require;

(*h*) weigh and record the weights of all pigs at 21 days and 42 days old;

(*i*) feed on the farm and sell live at bacon weight to the Pigs Marketing Board for slaughter all pigs not retained or sold for breeding purposes. The number of pigs sold at bacon weight for slaughter shall be at least 40 per cent. of the total number of pigs weaned;

(*j*) mark each pig sold at bacon weight for slaughter with a numbered metal ear tag and enter the tag number and the pedigree ear tattoo number of the animal on a card provided by the Ministry for such purpose and forward the card with the pig to the bacon factory;

(*k*) submit on request to the Ministry the grading data including weight and age at slaughter of all pigs sold for slaughter from the herd during the preceding year;

(*l*) provide all the necessary facilities and assist the Ministry's officers in the weighing of pigs, checking of records and in all other matters connected with the Scheme;

(*m*) enter boars at Shows and Sales approved for the purpose of selection of premium boars.

Fees

7. A fee of 5/- shall be payable to the Ministry in respect of each litter born and notified in accordance with Article 6(*f*).

Accreditation

8. When the Ministry is satisfied after its acceptance of a herd that the Rules contained in Article 6 have been observed and that the standards laid down in the Third Schedule have been attained, the herd shall be registered as an Accredited Pig Herd and shall, unless such registration is cancelled, so remain as long as the standards laid down are maintained and the conditions of the Scheme are observed. While such registration continues, the herd owner shall as directed by the Ministry:—

(*a*) supply progeny of his stock boars for testing at the Ministry's Pig Testing Station; and

(*b*) after a date to be determined by the Ministry, mate all sows in his Accredited Pig Herd only with progeny-tested boars or the sons of progeny-tested boars.

Progeny Testing

9.—(1) At the discretion of the Ministry, four pigs for testing from each litter shall be selected by an Authorised Officer from such litters as may comply with the conditions set out in Part I of the Fourth Schedule.

(2) Delivery of pigs to the Ministry's Pig Testing Station and payment therefor shall be in accordance with the Fifth Schedule.

(3) The Ministry may at its discretion accept for testing pigs from pedigree litters which are not born in an Accredited Pig Herd or a herd which has been accepted for entry into the Scheme provided that a request for such testing is received from the owner at least three weeks before each litter is born and provided also that the herd owner shall comply with sub-paragraphs (*f*), (*g*), (*h*) and (*l*) of Article 6 in respect of all such litters.

(4) The Ministry shall have absolute discretion as to which pigs are tested at the Ministry's Pig Testing Station.

Approved Boars

10. A boar in an Accredited Pig Herd shall become approved when at least four litters sired by him have been tested at the Ministry's Pig Testing Station in accordance with the conditions set out in Part I of the Fourth Schedule and have attained the standards set out in Part II of that Schedule provided that the Ministry may also approve a boar which has been progeny tested and whose progeny have attained standards which are deemed by the Ministry to be equivalent to the standards set out in Part II of the Fourth Schedule.

Cancellation of Acceptance Registration or Approval

11. The Ministry shall have power to cancel any Acceptance, Registration or Approval granted in acordance with this Scheme and to remove from the Scheme any participant who fails to comply with any of the provisions of the Scheme.

General

12.—(1) The Ministry may at its discretion publish the names of owners of Accredited Pig Herds, accreditation standards attained, the standards of progeny of particular boars, the results of pig testing and any other information pertaining to herds accepted into this Scheme.

(2) Pigs from accredited herds or herds which have been accepted for entry into the Scheme may with the approval of the Ministry be entered for other organised tests and the Ministry may accept for purposes of this Scheme data obtained during the course of such tests.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this 19th day of January, 1965, in the presence of

(L.S.) *J. A. Young,*
Assistant Secretary.

The Ministry of Finance hereby approves of the foregoing Scheme.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland this 19th day of January, 1965, in the presence of

(L.S.) *R. H. Kidd,*
Assistant Secretary.