Amendment to the Accredited Poultry Farms (Northern Ireland) Scheme, 1961(a)

2. The Accredited Poultry Farms (Northern Ireland) Scheme, 1961, shall be amended as follows:—

(1) Paragraph (*k*) of Article 13 thereof shall be revoked.

(2) In paragraph (*m*) of Article 13 thereof the words "the Eighth Schedule or" shall be revoked.

(3) The Eighth Schedule thereto shall be revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this ninth day of April, nineteen hundred and sixty-two, in the presence of

(L.S.) *W. A. V. Sanderson,*
Assistant Secretary.

The Ministry of Finance hereby approves the foregoing Scheme.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland this ninth day of April, nineteen hundred and sixty-two, in the presence of

(L.S.) *W. W. Arthur,*
Assistant Secretary.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note does not form part of the Scheme but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Scheme withdraws the restriction on the sale of hatching eggs and day-old chicks after 31st May, 1962, by owners of farms accredited in Grade I and Grade II.

1962. No. 75 **[C]**

AGRICULTURE

Accredited Poultry Farms Scheme

SCHEME, DATED 9TH APRIL, 1962, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE AGRICULTURE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1949(b), AND UNDER SECTION 2 OF THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1958(c).

The Ministry of Agriculture by virtue and in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sub-section (1) of section nine of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland), 1949, and by sub-sections (1) and (3) of section two of the Diseases

(a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1961, No. 87. (b) 1949. c. 2. (c) 1958. c. 13.

of Animals Act (Northern Ireland), 1958, and of every other power 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), 1962, and shall come into operation on the 10th day of April, 1962.

Definitions

2. In this Scheme, unless the context otherwise requires:—

"Accredited" means approved by the Ministry in accordance with this Scheme, and "accreditation" shall be construed accordingly;

"As hatched" means not sexed;

"Authorised" means authorised by the Ministry;

"Contract Supply Farm" means a farm which is not an accredited farm but is approved in accordance with the Eighth Schedule to supply under contract, to the hatchery specified in the contract, hatching eggs from birds obtained from a Parent Breeding Farm;

"Day-old chick" means a chick not more than forty-eight hours old;

"Heavy Breeds" and "Light Breeds" have the meanings commonly accepted by poultry keepers. Examples of heavy breeds are Rhode Island Red, White Wyandotte, Light Sussex, Buff Rock and Barred Rock, and of light breeds are White Leghorn, Black Leghorn, Brown Leghorn and Ancona;

"Ministry" means the Ministry of Agriculture;

"Parent Breeding Farm" means an accredited farm which has a contract with supply farms approved in accordance with Article 17;

"Poultry" means domestic fowl;

"Reactor" means a bird which has shown a positive reaction to a blood-test carried out by the Ministry;

"Rearing Farm" means a farm which is not an accredited farm but is approved by the Ministry to rear chicks obtained from a Parent Breeding Farm for subsequent distribution to a Contract Supply Farm in accordance with the Ninth Schedule;

"Special Breeding Farm" means a farm registered under the Poultry Breeding Scheme (Northern Ireland), 1958(a).

Register of Accredited Farms

3. With the object of aiding and improving the breeding of poultry, developing its commercial characteristics, and promoting the breeding and distribution of stocks free from disease, a register of farms in Northern Ireland called "Accredited Farms" which have been accredited in accordance with this Scheme shall be prepared and kept by the Ministry. The Register shall contain separate sections for the different types of farm described in the Fourth Schedule.

Reservation

4. The Ministry neither gives nor implies any guarantee as to the quality or health of eggs or stock from Registered farms 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.

(a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1958, No. 80.

PART II—CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL ACCREDITED FARMS

Application for Registration

5. Application for registration shall be made to the Ministry in the form prescribed in the First Schedule on or before 14th April, 1962, provided that the Ministry may in exceptional circumstances accept applications after that date. Each application shall be accompanied by a fee as follows:—

(*a*) For a Special Breeding Farm £2
(*b*) For a farm intended to be accredited as a Parent Breeding Farm ... £2
(*c*) For a farm intended to be accredited in Grade I or Grade II £1

If the farm is not provisionally approved for accreditation in accordance with Article 6 the fee shall be returned, but if otherwise it shall be retained.

Provisional Approval

6.—(1) Provisional approval shall be granted to a farm
(*a*) which is a Special Breeding Farm, or
(*b*) which is a Parent Breeding Farm,

provided that in each case the breeding policy of the farm has been approved by the Ministry.

(2) Provisional approval may be granted to any other farm
(*a*) on which the stock is, in the opinion of the Ministry, suitable for accreditation subject to satisfactory blood-test, and on which the stock has been derived from a source approved by the Ministry; and
(*b*) which, together with its equipment, complies with the conditions set out in the Second Schedule.

(3) The Ministry may refuse to grant provisional approval to any farm which was registered in a previous year and was removed from the Register by reason of the failure on the part of the owner to observe any of the conditions of the Scheme.

Accreditation

7.—(1) A provisionally approved farm shall be accredited as defined in the Fourth Schedule where:—

(*a*) the entire adult stock, with the exception of birds kept in accordance with the Sixth Schedule, has been blood tested during 1962 as laid down in the Third Schedule and is free from reactors, provided that the Ministry may accredit at its discretion a farm on which a part of the stock has been blood tested and is free from reactors and where it is satisfied that this part has been effectively isolated from the remainder of the stock;
(*b*) the stock appears to an authorised officer to be healthy;
(*c*) the breeding stock has been selected by an authorised officer who has also marked with sealed and numbered leg bands supplied by the Ministry the birds selected for pure-bred matings, provided that on a Special Breeding Farm or a Parent Breeding Farm selection and identification of breeding stock shall be carried out in accordance with the approved breeding programme by or on behalf of the owner of the farm;
(*d*) the accommodation, management, stock and equipment continue to comply with the conditions of the Scheme.

(2) Accreditation shall, unless withdrawn or surrendered, remain in force

until 31st August, 1963. Where an accredited farm is in the process of changing to a Contract Supply Farm, accreditation shall be withdrawn as soon as the new stock from the Parent Breeding Farm reaches point of lay.

Withdrawal of Accreditation

8. The Ministry may withdraw accreditation from and remove from the Register any farm the owner of which fails to observe any of the conditions applicable to him.

Identification

9.—(1) All eggs sold for hatching shall be stamped with a stamp supplied by the Ministry. Where chicks are to be sold the accompanying delivery note shall be stamped with the stamp supplied by the Ministry.

(2) The advertising, sale or distribution of hatching eggs or chicks shall not begin until the stamp is received. All advertisements shall include a reference to the number on the stamp.

(3) The stamp shall be returned to the Ministry

(*a*) in all cases where reactors are found, where the Ministry has evidence that disease exists on the farm, or where accreditation is withdrawn;

(*b*) on request; and

(*c*) where there is a change of ownership.

Size of Hatching Eggs

10. The owner of an accredited farm shall not sell for hatching—

(*a*) eggs which are less than 2 oz. in weight except in the case of approved broiler crosses which shall be not less than $1\frac{7}{8}$ oz. in weight; or

(*b*) eggs which are over-sized, badly-shaped, thin- or rough-shelled, or of inferior colour.

Maintenance of Stock and Equipment

11. The owner of an accredited farm shall maintain the stock and equipment to the satisfaction of the Ministry.

Inspection

12. The owner of an accredited farm shall permit the inspection of the farm, stock, equipment and records by an authorised officer at any reasonable time.

Keeping of Birds for Commercial Egg Production

13. The owner of an accredited farm may keep birds for commercial egg production. Where such birds are kept they shall be kept in accordance with the conditions of the Sixth Schedule.

Disease Precautions

14.—(1) An applicant for registration or an owner of an accredited farm shall permit the Ministry to take all the precautions against disease set out in paragraph (1) of the Third Schedule.

(2) An applicant for registration or an owner of an accredited farm shall take all the precautions against disease set out in paragraph (2) of the Third Schedule.

(3) No blood testing other than that carried out by the Ministry shall be recognised for the purposes of this Scheme.

Modification of Conditions Applying to Individual Farms

15. The Ministry may issue a written authorisation modifying the provisions of this Scheme to the owner of an individual farm. Such modification will be based on the breeding programme of the farm.

PART III—SPECIAL CONDITION APPLICABLE TO OWNERS OF FARMS ACCREDITED AS SPECIAL BREEDING FARMS

16. A special breeding farm shall comply with the terms of the Poultry Breeding Scheme (Northern Ireland), 1958.

PART IV—SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO OWNERS OF FARMS ACCREDITED AS PARENT BREEDING FARMS

17. The owner of a Parent Breeding Farm

(*a*) shall satisfy the Ministry that the breeding programme is likely to result in an improvement of the commercial characteristics of the stock;

(*b*) shall not distribute any stock to a Contract Supply Farm unless under a written contract approved by the Ministry;

(*c*) shall not enter into such contract unless the proposed Contract Supply Farm has been inspected and approved by the Ministry in accordance with the Eighth Schedule;

(*d*) shall not distribute stock to a Rearing Farm unless that farm has been inspected and approved by the Ministry in accordance with the Ninth Schedule;

(*e*) shall each year submit an entry to Part II of the Ministry's Poultry Test at Gosford of all breeds, strains or crosses mated on Contract Supply Farms.

PART V—SPECIAL CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO OWNERS OF FARMS ACCREDITED IN GRADE I OR GRADE II

18. The owner of a farm accredited in Grade I or Grade II

(*a*) shall issue a dated, signed and stamped delivery note with each consignment of hatching eggs or chicks showing the number of eggs or chicks in the consignment. He shall retain a duplicate copy of this note;

(*b*) shall breed, hatch and rear the pullet replacements for the breeding pens in subsequent years except that to the owners of farms accredited in Grade II the Ministry may grant prior permission in writing authorising the purchase of hatching eggs or of day-old chicks for pullet replacements from a Special Breeding Farm or from a farm accredited in Grade I;

(*c*) shall not obtain hatching eggs, chicks or other birds except from a source approved by the Ministry;

(*d*) shall effectively separate the birds mated for pure bred chicks from those mated for crosses;

(*e*) shall mate flocks for the production of first-cross eggs or chicks only as prescribed in the Fifth Schedule;