POULTRY HATCHERIES

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ORDER, DATED 31ST AUGUST, 1950, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION ELEVEN OF THE POULTRY HATCHERIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1950.

1950. No. 150

WHEREAS by Section Eleven of the Poultry Hatcheries Act (Northern Ireland), 1950, (hereinafter referred to as " the Act ") it is provided that the Act shall come into operation on such day as the Ministry shall by order appoint.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Ministry hereby appoints the first day of September, 1950, to be the date on which the Act shall come into operation.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this thirty-first day of August, Nineteen hundred and fifty, in the presence of

(L.S.) *J. I. Magowan,*
Assistant Secretary.

REGULATIONS, DATED 5TH SEPTEMBER, 1950, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER THE POULTRY HATCHERIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1950.

1950. No. 152

The Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the Poultry Hatcheries Act (Northern Ireland), 1950, and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations :—

Citation, Interpretation and Commencement

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Poultry Hatcheries Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1950.

(2) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:—

" accredited poultry farm " means a farm approved by the Ministry under its Scheme for the Accreditation of Poultry Farms under Section 9 of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland), 1949 in operation for the time being ;

" Ministry " means the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland ;

(3) The Interpretation Act, 1889, applies for the purpose of the interpretation of these Regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland.

(4) These Regulations shall come into operation on the date hereof.

Licences

2.—(1) Application for a licence or for the renewal of a licence to carry on a hatchery shall be made to the Ministry in the form or to the effect stated in the First Schedule to these Regulations, and shall be accompanied by the licence fee prescribed in paragraph (2) of the Regulation. Where more than one hatchery is owned by the same person or firm, each so owned shall be regarded as a separate concern.

(2) The fee payable in respect of the issue or renewal of a licence shall be £8 and shall be forwarded to the Ministry with the application for a licence or for the renewal thereof.

(3) A licence to carry on a hatchery shall be in the form or to the effect stated in the Second Schedule to these Regulations.

Premises, Plant and Equipment

3.—(1) The premises to be used for the purposes of the hatchery shall be of such size as will enable the owner to obtain satisfactory hatching and to deal adequately with the throughput of the hatchery. They shall be constructed of such materials and in such way as to prevent sudden changes in atmospheric temperature being possible inside them, and be well lighted and adequately ventilated. The floors throughout shall be of such impervious material as permits of washing and disinfection being efficiently carried out. The walls and ceilings shall be finished smoothly. Such premises shall be completely isolated from premises where any other activities are carried on and shall include the following separate compartments :—

(*a*) Egg receiving and traying room.
(*b*) Incubating and hatching room.
(*c*) Sexing room (if sexing is to be done).
(*d*) Chick despatch room.
(*e*) Cleansing of equipment room.
(*f*) Store room for boxes and spare equipment.
(*g*) Office accommodation and cloakroom.

Provided that an exception may be made in any case where the Ministry is satisfied (1) that the lay-out of the hatchery is such as would permit of (*a*) and (*b*) being one compartment without having an adverse effect on hatching and (2) that where sexing and despatching are not carried out at the same time (*c*) and (*d*) may form one compartment.

(2) The plant and equipment shall be such as will enable efficient incubation and hatching to be carried out, the resultant chicks properly selected, sexed (if sexing is to be done), and packed for despatch, and the trays and other fittings thoroughly washed and disinfected.

(3) The hatchery shall be provided with a supply or pure water and an adequate supply of hot water or steam for the efficient washing of equipment, and with facilities whereby the temperature of the air in the incubating and hatching room can be maintained at a suitable level. The sexing room shall be fitted with a wash-hand basin, running water, adequate artificial light, suitably shaded, and receptacles for chick faeces.

(4) Should any question arise as to whether any hatchery is properly constructed and equipped as hereinbefore prescribed the same shall be decided by the Ministry and such decision shall be final.

Conditions attaching to Licence

4.—(1) Only eggs of domestic fowl shall be incubated.

(2) Only eggs obtained from an accredited poultry farm shall be incubated.

(3) An egg obtained from an accredited poultry farm shall not be incubated unless such egg bears the impression of the stamp supplied by the Ministry for use on such farm.

(4) An egg which weighs less than 2 ounces, or a dirty, badly shaped or defectively shelled egg shall not be incubated.

(5) Eggs for hatching shall not be taken into a licensed poultry hatchery between 1st June and 31st August in any year.

(6) Any measures as to the method of handling, treating and disposing of eggs, which the Ministry or an authorised officer may direct, shall be adopted.

(7) Incubation and hatching shall be so arranged that the chicks from eggs supplied by each accredited poultry farm can, in general, be identified.

(8) All infertile eggs and incubator waste and all dead, weak, malformed and abnormal chicks shall be disposed of in accordance with directions issued by the Ministry or an authorised officer.

(9) Only vigorous chicks free from obvious deformity shall be distributed.

(10) Boxes, other than new boxes of types approved by the Ministry, shall not be used for the despatch of chicks.

(11) Unless the Ministry or an authorised officer otherwise directs, chicks shall not be retained for longer than forty-eight hours, and during the period of retention shall be retained in a section of the hatchery effectively isolated from the incubating and sexing rooms.

(12) A licensed poultry hatchery shall not distribute chicks other than those hatched on the premises.

(13) No chicks from outside sources shall be brought into a licensed poultry hatchery, provided that this regulation shall not operate to prevent chicks from accredited poultry farms being brought into such hatchery for sexing during the 1950-51 hatching season. No live poultry of any species shall be kept within 100 yards of a licensed poultry hatchery unless permission to do so has been granted by the Ministry.

(14) Any sexing of chicks hatched at a licensed poultry hatchery shall be carried out in a room with fittings as prescribed in 3 (3). If sexing of chicks brought in by the owners of accredited poultry farms during the 1950-51 hatching season is to be undertaken at the hatchery