STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1971 No. 942

AGRICULTURE

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES

The Beef Cow (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Scheme 1971

Made - - -	*4th June* 1971
Laid before Parliament	*14th June* 1971
Coming into Operation	*15th June* 1971

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, in pursuance of section 12 of the Agriculture Act 1967(**a**) and of all his other enabling powers, with the approval of the Treasury, hereby makes the following scheme :—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This scheme, which may be cited as the Beef Cow (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Scheme 1971, shall come into operation on the 15th June 1971, and shall be construed as one with the principal scheme.

(2) In this scheme, the expression "the principal scheme" means the Beef Cow (Northern Ireland) Scheme 1967(**b**), as amended (**c**).

Abolition of stocking ratio for the year 1971

2.—(1) In relation to subsidy payments which may be payable for the year 1971, paragraph 4 of the principal scheme (which limits the numbers of eligible cows in respect of which such payments may be made) shall be amended in accordance with the provisions of the following sub-paragraph.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) of that paragraph shall be amended by the deletion of paragraph (*b*) thereof, together with the words "whichever is the less", and sub-paragraph (3) shall be deleted.

Application of scheme to cases where hill cattle subsidy is paid

3.—(1) In sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 6 of the principal scheme (which provides for subsidy payments to be made in respect of eligible cows disqualified from such payments under a hill cattle scheme by reason of the application of a stocking ratio in cases where the land on which the herd is maintained is partly hill land and partly other land), there shall be inserted after the words "partly other land" the words "which is capable of supporting cattle".

(2) In sub-paragraph (3) of that paragraph, the words after "for the purposes of this scheme" to the end of the sub-paragraph shall be deleted.

Amendment of paragraph 7 of principal scheme

4. In sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph 7 of the principal scheme, the words "or inspection of relevant grass or forage crops," shall be deleted.

(**a**) 1967 c. 22. (**b**) S.I. 1967/1976 (1967 III, p. 5405).
(**c**) S.I. 1969/698 (1969 II, p. 1915).

Saving for previous years

5. Nothing in this scheme shall affect subsidy payments relating to the prescribed dates in the years 1967 to 1970.

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 25th May 1971.

(L.S.)

J. M. L. Prior,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

We approve,
4th June 1971.

Bernard Weatherill,
P. L. Hawkins,
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Scheme.*)

Paragraph 4 of the Beef Cow (Northern Ireland) Scheme 1967, as amended, restricts the number of cows in respect of which subsidy payments may be made to the number of eligible cows comprised in a herd on a prescribed date in the year in question which satisfy the requirements of the scheme, or to one cow for each two acres of grass and forage crops available for the maintenance of the herd in that year, whichever is the less. The present scheme amends the 1967 scheme by abolishing the stocking ratio altogether in respect of the year 1971, so that subsidy payments will now be made in respect of all eligible cows in a beef herd which qualify.

In paragraph 6(2) of the 1967 scheme, provision is made for beef cow subsidy to be payable in respect of eligible cows in cases where the agricultural unit comprises both hill land, as defined in a hill cattle scheme, and other land, and where the cows in question are disqualified for the purposes of hill cattle subsidy by the application of a stocking ratio. The present scheme provides that, in order to qualify for beef cow subsidy in such circumstances, the agricultural unit on which the herd is maintained must comprise, as well as hill land, land which is capable of supporting cattle.

The scheme applies to Northern Ireland.