STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1974 No. 630

AGRICULTURE

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRIES

The Calf Subsidies (United Kingdom) Scheme 1974

Laid before Parliament in draft

Made - - - - 29*th March* 1974

Coming into Operation 1*st April* 1974

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Secretary of State for Wales, acting jointly, being the appropriate Minister in relation to a joint scheme for the whole of the United Kingdom, in exercise of the power conferred by sections 1 and 4 of the Agriculture (Calf Subsidies) Act 1952**(a)**, as amended by section 10 of the Agriculture Act 1967**(b)**, and by the said section 10, and now vested in them **(c)**, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, with the approval of the Treasury, hereby make the following scheme:—

Citation, extent and commencement

1. This scheme, which may be cited as the Calf Subsidies (United Kingdom) Scheme 1974, shall apply to the United Kingdom and shall come into operation on 1st April 1974, or on the date on which it is made, whichever is the later.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In this scheme the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them:—

"the Act" means the Agriculture (Calf Subsidies) Act 1952;

"carcases" means carcases of cattle;

"the Minister" means the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food;

"proper officer" means for any of the purposes of this scheme the person for the time being authorised to act for that purpose, in England by the Minister, in Scotland by the Secretary of State for Scotland, in Wales by the Minister and the Secretary of State for Wales, acting jointly, or by either of them, and in Northern Ireland by the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland.

(2) For the purposes of Part I of this scheme the limit of age at which an animal ceases to be a calf shall (subject to paragraph 6(2) below) be the age when it cuts its first permanent incisor tooth.

(a) 1952 c. 62. **(b)** 1967 c. 22.
(c) *See* S.I. 1969/388 (1969 I, p. 1070).

(3) The Interpretation Act 1889(a) applies to the interpretation of this scheme as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Applications for subsidy

3. It shall be a condition of the payment of a subsidy under this scheme that any person who desires to be paid in accordance with the provisions of this scheme shall apply in writing in such form applicable to Part I or Part II thereof and at such time as in relation to England the Minister, to Scotland the Secretary of State for Scotland, to Wales the Minister and the Secretary of State for Wales, acting jointly, and to Northern Ireland the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland may from time to time respectively require.

PART I

STAGE A—CALVES

Rates of subsidy

4. Subject to the provisions of this scheme, the Minister or the Secretary of State for Scotland may pay to the person who is the owner of a calf to which this part of this scheme applies at the time when the calf is certified to be a calf of the description specified in this part of this scheme—

(*a*) in the case of a heifer calf, a subsidy of £6.50, or

(*b*) in the case of a male calf, a subsidy of £8.50.

Eligible calves

5. The description of calf specified in this part of this scheme is any male or heifer calf, except a heifer calf of the Guernsey, Jersey, Friesian or Ayrshire breeds, which has been reasonably well reared and is, or will after further rearing be, suitable for beef production or, if a heifer calf, for use for breeding for beef production, being in any case an animal which, if slaughtered either immediately or after a period of further rearing and fattening, would be likely to yield a carcase of reasonably good quality beef, and which, in the case of an animal in Northern Ireland, is without horns, other than rudimentary or stub horns, and without unhealed wounds caused by the removal of its horns.

Conditions of subsidy

6.—(1) A calf to which this part of this scheme applies is a calf which—

(*a*) was born in the United Kingdom within the period beginning with 30th October 1973 and ending with 29th October 1976;

(*b*) has been certified by a proper officer to be of the description specified in paragraph 5 above;

(*c*) had not been previously so certified under either this scheme or a corresponding provision of any earlier scheme made under the Act; and

(*d*) had not at the time of certification attained the age at which it ceases to be a calf for the purposes of this part of this scheme.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1)(*d*) above shall not apply where the Minister in the case of an animal in England or Northern Ireland, the Secretary of State for Scotland in the case of an animal in Scotland, or the Minister and the Secretary of State for Wales, acting jointly, in the case of an animal in Wales, is or are satisfied that the animal in question would have been certified under this part of this

(a) 1889 c. 63.

scheme before it attained the age referred to in that sub-paragraph had certification not been delayed in order to avoid the risk of the introduction or spreading of animal disease.

(3) It shall be a condition of the payment of a subsidy under this part of this scheme that any person who desires to be paid in accordance with the provisions thereof in respect of any calves—

(*a*) shall collect them at a convenient place for the purposes of examination and marking in accordance with any order made under section 11 of the Agriculture Act 1967;

(*b*) shall so manage and secure them before, during and after their examination and marking that the person appointed for those purposes may carry out the examination and marking without risk of injury to himself; and

(*c*) shall give to the person appointed for those purposes such assistance as he may reasonably require in carrying them out.

PART II

STAGE B—CARCASES

Subsidies in respect of carcases

7.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this part of this scheme the Minister or the Secretary of State for Scotland may pay to the person who is the producer of a carcase to which this part of this scheme applies a subsidy at the rate determined in accordance with paragraph 10 below.

(2) This part of this scheme applies to any carcase which—

(*a*) is eligible for payment of subsidy in accordance with the provisions of the Schedule to this scheme; and

(*b*) is not the carcase of an animal in respect of which a subsidy has been paid under Part I of this scheme (or under any earlier scheme made under the Act) or which has been imported into the United Kingdom.

(3) In this paragraph "producer" means the person in whose name the carcase is presented for certification under this part of this scheme.

Conditions of subsidy

8. It shall be a condition of the payment of subsidy under this part of this scheme that—

(*a*) the carcase has been presented for certification at the place and in the manner specified in paragraph 5 of the Schedule to this scheme;

(*b*) the carcase is certified by a proper officer to be a carcase of the description specified in paragraph 7(2)(*a*) above; and

(*c*) such proper officer is satisfied that subsidy under any scheme made under the Act, whether as originally enacted or as amended by sections 10 and 11 of the Agriculture Act 1967, has not previously been paid in respect of the animal in question, either as a calf or a carcase.

Period for presentation

9. Subsidy shall not be payable under this part of this scheme unless the carcase is certified in accordance with paragraph 8(*b*) above within the period beginning with 1st April 1974 or the date on which this scheme comes into operation, whichever is the later, and ending with 31st March 1977.

Amount of subsidy

10.—(1) The rates of subsidy in respect of carcases of animals eligible for subsidy under this part of this scheme shall be such amounts as the Minister, the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Secretary of State for Wales, acting jointly, with the approval of the Treasury, determine as being approximately equivalent on the average to the rates of subsidy which would have been payable under Part I of this scheme (or the corresponding provisions of any earlier scheme made under the Act) if the animals in question had been certified for subsidy under the said Part I (or the corresponding provisions of any such earlier scheme).

(2) For the purposes of this paragraph the fact that heifer calves of certain breeds are excepted under paragraph 5 of this scheme (or a corresponding provision of any such earlier scheme) shall be disregarded.

Delegation to Meat and Livestock Commission

11. The Minister, the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Secretary of State for Wales, acting jointly, may, to such extent and in such manner as they may from time to time direct, delegate to the Meat and Livestock Commission established under section 1 of the Agriculture Act 1967 any of their functions in relation to Great Britain conferred on them by this part of this scheme.

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 28th March 1974.

(L.S.)

Frederick Peart,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

28th March 1974.

William Ross,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

28th March 1974.

John Morris,
Secretary of State for Wales.

We approve.

29th March 1974.

John Golding,
T. Pendry,
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

SCHEDULE

STAGE B—CARCASES

Carcases eligible for subsidy

1. The carcases of fat cattle of the following kinds, namely fat steers, clean fat heifers, bulls and other male cattle, of the standards, minimum weights and other qualifications set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 below, are eligible for payment of subsidy. The carcases of cattle specified in paragraph 4 below are, subject to the exceptions therein mentioned, not eligible.

QUALIFYING STANDARDS

2. *Steers and Heifers*

(i) *General Class*

The dressed carcase weight must be not less than 450 lb. in the case of a steer and not less than 390 lb. in the case of a heifer. The carcase must be of good conformation, the rounds, loins and ribs being reasonably well fleshed and the chucks and plates reasonably thick, but the neck and foreshanks may be slightly long and thin. However, some slight lack of flesh development in the rounds is acceptable provided the minimum qualifying standards are met in all other respects. The carcases of young animals of such conformation need have only a thin exterior fat covering. Carcases from older animals may possess a rather thicker fat covering but must not be excessively fat or patchy.

(ii) *Lightweight animals*

The dressed carcase weight must be not less than 410 lb. in the case of a steer and not less than 345 lb. in the case of a heifer. The carcase must be moderately compact and moderately thickly fleshed throughout with rounds moderately well developed and rounded, loins and ribs thick and well fleshed. The neck and shanks must be relatively short. Fat covering, which should be smooth and evenly distributed over the exterior of the carcase, may vary in quantity from medium to light. Cod or udder, kidney and aitch fat should be adequate but not excessive. If the loins or ribs are only moderately thick and moderately well fleshed, the carcase will be eligible provided it satisfies these specifications in all other respects.

3. *Bulls*

A bull carcase must conform to either of the following standards:

(i) *General Class*

The dressed carcase weight must be not less than 450 lb. The carcase must be of good conformation, the rounds, loins and ribs being reasonably well fleshed and the shoulders and plates reasonably thick. The shanks may be slightly long. The forequarters may be relatively heavier than in steer carcases but must not be excessively so. The exterior fat covering on carcases of such conformation may vary in quantity from medium to thin but should not be excessive or patchy. Inside, kidney and aitch fat must not be excessive but should be at least in moderate supply. Flesh should be moderately firm. Colour must not be dark but may range from a light cherry red to a slightly darker red. The chine bones should be soft and red and terminate in soft pearly white cartilage.

(ii) *Special lightweight bulls*

The dressed carcase weight must be not less than 410 lb. The carcase must be moderately compact and moderately thickly fleshed throughout with rounds moderately well developed and rounded. Loins, ribs and shoulders should be thick and well fleshed. Shanks and neck must be relatively short. The forequarters may be relatively heavier than in steer carcases but must not be excessively so.

Fat covering, which must be present, should be smooth and evenly distributed over the carcase exterior and may vary in quantity from medium to light. Inside, kidney and aitch fat should be adequate but not excessive.

Flesh must be moderately firm. Colour must not be dark but may range from light cherry red to a slightly darker red. The chine bones should be soft and red and terminate in soft pearly white cartilage.

If the loins or ribs are only moderately thick and moderately well fleshed the carcase will be eligible provided it satisfies these specifications in all other respects.

4. *Ineligible carcases*

The following carcases are not eligible for payment of subsidy:

(*a*) carcases of bulls or other male cattle showing "bullish" characteristics except for the carcases of bulls and other male cattle meeting the qualifying standards in paragraph 3;

(*b*) carcases of cows;

(*c*) carcases of other female cattle which are or have been pregnant, except where, in the opinion of the certifying officer, the quality of the carcase has not been seriously depreciated by the pregnancy;

(*d*) carcases which have not been sold unless—

(i) they are for sale by or on behalf of the producer in a butchery business and are not intended for consumption in the producer's household, or

(ii) they are transferred in special circumstances approved by the Meat and Livestock Commission (in Great Britain) or the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland (in Northern Ireland);

(*e*) carcases which are carcases of affected animals as defined in the Tuberculosis Order 1964(**a**), the Tuberculosis (Compensation) (Scotland) Order 1964(**b**), the Bovine Tuberculosis (Northern Ireland) Order 1935(**c**), the Tuberculosis Control Order (Northern Ireland) 1964(**d**), the Tuberculosis Control (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1968(**e**), the Tuberculosis Control (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1973(**f**), or any order amending or re-enacting these orders;

(*f*) carcases of brucellosis reactor cattle which are slaughtered under terms by which compensation is payable by the Minister, the Secretary of State or the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland and the reactor becomes his or their property, except that in Northern Ireland carcases of animals for which the owner receives carcase value only may be presented for certification;

(*g*) carcases wholly condemned as unfit for human consumption.

5. *Presentation*

Carcases must be presented at deadweight certification centres approved by the Meat and Livestock Commission (in Great Britain) or the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland (in Northern Ireland). They must be presented either as whole carcases or in sides, both sides together, and must conform to the following specifications and conditions for dressing and weighing:—

(A) The following offals shall be removed:

(*a*) hide;

(*b*) head and tongue; but in Northern Ireland, unless the Department of Agriculture agrees to the contrary, the ears must be examined by the certifying officer before slaughter, after which they may be removed. In Great Britain in every case, and in Northern Ireland where the Department has agreed not to inspect before slaughter, the ears must be left naturally attached to the carcase until it has been examined as a carcase to determine eligibility for subsidy, after which they may be removed;

(*c*) feet;

(**a**) S.I. 1964/1151 (1964 II, p. 2634).
(**b**) S.I. 1964/1152 (1964 II, p. 2643).
(**c**) S.R. & O. (N.I.)1935/39.
(**d**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1964/31.
(**e**) S.R. & O. (N.I.)1968/236.
(**f**) S.R. & O. (N.I.)1973/76.

(*d*) guts and tripes with the accompanying glands:
  (i) liver;
  (ii) spleen;
  (iii) pancreas;
(*e*) caul and gut fat;
(*f*) heart and heart fat;
(*g*) heart bread and neck bread (thymus glands);
(*h*) lights (lungs, trachea and larynx);
(*i*) thick skirt (pillar of diaphragm);
(*j*) tail;
(*k*) genito-urinary organs, excluding kidneys;
(*l*) large blood vessels of abdomen and thorax.

(B) The following specifications shall be observed when offals are removed:
(*a*) the head shall be removed at the junction of the skull and the spinal column, thereby leaving the entire spinal column on the carcase;
(*b*) the forefeet shall be removed at the knee joint and the hindfeet at the hock joint;
(*c*) the "rib skirt" or diaphragm shall be trimmed to leave a margin of at least one half inch of "skin" or membranous portion along the bottom; this will leave the fleshy part of the diaphragm intact;
(*d*) there shall be no trimming of the neck beyond cutting off the ragged edges; the jugular vein may be removed cleanly but there shall be no trimming of the surrounding fat;
(*e*) no channel or kidney fat shall be removed unless a corresponding addition to the weight is made;
(*f*) the tail shall be removed at the second joint from the base bone;
(*g*) where it is trade practice to leave the thick skirt or tail or both these offals on the carcase, a weight deduction of 3 lb. will be made in respect of the tail and a weight deduction of 2 lb. in respect of the thick skirt.

(C) The following conditions shall apply to the weighing of carcases of cattle:
(*a*) carcases must be dressed according to the specifications above when they are weighed, except that the ears may be removed before weighing after the carcase has been accepted as being eligible for certification; if they are not so removed, a deduction of 2 lb., i.e. 1 lb. for each ear, will be made;
(*b*) when the kidneys are removed before the carcase is weighed, an addition of 3 lb. shall be made to the carcase weight;
(*c*) carcases shall be weighed:
  (i) if weighed "hot", within 1 hour of slaughter;
  (ii) if weighed "cold", within 24 hours of slaughter except when prior approval for an extension of this period has been given;
(*d*) when carcases are weighed "hot", the "cold" weight will be ascertained by making rebates as follows:

	Hot weight	*Rebate*
	lb.	lb.
Sides of Beef	250 and under	4
	251 to 300	5
	301 to 400	6
	over 400	7

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Scheme.)

Part I of this Scheme (Stage A) ,which applies to calves born in the United Kingdom between 30th October 1973 and 29th October 1976 continues provision for the payment of calf subsidies under the Agriculture (Calf Subsidies) Act 1952. The amounts payable per head are £6.50 for heifers and £8.50 for male calves.

Part II of the Scheme (Stage B), made under the extended powers conferred by section 10 of the Agriculture Act 1967, provides for the payment of subsidy to producers of certain carcases. Such carcases must satisfy the standards of eligibility for payment of subsidy set out in the Schedule to the Scheme. They must not be of animals in respect of which subsidy has been paid at Stage A, or which have been imported into the United Kingdom. They must be presented for certification at the place and in the manner specified in the Schedule, and they must be certified between 1st April 1974 and 31st March 1977.

The rates of subsidy at Stage B are such amounts as are determined to be approximately equivalent on the average to the rates which would have been payable at Stage A if the animals in question had been certified (while calves) at Stage A.

The Scheme, which applies to the whole of the United Kingdom, contains a provision enabling the Stage B functions in Great Britain to be delegated to the Meat and Livestock Commission.

This Scheme enables subsidy to be paid on live young bulls, and removes the dentition test for Stage B certification of bulls and special lightweight animals. Otherwise, except for changes in the dates and minor and consequential amendments, this Scheme is the same as its predecessor.

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