STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1970 No. 446

AGRICULTURE

GUARANTEED PRICES AND ASSURED MARKETS

The Eggs (Guaranteed Prices) (Amendment) Order 1970

Made - - - -	*18th March* 1970
Laid before Parliament	*24th March* 1970
Coming into Operation	*29th March* 1970

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Secretaries of State respectively concerned with agriculture in Scotland and Northern Ireland and the Secretary of State for Wales acting jointly in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by sections 1 and 35(3) of the Agriculture Act 1957(**a**), as read with the Transfer of Functions (Wales) Order 1969(**b**), and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, with the consent of the Treasury and after consultation with such bodies of persons as appear to the said Ministers to represent the interests of the producers of eggs, hereby make the following order:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This order may be cited as the Eggs (Guaranteed Prices) (Amendment) Order 1970, and shall come into operation on 29th March 1970.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(**c**) shall apply to the interpretation of this order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Amendment of the principal order

2. The Eggs (Guaranteed Prices) Order 1969(**d**) shall be amended as follows:—

(*a*) by substituting in article 2(1) thereof for the definitions of " guaranteed price ", " indicator price " and " standard quantity " the following definitions:—

" ' guaranteed price ', ' indicator price ', ' upper limit of the standard quantity ' and ' lower limit of the standard quantity ' mean respectively the prices and limits of the standard quantity determined pursuant to article 4 hereof;";

(*b*) by deleting the proviso to paragraph (1) of article 4 thereof;

(**a**) 1957 c. 57.
(**b**) S.I. 1969/388 (1969 I, p. 1070).
(**c**) 1889 c. 63.
(**d**) S.I. 1969/401 (1969 I, p. 1132).

(*c*) by substituting for paragraph (2) of article 4 thereof the following paragraph:—

" (2) In respect of the year ending with 27th March 1971 there shall be determined for hen eggs a standard quantity having an upper limit and a lower limit:

Provided that the Minister may, if he thinks fit, convert the standard quantity so determined in respect of the year into such different seasonal standard quantities, each having an upper limit and a lower limit, in respect of such different accounting periods in that year as he may with the approval of the Treasury prescribe.";

(*d*) by substituting for article 8 thereof the following article:—

" **8.**—(1) If in the year ending with 27th March 1971 the number of hen eggs packed—

(*a*) exceeds the upper limit of the standard quantity for that year, the reference in article 6 hereof to the difference between the guaranteed price and the indicator price shall, insofar as the reference relates to hen eggs, be taken to be a reference to that difference divided by the proportion which the number of hen eggs packed in that year bears to the upper limit of the standard quantity for that year;

(*b*) is less than the lower limit of the standard quantity for that year, the said reference in article 6 hereof shall, insofar as it relates to hen eggs, be taken to be a reference to that difference divided by the proportion which the number of hen eggs packed in that year bears to the lower limit of the standard quantity for that year or a reference to fivepence, whichever is the less.

(2) If the standard quantity determined in respect of the year has been converted under the proviso to article 4(2) hereof into different seasonal standard quantities, each having an upper limit and a lower limit, in respect of different accounting periods in that year, references in the last foregoing paragraph to the year ending with 27th March 1971, to the upper limit of the standard quantity and to the lower limit of the standard quantity shall be taken to be references respectively to the appropriate accounting period and to the upper limit and the lower limit of the standard quantity for that period.".

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 11th March 1970.

(L.S.)

Cledwyn Hughes,

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Given under the Seal of the Secretary of State for Scotland on 11th March 1970.

(L.S.)

William Ross,

Secretary of State for Scotland.

Given under the hand of the Secretary of State for the Home Department on 13th March 1970.

James Callaghan,

Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Given under my hand on 16th March 1970.

George Thomas,

Secretary of State for Wales.

We consent

18th March 1970.

Walter Harrison,

Neil McBride,

Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the order.)

This order, which comes into operation on 29th March 1970, amends the Eggs (Guaranteed Prices) Order 1969 and provides for changes in the arrangements for guaranteed prices for hen eggs following the determinations of the Ministers after a review held under section 2 of the Agriculture Act 1947.

The principal changes are—

(*a*) the provisions enabling adjustments to be made in the event of the market being disturbed by abnormal imports of hen eggs from abroad are brought to an end;

(*b*) provision is made for the standard quantity for hen eggs, which is used for the calculation of guarantee payments in certain circumstances, to have an upper and a lower limit and for enabling the standard quantity to be converted into different seasonal standard quantities, each having an upper and a lower limit.

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