in subsection (2) of the said section four, up to and including the 5th day of August, 1953, by the Agriculture Act (Part I) Extension of Period Orders, 1950, 1951 and 1952(a), is hereby extended for a further year from the 6th day of August, 1953, up to and including the 5th day of August, 1954.

In witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries is hereunto affixed this 24th day of June, 1953.

Tom Dugdale,
Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Given under the Seal of the Secretary of State for Scotland this 26th day of June, 1953.

James Stuart,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

Given under the hand of the Secretary of State for the Home Department this 29th day of June, 1953.

David Maxwell Fyfe,
Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Approved this 1st day of July, 1953.

Edward Heath,
Hendrie D. Oakshott,
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

The period of three years from 6th August, 1947, during which Orders under section four of the Agriculture Act, 1947 (relating to arrangements for the provision of guaranteed prices and assured markets for producers of produce mentioned in the First Schedule to that Act) may have effect was extended up to and including 5th August, 1953, by the Agriculture Act (Part I) Extension of Period Orders, 1950 (S.I. 1950, No. 851), 1951 (S.I. 1951, No. 1342) and 1952 (S.I. 1952, No. 1501). This Order, which applies to the whole of the United Kingdom, extends the period for a further year to 5th August, 1954.

In accordance with section 7 (2) of the Act, resolutions approving this Order were passed by the House of Commons on 23rd July, 1953, and by the House of Lords on 23rd July, 1953.

1953 No. 1854

The Eggs (Minimum Prices for 1954–55 and 1955–56) Order, 1953

Made - - - -	*16th December,* 1953
Laid before Parliament	*17th December,* 1953
Coming into Operation	*29th March,* 1954

The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Secretary of State for the Home Department (being the Secretaries of State concerned with agriculture in Scotland and Northern Ireland respectively), with the approval of the Treasury, in exercise of the powers conferred

(a) S.I. 1950/851; 1951/1342; 1952/1501: 1950 I, p. 2; 1951 I, p. 1; 1952 I, p. 45.

upon them by subsection (2) of section five of the Agriculture Act, 1947(a), and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following Order:—

1. This Order may be cited as the Eggs (Minimum Prices for 1954–55 and 1955–56) Order, 1953, and shall come into operation on the 29th day of March, 1954.

2.—(1) In this order, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them:—

"Appropriate coefficient" has the meaning assigned to it by Article 6 of this Order;

"Appropriate Minister" means in relation to any part of the United Kingdom the Minister concerned with agriculture therein or the Minister of Food;

"Average price of feedingstuffs" means the average price of feedingstuffs, determined in accordance with the provisions of the Schedule to this Order, during the period of sixteen weeks immediately preceding the date of determination;

"Duck eggs" means the eggs in shell of domestic ducks;

"First Quality Duck Eggs" means duck eggs that are fresh and free from taint, the shells of which are clean and unstained, sound and of good texture and shape, the contents being free from visible blemish and discoloration, the yolk being central and translucent and the white being translucent with the air space not exceeding one-quarter of an inch in depth;

"First Quality Hen Eggs" means hen eggs that are fresh and free from taint, the shells of which are clean and unstained, sound and of good texture and shape, the contents being free from visible blemish and discoloration, the yolk being central, translucent and faintly but not clearly defined and the white being translucent with the air space not exceeding one-quarter of an inch in depth;

"Hen eggs" means the eggs in shell of domestic fowls;

"Licensed packers" means any persons holding licences as such under or by virtue of the provisions in that behalf of any Order of the appropriate Minister for the time being in force(b);

"Month" means a continuous period of four weeks beginning on the 29th day of March, 1954, and thereafter on every fourth Monday;

"Permitted deduction" means a deduction from the prices paid for eggs of first quality during any month if the average price of feedingstuffs, determined on the third Monday in the immediately preceding month, is less than twenty-seven shillings and ten pence per hundredweight, such deduction being at the rate of one penny per dozen eggs for every complete thirteen and one-third pence (or part of thirteen and one-third pence exceeding six and two-thirds pence) per hundredweight by which the average price of feedingstuffs, determined as aforesaid, was below twenty-seven shilling and ten pence per hundredweight;

"Producer" includes any person having under his care, control or management domestic fowls or domestic ducks;

"Specified" means specified by or under an Order of the appropriate Minister;

"Year" means a continuous period of fifty-two weeks.

(a) 10 & 11 Geo. 6. c. 48.

(b) The following relevant Order is in force at the date of this Order:—S.I. 1953/529; 1953 II, p. 2083.

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889(a), shall apply to the interpretation of this Order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3. The average prices (calculated in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Order) to be paid for hen eggs of first quality to producers in the United Kingdom by licensed packers and by such other persons as may be specified shall be not less than the following prices:—

(i) For the year beginning on the 29th day of March, 1954, three shillings and sixpence per dozen eggs;

(ii) For the year beginning on the 28th day of March, 1955, three shillings and five pence per dozen eggs.

4. The average prices (calculated in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of this Order) to be paid for duck eggs of first quality to producers in the United Kingdom by licensed packers and by such other persons as may be specified shall be not less than the following prices:—

(i) For the year beginning on the 29th day of March, 1954, two shillings and fourpence per dozen eggs;

(ii) For the year beginning on the 28th day of March, 1955, two shillings and two pence per dozen eggs.

5. For the purposes of the two immediately preceding Articles of this Order, the average price for each year therein referred to shall be calculated in the manner following, that is to say:—

(1) Multiply the price per dozen eggs paid to producers in the United Kingdom by licensed packers and by such other persons as may be specified for first quality hen eggs or duck eggs as the case may be in each period of the year in question, being the period to which the said price relates, by the appropriate co-efficient determined in accordance with the provisions of Article 6 of this Order. Add together the resulting sums for the whole of the year in question and divide the total sum thus ascertained by the sum of the appropriate co-efficients determined as aforesaid.

(2) If the average price of feedingstuffs, determined on the third Monday in each month, is less than twenty seven shillings and ten pence per hundredweight, then in making the calculation set out in paragraph (1) of this Article no account shall be taken of any permitted deduction made during the following month.

(3) In making the calculation set out in paragraph (1) of this Article, any deduction made from any price on account of transport costs or charges which may be permitted or enforced by any Order of the appropriate Minister for the time being in force shall be disregarded.

6. For the purposes of Article 5 of this Order, the appropriate co-efficient for each price shall be the arithmetic mean of the numbers of dozen (actual or estimated) first quality hen eggs or duck eggs as the case may be purchased by licensed packers and by such other persons as may be specified in those periods of the two years immediately preceding the year in question corresponding to the period of the year in question to which the said price relates.

In witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries is hereunto affixed this 14th day of December, 1953.

Tom Dugdale,
Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

(a) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

Given under the Seal of the Secretary of State for Scotland this 14th day of December, 1953.

James Stuart,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

Given under the hand of the Secretary of State for the Home Department this 15th day of December, 1953.

David Maxwell Fyfe,
Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Approved this 16th day of December, 1953.

Edward Heath,
Dennis Vosper,
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

SCHEDULE

Determination of the Price of Feedingstuffs

For the purposes of determining the average price of feedingstuffs during any period, the price of feedingstuffs in any week of that period shall be calculated as follows:—

The average price per ton at London, Bristol, Hull, Liverpool, Leith, Glasgow and Belfast for lots of not less than five tons of fair average quality of each of the first four feedingstuffs named in column 1 of the Table hereunder, and the price per ton ex factory for lots of not less two tons of the fifth feedingstuff named in column 1 of the Table hereunder, as determined in each case by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, shall be multiplied by the appropriate percentage specified in column 2 of the said Table, the resultant sums shall be added together and the total thereof divided by one hundred; and the sum so arrived at shall be converted to a price per hundredweight and adjusted to the nearest penny, any exact half-penny being reckoned as a complete penny.

Table

Column 1	Column 2
Feedingstuff	Percentage
Wheat By-products	30
Feeding Wheat	10
Feeding Oats	20
Maize	30
Home-produced fish meal (other than herring meal) the oil content of which is 3 per cent. or more, but does not exceed 4 per cent., and the albuminoid content of which is 66 per cent.	10

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Order fixes the minimum average price to be paid for hen eggs and duck eggs to producers in the United Kingdom for each of the years beginning on 29th March, 1954 and 28th March, 1955; and prescribes the manner in which the average price for each year is to be calculated.