CORRECTED REPRINT

This copy should be substituted for that previously circulated on 2nd August 1973 which was incorrectly printed.

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1973 No. 1309

LAND DRAINAGE

The General Drainage Charge (Ascertainment) Order 1973

Made - - - -	*25th July* 1973
Laid before Parliament	*2nd August* 1973
Coming into Operation	*24th August* 1973

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 22(2) and (4) and section 51(4) of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968**(a)**, as amended **(b)**, and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following order:—

Citation, commencement and revocation

1.—(1) This order may be cited as the General Drainage Charge (Ascertainment) Order 1973 and shall come into operation on 24th August 1973.

(2) The General Drainage Charge (Ascertainment) Order 1970**(c)** and the General Drainage Charge (Ascertainment) Order 1971**(d)** are hereby revoked.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In this order—

"the Act" means the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968 as amended; and

"the quotient", in relation to a general drainage charge raised for any year by one of the river authorities described in the Schedule to this order, means the quotient ascertained for the purposes of that charge in pursuance of section 22(2) of the Act (which specifies the method of ascertaining the amount of such a charge).

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889**(e)** shall apply to the interpretation of this order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament and as though this order and the orders hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

Ascertainment of amount of general drainage charge

3. For the purpose of ascertaining the amount per acre at which a general drainage charge to be raised on the basis described in section 21 of the Act may be raised by one of the river authorities specified in the first column of

(a) 1968 c. 34.

(b) By section 10(3) of, and parargraph 30 of Schedule 2 to, the Decimal Currency Act 1969 (c. 19).

(c) S.I. 1970/416

(d) S.I. 1971/501.

(e) 1889 c. 63.

the Schedule to this order for any of the years ending on 31st March in 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1978 the number by which the quotient is to be multiplied as well as being multiplied by one new penny shall be the number set opposite the name of that authority in the second column of the said Schedule.

In witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereby affixed on 25th July 1973.

(L.S.)

Joseph Godber,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

SCHEDULE

Name of river authority	Number
The East Suffolk and Norfolk River Authority	12.0
The Essex River Authority	12.3
The Great Ouse River Authority	13.9
The Gwynedd River Authority	12.8
The Lincolnshire River Authority	12.1
The Mersey and Weaver River Authority	17.3
The Welland and Nene River Authority	11.8

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Order concerns general drainage charges which may be raised by the river authorities specified in the Schedule to the Order for the years ending 31st March in 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977 and 1978. It defines, in relation to each river authority, a factor in the formula prescribed by section 22 of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968 for ascertaining the amount of the general drainage charge raised by the authority.

Most of the river authorities' revenues for land drainage purposes are raised under section 87 of the Water Resources Act 1963 (c.38), by precepts issued to the county councils and county borough councils in their areas, and these councils draw the revenue to meet these precepts from the general ratepayers in their districts. General drainage charges are levied on occupiers or owners of land not liable to general rates, and section 22 of the Act of 1968 requires the factor in the formula to be calculated so that a general drainage charge raised by a river authority in accordance with the formula will be at such an amount per acre of chargeable land in the river authority area as will secure that the total amount produced by the charge approximates to the total amount which would be produced by a general rate if the chargeable land were liable to such rates. The Order defines the factor in accordance with section 22.

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