1959. No. 163 **[C]**

PIGS

Premium Boar Scheme, 1959

SCHEME, DATED 12TH OCTOBER, 1959, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE AGRICULTURE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1949.

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section Nine of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland), 1949(a), and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, and with the approval of the Ministry of Finance, hereby makes the following Scheme:—

Citation and commencement

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Premium Boar Scheme, 1959, and shall come into operation on 13th October, 1959.

Definitions

2. In this Scheme—

"Ministry" means the Ministry of Agriculture.

"County Committee" means a County Committee of Agriculture appointed pursuant to Section 2(1) of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland), 1949.

"Approved" means approved by the Ministry of Agriculture.

"Premium" means the payment which a selected owner will receive for allowing his premium boar to stand for general use in his district.

"Premium Boar" means a boar which has been approved, after inspection by an authorised officer of the Ministry, as being suitable for the award of a premium and which has been purchased by an applicant selected by a County Committee to keep a boar under this Scheme.

"Accredited Pig Herd" means a pig herd registered as accredited under the Accredited Pig Herds and Litter Testing Scheme (Northern Ireland), 1958(b), as amended by the Accredited Pig Herds and Litter Testing (Amendment) Scheme (Northern Ireland), 1958(c).

"Pedigree" means entered in the Herd Book of the breed concerned and earmarked in accordance with the appropriate Herd Book regulations.

Eligible Breeds

3. Only pedigree boars of the Large White and Landrace breeds which have been bred in Accredited Pig Herds shall be eligible to be selected for use as premium boars. Provided that, if prior to the 1st February, 1960, the number of eligible boars available from Accredited Pig Herds is less than the number of boars which the Ministry wishes to select before that date, the Ministry may, for the purpose of making up the desired number, select suitable Large White pedigree boars from other herds.

(a) 1949. c. 2.
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1958, No. 17.
(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1958, No. 54.

Age and selection of Boars

4. Save in exceptional circumstances, boars shall be selected as eligible for first-year premiums only from those which are over six months and under twelve months old and which are entered and exhibited at approved Shows and Sales.

Selection of Applicants

5. Each County Committee shall, in accordance with the First Schedule, receive applications and select suitable persons to keep premium boars.

Purchase of Boars

6. Applicants selected in accordance with Article 5 shall purchase boars for premium only from those animals which are approved for use as premium boars. Applicants who purchase boars shall supply to the County Agricultural Executive Officer, or his representative, at the time of purchase, or as soon afterwards as is possible, details of the boars purchased. If for any reason a Show and Sale is not held the Ministry may make such other arrangements as are necessary for the inspection, selection and purchase of boars for premium.

Conditions and Authority of County Committees

7. Conditions applicable to the placing out of premium boars and the authority and functions of County Committees are as set forth in the Second and Third Schedules respectively.

Premiums

8. The values of the premiums payable by the Ministry and the methods of claiming and paying such premiums are as set forth in the Fourth Schedule.

Penalties

9.—(1) In the event of any infringement of, or non-compliance with the terms of this Scheme, or of a boar being unable from any cause to complete the prescribed number of services, payment of the premium or any part thereof may be withheld by the Ministry.

(2) Any person who through misrepresentation or fraud receives or claims payment of a premium for a boar, or obtains the service of a premium boar for his sow under this Scheme, may, in addition to any other penalty to which he may be liable by law, be debarred from obtaining in future any benefit under this Scheme.

General

10. The Ministry may brand or otherwise mark any premium boars, and may inspect them at any time.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this twelfth day of October, nineteen hundred and fifty-nine.

(L.S.) *J. C. Baird,*
Assistant Secretary.

The Ministry of Finance hereby approves of the foregoing Scheme.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Finance for Northern Ireland this twelfth day of October, nineteen hundred and fifty-nine, in the presence of

(L.S.) *K. R. Shimeld,*
Assistant Secretary.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Selection of Premium Holders

The County Committee shall receive applications from persons who, if selected, are prepared to keep premium boars for the service of sows locally. Such applications shall be made to the County Committee in such form and within such time as the County Committee may determine.

In making selections the County Committee shall have regard to the needs of the various districts within its area and, save with the Ministry's special approval in writing, no two applicants residing within two statute miles by road of each other shall be selected to keep premium boars of the same breed.

The total number of applicants selected by a County Committee to keep premium boars shall be limited by the total number of premiums (first-year and second-year) approved by the Ministry for that county.

The County Agricultural Executive Officer shall notify those applicants who have been selected as suitable to keep premium boars and inform them of the Shows and Sales approved by the Ministry for the inspection of such boars.

A list of the applicants selected shall be forwarded to the Ministry by the County Committee immediately after the selections have been made and the list shall state the particular Sale at which each applicant intends to purchase a boar.

SECOND SCHEDULE

Conditions Applicable to First and Second-Year Premium Boars

Service Season

The service season for a premium boar shall commence not earlier than the 1st January. In the case of first-year boars the service season shall begin not later than a date to be fixed by the County Committee, which date shall in no case be subsequent to the 1st July and shall close on the 31st December. Provided also that the service season for a first-year premium boar shall not commence for the purposes of this Scheme, until the owner of the boar has notified the County Agricultural Executive Officer that he has purchased a suitable boar.

Service and Fees

Each first-year premium boar shall serve not less than 30 sows, and each second-year boar shall serve not less than 40 sows. The service of sows the property of the owner of the boar shall not be recognised for premium purposes. The service fee for the prescribed number of services shall be fixed for its area by each County Committee provided that the maximum fee shall not exceed 20/- per sow inclusive of all charges, except that an additional charge, at such rate as the County Committee determines, may be made to cover the keep of a sow which is left on the farm of the premium boar owner for more than two days. After the prescribed minimum number of sows has been served the owner of the boar may charge such fee as he may decide.

A sow to be eligible for service under this Scheme must be the property of a farmer who is a rated occupier in a rural or urban district of a county in Northern Ireland, or of a herdsman, artisan or bona-fide agricultural labourer resident in such a county.

Service Restrictions

The owner of a premium boar shall not, before the prescribed number of sows has been served, reserve the use of the boar for sows the property of any individual. Sows shall be served in the order in which they are presented. The boar owner shall keep on the service form supplied by the Ministry a record of the names and addresses of persons whose sows have been served, with dates

of such services, at the fee fixed by the County Committee. The form shall be produced for inspection on request by any officer of the Ministry or by the County Committee.

The owner of a premium boar has the right to refuse the use of his boar in any case where he is satisfied that the service would be prejudicial to the boar or where the owner of a sow presented for service has failed to pay the fee due for any service previously obtained under this Scheme. The reason for such refusal in either of these circumstances shall be communicated immediately to the County Agricultural Executive Officer who shall notify the Ministry of the circumstances in which service has been refused.

INSPECTION OF BOARS FOR SECOND-YEAR PREMIUMS

Of the boars awarded first-year premiums only those which are approved as suitable to stand for a second year under this Scheme shall be eligible to earn second-year premiums. A boar which is not well developed or which shows signs of having been badly cared for shall not be eligible to earn a second-year premium.

The owner of a boar selected for a second-year premium shall produce such evidence, as the Ministry may require, of the fruitfulness of the boar in the first service season.

A boar approved as eligible to earn a second-year premium shall stand for service at the same place as in the previous service season, save when in special circumstances the County Committee approves its transfer to another farm.

The Ministry shall send to the County Committee, as soon as practicable, a list of owners of boars which have been approved as eligible to earn second-year premiums and a list of owners whose boars have not been so approved.

The County Agricultural Executive Officer shall notify any owner who has not been selected by the County Committee to receive a second-year premium or whose boar has not been approved as suitable to stand for a second year under this Scheme.

The owner of a first-year premium boar which is selected as suitable for a second-year premium shall retain such boar for a second season as a premium boar unless he obtains the consent of the County Committee to dispose of it.

THIRD SCHEDULE

Authority and Functions of County Committees

Subject to the approval of the Ministry a County Committee may lay down conditions or requirements as it deems advisable in regard to:—

(1) the number of premium boars which any one owner may possess, provided that:

(*a*) no owner shall keep a premium boar and any other boar on the same farm unless such other boar has been bred in an Accredited Pig Herd and is approved as being up to the premium boar standard;

(*b*) no owner shall possess two premium boars of the same breed unless located at least two miles by road from each other;

(2) the number of sows which any one farmer may send to a premium boar for service;

(3) permitting the service of sows owned by any persons who would otherwise be excluded in accordance with the terms of the Second Schedule;

(4) fixing the latest date for the commencement of the service season in accordance with the Second Schedule;

(5) fixing the service fee (subject to a maximum of 20/-) and a charge per day from the third day onwards to cover the keep of a sow which is left on the farm of a premium boar owner for longer than two days.