1977 No. 226

AGRICULTURE

Seed Potato (Improvement) Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1977

Made . . . . . 26*th July* 1977

Coming into operation . . . . 1*st September* 1977

The Department of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred by section 1 of the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(**a**) as amended by the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1957(**b**) and now vested in it(**c**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf and with the approval of the Department(**c**) of Finance, hereby makes the following Scheme:

Citation and commencement

1.—(1) This Scheme may be cited as the Seed Potato (Improvement) Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1977.

(2) This Scheme shall come into operation on 1st September 1977.

Revocation

2. The Seed Potato (Improvement) Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1974(**d**) is hereby revoked.

Interpretation

3. In this Scheme—

"approved proposals" means proposals which have been submitted in writing to the Department by the Board and approved in writing by the Department;

"the Department" means the Department of Agriculture;

"the Board" means the Seed Potato Marketing Board for Northern Ireland.

Purpose of grants

4. Subject to the provisions of this Scheme the Department may make to the Board grants towards expenditure which the Department is satisfied has been reasonably incurred by the Board in the carrying out of approved proposals for the purposes specified in the next paragraph.

Proposals eligible for grants

5.—(1) Grants under the preceding paragraph may be made in respect of approved proposals designed to encourage the breeding of new varieties of seed potatoes and to increase efficiency in the growing, handling, storing, transporting or marketing of seed potatoes.

(**a**) 1954 c. 31 (N.I.)
(**b**) 1957 c. 3 (N.I.)
(**c**) *See* 1973 c. 36 Sch. 5 para. 7(1) and 1974 c. 28 Sch. 1 para. 2(1) and (2)
(**d**) S.R. 1974 No. 167 (I, p. 715)

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-paragraph (1) approved proposals may relate to—

(*a*) incentives to growers in Northern Ireland to plant seed potatoes having a high degree of freedom from disease;

(*b*) work of an experimental, research or development nature in connection with the breeding, production, grading, handling, storing or transporting of seed potatoes;

(*c*) the survey or development of markets for seed potatoes;

(*d*) the organisation or participation in shows or exhibitions with a view to promoting the sale of Northern Ireland seed potatoes; or

(*e*) publicity relating to the seed potato industry of Northern Ireland.

Condition of making grants

6. Grant may be paid under this Scheme in respect of approved proposals only if these proposals have been carried out to the satisfaction of the Department subject only to such modifications as shall have been first approved by the Department.

Amount of grants

7.—(1) The amount or the rate of grant payable in respect of any approved proposal shall be such amount or rate as the Department shall determine.

(2) Where an approved proposal is completed only in part the Department may, if satisfied that the purpose of the proposal has been achieved to an extent which it considers reasonable make a grant to the Board of an amount considered by the Department to be appropriate to the extent to which the proposal has been carried out.

(3) The aggregate of grants made to the Board under this Scheme shall not exceed £30,000.

(4) No grant under the Scheme shall be made by the Department after 31st March 1978.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 26th July 1977.

(L.S.) *D. J. Alexander*
Assistant Secretary

The Department of Finance hereby approves the foregoing Scheme.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance for Northern Ireland on 26th July 1977.

(L.S.) *J. Murray*
Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Scheme provides for the payment of grants to the Seed Potato Marketing Board for Northern Ireland in respect of measures designed to increase the efficiency of the seed potato industry which are approved by the Department of Agriculture. The total amount of the grants is limited to £30,000 and no grant may be paid after 31st March 1978.

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This Order has been exempted from printing by the Statutory Rules Act (Northern Ireland) 1958. A summary is given in the List of Statutory Rules of a Local Character under the heading ROAD TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES.