1982 No. 190

AGRICULTURE

Sheep Recording Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1982

Made	*28th June 1982*
Coming into operation . . .	*2nd August 1982*

The Department(a) of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 9 of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland) 1949(b) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, with the approval of the Department(c) of Finance and Personnel hereby makes the following Scheme:

Citation and commencement

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Sheep Recording Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1982 and shall come into operation on 2nd August 1982.

Revocation

2. The Sheep Improvement Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1978(d) is hereby revoked.

Interpretation

3. In this Scheme—

"approved" means approved by the Department;

"authorised" means authorised by the Department;

"flock" in respect of sheep of the Blackface breed means those sheep of that breed which the owner has nominated for the purpose of recording and in respect of sheep of any other breed means all the sheep of any one specific breed which are in the same ownership;

"flock book" means a register which is kept by a sheepbreed society for the registration of particulars of sheep of that breed;

"grading-up register" means a register which is kept by a sheepbreed society for the registration of particulars of sheep of that breed;

"pedigree" means a sheep which is entered, or accepted for entry or eligible for entry, in the flock book, or grading-up register, of the breed of sheep to which that sheep belongs;

"recording" means the keeping under the supervision of the Department in respect of a flock, by the owner of that flock, of a register which contains the information listed in paragraph 2 of Part II of the Schedule or in paragraph 2 of Part III of the Schedule;

"veterinary practitioner" means a person who is lawfully qualified to practise veterinary surgery;

"year" means the period from 1st January to 31st December (both dates inclusive) in each year.

(a) Formerly Ministry: *see* Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973 (c. 36) Sch. 5 para. 8(1)
(b) 1949 c. 2 (N.I.) as amended by S.I. 1977/1245 (N.I. 12) Art. 5
(c) Formerly Ministry of Finance: *see* Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973 (c. 36) Sch. 5 para. 8(1) and S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6) Art. 3
(d) S.R. 1978 No. 211

Application

4.—(1) An owner of a flock of sheep of the Blackface breed or of a flock of pedigree sheep of any other breed may apply to the Department, in such form as the Department may require, to have that flock approved for the purpose of recording.

(2) If the Department is satisfied that the conditions set out in Part I of the Schedule have been met in respect of a flock with regard to which an application to the Department has been made the Department shall give to the owner notice in writing that recording of that flock has been approved.

Conditions following upon approval

5. As and from the receipt of a notice of approval given under Article 4(2) the owner of a flock of sheep of—

(*a*) the Blackface breed, shall in respect of that flock comply with the conditions set out in Part II of the Schedule;

(*b*) any breed other than the Blackface breed, shall in respect of that flock comply with the conditions set out in Part III of the Schedule.

Certification

6. Where the Department is satisfied that recording in respect of any sheep has been properly carried out and completed it may in respect of that sheep issue a certificate to that effect.

Cancellation of approval or certification

7. Where the owner of a flock, who has received a notice of approval under Article 4(2), fails to observe or to comply with any of the provisions of this Scheme the Department may, by notice in writing addressed to that owner, revoke that approval and may cancel any certificate issued to that owner under this Scheme.

Publication

8. The Department may publish in such manner as it considers fit the names of the owners of flocks which have been approved for the purpose of recording and also any other information pertaining to the recording of those flocks.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 28th June 1982.

(L.S.)

W. H. Parker
Assistant Secretary

The Department of Finance and Personnel hereby approves the foregoing Scheme.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel for Northern Ireland on 28th June 1982.

(L.S.)

R. J. Anderson
Assistant Secretary

SCHEDULE Articles 4(2) and 5

PART I

Conditions for approval of recording

1. A flock of sheep of—

(*a*) the Blackface breed shall comprise not less than 20 ewes;

(*b*) any breed other than the Blackface breed shall comprise not less than 10 ewes.

2. The owner of a flock shall furnish to the Department in a form satisfactory to the Department evidence from a veterinary practitioner that all the sheep in that flock are healthy.

PART II

Conditions to be complied with in relation to a flock of sheep of the Blackface breed after approval of recording

The owner of the flock shall in respect of that flock—

1. maintain a register of all sheep;

2. record in that register—

(*a*) the ear mark or horn mark of each sheep;

(*b*) the date of birth or purchase, sale or death of each sheep;

(*c*) the date of birth and the sex of each lamb born to each ewe and the ear mark or horn mark of the sire of each such lamb;

(*d*) abnormalities, if any, affecting each lamb born;

(*e*) at such times as the Department shall require, the weight of each lamb;

3. ear mark, not later than the time of weaning, each lamb born;

4. extract and submit in writing to the Department such information as the Department shall require from the register referred to in paragraph 1;

5. make the register referred to in paragraph 1 available at all reasonable times for inspection by an authorised person and permit such a person to take copies of, or of any entry in, that register;

6. permit an authorised person at all reasonable times to inspect the flock and to check the ear mark or horn mark of each sheep, the date of birth and the weight of each lamb born and the accuracy of the equipment used for the weighing of the lambs;

7. exhibit, at sales of sheep of that breed, at least once in each year either 5 or one-quarter (whichever is the lesser number) of the ram lambs born in that year.

PART III

Conditions to be complied with in relation to a flock of sheep, other than a flock of sheep of the Blackface breed, after approval of recording

The owner of the flock shall in respect of that flock—

1. maintain a register of all sheep;

2. record in that register—

(*a*) the ear mark of each sheep;

(*b*) the date of birth or purchase, sale or death of each sheep;

(*c*) the date of birth and the sex of each lamb born to each ewe and the ear mark of the sire of each such lamb;

(*d*) abnormalities, if any, affecting each lamb born;

(*e*) at birth and at such other times as the Department shall require, the weight of each lamb;

3. ear mark, within 30 days from its birth, each lamb born;

4. extract and submit in writing to the Department such information as the Department shall require from the register referred to in paragraph 1;

5. make the register referred to in paragraph 1 available at all reasonable times for inspection by an authorised person and permit such a person to take copies of, or of any entry in, that register;

6. permit an authorised person at all reasonable times to inspect the flock and to check the ear mark of each sheep, the date of birth and the weight of each lamb born and the accuracy of the equipment used for the weighing of the lambs;

7. exhibit, at sales of sheep of that breed, at least once in each year either 5 or one-quarter (whichever is the lesser number) of the ram lambs born in that year.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Scheme.)

This Scheme replaces the Sheep Improvement Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1978 and provides for the keeping, under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture, of certain records in respect of flocks of sheep.

As compared with the Scheme of 1978 the main changes are—

(1) the present Scheme is extended to include the Blackface breed of hill sheep;

(2) incentive payments and grants which were payable to flock owners are discontinued.