1962 No. 1690

AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL GRANTS, GOODS AND SERVICES

The Small Farmer (England and Wales and Northern Ireland) Scheme 1962

Laid before Parliament in draft
Made - - - - 1*st August* 1962

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, being the appropriate Minister in relation to a joint scheme for England and Wales and Northern Ireland, in pursuance of sections 1 and 4 of the Agriculture (Small Farmers) Act 1959(a) and of all other powers him enabling, with the approval of the Treasury, hereby makes the following scheme, a draft of which has been laid before Parliament and has been approved by resolution of each House of Parliament:—

Citation and extent

1. This scheme, which may be cited as the Small Farmer (England and Wales and Northern Ireland) Scheme 1962, shall apply to England and Wales and Northern Ireland.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In this scheme, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them, that is to say:—

"farm business plan" means a programme for increasing the efficiency of a small farm business to which this scheme applies, being a programme of a duration of not less than 3 years;

"the Minister" means the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food;

"the scheme of 1959" means the Small Farmer (England and Wales and Northern Ireland) Scheme 1959(b);

"small farm business to which the scheme of 1959 applies" has the meaning assigned to such a business by paragraph 3 of the scheme of 1959;

"small farm business to which this scheme applies" has the meaning assigned to it by paragraph 4 of this scheme.

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

(a) 7 & 8 Eliz. 2. c. 12. (b) S.I. 1959/474 (1959 I, p. 200). (c) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63.

Amendment of the scheme of 1959

3. The scheme of 1959 shall cease to have effect in relation to farm business plans submitted to the Minister for approval after 31st July 1962, and accordingly paragraph 4 of that scheme (which specifies a period ending with 18th February 1964 within which farm business plans may be so submitted) shall be varied by substituting for the date "18th February, 1964" therein the date "31st July, 1962".

Classes of small farm businesses to which the scheme applies

4. A small farm business to which this scheme applies is a trade or business consisting in, or such part of any trade or business as consists in, the carrying out of agricultural operations on land comprised in it where on the day on which a farm business plan is submitted to the Minister for approval the amount of that land under crops or grass, excluding any rough grazing land, is not less than 20 acres and not more than 100 acres and the standard labour requirements of the farm business calculated in accordance with schedule 2 to this scheme are not more than 500 standard man-days a year and, either

(*a*) the standard labour requirements of the business are not less than 250 standard man-days a year calculated as aforesaid, or

(*b*) where a farm business plan in respect of the business has been submitted to the Minister for approval, the probable standard labour requirements calculated as aforesaid will, in the opinion of the Minister, be at the completion of the farm business plan not less than 275 standard man-days a year.

Grants payable

5. Subject to the provisions of this scheme, where the person carrying on a small farm business to which this scheme applies has, within the period commencing with 1st August 1962, and ending with 31st July 1967, submitted to the Minister for approval a farm business plan in respect of the business, the Minister, after approving the plan, may pay in connection with the carrying out of the plan, to the person for the time being carrying on the business, grants at the rates, and in respect of the periods, prescribed in the next succeeding paragraph of this scheme, as follows:—

(*a*) as respects the general agricultural purposes of the small farm business a farm business grant, and

(*b*) as respects any operation specified in schedule 1 to this scheme which is included in the farm business plan a field husbandry grant.

Amount of grants

6.—(1) A farm business grant shall not exceed £360 but shall otherwise be a grant at the rate of £6 an acre in respect of the land under crops and grass, excluding any rough grazing land, comprised in the small farm business to which the grant relates and in respect of a period to be specified in the farm business plan not exceeding 5 years beginning with the date of the commencement of the farm business plan, whether or not the farm business plan is to be completed within that period, payable so far as circumstances allow by 4 equal instalments 6, 12, 18 and 30 months respectively after the date of the commencement of the farm business plan.

(2) A field husbandry grant in respect of any operation in column 1 of schedule 1 to this scheme shall be a grant at the rate specified, and in respect of a period not exceeding the maximum specified, in relation to that operation in columns 2 and 3 of that schedule respectively.

(3) The aggregate of the grants made under this scheme in respect of any one farm business plan shall not exceed £1,000.

Supplementary conditions

7. It shall be a condition of the making of a payment to any person under this scheme that

(*a*) there shall be an application in writing, in such form and at such time as the Minister may require, for the Minister's approval of any farm business plan proposed to be carried out;

(*b*) there shall be no substantial modification of a farm business plan except with the consent of the Minister on the application of the person for the time being carrying on the small farm business to which the plan relates;

(*c*) the farm business plan shall be commenced within a reasonable period after approval thereof and be properly carried out without any avoidable delay;

(*d*) any person authorised by the Minister in that behalf shall be given reasonable facilities to inspect any land, works or operations to which the farm business plan relates and shall be given in respect of the farm business plan all such information as the Minister may reasonably require for the purposes of the scheme.

Restriction on farm business plans

8. Where any land comprised in a small farm business to which this scheme applies is land for the benefit of which any of the following operations, namely, reclamation of waste land, removal of hedges or banks, filling in of ditches, removal of boulders, tree roots and other like obstructions to cultivation, is an improvement approved by the Minister for the purposes of section 12 of the Agriculture Act 1957(a) and such operation has not been completed at the time the farm business plan is submitted for approval, the operation shall not be included in the farm business plan.

Other limitations

9.—(1) Where a person carrying on a small farm business to which either the scheme of 1959 or this scheme applies, and in respect of which a grant has been made under the scheme of 1959 or this scheme, as the case may be, carries on at the same time another small farm business, to which this scheme applies, no grant shall be made under this scheme in respect of that other business.

(2) Where a person for the time being carrying on a small farm business to which this scheme applies has completed a farm business plan approved under either the scheme of 1959 or this scheme, no grant shall be made to him under this scheme in respect of a second farm business plan whether in respect of the same or any other small farm business.

(3) Where any person ceases to carry on a small farm business to which the scheme of 1959 or this scheme applies before the completion of a farm business plan approved under either of the said schemes in respect of that business and a second or subsequent plan submitted by him in respect of any other business is approved by the Minister under this scheme, it shall be a condition of the making of any grants in respect of the second and any subsequent plan that the aggregate of all grants payable under this

(a) 5 & 6 Eliz. 2. c. 57.

scheme in respect of the second and any subsequent plan shall be reduced by the aggregate of all grants paid to him in respect of any previous plan.

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed this 31st July 1962.

(L.S.)

Christopher Soames,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Approved this 1st August 1962.

John Hill,
Francis F. Pearson,
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

Paragraph 6.

SCHEDULE 1

FIELD HUSBANDRY GRANTS

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Operations	*Grant*	*Maximum period in respect of which the grant is payable*
1. The improvement of land which has been under grass for at least 3 years— (*a*) by ploughing, cropping and reseeding to grass; or (*b*) by ploughing, pioneer cropping and reseeding to grass; or (*c*) by ploughing and directly reseeding to grass.	£9 an acre in respect of— (i) each year in which the land is ploughed as part of the operation, and (ii) after the land has been so ploughed the first year (if any) in which the land is cultivated as part of the operation by means other than ploughing not being a year in which the land is ploughed.	Not more than 3 years from the date of commencement of the operation, falling within 5 years from the date of commencement of the farm business plan.
2. The renovation of land under grass by methods other than those set out in paragraph 1 above, including in addition to dressing at least one major operation such as rotovating, harrowing or discing.	£9 an acre	Not more than 3 years from the date of commencement of the operation, falling within 5 years from the date of commencement of the farm business plan.
3. Any ditching work necessary for the efficient carrying out of any improvement or renovation of grassland referred to in the preceding paragraphs.	£1 per chain	Not more than 5 years from the date of commencement of the farm business plan.
4. Such reclamation of waste land or removal of obstacles to cultivation as is necessary for the purpose of the farm business plan.	Such sum not exceeding £100 as will, when added to any other moneys provided by Parliament in respect of any of the work, amount to 85 per cent. of the gross cost of the operations.	Not more than 5 years from the date of commencement of the farm business plan.

SCHEDULE 2

Paragraph 4

In this schedule "business" means a trade or business consisting in, or such part of a trade or business as consists in, the carrying out of agricultural operations on land comprised in it.

1. The standard labour requirements of a business on any day shall be expressed in standard man-days calculated, except as is otherwise provided in the succeeding paragraphs, by multiplying respectively the number of standard man-days set out in the table below in relation to any kind of crop or livestock therein mentioned by the total number of acres of that kind of crop or the average of the numbers of that kind of livestock shown to the satisfaction of the Minister to be comprised in the business during the 12 months immediately preceding the date to which the calculation relates, adding together the results so obtained and increasing the total by 15 per cent.

2. Where double cropping is practised on land comprised in the business, the acreage of both crops shall be included in the calculation.

3. The number of livestock comprised in the business shall not include calves less than 7 days old, unweaned piglets, or unweaned lambs.

4. The number of pigs fattened or reared on land comprised in the business shall be the total number of pigs so fattened or reared during the 12 months immediately preceding the date to which the calculation relates.

5. The number of broilers produced or of poultry produced or reared for flock replacement on land comprised in the business shall be the total number produced or reared during the 12 months immediately preceding the date to which the calculation relates.

6. If the Minister is satisfied that by reason of special circumstances the acreage of crops, or of any kind of crop, or the number of livestock, or of any kind of livestock comprised in the business during any period of 12 months mentioned in the preceding paragraphs is unrepresentative of the acreage or number respectively usually comprised in the business, such other acreage or number shall be taken as is, in the opinion of the Minister, shown by the person for the time being carrying on the business to be representative of the acreage or number usually comprised in the business.

7. Probable standard labour requirements at the completion of a farm business plan shall be calculated as above, except that for the acreage of any kind of crop and number of any kind of livestock comprised in the business there shall be substituted such acreage of any kind of crop and such number of any kind of livestock, being a crop or livestock of a kind mentioned in this schedule, as the Minister agrees with the person submitting the plan for approval the business may reasonably be expected to comprise at the completion of the farm business plan.

TABLE

Crops	*Standard man-days (per acre)*
Wheat	3½
Barley	3½
Oats	4½
Mixed corn	4½
Rye, for threshing	3½
Rye, for grazing	1½
Arable silage	4½
Beans and peas for stockfeeding	4½
Potatoes, seed	23
Potatoes, ware	20
Turnips and swedes for stockfeeding	12
Sugar beet	17
Fodder beet	17
Mangolds	12
Rape (or Cole)	2½
Kale, broadcast for grazing	2½

	Standard man-days (per acre)
Crops	
Cabbage, kale (not broadcast for grazing), savoys and kohl rabi, for stockfeeding	7
Vetches or tares	4½
Flax	15
Hops	100
Cider orchards	10
Orchards (other than cider)	
seven years old and over	25
under seven years old	10
Derelict orchards	½
Small fruit	
under orchard trees	30
not under orchard trees	45
Vegetables for human consumption	
Brussels sprouts	25
Cabbage	17
Kale and sprouting broccoli	17
Cauliflower	17
Carrots	17
Parsnips	21
Turnips and swedes	21
Beetroot (red beet)	21
Broad beans	30
Peas, green for pulling	30
Peas, for vining or harvesting dry	4½
Lettuce, grown in the open	10
Tomatoes, grown in the open	50
Other vegetables	45
Hardy nursery stock	50
Bulbs and flowers in the open	50
Other crops in the open (including all crops grown for seed, except cereals, potatoes and grass)	7
Bare fallow	½
Grass (including clover, lucerne and sainfoin)—	
for mowing	2
for grazing	½
for seed	4½
Rough grazing	Nil
	(per 100 sq. ft. of glass)
Crops under glass	3

	Standard man-days (per head per annum)
Livestock	
Dairy cows in milk or in calf and heifers in milk	15
Beef cows	4½
Bulls	7
Other cattle	3
Upland sheep	½
Lowland sheep	1
Breeding sows and gilts	5
Boars	5
Pigs fattened or reared for breeding	0·6
Poultry—laying birds and male birds	0·25
broilers produced	0·01
other poultry produced, or reared for flock replacement	0·05

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This scheme, which is the second to be made under section 1 of the Agriculture (Small Farmers) Act 1959, provides for the making of grants to any person carrying on in England, Wales or Northern Ireland a small farm business capable of yielding an adequate return to a reasonably efficient full-time occupier, if such a person carries out with the approval of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food a plan for increasing the efficiency of the business.

The scheme applies to plans submitted for approval during the 5 year period from 1st August 1962 to 31st July 1967. The previous scheme (S.I. 1959/474) is amended so as to apply only to plans submitted before the commencement of this period, instead of until 18th February 1964. Under the new scheme the upper limit of eligibility will be 500 standard man-days instead of 450, and approval of a plan is no longer prohibited where a livestock rearing land improvement scheme is being carried out. With these exceptions, apart from minor and consequential alterations, the scheme is in accordance with its predecessor. The acreage limits of 20 to 100 acres are the same ; farm business grant remains at £6 per acre on the whole farm, excluding rough grazing, subject to a maximum of £360, and field husbandry grants for individual operations remain unchanged, as does the overall limit of £1,000 in respect of any one plan.