1959. No. 152 **[C]**

AGRICULTURE

Turkey Stations

SCHEME, DATED 16TH SEPTEMBER, 1959, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE AGRICULTURE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1949(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland by virtue of and in exercise of the powers vested in it under Section nine of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland), 1949, 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 Turkey Stations Scheme (Northern Ireland), 1959, and shall come into operation on the 28th day of September, 1959.

Definitions

2. In this Scheme:

"Committee" means County Committee of Agriculture as appointed in accordance with Section 2 of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland), 1949.

"hen" means female turkey.

"Ministry" means the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland.

"Poultry Advisory Officer" means an officer appointed by the Ministry to assist in the organisation of schemes in connection with poultry.

"pure bred" means stock bred from parents of the same breed specially selected for characteristics of the breed.

"service season" means the period fixed annually by the Committee for the service of turkeys on stations.

"cock" means male turkey.

"turkey station" means a farm on which is kept an approved cock and to which hens are brought for service, and "station holder" is the owner of such a cock.

Purpose of Scheme

3. With the object of encouraging the development of improved strains of turkey in Northern Ireland, the Ministry shall pay premiums as prescribed in Article 5 to holders of turkey stations selected by the Committee, and who have complied with the conditions laid down in Article 4. At each such station there shall be kept an approved turkey cock, which shall be made available on payment of the fee fixed by the Committee for the service of turkey hens.

Conditions

4. A turkey station holder shall comply with the following conditions:

(1) He shall keep one pure bred cock approved by the Poultry Advisory Officer of such a breed and in accordance with such standards as the Ministry may from time to time require.

(a) 1949. c. 2.

(2) The approved cock shall serve during the service season twenty-five hens other than those belonging to the station holder. A fee to be fixed by the Committee shall be payable by the owner of the hens to the station holder. If more than twenty-five hens are served a higher fee may be charged for those in excess of twenty-five.

(3) The station holder may charge a fee, as fixed by the Committee, to meet the cost of feeding visiting hens which may be left at the station for longer than two days.

(4) He shall keep the cock on the station premises for such period in each season as the Committee may determine.

(5) Approval shall not be granted to cocks more than two years old or to cocks retained for a second season on the same farm.

(6) The station holder shall provide such housing accommodation and shall feed and care for the cock in such a manner as the Poultry Advisory Officer may require.

(7) He shall keep in the book provided a record of the names and addresses of the owners of all hens served. This book must be sent to the Committee when required and returned to it at the end of the service season.

(8) He shall permit the officers of the Ministry to inspect the station at any reasonable time.

(9) He shall submit the cock to any official tests which may be in operation for the control of disease in turkeys. Such tests shall be carried out by the Ministry free of charge.

(10) He shall take such precautions against disease as the Ministry may from time to time direct and shall report immediately to the Ministry if the cock becomes ill.

(11) In exceptional cases the Ministry may approve of a second cock being kept on the turkey station. This second cock shall also be subject to the provisions of Paragraph (1).

(12) Save in exceptional circumstances, a station shall not be established within a radius of three statute miles of another station.

Premiums

5.—(1) A limited number of premiums not exceeding £3 10s. 0d. each may be offered to station holders selected by the Committee.

(2) Any infringement of the conditions laid down by Article 4 may entail a reduction in, or the cancellation of, the premium.

(3) A station holder will be eligible for only one premium in respect of a turkey station, even where two cocks are kept.

(4) If less than twenty-five hens other than those belonging to the station holder are served in any one season, the premium shall be proportionately reduced. Provided that in exceptional circumstances the Committee may recommend payment of the full premium.

(5) The following procedure shall be adopted for the payment of premiums:

(*a*) Immediately following the service season, selected station holders shall forward to the Committee the record books as provided for in Article 4(7) accompanied by a certificate that the entries in the books are correct, and that all the conditions of the Scheme have been complied with.

(*b*) The Ministry shall then make payment of premiums, in whole or in part, to such station holders as have fulfilled the conditions of the Scheme.

Applications

6.—(1) Not later than 1st October in any year, the Committee shall invite applications for premiums from persons in the county who undertake to keep one pure bred cock and who are prepared to comply with the conditions laid down in Article 4.

(2) The completed list of applicants shall be forwarded by the Committee to the Ministry.

(3) The Ministry shall then carry out an inspection of the premises and stock of each applicant, and advise the Committee on the suitability of the applicant.

(4) Lists of selected applicants and all arrangements for operating the Scheme in each county must be completed by the Committees before the opening of the service season, and the Committees shall publish annually a list of approved station holders. Save in exceptional cases, no stations selected after the publication of the list shall be approved.

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

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

The Turkey Station Scheme makes provision for the payment of premiums to turkey station holders on the recommendations of County Agricultural Executive Committees. Each station holder must keep a pure bred cock which is available for the service of turkey hens.