

1972. No. 20

[C]

## ANIMALS

## Special Term Bull Scheme

SCHEME, DATED 28TH JANUARY 1972, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 9 OF THE AGRICULTURE ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1949.

The Ministry of Agriculture, hereinafter called "the Ministry", in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 9 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 Special Term Bull Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1972 and shall come into operation on 11th February 1972.

*Definitions*

2. In this Scheme—

"appropriate County Committee" means the County Committee for the County in which the Special Term bull is to be used;

"approved" means approved by the Ministry;

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

"grant" means the amount of money which a selected farmer or group of farmers may receive from the Ministry to assist in the purchase of an approved bull;

"group of farmers" means a group of 3 or more farmers owning herds in which the total number of cows is at least 50, of which not more than 25 cows or less than 4 cows are owned by any one member of the group;

"purchaser" means a farmer, or a group of farmers, who purchase a bull with the assistance of a grant paid under this Scheme;

"selected" means selected by a County Committee to purchase a bull under this Scheme;

"Special Term bull" means a bull purchased with the assistance of a grant paid under this Scheme.

*Purpose of Scheme*

3.—(1) The Ministry may pay grants to selected farmers who purchase and keep Special Term bulls for the service of cows locally or to selected groups of farmers who purchase and keep Special Term bulls for the service of cows in their herds.

(2) The approved bulls are to be used to improve the stock bred by farmers resident in and farming in marginal land areas of Counties Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone.

*Eligibility*

4.—(1) Grants will be paid only in respect of approved bulls of the Aberdeen Angus, Dairy Shorthorn or other approved breeds provided that grants may also be paid in respect of bulls of the Hereford breed purchased before 1st June 1972.

(2) The bulls shall be purchased at approved sales except where, in special circumstances, the Ministry approves of a bull otherwise than at a sale.

(3) The herd of the purchaser shall be attested and be on the Brucellosis Free Register maintained by the Ministry.

*Selection of applicants*

5.—(1) Applications by farmers or group of farmers to be selected under this Scheme shall be made to the appropriate County Committee and the selection of farmers or groups of farmers for payment of grant shall be at the sole discretion of the appropriate County Committee.

(2) Applications shall be made in such form and within such time as the appropriate County Committee may determine.

(3) Where a group of farmers is selected by the County Committee to purchase an approved bull, the group shall appoint one of its members to deal with all aspects of the placing out of the bull and the group shall notify the County Committee of the name of the member so appointed.

(4) If a farmer or a group of farmers is selected the County Committee shall notify the farmer or the member of a group of farmers appointed under sub-paragraph (3) of—

- (a) the amount of subsidy to be paid;
- (b) the amount of deposit to be lodged;
- (c) the breed of bull which may be purchased;
- (d) the shows and sales approved by the Ministry for the selection of Special Term bulls.

(5) The County Committee, immediately after selections have been made, shall forward to the Ministry a list of the selected applicants, showing at which sale each applicant intends to purchase a bull.

(6) As soon as possible after the approved sales, and in any case not later than 31st May in each year, the County Committee shall notify the Ministry of the ownership and the location of Special Term bulls in that County.

(7) The total number of applicants selected by a County Committee to receive grants shall be limited to the total number of bulls approved by the Ministry for that County.

(8) No grant shall be paid in respect of the purchase of any bull which is not first approved by the Ministry and which is not of the breed which in accordance with Paragraph (4) the farmer or group of farmers has been notified may be purchased.

*Amount of grant*

6.—(1) The amount of grant payable in respect of the purchase of a bull under this Scheme shall in each case be the full price of the animal or £150 whichever is the less, provided that the grant payable on a bull of the Hereford breed purchased before 1st June 1972 shall be £94.50.

(2) The grant shall be paid at the time of purchase of the bull.

*Conditions*

7. A farmer or group of farmers who obtains a grant from the Ministry under this Scheme shall comply with the conditions set out in the Schedule.

*Penalties*

8.—(1) If a purchaser who has received any payment under the Scheme fails to comply with any conditions or requirements of the Scheme he shall be liable to refund to the Ministry the full amount of grant or such lesser sum as the Ministry may determine and the Ministry may recover as a civil debt any amount liable to be refunded.

(2) Any person who, through misrepresentation or fraud, receives any payment under the Scheme may, in addition to any penalty to which he may be liable by law, be debarred from obtaining in future any benefit under the Scheme.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this 28th day of January 1972.

(L.S.)

*J. Parke,*  
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 31st day of January 1972.

(L.S.)

*C. F. Darling,*  
Assistant Secretary.

## SCHEDULE

## PART I

**Conditions applicable to all Purchasers**

1. Prior to the purchase of a Special Term bull the purchaser shall lodge with the Ministry a deposit of £30. The deposit shall be refunded at the end of the third year following purchase provided that the bull has been properly kept and the conditions of this Scheme complied with.

2. Immediately after the purchase the purchaser shall insure the bull for one year against infertility and for three years against death.

3. Immediately after purchase the purchaser shall insure against bodily injury to any person or damage to any property which may be caused by the bull and shall, during the three years following purchase, indemnify the Ministry against any claim in respect of such injury or damage.

4. The purchaser shall not within a period of three years from the date of purchase dispose of a Special Term bull without the consent of the Ministry.

5. If a bull dies or is disposed of within a period of three years from the date of purchase the purchaser shall refund to the Ministry such proportion of the grant as the Ministry may determine.

6. The purchaser shall not without the approval of the Ministry keep any bull other than a Special Term bull.

7. The purchaser shall inform the Ministry immediately if there is any reason to believe that a Special Term bull is unable or unwilling to serve, or if the number of cows returning for service is abnormally high.

8. If the Ministry orders the treatment of a bull the purchaser shall at his own expense carry out such treatment, and if the Ministry orders the disposal of the bull for slaughter the purchaser shall have the bull slaughtered accordingly.

9. The purchaser shall facilitate any Officer of the Ministry at all reasonable times to inspect the bull, its progeny and any other animals in the herd.

10. After the purchase of the bull the purchaser shall complete an agreement to observe and comply with all the requirements and conditions of the Scheme.

## PART II

**Conditions applicable only to a Purchaser who is not a Group of Farmers**

1. The purchaser shall ensure that each Special Term bull serves not less than 30 cows in the first year and not less than 40 cows in the second and third years after purchase, over and above those in his own herd.

2. The service season shall not commence until the purchaser has informed the County Agricultural Executive Officer of the purchase.

3. The service fee which the purchaser may charge during the three year period following the purchase of the bull shall be fixed by the appropriate County Committee. After the prescribed minimum number of cows has been served the purchaser may charge such fee as he may decide.

4. The purchaser shall not, before the prescribed number of cows has been served, reserve the use of the bull for cows the property of any individual.

5. The purchaser shall use the bull only for the service of cows in the approved district for which the bull was purchased.

6. During the three year period following the purchase of the bull the purchaser shall keep in such form as the Ministry may require a record showing the names and addresses of persons whose cows have been served by the bull and the dates of such services. These records are to be available for inspection by an authorised officer of the Ministry at all reasonable times.

### PART III

#### Conditions applicable to a Purchaser which is a Group of Farmers

1. The purchaser shall use the bull for the service of cows in herds belonging to its members.

2. During the three year period following the purchase of the bull the purchaser shall keep in such form as the Ministry may require a record showing the cows served by the bull and the dates of such services.

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### 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 in respect of approved bulls of Aberdeen Angus, Shorthorn or other approved breeds purchased by—

- (a) selected farmers in marginal land areas of Counties Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone for the service of cows in their districts;
- (b) groups of three or more selected farmers in marginal land areas of Counties Fermanagh, Londonderry and Tyrone for the service of cows in their herds.

The Scheme also provides for the payment of a grant of £94.50 for a bull of the Hereford breed bought before 1st June 1972 by selected farmers in above areas.