

1978 No. 212

AGRICULTURE**Blackface Rams Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1978***Made* 25th July 1978*Coming into operation* 30th August 1978

The Department(a) of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 9 of the Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland) 1949(b) as amended by Article 5 of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1977(c) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf and with the approval of the Department(a) of Finance hereby makes the following Scheme:

Citation and commencement

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Blackface Rams Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1978 and shall come into operation on 30th August 1978.

Revocation

2. The Blackface Rams Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1971(d) is hereby revoked.

Interpretation

3. In this Scheme—

“approved” means approved by the Department;

“Blackface ram” means a Blackface ram of either the Scottish or the Mourne type;

“the Department” means the Department of Agriculture;

“flock owner” means a breeder of pure bred Blackface sheep;

“lambing season” means the period from 1st March to 30th April;

“shearling ram” means a ram which was born in the lambing season of the year immediately preceding the year in which it is purchased.

Purpose of grant

4. The Department may pay grants to flock owners for the purchase of approved Blackface shearling rams for use as stock rams but approved rams of the Mourne type shall be eligible for such grants only if they are located in approved districts of Counties Armagh and Down.

Selection of rams eligible for grant

5. The Department shall determine at approved sales which Blackface shearling rams shall be eligible for grant but if such sales are discontinued then the Department may select such rams on the premises on which they are kept.

(a) Formerly Ministry: see 1973 c. 36 Sch. 5 para. 8(1)

(b) 1949 c. 2 (N.I.)

(c) S.I. 1977/1245 (N.I. 12)

(d) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1971 No. 256 (p. 1242) as amended by S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973 No. 205 (I, p. 1040)

Application for grant

6. Application for grants shall be made to the Department in such form and at such time as the Department may require.

Rate and conditions of grant

7. The Department may pay grants—

(1) at the rate of £48 or one half of the amount remaining after the sum of £48 has been deducted from the purchase price of the ram whichever is the less but in any case not less than £6 to approved flock owners who exhibit rams at approved sales; and

(2) at the rate of £24 or one half of the amount remaining after the sum of £32 has been deducted from the purchase price of the ram whichever is the less but in any case not less than £6 for any one ram to approved flock owners in respect of one or more approved rams in the same flock.

8. The payment of grant under Article 7(1) shall be subject to the conditions set out in Part I of the Schedule, and the payment of grant under Article 7(2) shall be subject to the conditions set out in Part II of the Schedule.

9. Grant payable under Article 7(1) shall be payable on only one ram in each period of 3 breeding seasons unless the ram on which grant is paid dies or proves unsuitable for breeding.

10. A flock owner who receives payment of grant under Article 7(1) shall not be entitled to payment of subsidy under the Ram Subsidies Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1962(e) in the same season.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 25th July 1978.

(L.S.)

W. J. Hodges

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 1978.

(L.S.)

R. McMurray

Assistant Secretary

SCHEDULE

PART I

Conditions of Grant—Article 7(1)

1. The flock owner shall:—
 - (a) keep the ram in his flock in good health and condition and shall not, without the written consent of the Department, dispose of it to any other person within a period of at least 3 successive breeding seasons following the date of purchase;
 - (b) enter and exhibit the ram progeny of the said ram at approved sales of the Blackface breed;
 - (c) allow only approved rams to service the ewes in his flock;
 - (d) permit authorised officers of the Department at all reasonable times to inspect the ram.
2. The Department does not guarantee the health or fertility of any ram on which grant is paid.

PART II

Conditions of Grant—Article 7(2)

1. The flock owner shall:—
 - (a) keep the ram in his flock in good health and condition and shall not, without the written consent of the Department, dispose of it to any other person within a period of at least 2 successive breeding seasons following the date of purchase;
 - (b) allow only approved rams to service the ewes in his flock;
 - (c) permit authorised officers of the Department at all reasonable times to inspect the ram.
2. The Department does not guarantee the health or fertility of any ram on which grant is paid.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Scheme which replaces the Blackface Rams Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1971 continues and increases the level of grants payable to purchasers of approved Blackface Rams.