SCOTTISH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2009 No. 155

AGRICULTURE

The Rural Development Contracts (Land Managers Options) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2009

Made	22nd April 2009
Laid before the Scottish	
Parliament	23rd April 2009
Coming into force	15th May 2009

The Scottish Ministers make the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(1) and all other powers enabling them to do so.

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Rural Development Contracts (Land Managers Options) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2009 and come into force on 15th May 2009.

Amendment of the Rural Development Contracts (Land Managers Options) (Scotland) Regulations 2008

2.—(1) The Rural Development Contracts (Land Managers Options) (Scotland) Regulations 2008(**2**) are amended in accordance with paragraphs (2) to (7).

- (2) In regulation 2(1) (interpretation)-
 - (a) omit the definition of "Council Regulation 1782/2003"; and
 - (b) in the appropriate place, insert-

""Council Regulation 73/2009" means Council Regulation (EC) No 73/2009 establishing common rules for direct support schemes for farmers under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers, amending Regulations (EC) No. 1290/2005, (EC) No. 247/2006, (EC) No. 378/2007 and repealing Regulation (EC) No. 1782/2003(3);".

^{(1) 1972} c. 68. Section 2(2) was amended by the Scotland Act 1998 (c. 46), Schedule 8, paragraph 15(3). The functions conferred upon the Minister of the Crown under section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972, insofar as within devolved competence, were transferred to the Scotlish Ministers by virtue of section 53 of the Scotland Act 1998.

⁽**2**) S.S.I. 2008/159.

⁽**3**) O.J. No. L 30, 31.01.09, p16.

(3) In regulation 5 (maximum amount of aid payable), for "Article 22 of Council Regulation 1782/2003" substitute "Article 19 of Council Regulation 73/2009".

(4) In regulation 8 (eligible land)-

- (a) in paragraph (1)(a), for "Article 22 of Council Regulation 1782/2003" substitute "Article 19 of Council Regulation 73/2009";
- (b) in paragraph (1)(b), for "Article 20 of Council Regulation 1782/2003" substitute "Article 17 of Council Regulation 73/2009"; and
- (c) in paragraph (3), for "Article 20 of Council Regulation 1782/2003" substitute "Article 17 of Council Regulation 73/2009".
- (5) In regulation 10 (undertakings)-
 - (a) in paragraph (2), after "area related options" insert "and the animal welfare management programme";
 - (b) in paragraph (5)(a), for "Article 4 of, and Annex III to, Council Regulation 1782/2003" substitute "Article 5 of, and Annex II to, Council Regulation 73/2009"; and
 - (c) in paragraph (6)-
 - (i) for "either or both" substitute "any of the"; and
 - (ii) for "18 and 19" substitute "18, 19 and 22".

(6) In Schedule 1 (interpretation of schedules), at the appropriate place insert-

""finishing animals" means feeding animals for subsequent slaughter"; and

""veterinary surgeon" means a person who is registered in the register of veterinary surgeons or the supplementary veterinary register provided for under sections 2 and 8 of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966(4)."

- (7) In Schedule 2 (land managers options)-
 - (a) in column 2 of option 8 (membership of quality assurance and organic schemes), after "Scottish Quality Wild Venison Assurance Scheme", insert-

"QMS Quality Meat Assurance Scheme - Cattle and Sheep

QMS Quality Meat Assurance Scheme – Pigs

Scottish Quality Farm Assured Combinable Crops Scheme";

- (b) in column 3 of option 21 (active management to improve the condition of vernacular rural buildings, archaeological or historic sites and historic landscapes), omit "annual" in both places where it appears;
- (c) after option 21, insert-

"Column 1 Option	Column 2 Activities and Eligibility Conditions	Column 3 Rate of Payment
22. Animal welfare management programme	This is a 5 year commitment. An applicant is eligible for	
	payment under this option if the applicant has at least 5 livestock units, comprising	
	cattle, sheep or goats (or any combination of these	

(4) 1966 c. 36. Section 2 was amended by S.I. 2003/2919, Schedule, paragraph 1 and S.I. 2008/1824, regulation 2.

"Column 1 Option	Column 2Column 3Activities and EligibilityRate of PaymentConditionsConditions
	animals) entered on the single application and holds them on farm for at least 10 months of the scheme year; and undertakes the following–
	(1) Annual animal welfare £38.00 per scheme year. review
	In each year of the 5 year animal welfare management programme (by 30th June in year one and by 1st December in years 2 to 5) together with a veterinary surgeon, an applicant must- (a) review the current welfare of the applicant's livestock, including assessing welfare against the 4 welfare criteria and 12 welfare themes in the EU Welfare Quality Project(5); (b) highlight disease risks in the surrounding
	area, nationally and internationally and the potential impact on livestock welfare;
	 (c) identify potential opportunities to improve welfare in at least one of the following 5 areas: (i) preventing pathologies due to farm practice; (ii) improving housing conditions; (iii) increasing outdoor access; (iv) reducing use of mutilations; and (v) provision of feed and water closer to
	(d) in year one, agree actions from the list

⁽⁵⁾ Information about the EU Welfare Quality Project can be found at http://www.welfarequality.net. In particular see factsheet on "principles and criteria of good farm animal welfare".

"Column 1	Col	lumn 2	Column 3
Option		ivities and Eligibility	Rate of Payment
	Сог	nditions	
	(e)	of actions in "(4) Actions to improve welfare" (below) to be undertaken for the 5 year programme; and in years 2 to 5, review the impact of these actions and discuss the results of monitoring and benchmarking activities outlined at "(2) Animal welfare monitoring and benchmarking" (below) to identify– (i) any impact of any actions taken on welfare; and (ii) specific areas of weakness and targets to aim for.	
	(2)	Animal welfare monitoring and benchmarking	£53.00 per scheme year.
		In each year of the 5 year programme the applicant must, in agreement with a veterinary surgeon- (a) perform additional inspections and record on an agreed regular basis (monthly, quarterly or annually) specified breeding and welfare measures according to enterprise type; (b) pass data to a veterinary surgeon within an agreed timescale as entered on the Animal Welfare Management Plan; and	

"Column 1 Option	Column 2 Activities and Eligibility Conditions Column 3 Rate of Payment
	Conditions(c)arrange for a veterinary surgeon to enter and analyse the data in the central Scottish Animal Welfare Monitoring and Benchmarking System to investigate (i) any impact of actions taken on welfare; and (ii) specific areas of weakness

"Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Option	Activities and E	ligibility Rate of Payment
	Conditions	
	(iii)	the current
		feeding
		regime (type
		and timing)
		and any
		planned
		changes;
	(iv)	current
		biosecurity
		arrangements
		and any
		planned
		changes;
	(v)	agreed
		specific
		actions from
		"(4) Actions
		to improve
		welfare" (below);
	(vi)	veterinary
		justification
		for any
		changes to
		the actions
		chosen from
		"(4) Actions
		to improve
		welfare" (year
		2 onwards)
	<i>(</i>)	(below);
	(V11)	a planned
		schedule of
		prophylactic
		treatments;
	/ ····\	and
	(V111)	a proactive
		schedule
		for treating
		any non notifiable
		diseases
		arising,
		detailing
		first line and
		second line
		treatment for
		each disease
		identified
		as a risk,
		treatment

"Column 1 Option	Column 2 Activities ar Conditions	<i>Column 3</i> <i>ad Eligibility Rate of Payment</i>
	(b) in a tt v t	instructions and withdrawal periods; nelude in the plan section signed nd dated by both he applicant and a eterinary surgeon hat includes— i) land parcel identifier(s) of fields— (aa) identified as a separation facility (if taking the biosecurity option); (bb) at high risk or infected with liver fluke (if taking liver fluke control
	(options); and (cc) grazing taken out of use (if taking the sheep scab option); ii) a declaration from his or her veterinary surgeon that a detailed plan has been

"Column 1 Option	Column 2 Activities and Conditions	Column 3 Rate of Payment	
	(ii	produced and that appropriate benchmarking data has been received on an agreed regular basis; and ii) a declaration from the applicant that the minimum number of livestock units will be held on the farm for at least 10 months of the scheme year and that this includes the appropriate animal types for the options undertaken.	
	(4) Actions welfare	to improve	
	in discu veterina choose at least actions year. Ap who und 5 option at least units. A undertal options	olicant must, ssion with a ury surgeon, and undertake 3 of the 10 below each oplicants dertake 4 or as must have 8 livestock pplicants who ke 6 to 10 must have at livestock units.	
	Action One – biosecurity	Implementing	£372.00 per scheme year.

"Column 1 Option	Column 2 Activities and Eligibility Conditions	Column 3 Rate of Payment	
		£30.00 per hectare on non nitrate vulnerable zone(6) land.	
		£29.00 per hectare on nitrate vulnerable zone landfor field based separation facility per scheme year up to 5 hectares	
	The applicant must put in	· -	
	 place and implement– (a) procedures for sourcing new livestock that minimise the risk of bringing disease onto the farm. This must include obtaining writter assurance that the person from whom the livestock is sourced has current membership in a relevan health accreditation 		
	scheme(s); (b) at least one separation facility to be used for new stock coming onto the farm. The separation facility must have physical barriers and stock management procedures that prevent both direct and indirect contact between animals in the facility and other animals on the farm. Records must be kept of the dates and use of the		
	separation facility; (c) a standard regime on receiving new livestock, agreed with a veterinary surgeon, to include– (i) an appropriate length of isolation period and what to look for during observations;		

[&]quot;Nitrate vulnerable zone" is defined in Schedule 1 (Interpretation of Schedules) of the Rural Development Contracts (Land Managers Options) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 (S.S.I. No. 2008/159). 9 (6)

'Column 1	Colu	mn 2	Column 3
Dption	Activ	ities and Eligibility	Rate of Payment
1		litions	
		(ii) footbathing of	
		incoming stock;	
		(iii) vaccinations	
		routinely used on	
		the farm against	
		disease known to	
		exist on the farm;	
		(iv) faecal sampling	
		for parasites and,	
		where parasites	
		are present,	
		appropriate	
		treatment; and (y) blood sampling	
		(v) blood sampling for evidence of	
		infection of at	
		least one of the	
		following: Bovine	
		Viral Diarrhoea	
		("BVD"),	
		Infectious Bovine	
		Rhinotracheitis	
		("IBR"), and	
		Johne's disease.	
	(d)	procedures to reduce	
		the risk of staff, visitors,	
		contractors, deliveries	
		and collections bringing	
		disease onto farm which	
		must be documented	
		and effectively	
		communicated to them;	
		and	
		disinfection procedures	
		on the farm and for	
		farmer's own livestock	
		transport to prevent the spread of disease which	
		must be documented	
		and effectively	
		communicated to them.	
		n Two – Reducing ations in sheep	£285.00 per scheme year.
	Thea	pplicant must–	
		adjust stock management	
		to eliminate all routine-	
		(i) tail docking; and	
		(ii) castration, and	
		() ······ ····· ···· ···· ····· ···· ·	

"Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Option	Activities and Eligibility Conditions	Rate of Payment
	 (b) limit the use of other mutilations to specific instances, where a veterinary surgeon considers not to undertake them would compromise health and safety of staff, visitors, contractors, public etc animal welfare. 	
	Procedures for animal identification, embryo transf or surgical procedures are no mutilations under this option	ot
	Any procedures deemed necessary by a veterinary surgeon for welfare or unavoidable practical reason must be performed by a pers trained in the procedure by a veterinary surgeon.	on
	Action Three – Maintaining bodily condition	£383.00 per scheme year.
	 This option is for breeding cows, heifers, sheep and gimmers only. Finishing animals are not eligible. (a) undertake and complet training in conditioning scoring from a veterina surgeon in the first yea of the commitment; 	g Iry
	 (b) undertake conditioning scoring of all breeding females 6 to 8 weeks before breeding and 6 to 8 weeks before calving/lambing, recor- the results and assign to appropriate feeding groups; 	
	 (c) undertake conditioning scoring of a sample of breeding females on each of the occasions listed in the tables belo 	

"Column 1	Column 2		Column 3
Option	Activ	vities and Eligibility	Rate of Payment
	Con	ditions	
	(d)	and record the results. In dairy herds a minimum of 50 cows, in beef herds a minimum of 25 cows and in sheep flocks a minimum of 50 ewes must be scored. Where the herd or flock size is less than these sample sizes all eligible stock must be scored; during the annual review, obtain and implement advice from a veterinary surgeon on the type and timing of supplementary feeding, taking account of forage analysis and nutritional advisory services obtained, required to achieve (e) (below); and maintain body condition scoring of at least 95% of the sample livestock between 1.5 and 4.0 at all stages and maintain at least 75% of the sample	
		between the ranges at	
		the stages outlined in the	
		tables below.	
	Body	Conditioning Scoring	
	Dairy cows	cows heifers	

Dairy	cows	heifers
cows		
Pre- calving	2.5-3.0	2.5-3.0
Pre- service	2.0-3.0	2.0-2.5
Drying off	2.5-3.0	

"Column 1	Column 2 Column 3
Option	Activities and Eligibility Rate of Payment Conditions
	Suckler AutumnSpring Summer cows calving calving calving and heifers
	At 2.5– 2.5– 2.5– calving 3.0 3.0 3.0
	At 2.5- 2.5- 2.5- service 3.0 3.0 3.0
	At 2.0– 2.0– 2.0– turnout 2.5 2.5 2.5
	At 2.5– 2.5– 2.5– start of 3.0 3.5 3.0 winter
	Sheep Lowland Hill ewes ewes
	Mating 3.0–3.5 2.5–3.0
	Lambing 2.0–2.5 2.0–2.5

Action Four – Preventing lameness

The applicant must-

- (a) footbathe all adult
 - (i) sheep, beef cattle
 - and goats at least twice yearly; and
 - (ii) dairy cattle monthly;
- (b) in respect of housed cattle clean all areas of the house twice daily, except straw bedded courts;
- (c) maintain gateways and areas around feeding stations in a firm condition;
- (d) undertake, and complete training in the first year of the commitment in,–
 - (i) footrot scoring if keeping sheep; and
 - (ii) locomotion scoring if holding cattle;

Sheep or cattle or goats only £424 per scheme year.

Minimum 2 of sheep, cattle and goats £429.00 per scheme year.

"Column 1 Option	Column 2 Activities and Eligibility Conditions	Column 3 Rate of Payment
	 (e) undertake regular lameness scoring as follows- (i) locomotion scoring for a minimum of 50 cattle, monthly for dairy and twice yearly for beef. Give treatment for scores of one or more; and (ii) footrot scoring for a minimum of 100 sheep and 50 goats twice yearly. Give treatment for scores of 2 or more; and (f) ensure physical foot inspection of all adult livestock is carried out twice in the scheme year and foot trimming untaken where necessary. 	
	Action Five – Mastitis control	£372.00 per scheme year.
	This option applies to dairy cows.	
	The applicant must– (a) on a monthly basis, collect individual milk samples from each cow in the herd and arrange for laboratory analysis for somatic cell count. Where the cell count for an individual is greater than 250,000 cells per ml for more than one consecutive month, the applicant must ensure a veterinary investigation into the cause of the mastitis infection is carried out and follow veterinary advice on treatment;	

"Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Dption	Activities and Eligibili	ity Rate of Payment
	Conditions	
-	 (b) ensure a minimum one veterinary vis made during the syear to investigat (i) any hygiened deficits duri milking; and (ii) any design, bedding, floor or hygiened with cubicle that may contribu mastitis infection address any problidentified; and (c) during the schem year ensure at lea visits from machi maintenance cont are carried out, on as may be require by manufacturer' recommendations 	sit is scheme te- e ing d boring deficits es, ate to a, and lem e enst 2 ine tractors r more ed c's
	Action Six – Control an prevention of diarrhoea pneumonia	a and
	Where livestock manag together suffer an outbu of scour or pneumonia applicant must– (a) take– (i) faecal samp from a selec	reak the bles
	animals affe scour; (ii) swabs and/o blood samp from a selec animals affe	ected by or oles ction of ected by
	pneumonia; (iii) ensure labor analysis for diarrhoea an pneumonia pathogens i	ratory nd
	(iv) reduce stock density, inc	king
	1.7	

"Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Option	Activities and Eligibility Conditions	Rate of Payment
	ventilation and/or carry out treatment and/or vaccination as appropriate; and (b) undertake a lungworm surveillance programme to comprise- (i) a monthly bulk milk antibody check for lungworm in dairy cows from August to January inclusive; (ii) collecting faecal samples from at least 6 other non milking cattle every 2 months from August to January for laboratory analysis; and (iii) initiate treatment and/or vaccination programme as appropriate if disease is identified.	
	Action Seven – Liver fluke control	£280.00 per scheme year, plus £278.00 per hectare per scheme year for loss of grazing, (£264 per hectare per scheme year for nitrate vulnerable zone land) where grazing is lost in terms of (c in column 2 (below).
	 The applicant must– (a) where possible, obtain feedback of identified incidences of liver fluke from the abattoir; (b) at least once every 2 months collect faecal 	may be claimed per scheme year.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
ption	Activities and Eligibility Conditions	Rate of Payment
	 6 sites on the farm for bulk laboratory analysis Initiate treatment if the liver fluke is detected; (c) identify high risk areas of ground for grazing and avoid using such areas between July and March inclusive; (d) on the basis of faecal sampling results, identify liver fluke infested pasture and do not use such pasture between July and March inclusive; (e) record in the Animal Welfare Management Plan fields that are partially or wholly affected by (b) and (c) (above); and (f) inspect and clear drainage for pasture at least twice a year. 	
	Action Eight – Johne's diseas control	e £378.00 per scheme year.
	This option applies only to cattle.	
	 The applicant must– (a) isolate and test scouring cattle without delay; (b) ensure that housed cows calve in clean, well-bedded areas and outdoor cows calve in sparsely stocked fields free from heavy faecal contamination; (c) ensure that calves only receive colostrum from their own dam, or in the absence of their own dam's colostrum, preferably 	5
	from a single animal that has repeatedly	

"Column 1		umn 2	Column 3
Option		vities and Eligibility	Rate of Payment
		tested negative for Mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis;	
	(d)	ensure that housed calves are subsequently reared in a clean environment, free from adult faecal contamination;	
	(e)	not use pasture close to ponds/streams/ditches that also pass through neighbouring land;	
	(f)	not graze young stock on pasture where slurry has been applied in the last 3 months;	
	(g)	not graze weaned stock on pasture where adults have grazed;	
	(h)	not co-graze or sequential graze with other livestock that can carry Johne's disease infection;	
	(i)	not breed from the offspring of infected cows. Where at least 30% of cows are infected, limited breeding using some of the progeny may be undertaken under specific and written veterinary instruction; and	
	(j)	join an approved Johne's disease control programme(7).	
		on Nine – Control of ne viral diarrhoea (BVD)	£372.00 per scheme year.
	The (a)	applicant must– prevent nose to nose contact with	

 ⁽⁷⁾ An approved Johne's disease control programme is one which meets the Cattle Health Certification Standard ("CHeCS"). Information about CHeCS can be found at *http://www.checs.co.uk* and at *http://www.afbini.gov.uk/chs-checs-technical-document.pdf*.

"Column 1 Option	Column 2 Activities a Conditions	Column 3 and Eligibility Rate of Payment	
	neighl farm l (b) cull p adults the br	bouring cattle at boundaries; ersistently infected and vaccinate eeding herd st BVD in an	
	on-go that ac vaccin recom (c) where	ing programme dheres to the ne manufacturer's amendations; possible, source	
	only f are Ca Certif ("CHo free o indivi	ing replacements From herds that attle Health fication Standard eCS") accredited f BVD or duals that have satisfactorily	
	screer accord Healtl Plan f guide	and for BVD virus ding to the Cattle in Improvement for Scotland lines(8) and have vaccinated;	
	(d) where be sou purch BVD them other from	e such cattle cannot urced, screen ased animals for virus and maintain in isolation from stock until freedom persistent infection e established;	
	(e) calve pregn purch positiv to BV be iso be tes not to viraer a calf persis	in isolation ant animals ased and found ve for antibody D. The calf must lated until it can ted and shown be a persistently nic calf. Where is found to be tently infected it d be culled;	
	(f) not bu	and dairy bred calves on to cows that	

Information regarding the Cattle Health Improvement Plan for Scotland is available in the Programme guidance by Scotlish Ministers relating to these Regulations at *http://www.scotland.gov.uk/srdp*. 19 (8)

"Column 1 Option	Column 2 Activities and Eligibility Conditions	Column 3 Rate of Payment
	 have lost a calf unless the calf can be sourced from an accredited BVD free herd; (g) monitor dairy herd infection by carrying out quarterly bulk milk antibody monitoring in the dairy herd. Where the bulk tank is strongly positive, composite first lactation samples must be used; and (h) in the beef herd, sample and test 5 animals from each separately managed group of calves in the 9 to 18 months age range each year. 	
	Action Ten – Sheep scab control	£204.00 per scheme year.
	The applicant must– (a) contact farm managers from all neighbouring farms using common land or using land immediately adjacent to their own, where sheep from both premises could come into contact. Where possible co ordinate treatment for sheep scab; and	
	 (b) where co ordinated treatment is not possible, not use common land or land immediately adjacent (within 5 metres) to land used by neighbouring farms and must record these areas in the Animal Welfare Management Plan. 	£15.00 per hectare per scheme year for loss of grazing. A maximum of 10 hectares may be claimed.".

St Andrew's House, Edinburgh 22nd April 2009

RICHARD LOCHHEAD A member of the Scottish Executive

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations amend the Rural Development Contracts (Land Managers Options) (Scotland) Regulations 2008, ("the 2008 Regulations") which introduce measures to supplement Council Regulation (EC) No. 1698/2005 ("the Council Regulation") which lays down general rules governing Community support for rural development (financed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development established by Council Regulation (EC) No. 1290/2005 and Commission Regulations (EC) Nos. 1974/2006 and 1975/2006 laying down detailed rules for the application of the Council Regulation.

The 2008 Regulations provide for the payment of aid to be made available by the Scottish Ministers from the Scotland Rural Development Programme 2007–13 to any person who enters into an undertaking with the Scottish Ministers to carry out, or as the case may be carry out and maintain activities relevant to at least one of the land managers options set out in Schedule 2 to those Regulations.

Regulation 2(2) of these Regulations inserts definitions into regulation 2(1) of the 2008 Regulations to update the regulation following the repeal of Council Regulation 1782/2003.

Regulation 2(3) and (4) amend regulations 5 and 8 of the 2008 Regulations to replace references to Council Regulation 1782/2003 with references contained in Council Regulation 73/2009.

Regulation 2(5) amends regulation 10(2) of the 2008 Regulations to include references to the animal welfare management programme. Regulation 10(5)(a) is amended to refer to Article 5 of, and Annex II to, Council Regulation 73/2009. A minor amendment is also made to paragraph (6) of regulation 10 to correct typographical errors.

In regulation 2(6) of these Regulations the definitions of "finishing animal" and "veterinary surgeon", which are referred to in option 22 of Schedule 2 to the 2008 Regulations, are inserted into Schedule 1 to the 2008 Regulations.

Regulation 2(7) adds three additional quality assurance schemes to the list of schemes at option 8 of Schedule 2 to the 2008 Regulations. These schemes are "QMS Quality Meat Assurance Schemes (Cattle and Sheep); QMS Quality Meat Assurance Scheme (Pigs) and Scottish Quality Farm Assured Combinable Crops Scheme". Regulation 2(7) also adds a new option 22 to Schedule 2 to the 2008 Regulations, called the Animal Welfare Management Programme.

These Regulations result in no increase in costs to the Scottish Government, local government or business. No Regulatory Impact Assessment has therefore been carried out.