

1985 No. 63

AGRICULTURE

The Potatoes (Assured Markets) Order 1985

<i>Made</i> - - - - -	21st January 1985
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	23rd January 1985
<i>Coming into Operation</i>	1st July 1985

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Secretary of State for Wales and the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Northern Ireland being the Secretaries of State respectively concerned with agriculture in Scotland and Northern Ireland, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 1 and 35(3) of the Agriculture Act 1957 **(a)** and now vested in them **(b)**, and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, with the consent of the Treasury and after consultation with producers in accordance with section 9(1) of the said Act hereby make the following Order:—

Title and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Potatoes (Assured Markets) Order 1985 and shall come into operation on the 1st July 1985.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

“the Board” means the Potato Marketing Board constituted by the Potato Marketing Scheme 1955 **(c)**, which has effect as if made under the Agricultural Marketing Act 1958 **(d)**;

“guaranteed prices” means the prices determined by the Ministers pursuant to article 3 of this Order;

“the Ministers” means the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Secretary of State for Wales and the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Northern Ireland being the Secretaries of State respectively concerned with agriculture in Scotland and Northern Ireland, acting jointly;

(a) 1957 c. 57.

(b) In the case of the Secretary of State for Wales, by virtue of S.I. 1969/388 and 1978/272.

(c) Approved by S.I. 1955/690, amended by S.I. 1962/883, 1971/711, 1976/133.

(d) 1958 c. 47.

“the Minister” in relation to any part of the United Kingdom means either that one of the Ministers who is concerned with agriculture in that part, or that Minister and any or all of the others acting jointly;

“potatoes” means potatoes grown in the United Kingdom;

“potatoes grown for sale for human consumption” may include potatoes grown for seed but does not include new potatoes (that is to say, potatoes which are sold and delivered before the 1st July in the calendar year in which they have been grown and harvested);

“pre-season contract” means contracts entered into prior to the 1st July in any calendar year;

“producer” means a producer of potatoes;

“specified” means for the time being prescribed by the Ministers, with the approval of the Treasury, in the light of their conclusions from a review held under section 2 of the Agriculture Act 1947(a);

“year” means a period of twelve months commencing with the 1st July in any calendar year.

Determination of guaranteed prices

3. The Ministers shall, with the consent of the Treasury and in the light of their conclusions from a review held under section 2 of the Agriculture Act 1947, determine each year in respect of Great Britain and in respect of Northern Ireland:

- (a) guaranteed prices per tonne for potatoes grown for sale for human consumption by producers, and
- (b) the quantity of such potatoes to which the guaranteed prices will apply.

Purchase of potatoes by the Ministers and the Potato Marketing Board

4.—(1) The Minister may provide, in such manner and at such time as appear to him to be appropriate, for the purchase of potatoes by the Minister or on his behalf or for the purchase of potatoes in Great Britain by the Board at the guaranteed prices and within the quantity determined by the Ministers in pursuance of article 3 of this Order.

(2) The Ministers may provide for seasonal scales of prices to apply to purchases made under article 4(1) provided that the weighted average of such prices shall not exceed the guaranteed prices determined under article 3(a) of this Order.

(3) Purchases by the Board under article 4(1) may be made by pre-season contract with producers. However, where in the opinion of the Minister it would be more economical to do so, the Minister may authorise the Board to purchase potatoes otherwise than by pre-season contract and may set seasonal scales of prices for such purchases.

(a) 1947 c. 48.

Payment of expenses of the Potato Marketing Board

5. Subject to such terms and conditions as the Minister with the consent of the Treasury may prescribe, the Minister may make payment to the Board of such sums as in his opinion are expedient and proper in respect of expenses incurred by the Board in furtherance of the Minister's arrangements for providing assured markets for producers in Great Britain.

Advance payments

6. Subject to such terms and conditions as the Minister with the consent of the Treasury may prescribe, the Minister may for the purposes of articles 4 and 5 of this Order make available by way of advance such sums as he may from time to time think fit.

Revocation

7. The Potatoes (Guaranteed Prices) Order 1959(a) is hereby revoked.

In Witness whereof the official seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 16th January 1985.



Michael Jopling,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Nicholas Edwards,
Secretary of State for Wales.

15th January 1985.

George Younger,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

21st January 1985.

Douglas Hurd,
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

16th January 1985.

We consent this 17th day of January 1985.

Donald Thompson,
A. G. Hamilton,
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

(a) S.I. 1959/983, amended by S.I. 1961/1119.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order supersedes the Potatoes (Guaranteed Prices) Order 1959. The Order makes provision under section 1 of the Agriculture Act 1957 for providing assured markets for potatoes commencing with the 1985 crop. It provides for the assured markets to be related to guaranteed prices determined by Ministers after reviews held under section 2 of the Agriculture Act 1947.

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