



THE OLDER CATTLE HEADAGE PAYMENT SCHEME 2006

Approved by Tynwald 22nd February 2006

Coming into operation 1st March 2006

1. Objective and scope

(1) The objective of this Scheme is to provide transitional support to farm businesses during the initial period of cattle over the age of thirty months re-entering the food chain.

(2) This Scheme, subject to the following provisions, extends to cattle reared in the Island which, owing to their nature, are only eligible for the cow beef market.

2. Citation and Commencement

This Scheme may be cited as the Older Cattle Headage Payment Scheme 2006 and shall come into operation on the 1st March 2006.

3. Interpretation

In this Scheme –

“the Department” means the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry;

“eligible animal” means a bovine animal which is declared fit for human consumption by a veterinary inspector and is slaughtered at the Meat Plant for entry into the food chain and –

(a) was either –

(i) born in the Island on or after 1st January 1998; or

(ii) born other than in the Island on or after 1st August 1996 and had been resident in the Island for a period of at least 12 months at the time of slaughter;

- (b) was over thirty months of age at the time of slaughter;
- (c) was marked in accordance with the Marking and Cattle Records Order 1997¹;
- (d) was accompanied by a cattle passport in accordance with the Cattle Passports Order 1997²
- (e) was –
 - (i) a breeding cow; or
 - (ii) a barren heifer; or
 - (iii) a pedigree bull having demonstrable progeny;
- (f) was not –
 - (i) a steer; or
 - (ii) a bull other than a pedigree bull having demonstrable progeny;

“producer” means a person registered with the Isle of Man Fat Stock Marketing Association who submits an eligible animal for slaughter.

4. Rates of headage payment

(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the Department may make headage payments per eligible animal in respect of animals slaughtered during the periods set out in the following table –

<i>Column 1</i>	<i>Column 2</i>
Animals slaughtered in the period (both dates inclusive) –	Maximum Headage Payment
1st March 2006 – 31st July 2006	£150
1st August 2006 – 31st March 2007	£100
1st April 2007 – 31st March 2008	£60
1st April 2008 – 31st March 2009	£20

(2) If the average market price for O3 grade cow beef in the Republic of Ireland as published by the Meat and Livestock Commission is less than 50 pence per kilogramme deadweight, the Department may increase the headage payment by £25.

¹ SD 604/97 as amended by SD 561/98, SD 672/99 and SD 66/03

² SD 605/97 as amended by SD 561/98, SD 671/99 and SD 67/03

(3) The rate of maximum headage payment set out in sub-paragraph (1) may be varied by the Department with the concurrence of Treasury for such period or part of a period as the Department and Treasury think fit.

(4) Subject to paragraph 4, the Department may make headage payments directly to a producer.

5. Recovery of monies due to the Department

(1) The Department may recover from a producer any monies due by that person to the Department by way of deduction from a headage payment which might otherwise be made under this Scheme.

(2) Where any headage payment has been made under the Scheme which ought not to have been made, or where the headage payment was in excess of the amount properly payable, the Department may recover the whole or part of the sum already paid or withhold any headage payments which may otherwise be paid in respect of headage payment by the Department.

(3) In any case to which sub-paragraphs (1) or (2) apply the Department shall notify the applicant in writing of its decision.

6. Review and Appeal

(1) Where a producer is notified of the Department's decision under any provisions of this Scheme and considers that the Department has not taken one or more factors into account or given due weight to one or more factors in making its decision, the producer may, within 14 days of the date of notification, request in writing that the Department's Chief Executive review the Department's decision, stating the grounds on which the review is requested. The Chief Executive shall review the Department's decision and shall notify the applicant or claimant of the decision on review in writing within 14 working days of receipt of the request in writing.

(2) Where a producer is notified of the decision on review but considers that the grounds for review have not been addressed, the producer may, within 14 days of the date of that notification, appeal in writing to the Minister, stating the grounds on which the appeal is made. The Minister shall, after taking such advice as the Minister considers appropriate, give notification in writing of the decision on appeal within 28 working days of receipt of the appeal in writing.

Phil Gawne

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Scheme)

This Scheme provides a measure of temporary support for the producers of older (over thirty-month) cattle. Support is at a reducing rate and will be phased out entirely by the end of March 2009.

Such cattle have, since 1996, been killed through a separate cull arrangement, as their carcasses were not permitted to enter the food chain by virtue of the Beef (Emergency Control) Order 1996 of the Department of Local Government and the Environment. The Order was a precautionary measure against the possibility of meat from cattle affected with BSE becoming available for human consumption.

With effective control measures against BSE since 1996, there is no longer a requirement for the carcasses of over thirty-month cattle to be removed from the food chain. The Beef (Emergency Control) Order 1996 has, therefore, been revoked. With the ending of these BSE precautionary emergency measures and separate cull arrangements in the Island and elsewhere, the initial market value of such cattle will be low. This Scheme is to assist producers until the market has adjusted to the renewed availability of such cattle.