



ANNO TERTIO

## ELIZABETHAE II REGINAE

A.D. 1954

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## No. 67 of 1954

## An Act relating to the Stabilization of the Wheat Industry.

[Assented to 23rd December, 1954.]

BE IT ENACTED by the Governor of the State of South Australia, with the advice and consent of the Parliament thereof, as follows :

## Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the "Wheat Industry Stabilization Act, 1954".

Commence-  
ment.

2. This Act shall come into operation on the day on which the Wheat Industry Stabilization Act, 1954 of the Commonwealth comes into operation.

## Repeal.

3. (1) The Wheat Industry Stabilization Act, 1948-1953, is repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding the repeal effected by the last preceding sub-section but subject to the next succeeding sub-section, the provisions of the repealed Act shall continue to apply, as if this Act had not been passed, in relation to wheat harvested before the first day of October, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three.

(3) A reference in the said repealed Act to the Australian Wheat Board established by the Wheat Marketing Act, 1948-1953, of the Commonwealth shall, in relation to things done or to be done after the commencement of this Act, be read as a reference to that Board as continued in existence by the Commonwealth Act and conducting its proceedings in accordance with the Commonwealth Act.

(4) Wheat harvested on or after the first day of October, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three, and delivered to the Board before the commencement of this Act (including wheat delivered to a person who was a licensed receiver for the purposes of the Acts repealed by this Act) shall be deemed to have been delivered in pursuance of section eight of this Act, and any advance payment made by the Board in respect of any such wheat before the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to have been made in pursuance of this Act.

4. In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears—

Definitions.

“licensed receiver” means a person, firm, company or State authority licensed by the Board to receive wheat on behalf of the Board :

“season” in relation to wheat, means the period of twelve months, commencing on the first day of October in any year, during which the wheat was harvested :

“the Board” means the Australian Wheat Board continued in existence by the Commonwealth Act :

“the Commonwealth Act” means the Wheat Industry Stabilization Act, 1954 of the Commonwealth :

“the Commonwealth Minister” means the Minister of State administering the Commonwealth Act, or another Minister of State of the Commonwealth acting for and on behalf of that Minister :

“the cost of production” means—

(a) in relation to wheat of the season that ended on the thirtieth day of September, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-four—Twelve shillings and seven pence per bushel ; and

(b) in relation to wheat of a subsequent season—the cost of production per bushel of wheat of that season as determined in pursuance of section five of the Commonwealth Act ;

“the guaranteed price”, in relation to wheat of a season, means an amount equal to the cost of production of wheat of that season.

5. (1) If, by reason of the Constitution of the Commonwealth, a provision of this Act, or a notice under a provision of this Act, cannot validly apply in relation to any particular wheat or class of wheat, that provision or notice shall be construed

Act to apply  
subject to  
Constitution

as intended to operate in relation to all wheat in relation to which it purports to apply, being wheat in relation to which it can validly apply.

(2) The last preceding sub-section is in addition to, and not in substitution for, any other provision relating to the construction of Acts and statutory instruments subject to the Constitution of the Commonwealth.

Licensed  
receivers.

6. (1) Subject to this section the Board may license, subject to such conditions as are specified in the licence, a person, firm, company or State authority to receive wheat on behalf of the Board, and may cancel or suspend any such licence.

(2) A licence to receive wheat on behalf of the Board that was in force immediately before the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to have been granted under this section.

Powers of  
Board.

7. (1) The Board may—

- (a) purchase wheat, wheaten flour, semolina, corn sacks, jute or jute products ;
- (b) accept wheat delivered to it ;
- (c) sell or dispose of wheat, wheaten flour, semolina, corn sacks, jute or jute products the property of the Board ;
- (d) grist or arrange for the gristing of wheat, and sell or otherwise dispose of the products of the gristing ;
- (e) manage and control all matters connected with the handling, storage, protection, treatment, transfer or shipment of wheat or other things purchased or otherwise acquired by the Board or sold or otherwise disposed of by the Board ; and
- (f) do all things that it is required or permitted by this Act to do or that are necessary or convenient to be done by the Board for giving effect to this Act.

(2) The Commonwealth Minister may give directions to the Board concerning the performance of its functions and the exercise of its powers, and the Board shall comply with those directions.

Delivery of  
wheat.

8. (1) Subject to this section, a person who is in possession of wheat—

- (a) may deliver that wheat to the Board ; and
- (b) shall deliver that wheat to the Board on demand made by or on behalf of the Board.

(2) Upon delivery of wheat to the Board under this section, the wheat shall become the absolute property of the Board, freed from all mortgages, charges, liens, pledges, interests and trusts affecting the wheat.

(3) A demand under this section may be made—

- (a) by notice in writing served personally on the person to whom it is addressed, or served on that person by post at his usual or last-known place of abode or business ; or
- (b) by notice published in the *Gazette*, in which case it may be addressed to persons generally, or to persons included in a class of persons.

(4) Nothing in this section shall apply to—

- (a) wheat harvested before the first day of October, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three ;
- (b) wheat retained by the grower for use on the farm where it is grown ;
- (c) wheat that has been sold by the Board ; or
- (d) wheat sold or delivered to a person with the approval of the Board.

(5) A person shall not—

- (a) refuse or fail to comply with a demand made under this section ; or
- (b) deliver to the Board wheat which has previously been sold to the Board.

Penalty : Thrice the value of the wheat in respect of which the offence is committed, calculated at the guaranteed price for wheat of the season that is current at the time of the offence, or imprisonment for six months, or both.

9. (1) Delivery of wheat to the Board may be made by delivering or consigning the wheat to a licensed receiver.

Delivery to  
licensed  
receiver.

(2) A person who delivers or consigns wheat to a licensed receiver shall, at the same time, furnish to the licensed receiver in writing the names and addresses of all persons known by him to have or to claim an interest in the wheat or in the payment to be made for the wheat, and all particulars known to him of those interests.

10. Except as provided in the last two preceding sections, or with the consent of the Board, a person shall not—

Unauthorized  
dealings with  
wheat.

- (a) sell, deliver or part with the possession of, or take into his possession, wheat other than wheat specified in sub-section (4) of section eight of this Act ;
- (b) part with the possession of, or take into his possession, wheat that is the property of the Board ; or
- (c) purport to sell or offer for sale, or purport to purchase or offer to purchase (otherwise than from the Board), wheat that is the property of the Board.

Penalty : Thrice the value of the wheat in respect of which the offence is committed, calculated at the guaranteed price for wheat of the season that is current at the time of the offence, or imprisonment for six months, or both.

Price to be  
paid for  
wheat.

11. (1) Where wheat is delivered to the Board in pursuance of this Act, the Board shall pay for that wheat (including the corn sacks, if any, in which the wheat is delivered) an amount determined by the Board in accordance with this section.

(2) The Board shall determine amounts payable under the last preceding sub-section in respect of wheat of a season by—

- (a) ascertaining the net proceeds of the disposal by the Board of all wheat of that season delivered to the Board in Australia (whether in pursuance of this Act or otherwise) ;
- (b) deducting from the amount so ascertained an amount calculated at the rate of three pence for each bushel of so much of the wheat of that season grown in the State of Western Australia as the Board certifies to the Commonwealth Minister to have become available for export to places outside Australia ; and
- (c) ascertaining the share in the remaining amount of each person entitled to payment under this section by apportioning that remaining amount amongst the persons who delivered wheat of that season to the Board in Australia (whether in pursuance of this Act or otherwise) on the basis of the number of bushels of wheat so delivered by each such person, with proper allowance for differences in the quality of wheat and for transport charges for the carriage of wheat to the terminal port from the place at which the wheat was delivered to the Board, and for corn sacks in which wheat was supplied to the Board, and other necessary adjustments in particular cases.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the Board shall not be bound to preserve the identity of wheat of a season, and may keep its accounts in respect of sales in such manner as will, in

its judgment, attribute sales to wheat of different seasons (including the season that ended on the thirtieth day of September, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-four) in an equitable manner.

(4) The Board shall not be bound to make a final payment in respect of wheat of a season until it has disposed of the whole of the wheat of that season delivered to it in Australia (whether in pursuance of this Act or otherwise), but the Board may, with the approval of the Commonwealth Minister, make from time to time such advance payments as it considers justified.

(5) Subject to this section, the net proceeds of the disposal of wheat shall, for the purposes of this section, be deemed to be the net return from the disposal of the wheat (including corn sacks in which the wheat was sold) after paying the charge imposed by the Wheat Export Charge Act, 1954, of the Commonwealth and administration, interest, transport, storage and other charges incurred by the Board (other than charges for transport to the terminal port from the place at which the wheat is delivered to the Board).

(6) In ascertaining the net proceeds of the disposal of any wheat, no account shall be taken of moneys to which section 18 of this Act, section 14a of the Wheat Industry Stabilization Act, 1948-1953 or a corresponding provision of a Commonwealth Act or an Act of another State, applies or applied or of costs of the Board payable out of those moneys.

(7) Where the average price per bushel obtained by the Board for wheat of a season exported by the Board, or sold by the Board for export, is less than the guaranteed price, the net proceeds from the disposal of wheat of that season by the Board shall, for the purposes of this section, be deemed to be increased by the amount that becomes payable to the Board under the Commonwealth Act out of the Wheat Prices Stabilization Fund established by that Act, that is to say an amount ascertained by multiplying the amount of the difference between that average price and the guaranteed price by a number equal to the number of bushels of wheat of the season exported by the Board, or sold by the Board for export, or by one hundred million, whichever is the less.

(8) In ascertaining the average price for the purposes of the last preceding sub-section, the price obtained in respect of a sale other than a sale of fair average quality bulk wheat free on rails at the port of export shall be deemed to be the price which would have been the corresponding price for a sale of the same quantity of fair average quality bulk wheat free on rails at the port of export.

Payment by  
Board.

12. (1) The amount payable under this Act in respect of any wheat shall be payable to the person who would have been entitled to receive the price of the wheat if the wheat had been lawfully sold to the Board at the time of the delivery of the wheat.

(2) The same rights (if any) shall exist against the person receiving an amount paid by the Board under this Act in respect of wheat as would exist if the moneys so paid were the proceeds of a sale or purported sale of the wheat by him, and any such rights may be enforced by action in any court that would have had jurisdiction if the moneys were the proceeds of such a sale or purported sale.

(3) Payment in good faith by the Board of any moneys payable under this Act to the person appearing to the Board to be entitled to receive them shall discharge the Board from any further liability in respect of those moneys.

(4) Subject to the next succeeding sub-section, an assignment of moneys payable by the Board in respect of wheat delivered to the Board (not including a registered crop lien) executed after the commencement of this Act shall be void as against the Board.

(5) Where a person assigns moneys payable to him by the Board in respect of wheat delivered or to be delivered to the Board in payment of, or as security for payment of, an amount payable by that person for corn sacks supplied to him, the Board may pay those moneys to the assignee.

Declaration to  
be furnished  
as to old  
season's wheat.

13. (1) A person who—

- (a) consigns or delivers to a licensed receiver wheat harvested before the fifteenth day of September, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-four; or
- (b) consigns or delivers to a licensed receiver, after the final delivery day in respect of a season, wheat harvested in that season,

shall make and forward to the licensed receiver a declaration correctly stating the season during which the wheat was harvested.

(2) For the purposes of this section, the final delivery day in respect of a season is the day declared to be the final delivery day in respect of that season by notice published in the Commonwealth of Australia *Gazette* under the Commonwealth Act.

14. (1) A person who is authorized by the Board or the Chairman of the Board to act under this section may—

Entry of premises, seizure of wheat, etc.

- (a) at all reasonable times, enter premises and inspect any stock of wheat or corn sacks, and any accounts, books and documents relating to wheat or corn sacks ; and
- (b) take possession of and remove any wheat that is the property of the Board or the delivery of which has been lawfully demanded by the Board, or any corn sacks that are the property of the Board.

(2) A person shall not hinder or obstruct a person in the exercise of powers under this section.

(3) Wheat, other than wheat which is the property of the Board, of which possession is taken under sub-section (1) of this section shall, for the purposes of this Act, but without affecting the liability of a person for an offence, be deemed to be delivered to the Board under this Act.

15. (1) For the purposes of this Act the Board may, by notice in writing served on the person to whom it is addressed either—

Board may require returns.

- (a) personally ; or
- (b) by post at his last known place of abode or business, require a person to furnish in writing to the Board, within the time specified in the notice, such information relating to wheat, wheaten flour, semolina, corn sacks, jute or jute products as is specified in the notice.

(2) A person shall not, without reasonable excuse—

- (a) refuse or fail to comply with a requirement under this section ; or
- (b) furnish to the Board any information which is false or misleading in a particular.

16. A person having wheat the property of the Board in his possession or under his care shall exercise proper care and take all proper and reasonable precautions to preserve and safeguard that wheat and to keep it free from damage or deterioration.

Proper care to be taken of wheat owned by Board.

17. (1) The price at which the Board shall sell wheat for manufacture into wheat products for human consumption in Australia, or wheat for consumption in Australia by pigs, poultry or dairy stock, shall be the appropriate price ascertained in accordance with this section.

Home consumption price of wheat.



(2) Subject to this section, the price per bushel in respect of a wholesale sale of bulk wheat of fair average quality free on rails at a port of export shall be—

(a) the International Wheat Agreement price or, if, at the beginning of the year in which the sale is made, there is not in operation an International Wheat Agreement that has been accepted by Australia, export parity ; or

(b) fourteen shillings,

whichever is the less.

(3) If the price applicable to a sale under the last preceding sub-section is less than the cost of production of wheat of the season that is current at the beginning of the year in which the sale is made, the price shall, subject to the next succeeding sub-section, be an amount per bushel equal to that cost of production.

(4) The price applicable under either of the last two preceding sub-sections shall be increased by an amount of one penny half-penny per bushel for the purpose of reimbursing the Board for the costs of shipment of wheat to Tasmania.

(5) If the Board reports to the Commonwealth Minister that the amounts being received by the Board by reason of the operation of the last preceding sub-section, together with amounts being received under corresponding provisions of the Commonwealth Act and the laws of the other States, are more or less than the amounts required to meet the costs of shipment of wheat by the Board to Tasmania, the Commonwealth Minister may direct the Board that the amount per bushel specified in that sub-section shall be reduced or increased to such extent as he considers necessary.

(6) The price in respect of a sale other than a sale specified in sub-section (2) of this section shall be a price ascertained by adding to or deducting from the price applicable to sales so specified an amount that makes a proper allowance for the quality of the wheat, the conditions of sale and the place of delivery.

(7) In this section—

“export parity”, in relation to sales made in a year, means the price that the Commonwealth Minister certifies to the Board to be the price which he is satisfied was the price (expressed in Australian currency) per bushel prevailing immediately before the commencement of that year for sales by the Board on the export market of bulk wheat of fair average quality free on rails at the ports of export ;

“ the International Wheat Agreement price ”, in relation to sales made in a year, means the amount which the Commonwealth Minister certifies to the Board to be the amount which he is satisfied is the equivalent, in Australian currency and on the basis of sales free on rails at the ports of export, of the price per bushel prevailing immediately before the commencement of that year for sales by the Board under an International Wheat Agreement of bulk wheat of fair average quality ;

“ year ” means the period of twelve months commencing on the first day of December, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-four, and each subsequent period of twelve months.

(8) Notwithstanding the repeal of section 14 of the Wheat Marketing Act, 1948-1953—

- (a) the prices for sales of wheat by the Board that were applicable under that section immediately before the commencement of this Act continue to be applicable to sales made before the first day of December, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-four ; and
- (b) all moneys received by the Board in respect of such sales by reason of the operation of sub-section (4) or (6) of that section shall be deemed to be moneys to which sub-section (1) of the next succeeding section applies.

18. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act but subject to this section, the Board shall keep a separate account of the moneys received by the Board by reason of the operation of sub-sections (4) and (5) of the last preceding section, and of payments made out of those moneys, and shall not apply those moneys except in accordance with this section.

Special account  
for freight  
to Tasmania.

(2) The Board may combine the account required to be kept under the last preceding sub-section with any similar account or accounts to be kept by it under the Commonwealth Act or under the law of another State or States.

(3) The Board shall use the moneys referred to in sub-section (1) of this section in meeting the costs of shipment of wheat by the Board to Tasmania on and after the first day of December, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three, and shall not use for that purpose any other moneys derived by it from the sale of wheat delivered to it in pursuance of this Act.

(4) Any moneys referred to in sub-section (1) of this section which remain unexpended after the Board has disposed of the whole of the wheat of the last season to which this Act applies delivered to the Board in Australia shall be applied by the Board for the benefit of the wheat industry in such manner as the Commonwealth Minister, after consultation with the appropriate Minister of each State, directs.

(5) Any moneys paid by the Board, before the commencement of this Act, in pursuance of section 14a of the Wheat Marketing Act, 1948-1953, to the credit of the account kept for the purposes of that section and not expended before the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to be moneys to which sub-section (1) of this section applies.

**Use of funds  
by Board.**

**19.** Subject to the Board's paying or making provision for the payment of amounts required to be paid by it under this Act, nothing in this Act shall be deemed to prevent the Board from applying moneys received by it by reason of the exercise of its functions under this Act for the purposes of the Commonwealth Act or an Act of another State relating to the marketing of wheat.

**Offences.**

**20.** (1) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of this Act for which no other penalty is provided shall be guilty of an offence.

Penalty: A fine of one hundred pounds or imprisonment for six months.

(2) Proceedings for offences against this Act may be heard and determined summarily.

**Regulations.**

**21.** The Governor may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, prescribing all matters which by this Act are required or permitted to be prescribed, or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act, and in particular for providing for penalties recoverable summarily and not exceeding a fine of one hundred pounds or imprisonment for six months, or both, for offences against the regulations.

**Application of  
Act.**

**22.** This Act does not apply in relation to wheat harvested after the thirtieth day of September, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-eight.

In the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, I hereby assent to this Bill.

R. A. GEORGE, Governor.