STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1978 No. 318

RATING AND VALUATION

The Rating Enactments (Agricultural Land and Agricultural Building) (Amendment) Regulations 1978

Made - - - -	1*st March* 1978
Laid before Parliament	10*th March* 1978
Coming into Operation	1*st April* 1978

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State for the Environment acting jointly, in exercise of the powers vested in them by section 7(1) and (2)(*a*) of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976(**a**) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, and after consultation with such organisations as appear to them appropriate as representing any interests concerned, hereby make the following regulations:—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Rating Enactments (Agricultural Land and Agricultural Building) (Amendment) Regulations 1978 and shall come into operation on the 1st April 1978.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(**b**) shall apply for the interpretation of these regulations as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Amendments of enactments

2.—(1) The General Rate Act 1967(**c**) and the Rating Act 1971(**d**) shall be amended in accordance with the following provisions of this regulation.

(2) In the General Rate Act 1967, in paragraph (*a*) of section 26(3) (meaning of "agricultural land"), for the words "one quarter of an acre" in each place where they occur there shall be substituted the words "0.10 hectare".

(3) In the Rating Act 1971, in section 2(4) (meaning of "agricultural building"), for the words "five acres" there shall be substituted the words "two hectares".

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 28th February 1978.

(L.S.)

John Silkin,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Peter Shore,
Secretary of State for the Environment.

1st March 1978.

(a) 1976 c. 55. (b) 1889 c. 63. (c) 1967 c. 9. (d) 1971 c. 39

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations, which come into operation on 1st April 1978, amend the definition of "agricultural land" in section 26(3) of the General Rate Act 1967 and the definition of "agricultural building" in section 2 of the Rating Act 1971 by substituting for references therein to areas expressed in imperial units references to areas expressed in metric units.

The effect of the substitutions is slightly to reduce (*a*) the minimum area of land used for poultry farming and of cottage gardens which qualify for exemption from rating (the conversion of $\frac{1}{4}$ acre being 0.1012 hectare) and (*b*) the minimum area of agricultural land which must surround or be contiguous to an agricultural building used for livestock keeping or breeding which would enable the building to qualify for exemption from rating (the conversion of 5 acres being 2.0234 hectares).

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