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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2008 No. 263

ANIMALS

ANIMAL HEALTH

The Control of Salmonella in Poultry Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2008

Made - - - -	*25th June 2008*
Coming into operation	*28th July 2008*

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development(**1**), makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 8(1) and 8(2) of the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**2**), and with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel.

In accordance with Article 8(1) of that Order it has consulted with the bodies which appear to it to be representative of the interests concerned.

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Control of Salmonella in Poultry Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2008 and comes into operation on 28th July 2008.

Control of salmonella in poultry scheme

2. For the purposes of keeping poultry, so far as is practicable, free from Salmonella and controlling and, so far as practicable, reducing the incidence of Salmonella, the Department makes the Scheme set out in the Schedule to this Order

(**1**) Formerly the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland; see the Departments Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1)) Article 3(4)

(**2**) S.I. 1981/1115 (N.I. 22) as amended by S.I. 1984/702 (N.I. 2) Article 17, S.I. 1994/1891 (N.I. 6) Article 22

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on 25th June 2008

(L.S.)

Elizabeth Redmond
A senior officer of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel on 25th June 2008

(L.S.)

Jack Layberry
A senior officer of the Department of Finance and Personnel

SCHEDULE Article 2

CONTROL OF SALMONELLA IN POULTRY SCHEME (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2008

PART I

INTRODUCTION

Citation

1. This Scheme may be cited as The Control of Salmonella in Poultry Scheme (Northern Ireland) 2008 and comes into operation on 28th July 2008.

Interpretation

2. In this Scheme—

"approved laboratory" means a laboratory approved by the Department for the purposes of this Order;

"breeding flock" means a flock kept for the production of eggs intended for incubation;

"building" includes a shed and any part of a building that has its own ventilation system and is separated from other parts of the building by a solid partition;

"chick" means a bird less than 72 hours old that has not been fed;

"the Department" means the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development;

"flock" means poultry of the same health status kept on the same holding or in the same enclosure and constituting a single epidemiological unit and, in the case of housed poultry, includes all birds sharing the same airspace;

"layer breeder" means poultry kept for the production of eggs intended for the incubation and hatching of chicks—

(a) that will be grown to produce eggs for human consumption, or

(b) whose progeny will be grown to produce eggs for human consumption;

"laying flock" means a flock of poultry kept for the production of eggs intended for human consumption;

"meat breeder" means poultry kept for the production of eggs intended for the incubation and hatching of chicks—

(a) that will be grown to produce meat for human consumption, or

(b) whose progeny will be grown to produce meat for human consumption;

"occupier" means, in relation to any hatchery or holding, the person in charge of the hatchery or holding;

"poultry" means birds of the species *Gallus gallus*, turkeys, ducks and geese.

Competent authority

3. The Department is the competent authority for the purposes of—

(a) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards a Community target for the reduction of the prevalence of certain

salmonella serotypes in breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* and amending Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003(**3**);

(b) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1168/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards a Community target for the reduction of the prevalence of certain salmonella serotypes in laying hens of *Gallus gallus* and amending Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005(**4**); and

(c) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of salmonella in poultry(**5**).

PART II

POULTRY HATCHERIES

Notification of poultry hatcheries

4.—(1) The occupier of a poultry hatchery with a total incubator capacity of 1000 eggs or more must notify the Department of the information in Annex 1, paragraph 1—

(a) within three months of the coming into operation of this Order; or

(b) in the case of such a hatchery established after the date this Order comes into operation, within three months of the establishment of the hatchery.

(2) The occupier must notify the Department of any change or addition to that information within three months of the change or addition.

(3) This Paragraph does not apply to any occupier who has notified the Department of that information under any other statutory provision.

Records in a hatchery incubating *Gallus gallus*

5. If a hatchery incubates eggs of the species *Gallus gallus* and has a capacity of 1000 eggs or more, the occupier must keep a record of the information in Annex 3 paragraph 3, in respect of the movement of eggs or chicks on to or off the hatchery.

PART III

BREEDING OR LAYING FLOCKS

Notification of breeding or laying flocks

6.—(1) The occupier of a holding on which one or more breeding flocks or laying flocks of at least 250 poultry of any single species are kept must notify the Department of the information in Annex 1 paragraph 2—

(a) within three months of the coming into operation of this Order; or

(**3**) O.J. No L 170, 1.7.2005, p.12. This Regulation extends to the EEA through Decision of the EEA Joint Committee No 101/2006 amending Annex I (Veterinary and phytosanitary matters) to the EEA Agreement (O.J. No L 333, 30.11.2006, p.6)
(**4**) O.J. No. L 211, 1.8.2006, p. 4
(**5**) O.J. No. L 212, 2.8.2006, p.3

(b) in the case of such a holding established after the date this Order comes into operation, within three months of the establishment of the holding.

(2) The occupier must notify the Department of any change or addition to that information within three months of the change or addition.

(3) This Paragraph does not apply to any occupier who has notified the Department of that information under any other enactment.

PART IV

BREEDING OR LAYING FLOCKS OF THE SPECIES *GALLUS GALLUS*

CHAPTER 1

Duties of an occupier

Application of Chapter 1

7.—(1) This Part applies in relation to any holding on which one or more breeding flocks of the species *Gallus gallus* of at least 250 birds are kept.

(2) It applies in relation to any holding on which one or more laying flocks of the species Gallus gallus are kept unless all the eggs are—

(a) for private domestic use; or

(b) supplied in small quantities by the producer to the final consumer or to local retail shops.

(3) Any reference to an occupier is a reference to an occupier of such a holding.

(4) All references in this Schedule to birds are references to birds of the species Gallus gallus, and all references to flocks are to flocks of those birds.

Notification of arrival of breeding flocks

8.—(1) The occupier must notify the Department of the expected date of arrival at the holding of every breeding flock of at least 250 birds.

(2) The notification must be made at least two weeks before the expected date of arrival.

Notification of movement to laying phase of breeding flocks

9. At least two weeks before a breeding flock is expected to move to the laying phase, or to a laying unit, the occupier must notify the Department of the date that the flock is expected to—

(a) move to the laying phase or laying unit; and

(b) end its production cycle.

Breeding flocks: sampling times

10.—(1) The occupier must take samples from each breeding flock on the holding at the following times—

(a) when the birds are chicks;

(b) when the birds are four weeks old;

(c) two weeks before the date the flock is moved to a laying unit or (if they are not moved) the date they are expected to come into lay; and

(d) every second week during the laying period.