STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2001 No. 429

FOOD

Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2001

Made - - - -	*13th December 2001*
Coming into operation	*1st February 2002*
except for paragraphs (2), (3), (4) and (6) of regulation 2, which come into operation on	*1st December 2002*

The Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety, being a Department designated(**1**) for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(**2**) in relation to the common agricultural policy of the European Community, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the said section 2(2) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2001.

(2) These Regulations shall come into operation on 1st February 2002, except for paragraphs (2), (3), (4) and (6) of regulation 2 which shall come into operation on 1st December 2002

(3) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(**3**) shall apply to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

(**1**) S.I. 1972/1811
(**2**) 1972 c. 68
(**3**) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)

Amendment of the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995

2.—(1) The Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995(**4**) shall be amended in accordance with the following paragraphs.

(2) In regulation 2(1) (interpretation) the following definitions shall be inserted in the appropriate alphabetical positions—

""farmer" means any person who is an agricultural producer and manages a holding;"; and

""holding" means an agricultural production unit situated in Northern Ireland managed by a farmer;".

(3) In paragraph (1) of regulation 3 (exemptions and savings for existing licences)—

(a) sub-paragraph (*b*) shall be replaced with the following sub-paragraphs—

"(b) subject to paragraphs (2), (3) and (4), in so far as a farmer who annually rears and slaughters on the aggregate of all his holdings under 10,000 birds or under 10,000 rabbits sells small quantities of fresh poultry meat, small quantities of fresh farmed game bird meat or small quantities of fresh rabbit meat derived from those birds or rabbits—

(i) direct to the final consumer at the holding where the birds or the rabbits were reared and slaughtered;

(ii) direct to the final consumer at the local market nearest to the holding where the birds or rabbits were reared and slaughtered;

(iii) direct to retailers for sale direct to the final consumer, provided the retailers make such sales in the same county as, or in a neighbouring county to, the holding where the birds or the rabbits were reared and slaughtered; or

(iv) at a market (other than a local market) during the period of two weeks which immediately precede Christmas Day and Easter Sunday each year;

(bA) in so far as a producer who annually rears and slaughters under 10,000 rabbits sells fresh rabbit meat derived from rabbits he has reared and slaughtered at premises under his control direct to a person who buys the meat for his own consumption;"; and

(b) in sub-paragraph (*g*), "(*b*A)," shall be inserted before "(*c*)".

(4) In regulation 3, paragraph (2) shall be replaced with the following—

"(2) The exemptions in paragraph 1(*b*) and (*b*A) shall not apply in relation to any itinerant sale or sale by mail order or, as regards a sale by a retailer, any sale by the retailer at a market.".

(5) In regulation 3(3), "paragraph 1(*b*)" shall be replaced by "paragraph (1)(*b*)".

(6) In regulation 3(3) and (4), for "slaughterhouse" there shall be substituted "holding".

(7) In regulation 12 (notice of operation of licensed premises), after paragraph (3) there shall be added the following paragraph—

"(4) No person shall operate any licensed low throughput slaughterhouse unless he has notified the Agency, in accordance with paragraph (2), of the number and origin of the birds or rabbits to be slaughtered there.".

(**4**) S.R. 1995 No. 396 as amended by S.R. 1997 No. 496, S.R. 1998 No. 237, S.R. 2000 No. 78 and S.R. 2000 No. 191