STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

1999 No. 157

FOOD SAFETY

The Specified Risk Material (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999

Made - - - -	*26th March 1999*
Coming into operation	*23rd April 1999*

Whereas it appears to the Department of Agriculture, acting as the Department concerned that it is necessary or expedient—

(a) for the purposes of ensuring that food complies with food safety requirements or in the interests of public health; or

(b) for the purposes of protecting or promoting the interests of consumers,

to make the following Regulations;

Now therefore the said Department concerned, in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 15(1), (2) and (3), 16(1), 18(1), 25, 26(3) and 47(2) of and paragraphs 2(1), 3, 5 and 6(1) of Schedule 1 to the Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991(**1**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, and after consultation, in accordance with Article 47(3) of that Order, with such organisations that appear to it to be representative of interests substantially affected by the Regulations, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Specified Risk Material (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 and shall come into operation on 23rd April 1999.

Amendments to the Specified Risk Material Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997

2. The Specified Risk Material Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**2**) shall be amended in accordance with regulations 3 to 11.

Interpretation

3.—(1) In regulation 2(1)—

(**1**) S.I. 1991/762 (N.I. 7) as amended by S.I. 1996/1633 (N.I. 12)
(**2**) S.R. 1997 No. 552

(a) after the definition of "Department" there shall be inserted " "export mark" means the mark described in regulation 16A(2)"; and

(b) after the definition of "licensed" there shall be inserted the following definition—

""listed premises" means any of the premises notified to the Department by the Ministère de L'agriculture et de la pêche of the French Republic and published in the Belfast Gazette;".

(2) After regulation 2(2) there shall be inserted the following paragraph—

"(2A) In these Regulations, the word "whole" where it refers to a carcase in each of the phrases "intended for export whole" and "exporting it whole" means that the carcase has not been longitudinally split through the middle of its vertebral column.".

Specified risk material for human consumption

4. After regulation 6(5) there shall be inserted the following paragraph—

"(6) This regulation shall not apply to the sale for human consumption of a sheep carcase containing its spinal cord (that cord being specified sheep and goat material) if—

(a) the carcase is intended for export whole directly to listed premises;

(b) the person selling it has in his possession the declaration required by regulation 9(10)(b); and

(c) the carcase has been marked with the export mark.".

Initial treatment of bovine, sheep and goat carcases in a slaughterhouse

5. At the end of regulation 9 there shall be added the following paragraph—

"(10) Nothing in paragraph (2) shall require the removal of a spinal cord (that cord being specified sheep and goat material) from a sheep carcase if—

(a) the carcase is intended for export whole directly to listed premises;

(b) the occupier of the slaughterhouse concerned provides a written declaration to an official veterinary surgeon—

(i) indicating that he believes that the carcase is intended for export whole direct to listed premises, and

(ii) specifying the date on which and the place and time at which the carcase was loaded into the particular sealed vehicle by which it is intended that it be moved for the purpose of exporting it whole direct to listed premises; and

(c) the carcase has been marked with the export mark.".

Marking of sheep carcases

6. After regulation 16 there shall be added the following regulation—

"**Marking of sheep carcases intended for export whole direct to listed premises**

16A.—(1) In the case of any carcase to which regulation 9(10) applies the occupier of the slaughterhouse at which the sheep concerned was slaughtered shall ensure that its carcase is marked with the export mark in accordance with the following paragraphs.

(2) The export mark shall consist of a circular mark 5 centimetres in diameter containing in legible form in letters 1 cm high the legend "VS FR" and shall be applied by an official

veterinary surgeon, an authorised officer of the Department or a meat inspector acting under the responsibility of an official veterinary surgeon.

(3) A person other than a person mentioned in paragraph (2) shall not apply the export mark to any carcase or possess the equipment for applying that mark.

(4) A person shall not—

(a) apply the export mark to a sheep carcase unless it contains its spinal cord (that cord being specified sheep and goat material) and it is intended for export whole direct to listed premises; or

(b) do any other thing which is likely to lead any person wrongly to believe that a sheep carcase—

(i) still contains its spinal cord (that cord being specified sheep and goat material); and

(ii) is intended for export whole direct to listed premises.".

Transportation of unmarked carcases of sheep and goats

7. For regulations 17(1) and (2) there shall be substituted the following paragraphs—

"**17.**—(1) A person shall not move from a slaughterhouse a carcase of a sheep or goat suitable for human consumption that is not marked with the young lamb stamp, except—

(a) to approved cutting premises that lie within the same curtilage as the slaughterhouse;

(b) a carcase which has been inspected and health marked in accordance with the Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997(**3**) and which is moved in a sealed container;

(c) when all specified risk material has been removed from the carcase; or

(d) in the case of a sheep carcase, one which—

(i) contains its spinal cord (that cord being specified sheep and goat material);

(ii) is intended for export whole direct to listed premises; and

(iii) is moved in a sealed container.

(2) During the movement referred to in paragraph (1) the carcase shall be accompanied by a document indicating—

(a) in all cases, the name, address and licence number of the slaughterhouse from which the carcase is being moved;

(b) in the case where the carcase is being moved to authorised cutting premises, the name, address and licence number of those premises; and

(c) in the case of a movement referred to in paragraph (1)(d), the name and address of the listed premises to which it is intended the carcase will be exported.".

Presence of an official veterinary surgeon

8. In regulation 18(1) after the word "premises" there shall be inserted the words "or to listed premises".

(**3**) S.R. 1997 No. 493