STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2016 No. 22

ANIMALS

The Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Eradication Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2016

Made - - - -	*25th January 2016*
Coming into operation	*1st March 2016*

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development(**1**) makes the following Scheme Order in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 8(1) and (2) of the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**2**) and with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel(**3**).

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

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Eradication Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 2016 and shall come into operation on 1st March 2016.

Purpose of the Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Eradication Scheme

2. For the purposes of reducing the incidence of bovine viral diarrhoea and keeping bovines, so far as is practicable, free from infection with the bovine viral diarrhoea virus, the Department makes the Scheme as set out in the Schedule.

(**1**) The Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland was renamed the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development by Article 3(4) of The Departments (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1))

(**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) Articles 20 to 23, S.R. 1994 No. 161, S.R. 2004 No. 362, S.R. 2006 No. 41 and the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 (c. 1) (N.I.) and 2011 c.16 (N.I.)

(**3**) Formerly the Department of Finance; see S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6) Article 3(revoked) and S.I.1999/283(N.I.1), Article 3 and Schedules 1

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on 25th January 2016

L.S.

Geraldine Fee
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 January 2016

L.S.

Emer Morelli
A senior officer of the Department of Finance and Personnel

SCHEDULE Article 2

Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Eradication Scheme (Northern Ireland) 2016

Citation

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Eradication Scheme (Northern Ireland) 2016.

Interpretation

2. In this Scheme—

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

"blood sample" means a sample of blood taken by a veterinary surgeon;

"bovine" means any bovine animal including an animal of the species bison bison or bubalus bubalis;

"BVD" means bovine viral diarrhoea;

"BVDV" means the bovine viral diarrhoea virus;

"Department" means the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development for Northern Ireland;

"herd" means one or more bovines for which a keeper is responsible and to whom the Department has assigned a unique herd identification number;

"holding" means any establishment, construction or, in the case of an open-air farm, any place, in which animals are held, kept or handled;

"keeper" means a person responsible for a herd;

"official BVD tissue tag" means a tissue sample-enabled tag approved by the Department for the purposes of taking a tissue sample for testing for the presence of BVDV under this Scheme;

"tagged" means the attachment of approved eartags in accordance with regulation 3 of the Cattle Identification (No.2) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998(**4**); and

"tissue sample" means a sample of tissue taken from a bovine by means of an official BVD tissue tag.

Live bovines

3.—(1) The keeper of a bovine born on or after the coming into operation of this Order shall ensure—

(a) a tissue sample is taken from that bovine calf; and

(b) the tissue sample is dispatched to an approved laboratory within 7 days of taking the tissue sample for testing for BVDV.

(2) The taking of a sample in accordance with sub-paragraph (1) shall be done as soon as possible after birth and in any event within 20 days of birth.

(3) A keeper who comes into the possession or control of a bovine, born on or after the coming into operation of this Order, and which does not possess a negative test result for BVDV from an approved laboratory shall—

(a) ensure that a tissue sample is taken from that bovine; or

(**4**) S.R. 1998 No. 279, as amended by S.R. 1999 No. 324, S.R. 2004 No. 420 and S.R. 2012 No. 416