1991 No. 305

ANIMALS

The Zoonoses Order (Northern Ireland) 1991

Made	*10th July 1991*
Coming into operation . .	*12th August 1991*

The Department of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 2(3), 5(1), 7(1) to (3), 12(1), 14, 19(*h*) and (*i*) and 60(1) of the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**a**) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Zoonoses Order (Northern Ireland) 1991 and shall come into operation on 12th August 1991.

Extension of definitions of ''animals'' and ''poultry''

2. For the purposes of the 1981 Order in its application to the presence in animals or poultry of designated organisms—

(*a*) the definition of ''animals'' in Part I of Schedule 1 to the 1981 Order is hereby extended so as to comprise—

(i) any kind of mammal except man;

(ii) any kind of four-footed beast which is not a mammal; and

(iii) snakes;

(*b*) the definition of ''poultry'' in Part II of Schedule 1 to the 1981 Order is hereby extended so as to comprise birds of every species; and ''bird'' shall be construed accordingly.

Interpretation

3. In this Order—

''approved disinfectant'' means a disinfectant approved for the time being by the Department under the Diseases of Animals (Approval of Disinfectants) Order (Northern Ireland) 1972(**b**);

''carcase'' means the carcase of an animal or bird and includes part of a carcase and the meat, bones, hide, skin, hair, feathers, hooves, horns, offal or other part of an animal or bird, separately or otherwise, or any portion of it;

''designated organism'' means an organism designated by Article 4 for the purposes of Article 7 of the 1981 Order;

(a) S.I. 1981/1115 (N.I. 22) as amended by S.I. 1984/702 (N.I. 2) Art. 17
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1972 No. 16 as amended by S.R. 1975 No. 69

"feeding stuff" means any feeding stuff, whatever its derivation, and includes any ingredient used in the preparation of a feeding stuff;

"infected place" means any place declared in accordance with Article 6 to be infected by the presence of a designated organism;

"the 1981 Order" means the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981; and

"product" means milk, eggs, wool, meat, offal, dung or other substance directly derived from an animal or from any bird, whether mixed with any other substance or not, and includes used bedding litter.

Designation of organisms for the purposes of Article 7 of the 1981 Order

4.—(1) The following organisms, being organisms which, when carried in animals or poultry, constitute in the opinion of the Department a risk to human health, are hereby designated for the purposes of Article 7 of the 1981 Order, that is to say—

(*a*) organisms of the genus salmonella;

(*b*) organisms of the species Chlamydia psittaci; and

(*c*) organisms of the species Coxiella burnetti.

(2) The provisions of the 1981 Order listed in Schedule 1 shall apply in relation to the presence of a designated organism in an animal or in any bird as if the presence of the organism were a disease to which that Order applies.

Inspections, taking samples etc.

5.—(1) Where, in accordance with the provisions of Article 46 of the 1981 Order, an inspector has entered any land, building, shed, pen or place, he may—

(*a*) carry out such enquiries, examinations and tests; and

(*b*) take such number of birds and such other samples

as are necessary to ascertain whether any designated organism exists or has existed there.

(2) An inspector may, for the purposes of identification, mark any animal, poultry, carcase, product or feeding stuff or other thing in relation to which any of the powers under paragraph (1) has been exercised.

Infected places

6.—(1) Where a veterinary inspector knows or reasonably suspects that there is or has been at any place, any animal, bird, or feeding stuff in which a designated organism is or was present or the carcase of such an animal or bird or a product derived from such an animal or bird, he may serve a notice on the occupier of the premises declaring them to be an infected place.

(2) A veterinary inspector may, by the same notice as is referred to in paragraph (1) or by a further notice served in the like manner—

(*a*) prohibit the movement of any animal, bird, carcase, product or feeding stuff into or out of the infected place except under the authority and in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued by a veterinary inspector;

(*b*) prohibit the movement out of the infected place of any equipment, utensil, appliance, vehicle or other thing except under the authority and in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued by a veterinary inspector;

(*c*) require any animal, bird, carcase, product or feeding stuff specified in the notice to be detained in such part of the infected place as may be so specified, except to be moved out of the infected place in accordance with paragraph (*a*); and

(*d*) require any animal, bird, carcase, product or feeding stuff specified in the notice to be isolated from any other animal, bird, carcase, product or feeding stuff or from human beings (other than those persons whose presence is necessary for the purposes of providing care and attention for them), as the case may be.

Cleansing and disinfection

7.—(1) An inspector may, by notice in writing served on the owner or occupier of an infected place—

(*a*) require him to cleanse and disinfect with an approved disinfectant—

(i) that place or such part of it as may be specified in the notice; and

(ii) any receptacle or vehicle used for the confinement or removal of animals or poultry or the removal of any carcase, product or feeding stuff from that place; and

(*b*) require any person being on an infected place to—

(i) wear both overall clothing and boots which are capable of being cleansed and disinfected; and

(ii) cleanse and disinfect with an approved disinfectant such clothing and boots and any equipment, utensil, appliance or other thing used in connection with animals, poultry, carcases, products or feeding stuff therein

at such time and in such manner as may be specified in the notice.

(2) An inspector may, by notice in writing served on the occupier of any premises (other than an infected place) in which there is any animal, bird, carcase, product or feeding stuff in which a designated organism is known or reasonably suspected by him to be or to have been present—

(*a*) require him to cleanse and disinfect with an approved disinfectant the lairage of any animals and any yards, stables and other places used for animals and poultry or for the keeping of any carcase, product or feeding stuff on those premises; and

(*b*) require any person being in such lairage, yards, stables or other places to—

(i) wear both overall clothing and boots which are capable of being cleansed and disinfected; and

(ii) cleanse and disinfect with an approved disinfectant such clothing and boots and any equipment, utensil, appliance or other thing used in connection with animals, poultry, carcases, products or feeding stuff therein,

at such time and in such manner as may be specified in the notice.

Cleansing and disinfection of vehicles

8. An inspector may, by notice in writing served on the owner or person in charge of any vehicle (other than a vehicle to which Article 7(1)(*a*)(ii) refers) which is used for the carriage of any animal or bird or any carcase, product or feeding stuff in which a designated organism is known or reasonably suspected by him to have been present, require him in such manner and within such period as may be specified in the notice, to cleanse and disinfect with an approved disinfectant that vehicle and any equipment, utensil, appliance or other thing used in connection with that carriage.

Revocation and variation of notices

9.—(1) A notice served under Articles 6 to 8 may at any time be revoked or varied by a further notice served by a veterinary inspector on the person on whom it was served.

(2) Any notice which may be served or licence which may be issued under Article 6 by a veterinary inspector may also be served or issued, as the case may be, by an inspector, or other officer of the Department, acting under the direction of a veterinary inspector.

Reporting of presence of designated organisms

10.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (3) and (4), where the presence of a designated organism in a sample taken from an animal or bird or its surroundings, or from any carcase, product or feeding stuff, is identified by a laboratory examination or by a serological or other examination carried out elsewhere than at a laboratory, the person in charge of the laboratory or, in the case of an examination carried out elsewhere than at a laboratory, the person carrying out such examination shall forthwith make to a veterinary inspector a written or oral report containing the particulars specified in Schedule 2.

(2) A person who is under an obligation to make a report under paragraph (1) shall—

(*a*) if so required by the Department, supply the Department with a culture of the designated organism the identification of whose presence gave rise to that obligation; and

(*b*) if he makes an oral report, send to the inspector to whom he made it, as soon as is reasonably practical thereafter, written confirmation thereof.

(3) Nothing in paragraph (1) shall require an officer of the Department to make a report to any person.

(4) Where a designated organism has been deliberately introduced into an animal or bird in a research establishment and neither that animal or bird, nor any other animal or bird to which the organism might be transmitted, is to be sold or otherwise disposed of either for human consumption or for consumption by other animals or birds or in any other way which may create a risk to human health, the fact that the presence of the organism is identified in a sample taken from the animal or bird shall not give rise to any obligation to make a report under paragraph (1).