1989 No. 120

ANIMALS

Diseases of Animals (Testing of Poultry Flocks) Order (Northern Ireland) 1989

Made	*24th March 1989*
Coming into operation . .	*24th March 1989*

The Department of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 44 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

1. This Order may be cited as the Diseases of Animals (Testing of Poultry Flocks) Order (Northern Ireland) 1989.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

"chick box liner" means any material used to line a box or other container in which chicks are transported from a hatchery to any rearing premises;

"laboratory" means any laboratory in Northern Ireland which has the necessary facilities and personnel for carrying out, and is willing to carry out, tests on samples specified in Part I of the Schedule in accordance with the provisions of Part II of the Schedule;

"poultry" means domestic fowls of any age;

"Poultry flock" means any flock of poultry consisting of—

(*a*) not less than 25 birds which are kept primarily for the production of eggs for human consumption; or

(*b*) less than 25 birds, the eggs of which are sold for human consumption; and

"rearing premises" means any premises on which 25 or more birds are being reared at any time primarily for the production of eggs for human consumption.

Taking of samples from poultry flocks for testing

3. The owner or person in charge of a poultry flock shall—

(*a*) in respect of that flock take or cause to be taken the samples specified in Part I of the Schedule in such manner and at such times as are so specified:

(**a**) S.I. 1981/1115 (N.I. 22) to which there are amendments not relevant to the subject matter of this Order

(*b*) identify or cause to be identified each such sample so as to enable the age of the bird to which it relates to be easily determined; and

(*c*) within 24 hours of such samples being taken, submit them or cause them to be submitted, to a laboratory for testing for the presence of salmonella in accordance with the bacteriological method set out in Part II of the Schedule.

Testing of samples from poultry flocks and reporting of results of tests

4.—(1) The person in charge of a laboratory to which a sample has been submitted under Article 3(*c*) shall—

(*a*) test the sample or cause it to be tested for the presence of salmonella in accordance with the bacteriological method set out in Part II of the Schedule; and

(*b*) report in writing the result of such a test, as soon as is practicable, to the person who submitted the sample.

(2) Where the person to whom a report is made under paragraph (1)(*b*) is not the owner or person in charge of the flock to which the report relates, he shall immediately give that report to the owner or person in charge of that flock.

Keeping of records

5. The owner or person in charge of a poultry flock shall—

(*a*) keep a record of any report relating to the flock and received by him by virtue of Article 4 for a period of not less than three years from the date of the tests the results of which the report contains; and

(*b*) shall permit an inspector to inspect and take extracts from such records.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture on 24th March 1989.

(L.S.) *S. R. Armstrong*
Assistant Secretary