1986 No. 253

ANIMALS

Importation of Animals Order (Northern Ireland) 1986

Made	*31st July 1986*
Coming into operation . . .	*1st September 1986*

Whereas the Department of Agriculture ("the Department") for the purpose of preventing the introduction of disease into Northern Ireland, deems it expedient, by order, to prohibit or regulate the importation of animals, carcases and other things whether animate or inanimate, by or by means of which it appears to the Department that any disease might be carried or transmitted and to provide for exemptions from any such prohibition by means of the grant of licences subject to such conditions as may be specified in the licences;

And whereas insofar as the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Part II and paragraph 1 of Part III of Schedule 3 to the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**a**) are concerned the Department has herein applied, with the modifications specified herein, the said Part II (other than paragraph 4 thereof) and Part III to imported animals;

Now, therefore, the Department in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 5(1), 19(*e*), (*f*), (*i*) and (*k*), 20(1) and (2), 21(*a*), 24(1) and (1A), 29(1) and (2) and 60(1) of and paragraphs 2 and 3 of Part II of and paragraph 1 of Part III of Schedule 3 to the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 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 Importation of Animals Order (Northern Ireland) 1986 and shall come into operation on 1st September 1986.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

"accessory" means any detachable partition or barrier, loading board, rope, net or other apparatus or thing used in connection with the importation of animals in an aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container;

"animal" means an animal belonging to any family or species of the orders of mammals specified in Schedule 1;

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

"commander" means the member of the flight crew designated as commander of an aircraft by the operator thereof or, failing such designation, the person who is for the time being the pilot in command of the aircraft;

"container" means a crate, box or other container used for the carriage of animals, which is not self-propelled and which does not form part of a vehicle;

(**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

"Divisional Veterinary Officer" means a Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Department;

"general import licence" means an import licence granted by the Department under Article 3(2) which applies to all importers;

"import licence" means a licence granted by the Department under Article 3(2) authorising the importation of animals;

"landing licence" means a licence granted by the Department authorising the landing of animals, carcases or other things in any of the sets of circumstances mentioned in Articles 4 and 6;

"landing place" means—

(*a*) Belfast Harbour, Belfast International Airport, Belfast Harbour Airport or Larne Harbour; or

(*b*) any other place, port or airport at which an animal is permitted to be imported in accordance with an import licence;

"master" means any person (other than a pilot) having charge or command of a vessel, and includes, in relation to a hovercraft, the person designated commander thereof by the operator of the hovercraft, or, failing such designation, the person who is for the time being in command of the hovercraft;

"quarantine station" has the same meaning as in Schedule 3 to the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981;

"reception centre" means any premises for the reception and checking of imported animals which may be specified in an import licence granted by the Department;

"specific import licence" means an import licence granted by the Department under Article 3(2) to a person upon written application to the Department;

"vehicle" means any vehicle (including a trailer of any description and the detachable body of a vehicle) which is constructed, or adapted, for use in the carriage of animals by road;

"vessel" includes hovercraft.

Prohibition on importation except under licence

3.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Order, the importation of an animal is hereby prohibited.

(2) The prohibition in paragraph (1) shall not apply to the importation of an animal where such importation takes place under the authority of an import licence granted by the Department and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

(3) An import licence may be either general or specific and may be granted subject to compliance with the conditions specified therein which the Department may see fit to impose for the purpose of preventing the introduction of disease into Northern Ireland.

(4) A general import licence shall be granted by the Department by publication of the provisions thereof in the Belfast Gazette.

Landing of an imported animal and a carcase at a landing place

4.—(1) A person shall not use, or cause or permit the use of, any aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container for the landing of an imported animal in Northern Ireland unless, since it was last used for the carriage of an animal or a carcase, those parts of the aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container with which that animal or carcase may have come into contact have been cleansed and disinfected in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 2.

(2) Subject to paragraph (4), where during the carriage of an animal to Northern Ireland the commander of the aircraft, the master of the vessel or the person in charge of the vehicle or container knows or suspects that that animal is affected with disease or is injured, he shall, on arrival at a landing place, report the fact to the Divisional Veterinary Officer, and it shall be the duty of the commander of the aircraft, the master of the vessel or the person in charge of the vehicle or container to ensure that the animal, and any animal which may have been in contact with it, is not landed from the aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container except under the authority of a landing licence and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

(3) Subject to paragraph (4), where during the carriage of an animal to Northern Ireland that animal dies or is slaughtered, the commander of the aircraft, the master of the vessel or the person in charge of the vehicle or container shall—

(*a*) immediately on arrival at a landing place report the death or slaughter of the animal and if the carcase has been disposed of, the manner of disposal of the carcase, to the Divisional Veterinary Officer; and

(*b*) if the carcase has not been disposed of, ensure that it is not landed except under the authority of a landing licence and in accordance with the conditions of that licence;

and where the commander of the aircraft, the master of the vessel or the person in charge of the vehicle or container knows or suspects that an animal to which this paragraph applies was, at the time of its death or slaughter, affected with disease, he shall ensure that any animal which may have been in contact with it, or with its carcase, is not landed except under the authority of a landing licence and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

(4) Where an animal which is affected with disease, or suspected of being so affected, or a carcase to which paragraph (3)(*b*) applies, or an animal which has been in contact with any such animal or carcase, is, throughout the period of its journey by sea or air to Northern Ireland, confined within a container or vehicle, such container or vehicle in which the animal or carcase is confined may be landed from the aircraft or vessel notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (2) and (3) but in any such case it shall be the duty of the person in charge of the animal or carcase—

(*a*) to report its presence in the container or vehicle to the Divisional Veterinary Officer either—

(i) immediately after the container or vehicle has been landed from the aircraft or vessel, or

(ii) where at the time of such landing he is unaware of the existence or suspected existence of disease in that animal, or of the presence of that carcase, or, as the case may be, that the animal has been in contact with an animal affected with or suspected of being affected with disease, or with the carcase of such an animal, immediately after he becomes so aware; and

(*b*) to ensure that the animal or carcase is not landed from the container or vehicle and, in the case of a carcase, is not disposed of, except under the authority of a landing licence and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraphs (2), (3) and (4), in the case of emergency, an animal or carcase to which any of those paragraphs applies may be landed from an aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container without a landing licence provided that the commander of the aircraft, the master of the vessel or the person in charge of the vehicle or container shall immediately report the landing to a veterinary inspector, and shall not move the animal or the carcase except under the authority of a licence granted by the Department and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

Cleansing and disinfection requirements for an aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container after landing an animal

5.—(1) Paragraph (2) shall apply to every aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container which at the time it is brought to Northern Ireland is carrying an animal.

(2) It shall be the duty of the commander of an aircraft, the master of a vessel or the person in charge of a vehicle or container to which this paragraph applies to ensure that after the imported animal has been landed therefrom, and before any other cargo is loaded therein, the aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container, or any accessory, equipment or thing therein, is thoroughly cleansed and disinfected in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 2.

(3) The person in charge of an imported animal landed at a landing place shall, after the animal has been removed from the landing place in accordance with the provisions of this Order, take all reasonable steps to ensure that every part of the landing place with which the animal, its dung or other excreta have been in contact is thoroughly cleansed and disinfected.

Further provisions relating to the landing of an imported animal at a landing place

6.—(1) A person shall not land or attempt to land an imported animal from an aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container, or cause or permit an imported animal to be so landed, except in accordance with—

(*a*) the conditions of the import licence relating to that animal; and

(*b*) the following provisions of this Article.

(2) A veterinary inspector may inspect any imported animal which is required to be quarantined under the conditions of an import licence at any time after the aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container which is carrying it arrives at a landing place, and, except under the authority of a landing licence and in accordance with the conditions of that licence, such an animal shall not be landed from that aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container until such inspection has been carried out.

(3) Where an imported animal, other than an animal to which Article 4(4) applies, dies at a landing place it shall be the duty of—

(*a*) the commander of the aircraft, the master of the vessel or the person in charge of the vehicle or container in the case of an animal which dies before it has been landed, and

(*b*) the person in charge of the animal in any other case,

to report its death to the Divisional Veterinary Officer and the carcase of an animal to which sub-paragraph (*a*) applies shall not be landed or disposed of except under the authority of a landing licence and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

(4) Where the commander of an aircraft, the master of a vessel or the person in charge of a vehicle or container knows or suspects that an animal to which paragraph (3)(*a*) applies was, at the time of its death on board the aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container, affected with disease he shall ensure that any animal which may have been in contact with it, or with its carcase, is, except in the case of emergency, landed only under the authority of a landing licence and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

(5) Subject to paragraph (6), any dung or other excreta, fodder, litter or thing used in connection with or for an imported animal shall not be landed from an aircraft, vessel, vehicle, or container except under the authority of a landing licence and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

(6) Paragraph (5) shall not apply to any dung or other excreta, fodder, litter or thing used in connection with or for an imported animal which is in a container or vehicle—

(*a*) in which an imported animal, or the carcase of such an animal, has been confined throughout its carriage by sea or air to Northern Ireland; and

(*b*) from which neither the imported animal or carcase, or the dung or other excreta, fodder, litter or thing, is removed before the container or vehicle is landed from the aircraft or vessel which brought it to Northern Ireland.

Application of certain provisions of Schedule 3 to the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 to imported animals

7. The provisions of Part II (with the exception of paragraph 4 thereof) and Part III of Schedule 3 to the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 shall apply to imported animals subject to the following modifications—

(*a*) in Part II—

(i) in the title the words "*and reception*" shall be added after "*Quarantine*";

(ii) in paragraph 1 for the words "at a landing place as defined by this Order" there shall be substituted "at the landing place specified in the import licence";

(iii) in paragraph 3 for the words "to a quarantine station" there shall be substituted "to the quarantine station or reception centre specified in the import licence";

(iv) in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 the words "or reception centre" shall be added after the words "quarantine station" wherever they occur in those paragraphs;

(v) in paragraph 5 the words "poultry or imported eggs" shall be omitted; and

(vi) in paragraph 7—

(*a*) the letter "(*a*)" shall be omitted;

(*b*) the words "or poultry" shall be omitted wherever they occur;

(*c*) the words "and (*b*) cause to be destroyed any imported eggs" shall be omitted; and

(*d*) the words "or IV" shall be omitted wherever they occur.

(*b*) in Part III in paragraph 1 the words "or poultry" shall be omitted and the words "or reception centre" shall be added after the words "quarantine station".

Movement of an imported animal after landing

8. After an imported animal has been landed from an aircraft, vessel, vehicle or container it shall be the duty of the person in charge of such an animal to ensure that—

(*a*) it is moved to the quarantine station or reception centre specified in the import licence only under the supervision of a veterinary inspector;

(*b*) it does not, while at the landing place, or during the journey to the quarantine station or reception centre come into contact with any other animal;

(*c*) the vehicle used for the carriage of the animal to the quarantine station or reception centre is one from which there will be no leakage of liquid matter, or escape of waste fodder, animal dung or other excreta; and

(*d*) only a person authorised by a veterinary inspector is permitted to come into contact with the animal.

Detention of an imported animal at a quarantine station or reception centre

9. A person shall not remove or attempt to remove any animal from a quarantine station or reception centre or cause or permit the removal or attempted removal of any