1978 No. 360

WELFARE OF ANIMALS

Welfare of Livestock (Intensive Units) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1978

Made . . . . . 30*th November* 1978

Coming into operation . . . . 1*st January* 1979

The Department(a) of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 2 of the Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 1972(b) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and of every other power enabling it in that behalf and after consultation with such persons appearing to it to represent any interests concerned as it has considered appropriate, hereby makes the following regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Welfare of Livestock (Intensive Units) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1978 and shall come into operation on 1st January 1979.

Interpretation

2. In these regulations:

"defect", in relation to the automatic equipment of an intensive unit, includes as well as a fault in the equipment a total or partial failure of that equipment due to a cause other than a fault in the equipment itself;

"intensive unit" means a building in which livestock is kept under a husbandry system that relies on automatic equipment to such an extent that any defect of that equipment will cause the livestock to suffer unnecessary pain or unnecessary distress unless the defect is rectified or other provision is made for the care of the livestock;

"stock keeper", in relation to livestock, means the owner of that livestock or any person engaged or employed in its care.

Daily inspections to safeguard livestock in intensive units

3. A person who keeps in an intensive unit any livestock for the time being situated on agricultural land, or who causes or permits any such livestock to be so kept, shall ensure that:—

(1) the livestock is thoroughly inspected by a stock keeper not less than once each day to check that it is in a state of well-being;

(2) where livestock is found not to be in a state of well-being (whether on inspection of the livestock in accordance with the preceding paragraph or at any other time), such measures are immediately taken as are required to safeguard the livestock from suffering unnecessary pain or unnecessary distress;

(a) Formerly Ministry: *see* 1973 c. 36 Sch. 5 para. 8(1)
(b) 1972 c. 7 (N.I.)