1976 No. 144

ANIMALS

The Zoonoses Order (Northern Ireland) 1976

Made	30*th April* 1976
Coming into operation	17*th May* 1976

The Department(**a**) of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 27 of the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 1958(**b**) (as set out in Article 9 of the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(**c**)), and sections 5, 7, 8, 13 and 53 of the Act as extended by the said section 27, 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) 1976 and shall come into operation on 17th May 1976.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

"the Act" means the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 1958;

"animal" means an animal of any kind specified in Part I of Schedule I of the Act;

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

"bird" means a bird of any of the kinds specified in Part II of Schedule I of the Act;

"Department" means the Department of Agriculture;

"designated organism" means an organism designated by Article 3(1);

"infected place" means a place which is for the time being declared to be an infected place by virtue of a notice served under Article 4(1);

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

"specified", in relation to anything required by a notice under this Order, means specified in that notice.

Application of Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 1958 to designated organisms

3.—(1) The following organisms, being organisms which, when carried in animals or birds, constitute in the opinion of the Department a risk to human health, are hereby designated for the purpose of section 27 of the Act—

(*a*) organisms of the genus *salmonella;*

(a) Formerly Ministry: *see* 1973 c. 36 Sch. 5 para. 8(1)
(b) 1958 c. 13 (N.I.)
(c) S.I. 1975/418 (N.I. 3)
(d) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1972 No. 16 (p. 55)

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

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

(2) The provisions of the Act referred to in Schedule 1 to this Order shall apply, subject to any modifications therein specified, in relation to the presence of a designated organism in an animal or bird as if the presence of the organism were a disease to which the Act applies.

Infected places

4.—(1) Where a veterinary inspector knows or has reasonable grounds for suspecting that there is or has been in any place an animal or bird 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 by notice served on the occupier of that place declare it to be an infected place under section 7 of the Act for the purposes of this Order.

(2) A veterinary inspector may in the said notice, or by a further notice served in like manner, prohibit the bringing of any animal, bird, carcase or product into the infected place, and may require that all animals, birds, carcases or products then in the infected place, or such of them as may be specified, shall be detained in that place or in a specified part of that place and, if he considers it necessary to prevent the spreading of the organism, that such of them as may be specified shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, be isolated from contact with other animals, birds, carcases or products, or from contact with human beings other than persons whose presence is necessary for the purpose of providing care and attention for them.

(3) A veterinary inspector may by a further notice served in like manner amend or revoke any declaration, prohibition or requirement made in a notice under this Article.

(4) It shall be the duty of a person on whom a notice is served under this article imposing any such prohibition or making any such requirement as is referred to in paragraph (2) to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that the notice is complied with, except in so far as any exception is for the time being authorised by a licence issued by an inspector, and no person shall knowingly do anything contrary to any such prohibition or requirement, or cause or permit it to be done except as aforesaid.

Cleansing and disinfection

5.—(1) A veterinary inspector may by notice served on the occupier of an infected place, or of any other place used for an animal or bird in which a designated organism is known or suspected to have been present, require him at his own expense to cleanse and disinfect the place, and any utensils, appliances or other things used there in connection with animals or birds or their carcases or products, in such manner and by such time as may be specified, and the person on whom the notice is served shall comply with it.

(2) A veterinary inspector may by notice served on a person who has used a vehicle for the carriage of an animal, bird, carcase or product in which a designated organism is known or suspected to have been present, or on the owner of such a vehicle, require him at his own expense to cleanse and disinfect the vehicle and anything used with the vehicle for the purpose of such carriage, in such manner and by such time as may be specified, and the person on whom the notice is served shall comply with it.

(3) Where a notice served under paragraph 1 or paragraph 2 is not complied with, the Department may carry out the work required by the notice, or such part of it as remains undone, and may on demand recover as a civil debt the reasonable cost of so doing from the person on whom the notice was served.

(4) Nothing done by the Department under the preceding paragraph shall prejudice any proceedings against a person for failure to comply with the notice.

(5) Where a person is required by a notice served under this Article to carry out disinfection he shall use an approved disinfectant unless the notice specifies to the contrary.

(6) For the purposes of this Article a notice requiring the cleansing or disinfection of a place or vehicle may include a requirement to bury or destroy any dung or litter found in it.

Duty to report presence of designated organisms

6.—(1) Notwithstanding the definitions of "animal" and "bird" in Article 2, paragraph (2) shall apply only to the following animals and birds:

(*a*) cattle, sheep, goats, pigs and rabbits;

(*b*) fowls, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowls, pheasants, partridges and quails;

but in the case of organisms of the species Chlamydia psittaci and the species Chlamydia trachomatis paragraph (2) shall apply to all birds of any of the kinds specified in Part II of Schedule I of the Act.

(2) Where as a result of the identification by laboratory examination of the presence of a designated organism in a sample taken from any animal or bird to which this paragraph applies, or from the carcase, products or surroundings of such an animal or bird, a person knows or has reason to suspect that such an animal or bird is or was a carrier of the organism (whether or not also affected with a disease caused by the organism), he shall, subject to the following provisions of this Article, forthwith make to a veterinary inspector or to the Department a written or verbal report containing the particulars specified in Schedule 2.

(3) Each serotype of the genus salmonella shall be regarded as a separate organism for the purposes of this Article, and a person shall not be absolved from his duty to make a report in relation to a serotype by the fact that a report in relation to another serotype of the genus salmonella, or to salmonella of an unidentified serotype, has already been made.

(4) Nothing in this Article shall require a person to make a report where his knowledge or suspicion results from an identification made by or on behalf of the Department nor require a person who has reported the presence or suspected presence of an organism under this Article to make within 4 weeks a further report as to the presence or suspected presence of the same organism in the same animal or bird or in another animal or bird of the same species kept in close and regular contact with it.

(5) Where an organism has been deliberately introduced into an animal or bird for research or experimental purposes, and neither the animal or bird, nor any other animal or bird to which the organism might be transmitted, nor any carcase of, or product derived from, any such animal or bird, is to be sold or otherwise disposed of either for consumption by man, animals or birds, or in any other way which will create a risk to human health, the fact that the animal or bird into which the organism has been introduced is or may be a carrier of the organism as a result of such introduction shall not give rise to any obligation to make a report under paragraph (2).