1970. No. 240 [NC]

DISEASES OF ANIMALS

Sheep Scab

ORDER, DATED 11TH SEPTEMBER 1970, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTIONS 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 23, 25 AND 53 OF THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1958.

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Sections 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 23, 25 and 53 of the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 1958(a) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf hereby makes the following Order:—

Citation and Commencement

1. This Order which may be cited as the Sheep Scab Order (Northern Ireland) 1970 shall come into operation on 21st September 1970.

Revocation

2. The Sheep Scab (Northern Ireland) Order 1954(b) and the Sheep Dipping (Northern Ireland) Order 1956(c) are hereby revoked as from the date of commencement of this Order.

Interpretation

3. In this Order—

"authorised" means authorised by the Ministry for the purposes of this Order;

"carcase" means the carcase of a sheep and includes the wool:

"constable" means any member of the Royal Ulster Constabulary;

"disease" means Sheep Scab disease and "diseased" means affected with Sheep Scab disease;

"owner" includes a joint owner;

"sheep" includes lambs.

PART I

Notice of Disease

4.—(1) Every person having or having had in his possession or under his charge a diseased or suspected sheep or carcase shall with all practicable speed—

(*a*) isolate the sheep or carcase from contact with other animals, persons or things; and

(*b*) give notice of the fact of the sheep or carcase being so diseased or suspected to the Divisional Veterinary Office of the Ministry in the area concerned or to a Constable.

(a) 1958. c. 13.
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1954, No. 88.
(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1956, No. 81.

(2) A Veterinary Surgeon who on examination of any sheep or carcase finds or suspects the presence of disease shall forthwith give notice of the disease or suspicion of the disease to the Divisional Veterinary Office of the Ministry in the area concerned or to a Constable.

(3) A Constable receiving such notice shall immediately inform the Divisional Veterinary Office of the Ministry in the area concerned.

Suspected Disease

5. Where an Inspector suspects the presence of disease in any sheep he should serve on the owner or person in charge of such sheep a Notice in the Form A in the Schedule restricting the movement of such sheep and the person on whom the Notice is served shall comply with the terms thereof.

Confirmation of Disease

6. Where an Inspector has confirmed the presence of disease he shall declare the premises containing the diseased sheep or carcase to be an infected place by serving on the owner or occupier a Notice in the Form C in the Schedule and the person on whom the Notice is served shall comply with the terms thereof.

Power to Vary Notices

7. The conditions contained in a Notice in Form A or Form C may be varied in writing by an Inspector and the provisions of the Notice with or without variation shall remain in force until withdrawn by a further Notice in the Form B in the Schedule.

Provision of Assistance

8. The owner or person in charge of any sheep shall give such information and provide such assistance as an Inspector may reasonably require for the purposes of this Order.

Disease Found in a Public Place

9.—(1) If a sheep being in any place other than the premises of its owner is found to be affected with disease or if an Inspector has reason to suspect the presence of disease in any such sheep he may detain such sheep and any sheep with which it has been in contact and shall cause any sheep so detained to be isolated from other sheep.

(2) Where the owner of any sheep detained under the provisions of Paragraph (1) cannot be traced the Ministry may cause such sheep to be slaughtered and the carcase sold and any sum received after deduction of expenses shall be lodged to the account of the Ministry.

Movement Licences

10. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Order an Inspector may by licence authorise the movement of diseased or suspected sheep or carcases subject to such conditions for preventing the spread of disease as may be specified in the licence.

PART II

Sheep Imported from the Irish Republic

11.—(1) When sheep are brought into Northern Ireland from the Irish Republic the owner or person in charge shall forthwith deliver or cause to be delivered to an authorised officer at the point of entry a declaration in the Form D in the Schedule.

(2) The owner or person in charge shall—

(*a*) keep the sheep isolated from all other sheep until dealt with under this Article;

(*b*) cause such sheep to be dipped in an approved dip not later than 7 days after entry of the sheep into Northern Ireland having previously given notice on Form E in the Schedule to the Divisional Veterinary Office for the area of the proposed date of dipping. Provided, however, that when a licence is issued by an authorised officer at the point of entry to allow movement of the sheep direct to a slaughterhouse for immediate slaughter or direct to a port for immediate shipment, such dipping shall not be required;

(*c*) cause the vehicle which brought the sheep from the Irish Republic to be thoroughly cleansed and saturated with an approved sheep dip at the required strength prior to leaving farm and prior to carrying any other sheep.

(3) This Article shall not apply to sheep which are being moved from a place outside Northern Ireland to another place outside Northern Ireland provided that the sheep are not unloaded in Northern Ireland.

PART III

Prescribed Dipping Period

12.—(1) Subject to Paragraph (2) the owner or person in charge of sheep shall cause all sheep in his possession to be dipped annually during the period commencing on the 1st October and ending on the 30th November hereinafter referred to as the "dipping period".

(2) If satisfied that it is impracticable or inexpedient to require the dipping of specified sheep during the dipping period an Inspector may grant exemption subject to such conditions as to subsequent dipping or otherwise as may be contained in the Certificate of Exemption (Form F) in the Schedule.

Mode of Dipping

13. The dipping of sheep shall consist of a thorough immersion of the whole body including the head and ears in an approved sheep dip. The immersion, except as regards the head and ears, shall be for a period of not less than 1 minute in a bath approved by the Ministry. Sheep shall not be regarded as dipped for the purposes of this Part unless the owner or person in charge has given 4 days prior notice in writing on Form G in the Schedule to the Divisional Veterinary Officer for the district stating the time and place of the intended dipping and the approximate number and present location of the sheep intended to be dipped.

Restriction on Exposure of Sheep at Fairs, Markets and Saleyards During the Dipping Period

14.—(1) No person shall in the period 4th October to 30th November inclusive move any sheep into or expose them for sale in any fair, market or saleyard unless such sheep are accompanied by a declaration signed by the owner or agent authorised on his behalf in the Form H in the Schedule.

(2) In the period 1st October to the 3rd October inclusive sheep which are not accompanied by a declaration (Form H) and which are purchased at a fair, market or saleyard shall be isolated by their purchaser from all other sheep and shall be caused to be dipped by him in accordance with the provisions of Article 13 within 7 days of purchase.

Declaration by Owners of Sheep

15. The owner of sheep or his agent shall furnish not later than 4 days after the expiry of the dipping period to a Divisional Veterinary Officer a declaration in the Form J relating to the dipping of sheep in his possession during the dipping period.

Approval of Sheep Dips

16. An approved sheep dip means a dip approved by the Ministry for the purposes of this Order bearing a label approved by the Ministry.

Power to Regulate Time and Place of Dipping

17. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 12 an Inspector may serve a Notice on the owner or person in charge of any sheep requiring that the sheep shall be dipped at such times and places as are stated in the Notice and the sheep shall thereupon be dipped in accordance with the requirements of such Notice.

Taking of Samples

18. For the purpose of ensuring compliance with the provisions of this Order an Inspector may take such samples of water, sheep dip and wool as he considers necessary.

PART IV

Expenditure

19. Any disinfection of places or things and any movement of sheep required by the provisions of a Notice served or licence issued under this Order shall if so required be carried out under the supervision of an Inspector by and at the expense of the person on whom the Notice is served or to whom the licence is issued.

Offences

20. Any person committing a breach of the provisions of this Order or any licence or notice issued in accordance with this Order shall be guilty of an offence under the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 1958.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this 11th day of September 1970 in the presence of

(L.S.)

A. E. W. Steen,
Assistant Secretary.

SCHEDULE

FORM A

SHEEP SCAB ORDER (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1970
(Articles 5 and 7)

Notice to owner or person in charge of sheep suspected of being diseased

To .....

of .....

.....

I, the undersigned, being an Inspector or other authorised officer hereby require you to:—

(1) retain the under-mentioned sheep/wool/carcase in isolation at .....

.....
until further notice;

(2) dip the under-mentioned sheep before .....
in the presence and to the satisfaction of an Inspector or other authorised officer.

Description of sheep/wool/carcase

Dated this ..... day of ..... 19....

Signed .....

Copies of this Notice are to be sent with all practicable speed to:—

(1) The Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3SB.

(2) The Officer in charge of the nearest Police Station.