**1964. No. 41** **[C]**

# AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

## Meat Shipping

REGULATIONS, DATED 20TH MARCH, 1964, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNDER SECTION 20 OF THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (MEAT REGULATION AND PIG INDUSTRY) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1962.

The Ministry of Agriculture with the concurrence of the Ministry of Health and Local Government in so far as these regulations relate to matters which may be dealt with by regulations made under the Food and Drugs Act (Northern Ireland) 1958(a) and with the approval of the Ministry of Finance as regards inspection fees, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 20 of the Agricultural Produce (Meat Regulation and Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland) 1962(b) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:—

### PART I

### PRELIMINARY

*Citation and commencement*

**1.** These regulations may be cited as the Meat Shipping Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1964 and shall come into operation on the 27th day of April, 1964.

*Revocation*

**2.** The Agricultural Produce (Meat Regulation) Rules (Northern Ireland) 1937(c) and the Meat Examination Fees Order (Northern Ireland) 1959(d) are hereby revoked.

*Interpretation*

**3.** In these regulations—

"Act" means the Agricultural Produce (Meat Regulation and Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland) 1962.

"Meat Market" means a place in registered premises reserved for the exposure of meat for sale for human consumption within Northern Ireland.

"Ministry" means the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland.

"Occupier" means in relation to any registered premises, the person for the time being in actual occupation thereof as owner or tenant.

"To Ship" means to move from registered premises to and to embark from any point of exit from Northern Ireland by land, sea or air transport to a destination in Great Britain, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland.

"Viscera" means the organs and entrails situated in the thoracic and abdominal cavities of an animal.

(a) 1958. c. 27.
(b) 1962. c. 13.
(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1937, No. 32.
(d) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1959, No. 91.

## PART II

## SHIPPING OF MEAT

*Application for a meat shipping licence*

**4.** Application for a meat shipping licence shall be in the form prescribed in the First Schedule and shall be made by the occupier of registered premises or a person who has arranged to the satisfaction of the Ministry for the use of such premises.

**5.** A meat shipping licence shall be in the form prescribed in the Second Schedule.

*Inspection of animals*

**6.**—(1) Meat for shipping shall be from animals:—

(*a*) which have received ante-mortem veterinary inspection and post-mortem inspection carried out by a veterinary inspector or an authorised meat detention officer under the supervision of a veterinary inspector; and

(*b*) which have been slaughtered and handled in accordance with the slaughtering code laid down in the Third Schedule.

(2) If required by a veterinary inspector animals shall be marked in such a way as to identify them with their carcases after slaughter.

*Slaughtering of animals and inspection of meat intended for shipping*

**7.**—(1) Animals shall not be admitted to the slaughtering point until ante-mortem inspection by a veterinary inspector has been completed and shall not be slaughtered until in the opinion of a veterinary inspector they have been sufficiently rested.

(2) After ante-mortem inspection the animals shall be slaughtered in an humane and hygienic manner so as to avoid contamination of the meat and in accordance with the requirements of the Third Schedule.

(3) The carcases, meat, offals and blood of such animals shall be presented in such a manner as to facilitate meat inspection by a veterinary inspector or a meat detention officer under the supervision of a veterinary inspector. Carcases which are passed after such inspection as fit for human consumption shall be stamped on each quarter by means of a stamp approved by the Ministry.

(4) Cutting of meat other than that involved in slaughtering and dressing shall not be permitted until post-mortem inspection has been carried out except to such extent as the needs of inspection require. Evidence of disease, contamination or any abnormal condition must not be removed by washing, cutting or stripping except on the instruction of a veterinary inspector.

(5) The carcase of an animal which in the opinion of a veterinary inspector has been treated with antibiotics, oestrogens, thyrostatics or other substance to the extent that such treatment could render the consumption of the flesh therefrom dangerous or harmful to health shall not be used for human consumption.

(6) The Ministry may determine in respect of each registered premises the maximum rate at which animals shall be slaughtered to ensure that carcases, their viscera and parts are presented in an orderly and clean manner, such as would permit efficient inspection at all times, and this rate shall not be exceeded.

(7) Meat intended for shipping shall be wholesome and fit for human consumption and shall be handled in an hygienic manner.

(8) Preservative or colouring matter shall not be added to any meat.

(9) Meat shall not be shipped which has deteriorated between the time of inspection and the time of shipment.

(10) Meat which has been exposed in a meat market shall not be shipped.

(11) Where the Ministry deems it necessary, meat for shipping may be re-inspected at the registered premises or at any stage of shipping and in such event any certificate of inspection in respect of that meat issued prior to the re-inspection shall be surrendered to the veterinary inspector re-inspecting the meat.

*Certificate of veterinary inspection*

**8.**—(1) The certificate of veterinary inspection to accompany consignments of meat shall be in accordance with the form prescribed in the Fourth Schedule.

(2) The certificate shall be valid only for the period specified therein.

## PART III

## REGISTRATION OF PREMISES

*Application for registration of premises*

**9.**—(1) Application for the registration of premises shall be made by the occupier and shall be in the form prescribed in the Fifth Schedule.

(2) The application shall be accompanied by

(*a*) particulars of the operations proposed to be carried on at the premises including the maximum number of animals or carcases to be dealt with daily;

(*b*) a general description of the equipment available, or to be made available, in the premises for carrying on these operations; and

(*c*) in the case of new premises or premises which are to be modified two copies of the plans and specifications of the premises and a site plan or contour map.

*Register of premises*

**10.**—(1) The register, to be kept by the Ministry, of premises—

(*a*) for the slaughter of animals, the meat from which is intended for shipping; or

(*b*) to be used for the preparation, cooling, chilling, freezing or preserving by any other process not altering its character or the packaging or cutting of meat intended for shipping—

shall contain

(i) the full name and address of the person in whose name the premises are registered;

(ii) the full postal address of the premises; and

(iii) the names and addresses of all holders of meat shipping licences entitled to use the premises.

(2) When a person becomes the occupier of any registered premises in succession to a previous occupier such person shall give to the Ministry notice in writing stating—

(*a*) his name and address, and

(*b*) the address of the registered premises of which he has become the occupier,

and upon receipt of such notice the Ministry shall enter the name and address of such person on the said register as the person in whose name the premises are registered.

(3) When any person being the holder of a meat shipping licence either—

(*a*) becomes entitled to use any registered premises, or

(*b*) ceases to be entitled to use any such premises,

such person shall forthwith give notice in writing of such fact to the Ministry.

(4) The Ministry shall allot a number to each registered premises.

*Conditions of registration*

**11.**—(1) (*a*) The premises and the equipment therein for which the Ministry may grant or continue registration shall comply with the standards prescribed in the Eleventh Schedule.

(*b*) The Ministry shall determine the maximum number of animals and carcases to be handled on the premises in relation to the size of the premises, the range and capacity of the equipment, and the nature of the proposed operations at the premises.

(*c*) Where the slaughter of

(i) cattle or horses exceeds 100 per day; or

(ii) sheep or pigs or goats exceeds 400 per day;

the method of slaughter shall be line slaughter.

(*d*) Premises shall not be registered unless the site at which it is proposed to erect them or on which they already exist, is such that an adequate system of drainage, having regard to the operations intended to be carried on in the premises, can be provided on the site, and unless the site is free from the risk of atmospheric or other pollution which could have an adverse effect on the meat.

(*e*) The equipment in the premises shall be adequate in the opinion of the Ministry for the carrying out of the proposed operations, including refrigeration and storage, in an efficient and hygienic manner.

(*f*) Operations in the premises shall be carried on in an hygienic manner and in accordance with the Twelfth Schedule.

(2) Premises at which any operations are carried on in connection with the slaughtering and dressing of horses or the preparation or storing of horse meat shall not become registered premises for the carrying on of any operations in connection with the slaughtering and dressing of animals other than horses, or the preparation or storing of meat other than that derived from horses.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2), frozen horse meat may be stored under refrigeration on the same registered premises as frozen meat of other types provided that it is clearly identified as horse meat by label or other method approved by the Ministry.

(4) Alterations or additions shall not be made to registered premises unless the occupier submits proposals for the alterations or additions to the Ministry and the proposals are approved by the Ministry.

(5) Any proposals for making alterations or additions to registered premises shall be accompanied by two copies of the plans and specifications for the proposed alterations.

*Admission of persons or articles*

**12.** A person shall not be admitted to those portions of the registered premises where meat for shipping is dealt with unless he is engaged on duties therein in connection with such meat and a person shall not bring into or keep in any part of registered premises any article liable to prejudice the maintenance of hygiene or the proper performance of the functions reserved to that part of the premises.

*Entry or removal of live animals*

**13.** A person, unless he has permission to do so from a veterinary inspector, shall not bring or permit to be brought into registered premises any animal not intended for slaughter and shall not permit any live animal to be removed from such premises. Animals which in the opinion of a veterinary inspector are excessively dirty may not be permitted to enter registered premises.

*Diseased animals*

**14.**—(1) A person shall not bring or permit to be brought into registered premises any animal which he knows, or suspects, to be diseased unless it is accompanied by a certificate from a veterinary surgeon stating—

(*a*) that the animal is not suffering from a disease which is likely to infect other animals in the registered premises or cause danger to health by contaminating the registered premises or meat therein; and

(*b*) what drugs to his knowledge have been administered to the animal.

(2) Any animals on registered premises which are known or suspected to be diseased shall be kept segregated from other animals and shall be slaughtered and dressed in the casualty slaughter unit or otherwise in accordance with the requirements of a veterinary inspector as to place and time of lairage and slaughter.

*Entry of carcases*

**15.** A person shall not bring or permit to be brought into registered premises a carcase or portion of a carcase unless—

(1) It has been forwarded from other registered premises in accordance with these regulations and is accompanied by the certificate prescribed in the Fourth Schedule; or

(2) A veterinary inspector has permitted its unloading from the vehicle or container which conveyed it to the registered premises after satisfying himself that it is accompanied by its visceral organs together with a certificate from a veterinary surgeon stating