1960. No. 110 **[NC]**

DISEASES OF ANIMALS

Brucellosis

ORDER, DATED 5TH JULY, 1960, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1958(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section fifty-three of the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland), 1958, and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order which may be cited as the Brucellosis Order (Northern Ireland), 1960, shall come into operation on the 1st day of August, 1960.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

"approved disinfectant" means a five per centum solution of standard phenol or any other disinfectant approved by the Ministry for the purposes of the Animals Disinfection (Northern Ireland) Order, 1927, Amendment Order, 1931(b);

"attested herd" means an attested herd as defined by the Tuberculosis (Attested Herds) (Northern Ireland) Scheme, 1959(c), or a herd of equivalent status approved as such by the Ministry;

"Brucellosis (Certified) Herd" means an attested herd of which particulars are currently entered in the Brucellosis Register kept by the Ministry;

"Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd" means an attested herd, not being a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd, in respect of which an application for registration in the Brucellosis Register has been made, and which is the subject of official tests for the presence of brucella infection;

"herd" means all bovine animals, maintained upon the farm specified in the application, which are used or may be used or are capable of being used at any time for breeding purposes;

"Ministry" means the Ministry of Agriculture;

"reactor" means an animal which has failed to pass any test approved by the Ministry for the detection of brucella infection.

Application for registration of a herd in the Brucellosis Register

3.—(1) Where an owner of an attested herd of cattle—

(*a*) applies to the Ministry for the registration of his herd in the Brucellosis Register;

(*b*) produces *prima facie* evidence of the herd's freedom from brucellosis; and

(*c*) gives a written undertaking to the Ministry that he will observe the obligations imposed on him by this Order,

(a) 1958. c. 13.
(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1931, No. 15.
(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1959, No. 54.

the Ministry may, if it is satisfied that the management of the herd and the conditions under which the herd is kept are suitable for the maintenance of a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd, carry out the official tests hereinafter described.

(2) *Prima facie* evidence of the herd's freedom from brucellosis shall be:

(*a*) a certificate of a veterinary surgeon, to the effect that all animals in the herd, referred to in the application for registration in the Brucellosis Register, were tested for the presence of brucella infection within the four weeks immediately prior to the date on which such application is received by the Ministry and that no animal in the herd was found to be a reactor; or

(*b*) a certificate of a veterinary inspector that, at the date on which this Order came into operation, the herd was the subject of official tests for brucellosis, and that on the occasion of the last test no animal in the herd was found to be a reactor.

(3) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (*a*) of paragraph (2), tests by a veterinary surgeon shall be by means of samples taken by him from each animal in the herd, from as many of the following sources as may be practicable—

Females—blood, milk and vaginal mucus.

Males —blood and semen.

Such samples shall be sent for testing to the Veterinary Research Laboratory of the Ministry or other laboratory approved by the Ministry.

Official tests

4.—(1) An official test for the presence of brucella infection shall consist of a test carried out by the Ministry, in respect of female cattle, on samples of blood and/or milk and/or vaginal mucus or, in respect of male cattle, on samples of blood and/or semen taken from animals in a herd by an officer of the Ministry.

(2) An official test shall not be carried out sooner than ninety days following any other such test or any test carried out, for the purposes of sub-paragraph (*a*) of paragraph (2) of article 3, by a veterinary surgeon.

(3) The Ministry may, in respect of any application for the registration of a herd in the Brucellosis Register, carry out official tests not exceeding four in number, and may discontinue testing if it considers that the number of reactors revealed by any official test is disproportionately large in relation to the size of the herd or that the owner of the herd has failed to observe any obligation imposed on him by this Order.

Isolation and disposal of reactors and disinfection of premises

5. Where any reactor is found in any herd as the result of an official test, the Ministry shall inform the owner of the herd of such result and the owner of the herd shall, with the least possible delay

(*a*) isolate, to the satisfaction of the Ministry, such reactor from all other animals in the herd, and

(*b*) dispose of such reactor, and

(*c*) thereafter disinfect, in accordance with the provisions of the First Schedule, the premises in which the reactor had been housed and/or milked.

Brucellosis Register

6.—(1) The Ministry shall keep a register, herein described as the Brucellosis Register, of all herds of cattle in which no reactor has been revealed by either of two successive official tests and may at its discretion include in such register particulars of any herd which has been wholly constituted by the transfer of animals from herds registered as aforesaid and which, furthermore, has passed one official test after the date on which the herd was so constituted.

(2) The owner of any herd registered in the Brucellosis Register shall comply with the rules specified in the First Schedule.

(3) An entry in the Brucellosis Register relating to any herd may be cancelled if

(*a*) in the opinion of the Ministry, the owner of the herd fails to observe any obligation imposed on him by this Order, or

(*b*) the owner of the herd makes a request for the cancellation to be made.

(4) The Ministry may carry out official tests in respect of any herd registered in the Brucellosis Register and, should a reactor be revealed by any such test, the Ministry may, at its discretion, carry out further official tests and may, where

(*a*) a high degree of brucella infection in the herd is revealed by any such test, or

(*b*) any reactor is revealed by each of two consecutive such tests,

cancel the entry in the Brucellosis Register relating to that herd.

Issue of a Brucellosis Certificate

7. The Ministry shall issue, to the owner of each herd registered in the Brucellosis Register, a certificate which shall be evidence that brucellosis has not been detected in that herd. Such certificate, herein described as a Brucellosis Certificate, shall be valid for so long as the herd is registered in the Brucellosis Register and shall be sufficient for the purposes of the Milk (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1959(**a**).

Re-application for registration

8. Where, on application having been made for the registration of a herd in the Brucellosis Register, the herd is not so registered, or where the registration of a herd in the Brucellosis Register has been cancelled, the owner of the herd may re-apply for such registration. Provided that the application is accompanied by the evidence required to be produced under sub-paragraph (*b*) of paragraph (1) of article 3, and by the undertaking required to be given under sub-paragraph (*c*) of paragraph (1) of article 3, and provided that the Ministry is satisfied that the management of the herd and the conditions under which the herd is kept are suitable for the maintenance of a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd, the Ministry may carry out two official tests, but the second of such tests shall be carried out only in the event of no reactor being revealed by the first of such tests.

Movement of cattle

9. Except under the authority of a permit issued by an officer of the Ministry and in accordance with the conditions of such permit as specified in the Second Schedule, a bovine animal shall not be moved—

(**a**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1959, No. 68.