COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 11 December 1984

amending Directive 64/432/EEC as regards brucellosis in respect of the buffered brucella antigen test, the micro-agglutination test and the milk ring test as applied to samples of milk

(84/644/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Articles 43 and 100 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission (1),

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament (2),

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee (3),

Whereas Council Directive 64/432/EEC of 26 June 1964 on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals (4), as last amended by Directive 84/643/EEC (5), lays down common standards on anti-brucellosis measures applicable to animals intended for intra-Community trade;

Whereas it is necessary to indicate precisely that the slow tube serum agglutination test is the test to be carried out on bovine animals and swine before they enter into intra-Community trade;

Whereas, in order to ensure the continuity of free trade within the Community of bovine animals, it is necessary to adapt the technical provisions of the above Directive relating to brucellosis to take account of scientific progress:

Whereas new scientific knowledge and technical developments in the diagnosis and control of bovine brucellosis require adjustment of existing Community measures in this field,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

Directive 64/432/EEC is hereby amended as follows:

1. In Article 3 (3) (c), 'paragraph A' is added after 'Annex C'.

2. In Article 3 (4) (i), 'paragraph A' is added after 'Annex C'.

3. In Article 3 (6) (c), 'paragraph A' is added after 'Annex C'.

4. In Article 7 (1) C, 'paragraph A' is added after 'Annex C'.

5. In Article 7 (1) D, 'paragraph A' is added after 'Annex C'.

6. In Annex A.II.A.1 (c) (i):
   - in the first paragraph, 'paragraph A' is added after 'Annex C',
   - the second indent is replaced by the following:
     '— the sero-agglutination tests referred to in the first paragraph may be replaced by two official buffered brucella antigen tests or two micro-agglutination tests carried out in accordance with Annex C (D) and (G). These tests shall also be carried out at intervals of at least three months and at most 12 months.'

7. Annex A.II.A.1 (c) (ii) is replaced by the following:

   '(ii) are checked annually to establish that brucellosis is not present by three ring tests carried out at intervals of at least three months or two ring tests at an interval of at least three months and one serological test (sero-agglutination test or buffered brucella antigen test or plasma agglutination test or plasma ring test or micro-agglutination test) carried out at not less than six weeks after the second ring test. If ring tests are not carried out, two serological tests (sero-agglutination test or buffered brucella antigen test or plasma agglutination test or plasma ring test or micro-agglutination test) shall be carried out each year at intervals of at least three months and not more than six months.

   Where, in a Member State or region thereof in which all bovine herds are subject to official operations to combat brucellosis, not more than 1 % of bovine herds are infected, it shall be sufficient to carry out each year two ring tests at

(1) OJ No C 255, 23. 9. 1983, p. 3.
(2) OJ No C 342, 19. 12. 1983, p. 117.
(3) OJ No C 23, 30. 1. 1984, p. 23.
(4) OJ No 121, 29. 7. 1964, p. 1977/64.
(5) See page 27 of this Official Journal.