

1994 No. 402

ANIMALS

**The Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals)
(Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1994**

Made 21st October 1994

Coming into operation 18th November 1994

The Department of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 29(1) and (2), 60(1) and (2), and 62(2) and paragraph 2 of Schedule 6 to the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(a) 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 Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1994 and shall come into operation on 18th November 1994.

Amendment to the Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order (Northern Ireland) 1977

2. The Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order (Northern Ireland) 1977(b) shall be amended as provided in Articles 3 to 6.

3. In Article 3(1) (Interpretation) there shall be inserted the following definitions:—

“Divisional Veterinary Officer” means the veterinary inspector appointed for the time being by the Department to receive information about the anticipated date of arrival of animals for the area in which the place of destination in Northern Ireland is situated;

“member State” means any member State of the European Communities other than the United Kingdom and does not include the Isle of Man or any of the Channel Islands;

“World Health Organisation” means the organisation of that name founded in New York, United States of America, on 22nd July 1946 and currently having its headquarters at Avenue Appia 20, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland and the standard and specifications in relation to the World Health Organisation are those described in the World Health Organisation Expert Committee on Rabies Eighth Report (WHO Technical Report Series 824).

(a) S.I. 1981/1115 (N.I. 22) as amended by S.I. 1984/702 (N.I. 2) Article 17 and S.I. 1994/1891 (N.I. 6) Article 23

(b) S.R. 1977 No. 113 as amended by S.R. 1977 No. 256

4. In Article 4(1), (Prohibition on landing of animals) for sub-paragraphs (c) and (d) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraphs:—

“(c) any animal brought from the Republic of Ireland which has been previously brought to the Republic of Ireland from a place other than Great Britain, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man or Northern Ireland, unless—

(i) it is a dog or cat which was subject to a commercial transaction and was brought into the Republic of Ireland from another member State and placed on the market in accordance with the provisions of Article 10.3 of Council Directive 92/65/EEC(a); or

(ii) in any other case it has been detained and isolated in quarantine for a period of at least six months before being landed in Northern Ireland;

(d) a dog or cat brought from Great Britain, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man which has previously been brought to those countries from a place outside those countries (other than Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland) unless—

(i) it was subject to a commercial transaction and was imported into one of those countries from another member State and placed on the market in accordance with the provisions of Article 10.3 of Council Directive 92/65/EEC; or

(ii) it has been detained and isolated in quarantine for at least six months before being landed in Northern Ireland.”

5. After Article 4A (Animals dying while in transit to Northern Ireland) there shall be inserted the following Article:—

“Importation of dogs and cats from a member State other than the Republic of Ireland

4B.—(1) The prohibition and restrictions on landing contained in Article 4(1), (7) and (8) shall not apply in the case of the importation from another member State (other than the Republic of Ireland) of dogs and cats which—

(a) are the subject of a commercial transaction;

(b) come from a holding registered in that member State for the purposes of Article 10.3 of Council Directive 92/65/EEC;

(c) have been born on the holding and have been maintained in captivity there since birth with no contact with wild animals susceptible to rabies;

(d) have been vaccinated against rabies after the age of 3 months and at least 6 months before dispatch by injection of an inactivated vaccine of at least 1 international antigenic unit (World Health Organisation standard) measured in accordance with the activity

test by the method described by the European Pharmacopoeia in monograph 451 (1985) and recognised under Commission Decision 94/275/EEC on recognising rabies vaccines(a), with annual booster injections, or at intervals authorised by the member State of dispatch for that vaccine;

- (e) have undergone, after vaccination, a serological test showing a protective antibody titre of at least 0.5 international units, which serological test shall be carried out in accordance with World Health Organisation specifications. If the test is carried out after the first vaccination it must be carried out between the first and third month after the vaccination;
- (f) in the case of dogs, have been vaccinated against distemper;
- (g) are accompanied by—
 - (i) an individual vaccination record allowing the animal and its origin to be clearly identified and showing the dates of vaccination, the name of the vaccine and its batch number (by self-adhesive label, if possible); and
 - (ii) a certificate in the form specified in Commission Decision 94/273/EEC concerning veterinary certification for placing on the market in the United Kingdom and Ireland of dogs and cats not originating in those countries(b), each document being completed by an official veterinarian or by the veterinarian responsible for the holding of origin and empowered for this purpose by the competent authority in the member State;
- (h) in accordance with Commission Decision 94/274/EEC laying down the system of identification for dogs and cats that are placed on the market in the United Kingdom and Ireland and not originating in those countries(c), are identified by having had implanted into them a transponder of a type—
 - (i) used in the member State of origin; and
 - (ii) notified by the competent authority of the member State of origin to the Department;
- (i) on the day they are dispatched from the holding in question, show no signs of contagious disease; and
- (j) are transported by a means of transport recognised for the purposes of Article 10.3 of Council Directive 92/65/EEC by the competent authority of the member State of dispatch.

(2) A person shall not accept a consignment of dogs or cats imported under the provisions of this Article unless the importer or consignee has notified to the Divisional Veterinary Officer in writing, at least 24 hours in advance, the anticipated date of arrival and has supplied him with a copy of the certificate referred to in paragraph (1)(g)(ii).

(a) O.J. No. L117, 7.5.94, p. 41

(b) O.J. No. L117, 7.5.94, p. 37

(c) O.J. No. L117, 7.5.94, p. 40

(3) It shall be the duty of every person who imports a dog or cat under the provisions of this Article to make available to the Divisional Veterinary Officer a microchip reader capable of confirming the identity of the imported animal.

(4) It shall be the duty of the person in charge of any dog or cat imported under the provisions of this Article which has been blood tested by a veterinary inspector at the place of destination to keep the animal on those premises for 10 days after the day on which the blood sample was taken unless notified in writing by the Divisional Veterinary Officer that the animal may be released.

(5) Where a veterinary inspector at the place of destination takes samples from any dog or cat imported under the provisions of this Article, he shall comply with Commission Decision 94/338/EEC laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Directive 90/425/EEC as regards the taking of samples for the purpose of veterinary inspections at the place of destination(a).”.

6. In Article 12(3) (Detention of animals on board vessels in harbour) for sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) there shall be substituted the following sub-paragraphs—

- “(a) in accordance with a licence granted under Article 4; or
- (b) in the circumstances referred to in Article 4B; or
- (c) in the circumstances referred to in Article 8.”.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 21st October 1994.

(L.S.)

P. T. Toal

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order.)

This Order further amends the Rabies (Importation of Dogs, Cats and Other Mammals) Order (Northern Ireland) 1977.

The Order implements as respects Northern Ireland Article 10.3 of Council Directive 92/65/EEC (laying down animal health requirements governing trade in and imports into the Community of animals, semen, ova and embryos not subject to animal health requirements laid down in specific Community rules referred to in Council Directive 90/425/EEC) by permitting, in certain restricted circumstances, the importation into Northern Ireland of dogs and cats from another member State of the European Community without a licence granted by the Department of Agriculture.

The European Pharmacopoeia may be obtained from the European Pharmacopoeia Commission, Council of Europe, 6706 Strasbourg, Cedex, France.

The World Health Organisation Expert Committee on Rabies Eighth Report may be obtained from the World Health Organisation, Avenue Appia 20, 1211 Geneva, Switzerland.