

1968. No. 269

[C]

**DISEASES OF ANIMALS****Brucellosis**

ORDER, DATED 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER 1968, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTIONS 18 AND 53 OF THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1958(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Sections 18 and 53 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 may be cited as the Brucellosis (Amendment No. 3) Order (Northern Ireland) 1968 and shall come into operation on the 1st day of January 1969.

*Amendment of the 1966 Order*

2. The Brucellosis Order (Northern Ireland) 1966(b) as amended by the Brucellosis (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 1967(c) and the Brucellosis (Amendment No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 1968(d) shall be further amended as follows:—

(1) In Article 2—

(i) for the definition of “approved sale” there shall be substituted the following definition:—

“approved sale” means a sale approved by the Department for the exposure of cattle from certified herds in an area designated by the Department to be a disease free area by Order under the Diseases of Animals Act 1966 passed by the legislature of the Republic of Ireland (hereinafter in this Order referred to as the Diseases of Animals Act 1966) and in respect of which the Department has certified that calves up to the age of six weeks from uncertified herds are excluded.

(ii) there shall be included the following definitions:—

“a holding” means all land on which the owner of a herd is entitled to keep the herd whether as owner, tenant, licensee or under a letting in conacre or otherwise howsoever;

“multiple holding” means a holding of two or more non-adjacent areas of land.

(2) In Article 11 after paragraph (2) there shall be added the following paragraph:—

“(3) The owner of a herd which is neither a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd nor a Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd shall notify the Ministry if he acquires breeding stock.”

(a) 1958. c. 13.

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1966, No. 227.

(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 62.

(d) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1968, No. 237.

(3) For Article 22 the following Article shall be substituted:—

“22.—(1) The owner of a herd shall immediately isolate any animal when required to do so, in accordance with the conditions of a notice issued by the Ministry in writing and shall detain such animal in isolation on his premises until informed otherwise by the Ministry in writing.

(2) Where a herd is maintained on two or more non-adjacent areas comprised in a multiple holding the Ministry may serve on the owner of the herd a notice in writing requiring that any animals which have been exposed to the possibility of infection with brucellosis by contact with a reactor shall be:—

(a) detained on the area on which they were at the time when the reactor was found; and

(b) segregated from all other eligible animals in the herd.

(3) Where a reactor is found, as a result of an official test, in a herd maintained on a multiple holding the Ministry may, by notice in writing, prohibit for a period not exceeding three months, the use for grazing by eligible animals of any part of the multiple holding on which the reactor, or any other animal which has been exposed to the possibility of infection with brucellosis by being in contact with the reactor, had been grazing immediately before the said official test.”

(4) For Article 24 the following Article shall be substituted:—

“24.—(1) In the event of an animal in a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd or a Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd aborting, the owner shall immediately isolate and, where possible, house the animal and with all practicable speed:—

(a) notify the Ministry of the circumstances;

(b) bury the foetus and cleansings within ground; and

(c) (i) either liberally spray the immediate area where the abortion took place with an approved disinfectant; or

(ii) cover with straw and burn it over the immediate area where the abortion took place.

(2) An animal which has aborted shall be retained in isolation until the Ministry has tested it and has informed the owner that it may re-join the herd.

(3) Manure containing discharges or fluids from an animal which has aborted shall be stacked away from access by cattle and shall not be spread on grazing fields for a period of at least six months.

(4) The provisions of paragraphs (1) to (3) above shall apply also in the case of an animal which, on calving, retains the afterbirth for a period in excess of twenty-four hours.”

(5) In Article 26 for paragraphs (3) and (4) there shall be substituted the following paragraphs:—

“(3) Save as is provided in paragraphs (5) and (6) no person shall import an eligible animal unless:—

(a) it is a certified animal which has been moved under the authority of a permit issued by the Department direct to the point of entry from—

(i) a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd under the Brucellosis (Certified) Herds Scheme made under the Diseases of Animals Act 1966; or

(ii) a certified herd under the Brucellosis in Cattle (Disease-Free Area) Order 1968 made under the Diseases of Animals Act 1966; or

(iii) an approved sale;

or (b) it is accompanied by a certificate issued by the Department that it is from a herd in an area designated by the Department to be a brucellosis clearance area by Order under the Diseases of Animals Act 1966 and that the herd has passed three successive tests for brucellosis in the course of the Department's brucellosis eradication programme for that area;

or (c) it is an uncastrated male animal aged nine months or over and is accompanied by a certificate issued by the Department that it has passed a test for brucellosis. Such certificate shall be deemed to be valid only if the date on which the test was done was not more than 14 days prior to the date of importation.

(4) A permit issued by an Officer of the Ministry authorising the movement of any animal described in paragraph (3)(b) and (c) to a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd or a Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd in Northern Ireland shall contain the conditions specified in paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 except that a test by a Veterinary Surgeon within seven days of the animal's arrival at the premises in Northern Ireland shall not be required.

(5) The Ministry may, at its discretion and subject to such conditions as it may require, authorise the importation for immediate slaughter of cows which do not fulfil the conditions in paragraph (3). Where an animal is imported under such authority the Ministry shall issue a licence authorising the direct movement of that animal from the point of entry to the premises where it is to be slaughtered.

(6) The provisions of paragraph (3) shall not apply to a person who imports an eligible animal for direct shipment from Northern Ireland. Where such an animal is imported the Ministry shall issue a movement permit authorising the movement of that animal from the point of entry to the port of shipment.

(7) It shall be the duty of the person to whom is issued a permit under paragraph (6) or a licence under paragraph (5) to comply, or cause to be complied, with all the conditions of the said licence or permit."

(6) In Article 27 after the words "may take" there shall be inserted "or cause or permit to be taken".

(7) In Article 29 for the words "four months" there shall be substituted the words "three months" and for the words "eight months" there shall be substituted the words "six months".

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this 11th day of December 1968, in the presence of

(L.S.)

*H. S. Oliver,*  
Assistant Secretary.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order but is intended to indicate its general purport.)*

This Order amends the requirements in regard to the importation of animals from the Republic of Ireland; specifies certain additional precautions to be taken by herdowners whose animals abort; empowers the Ministry to place restrictions on the movement of cattle and the use of land on certain types of holding; and makes some other minor amendments to the Brucellosis Order (Northern Ireland) 1966.