
EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order revokes and re-enacts the Enzootic Bovine Leukosis Order 1997 (S.I.1997/757) in England.

The Order implements the provisions relating to milk of Council Directive [64/432/EEC](#), as amended (on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine) (O.J. No. L121, 29.7.64, p. 1977) and Council Directive [77/391 EEC](#), as amended, (introducing Community measures for the eradication of brucellosis tuberculosis and leukosis) (O.J. No. L145, 13.6.77, p. 44). These Directives require the operation of a monitoring and testing programme in order to maintain officially enzootic bovine leukosis-free status of Great Britain under Council Directive [64/432/EEC](#).

The principal changes made by this Order relate to the arrangements for testing milk for evidence of enzootic bovine leukosis and the removal of the list of approved laboratories that were contained in Schedule 1 to the 1997 Order.

Notice must be given to the Divisional Veterinary Manager if any animal, carcase or laboratory sample is found to be infected with enzootic bovine leukosis (articles 3, 4 and 5).

Article 6 sets out the duties of purchasers of milk in England in any form for resale to ensure that milk is sent for testing to an approved laboratory.

The person in charge of an approved laboratory must notify the Minister of any positive test results within 24 hours and negative test results within one month. He must also maintain records of all the tests carried out for a period of one year from the date of the test (article 6(4)).

Failure to comply with any provision of the Order is an offence under the Animal Health Act 1981.

A Regulatory Impact Assessment in relation to this Order has been placed in the libraries of both Houses of Parliament and copies can be obtained from the Tuberculosis and Zoonoses Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 1A Page Street, London SW1P 4PQ.