

1976 No. 288

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**Weights and Measures (Edible Fats) Order (Northern Ireland) 1976***Made* 4th October 1976*Coming into operation* 1st January 1977*To be laid before Parliament under paragraph 3(3) of
Schedule 1 to the Northern Ireland Act 1974*

The Department(a) of Commerce, after consultation with such organisations as appear to it to be representative of interests substantially affected by this Order and consideration of the representations made to it by such organisations with respect to the subject matter of this Order, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 15(2), (3) and (5) of the Weights and Measures Act (Northern Ireland) 1967(b) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Weights and Measures (Edible Fats) Order (Northern Ireland) 1976 and shall come into operation on 1st January 1977.

(2) In this Order “edible fats” means—

- (a) butter, margarine, any mixture of butter and margarine, and low fat spreads (butter or margarine substitutes);
- (b) dripping and shredded suet;
- (c) lard and compound cooking fat, and substitutes therefor;
- (d) solidified edible oil (except in gel form).

Revocation

2. Parts IX and XI of Schedule 2 to the Weights and Measures Act (Northern Ireland) 1967 shall cease to apply to edible fats.

Control of sale

3. Edible fats which are not pre-packed shall be sold by retail only by net weight.

Pre-Packing requirements

4. Subject to Article 5, edible fats shall be pre-packed—

- (a) except where made up in a quantity exceeding 10kg, only if they are made up in one of the following quantities by net weight, that is to say—
 - (i) 2oz, 4oz, 8oz, 12oz, 1lb, 1½lb or a multiple of 1lb; or
 - (ii) 50g, 125g, 250g, 500g or a multiple of 500g up to and including 4kg, or thereafter a multiple of 1kg up to and including 10kg; and
- (b) only if the container is marked with an indication of quantity by net weight.

(a) Formerly Ministry: see 1973 c. 36 s. 40 and Sch. 5 para. 8(1)

(b) 1967 c. 6 (N.I.)

Exemption

5. Edible fats described in Article 1(2)(a) pre-packed in a quantity not exceeding 25g shall be exempted from the requirements of Article 4.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Commerce for Northern Ireland on 4th October 1976.

(L.S.)

W. T. McCrory

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Order provides that Part IX of Schedule 2 to the Weights and Measures Act (Northern Ireland) 1967 relating to butter, compound cooking fat, dripping, lard, margarine, shredded suet, and any mixture of butter and margarine, and Part XI as applicable to low fat spreads (butter or margarine substitutes), substitutes for lard and compound cooking fat, and solidified edible oil (except in gel form) shall cease to apply to those products on 1st January 1977 when the provisions in the Schedule relating to those products are replaced by the provisions of this Order.

Edible fats may be pre-packed only in a prescribed range of imperial or metric weights except where the quantity exceeds 10kg (approximately 22lbs). Containers in which such goods are pre-packed must be marked with an indication of quantity by net weight. Pre-packs of butter, margarine, any mixture of butter and margarine, and low fat spreads (butter or margarine substitutes) made up in a quantity not exceeding 25g (approximately $\frac{9}{10}$ oz) are exempt from the requirements of the Order relating to pre-packed goods.

Edible fats which are not pre-packed may be sold by retail only by net weight. The reference to metric units is new.