

1984 No. 416

FOOD AND DRUGS**Food Hygiene****Meat (Sterilisation and Staining) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984***Made* 6th December 1984*Coming into operation* 18th February 1985

The Department of Health and Social Services(a) in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 13 and 68 of the Food and Drugs Act (Northern Ireland) 1958(b) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf and after consultation in accordance with section 68(2) of that Act with such organisations as appear to it to be representative of interests substantially affected by these regulations, hereby makes the following regulations:—

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Meat (Sterilisation and Staining) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984 and shall come into operation on 18th February 1985.

Interpretation

2. In these regulations—

“the Act” means the Food and Drugs Act (Northern Ireland) 1958;

“animal” does not include poultry;

“carcase meat” means the flesh of an animal, including thick or thin skirt, and heads of cattle or swine, but excluding offal;

“green offal” means stomachs and intestines derived from animals and the contents of such organs;

“imported meat” means meat derived from an animal or poultry slaughtered outside the United Kingdom;

“knacker meat” means carcase meat and offal from an animal slaughtered in, or from a carcase brought into, a knackery situated in the United Kingdom;

“meat” means carcase meat, poultry meat and offal;

“offal” includes separate pieces of fat but does not include thick or thin skirt, heads of cattle or swine, or poultry offal;

“pharmaceutical extract supplier” means a person whose business consists, wholly or mainly, of the collection, storage and preparation of glands, liquid extracts and other materials derived from the carcasses of animals, prior to their removal to a manufacturing chemist for the manufacture of pharmaceutical products;

(a) See S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1964 No. 205 Art. 5 and Sch. 2 Part I

(b) 1958 c. 27 (N.I.)

- “poultry” means domestic fowls, turkeys, guinea fowls, ducks and geese;
- “poultry meat” means the flesh or other edible part of poultry;
- “processor” means any person who in the course of his processing business sterilises meat but does not include a waste food processor licensed under the provisions of the Waste Food (Feeding to Livestock and Poultry) Order (Northern Ireland) 1974(a);
- “slaughterhouse” means a place for slaughtering animals or poultry, the flesh of which is intended for sale for human consumption, and includes any place available in connection with such a place for the confinement of animals or poultry while awaiting slaughter there or for keeping, or subjecting to any treatment or process, products of the slaughtering of animals or poultry there;
- “specified offal” means hearts, kidneys, livers and lungs derived from animals and which, in the case of an animal in a slaughterhouse, have been rejected as unfit for human consumption by a person authorised under the Act, the Agricultural Produce (Meat Regulation and Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland) 1962(b), the Food Act 1984(c) or the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act 1956(d) to act in relation to the examination of meat, by reason of any disease or pathological condition other than—
- (a) ascariasis, fascioliasis or telangiectasis, or
 - (b) changes caused by the operations of stunning, slaughter or dressing of an animal;
- “stained” means treated with a solution of the colouring agent Black PN or Brilliant Black BN (E151, Colour Index 197 No. 28440), the solution to be of such a strength that the colouring on the stained meat is clearly visible; and for the purpose of this definition “treated” means that all pieces of meat not smaller than primal cuts have been opened by multiple and deep incisions, and the whole surface of the meat has been covered with a solution as aforesaid either by immersing the meat in, or spraying or otherwise applying, the solution;
- “sterilised” means—
- (a) treated by boiling or by steaming under pressure until every piece of meat is cooked throughout,
 - (b) dry-rendered, digested or solvent processed into technical tallow, greases, glues, feeding meals or fertilizers, or
 - (c) subjected to a process other than those previously described in this definition which results in all parts of the meat no longer having the appearance of raw meat and which inactivates all vegetative forms of human pathogenic organisms in the meat.

Presumptions as to unfitness for human consumption

3. For the purposes of these regulations—

- (a) knacker meat shall be presumed to be unfit for human consumption;
- (b) meat from any animal referred to in regulation 13(1) and meat which has not been handled or kept in a slaughterhouse in a hygienic manner, shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, to be unfit for human consumption.

(a) S.R. 1974 No. 12, to which there is an amendment not relevant to these regulations

(b) 1962 c. 13 (N.I.)

(c) 1984 c. 30

(d) 1956 c. 30

Saving

4. Nothing in these regulations shall—

- (a) affect or derogate from the operation of any order made, or having effect, under the provisions of the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(a); or
- (b) require the sterilisation or staining, or affect the disposal or other treatment, of a whole dead animal.

Exemption

5. These regulations shall not apply in respect of any meat which is removed, or is intended to be removed, from any place or premises by, or under the authority of, a veterinary surgeon for examination by him or on his behalf.

PART II

STERILISATION AND STAINING OF MEAT

Requirements as to sterilisation and staining of meat in slaughterhouses

6.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) and to regulation 17(3), any carcase meat at a slaughterhouse found to be unfit for human consumption and any specified offal at a slaughterhouse shall immediately be sterilised by the occupier at the slaughterhouse or be placed by him in a room or receptacle designed for the purpose of holding meat awaiting sterilisation and bearing a notice stating that its contents are to be sterilised on the premises, and shall then be sterilised by him at the slaughterhouse.

(2) The requirement as to sterilisation imposed by paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of any carcase meat found to be unfit for human consumption or any specified offal which—

- (a) is stained by the occupier of the slaughterhouse immediately after it is brought into the accommodation referred to in regulation 18(1) of the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1963(b); or
- (b) is intended to be removed from the slaughterhouse under the authority of a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20 to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a).

7.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) and to regulation 17(3), where any offal other than specified offal, or any poultry or poultry meat, at a slaughterhouse is found to be unfit for human consumption it shall immediately be sterilised by the occupier at the slaughterhouse or be placed by him in a room or receptacle designed for the purpose of holding meat awaiting sterilisation and bearing a notice that its contents are to be sterilised on the premises, and shall then be sterilised by him at the slaughterhouse.

(2) The requirement as to sterilisation imposed by paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of—

- (a) any offal, other than specified offal, unfit for human consumption (including any green offal not intended to be removed from the slaughterhouse in accordance with sub-paragraph (c)) which is intended to be removed from the slaughterhouse under the authority of a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20 to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1);
- (b) any poultry or poultry meat unfit for human consumption which is intended to be removed from the slaughterhouse to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1);

(a) S.I. 1981/1115 (N.I. 22)

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1963 No. 162

- (c) any green offal unfit for human consumption, and any other offal not being specified offal, which is in a container the contents of which consist mainly of green offal, which in either case is intended to be removed from the slaughterhouse to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b).

Prohibition of removal of unfit meat from slaughterhouses

8.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) and to regulation 17(1) and (2), a person shall not remove or cause or permit to be removed from any slaughterhouse of which he is the occupier any meat unfit for human consumption unless—

- (a) that meat has been sterilised in accordance with the requirements of regulation 6 or 7;
- (b) that meat, being carcase meat or specified offal, has been stained in accordance with the requirements of regulation 6 and is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b) to (e) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (c) that meat, being carcase meat or specified offal, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (d) that meat, being offal other than specified offal, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (e) that meat, being poultry or poultry meat, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1); or
- (f) that meat is intended to be delivered to a destination outside Northern Ireland and its movement to a port or other place of exit is in accordance with an arrangement in writing with, and under the supervision of, an authorised officer of the district council in whose district the slaughterhouse is situated.
- (2) A person is exempt from the requirement imposed by paragraph (1) to obtain a movement permit in respect of the removal from a slaughterhouse occupied by him—
- (a) of any green offal if that offal is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b); or
- (b) of any carcase meat or any offal other than green offal if such meat is removed in a container the contents of which consist mainly of green offal and which is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b).

Defence

9. It shall be a defence for any person charged with a contravention of regulation 6, 7 or 8 to prove that he did not know, and could not with reasonable diligence have ascertained, that the meat was unfit for human consumption.

Requirements as to sterilisation and staining of meat in knackeries

10.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) and to regulation 17(3), carcase meat and specified offal derived from an animal slaughtered in, or brought into, a knackery shall be sterilised by the occupier of that knackery immediately after skinning of the carcase or, if the carcase is eviscerated immediately after skinning, after evisceration or, if the carcase is cut up immediately after evisceration or is brought into the knackery already eviscerated, immediately after cutting up is completed.

(2) The requirement imposed by paragraph (1) to sterilise any meat immediately after the carrying out of any operation referred to in that paragraph shall not apply if, immediately after the carrying out of the relevant operation, the meat is placed in a room or receptacle designed for the purpose of holding meat awaiting sterilisation and

bearing a notice that its contents are to be sterilised on the premises and is then sterilised by the occupier at the knackery.

(3) The requirement as to sterilisation imposed by paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of any carcase meat or specified offal which—

- (a) is stained at the knackery immediately after skinning of the carcase or, if the carcase is eviscerated immediately after skinning, immediately after evisceration or, if the carcase is cut up immediately after evisceration or is brought into the knackery already eviscerated, immediately after cutting up is completed; or
- (b) is intended to be removed from the knackery under the authority of a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20 to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a).

11.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) and to regulation 17(3), offal, other than specified offal, derived from an animal slaughtered in, or brought into, a knackery shall immediately after evisceration of the carcase from which it was taken be sterilised by the occupier at the knackery or be placed by him in a room or receptacle designed for the purpose of holding meat awaiting sterilisation and bearing a notice that its contents are to be sterilised on the premises, and shall then be sterilised by him at the knackery.

(2) The requirement as to sterilisation imposed by paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of—

- (a) any offal, other than specified offal, (including any green offal not intended to be removed from the knackery in accordance with sub-paragraph (b)) which is intended to be removed from the knackery under the authority of a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20 to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1); or
- (b) any green offal, and any other offal, not being specified offal which is in a container the contents of which consist mainly of green offal, which in either case is intended to be removed from the knackery to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b).

Prohibition of removal of meat from knackeries

12.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) and to regulation 17(1) and (2), a person shall not remove or cause or permit to be removed from any knackery of which he is the occupier any meat unless—

- (a) that meat has been sterilised in accordance with the requirements of regulation 10 or 11;
- (b) that meat, being carcase meat or specified offal, has been stained in accordance with the requirements of regulation 10, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b) to (e) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (c) that meat, being carcase meat or specified offal, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (d) that meat, being offal other than specified offal, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (e) that meat, being poultry or poultry meat, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1); or

- (f) that meat is intended to be delivered to a destination outside Northern Ireland and its movement is in accordance with an arrangement in writing with, and under the supervision of, an authorised officer of the district council in whose district the knackery is situated.
- (2) A person is exempt from the requirement imposed by paragraph (1) to obtain a movement permit in respect of the removal from a knackery occupied by him—
- (a) of any green offal if that offal is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b); or
- (b) of any carcase meat or any offal, other than green offal, if such meat is removed in a container the contents of which consist mainly of green offal and which is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b).

Prohibition of removal of unfit meat from a place other than a slaughterhouse or knackery

13.—(1) A person shall not remove or cause or permit to be removed from any place of which he is the occupier; not being a slaughterhouse or knackery, any meat unfit for human consumption cut from any poultry or any animal specified in paragraph (2) which has died or been slaughtered at that place or been brought there after having died or been slaughtered unless—

- (a) that meat has been sterilised;
- (b) that meat, being carcase meat or specified offal, has been stained and is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b) to (e), and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (c) that meat, being carcase meat or specified offal, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (d) that meat, being offal other than specified offal, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (e) that meat, being poultry or poultry meat, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1); or
- (f) that meat is intended to be delivered to a knackery.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation and of regulations 3 and 21(1), “animal” means any variety of cattle, sheep, pig, equine animal or goat.

Freezing of unfit meat in a slaughterhouse or of meat in a knackery

14.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), a person shall not freeze—

- (a) any carcase meat which is unfit for human consumption or specified offal in a slaughterhouse; or
- (b) any carcase meat or specified offal in a knackery,

unless that meat has been sterilised or stained.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of any meat which is intended to be removed from the slaughterhouse or knackery under the authority of a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20 to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a), or in the case of any meat in a slaughterhouse from a carcase infested with *Cysticercus bovis* which has been frozen in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 7 of Schedule 2 to the Meat Inspection Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1984(a).

Prohibition of removal of imported meat unfit, or not intended, for human consumption from port or other place of entry

15. Subject to regulation 17(1), a person shall not cause or permit to be removed from its port or other place of entry any imported meat which is unfit, or not intended, for human consumption unless—

- (a) that meat has been sterilised;
- (b) that meat, being carcase meat, has been stained, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b) to (e) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (c) that meat, being carcase meat, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (d) that meat, being offal, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20; or
- (e) that meat, being poultry or poultry meat, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1).

Prohibition of bringing unfit meat from England, Wales or Scotland to Northern Ireland

16.—(1) A person shall not bring, or cause or permit to be brought, into Northern Ireland from England, Wales or Scotland any meat which is unfit for human consumption unless—

- (a) that meat has been sterilised;
- (b) that meat, being carcase meat or specified offal, has been stained, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b) to (e) and is accompanied to that destination by a consignment note or a movement permit;
- (c) that meat, being carcase meat or specified offal, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a) and is accompanied to that destination by a consignment note or a movement permit;
- (d) that meat, being offal other than specified offal, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1) and is accompanied to that destination by a consignment note or a movement permit; or
- (e) that meat, being poultry meat, is intended to be delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1).

(2) The driver of the vehicle in which meat is delivered to any premises accompanied by a consignment note or a movement permit shall give that note or a copy of that permit to the occupier of those premises, who shall retain it for a period of two years from the date on which he received it and within seven days send a copy thereof to the district council in whose district those premises are located. Any consignment note or copy permit retained by an occupier of premises in accordance with the requirement of this paragraph shall be made available for inspection by an authorised officer at any reasonable time.

(3) On receipt of any such copy of a consignment note or movement permit in accordance with paragraph (2) the district council shall forthwith notify in writing the local authority in England, Wales or Scotland from whose district the meat has been imported of the arrival of the consignment related to the consignment note or movement permit.

(4) In this regulation and in regulation 21(2)(a) and (b)—

“consignment note” means a consignment note issued in pursuance of Part III of

the Meat and Poultry Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) (Scotland) Regulations 1983(a); and

“movement permit” means a movement permit issued under the provisions of regulation 19 of the Meat (Sterilisation and Staining) Regulations 1982(b) authorising the removal of that meat to the premises to which it is to be delivered.

Exemption from requirements as to sterilisation and staining of meat in ports, other places of entry, slaughterhouses and knackeries

17.—(1) There may be removed from its port or other place of entry, or from a slaughterhouse or a knackery which in either case is not equipped with facilities for the sterilisation of meat, imported meat not intended for human consumption, meat unfit for human consumption or knacker meat, which has been neither sterilised nor stained if—

- (a) all destinations referred to in regulation 18(1) to which it is reasonably practicable to deliver that meat are, by reason of permanent or temporary closure of the premises or a breakdown of the machinery installed therein or a trade dispute, unable to receive it;
- (b) that meat is transported in a vehicle or in an impervious container which, in either case, bears a notice of adequate size which is conspicuously visible and contains a distinct, legible and unambiguous statement to the effect that the meat carried therein is not for human consumption; and
- (c) that meat is removed, in accordance with an arrangement in writing with, and under the supervision of, an authorised officer of the district council in whose district the port or other place of entry, slaughterhouse or, as the case may be, knackery is situated, to a place where it is buried or destroyed.

(2) There may be removed from a slaughterhouse, or as the case may be, a knackery, which has exhausted, and cannot practicably replenish, its supplies of staining fluid, carcase meat unfit for human consumption or specified offal, or as the case may be, knacker meat consisting of carcase meat or specified offal, which has neither been sterilised nor stained, if that meat is delivered to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b) to (d) in accordance with an arrangement in writing with, and under the supervision of, an authorised officer of the district council in whose district the slaughterhouse, or as the case may be, knackery, is situated.

(3) Where any meat is removed from a slaughterhouse or knackery in accordance with paragraph (1) or (2) the occupier of that slaughterhouse or knackery is exempt from any requirement imposed by these regulations to sterilise or stain that meat.

Removal of unfit meat

18.—(1) Meat unfit for human consumption or imported meat not intended for human consumption or knacker meat may be removed from any premises referred to in regulation 8, 12, 13 or 15 in accordance with any movement permit required by these regulations to be issued in respect of that movement, to one of the following destinations—

- (a) a hospital, medical or veterinary school, laboratory or similar institution for instructional or diagnostic purposes, a rennet manufacturer, a pharmaceutical extract supplier or a manufacturing chemist for the manufacture by him of pharmaceutical products;
- (b) the premises of a processor for sterilisation by him;
- (c) a zoological garden, menagerie, farm at which carnivorous animals are kept for the production of fur or maggot farm for the sole purpose of feeding of the animals on any such premises, but carcase meat or offal which has been

(a) S.I. 1983/704

(b) S.I. 1982/1018, amended by S.I. 1982/1727

rejected by one of the persons described in the definition of "specified offal" in regulation 2 as unfit for human consumption by reason of tuberculosis shall not be removed to any of the destinations specified in this sub-paragraph;

- (d) the premises of a waste food processor licensed under the provisions of the Waste Food (Feeding to Livestock and Poultry) Order (Northern Ireland) 1974 to receive unprocessed waste food and in addition authorised in writing by the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland to receive unsterilised meat to which these regulations apply; or
- (e) the premises of a person for preparation before further removal to a processor, or for storage before further removal to another destination referred to in this paragraph.

(2) Any meat which is removed to a destination referred to in paragraph (1)(b) to (e) shall be removed in a vehicle or in an impervious container which, in either case, is kept closed and locked or sealed at all times except when necessary for the loading or unloading of the contents or their examination by an authorised officer and which bears a notice of adequate size which is conspicuously visible and contains a distinct, legible and unambiguous statement to the effect that the meat carried therein is not for human consumption, which notice shall be affixed in the case of meat removed from a slaughterhouse or a knackery, by the occupier of those premises, and in the case of meat removed from a port or other place of entry, by the owner of the meat or his agent.

(3) There shall not be removed from any premises referred to in paragraph (1)(a) to (e) any meat unfit for human consumption or imported meat not intended for human consumption or knacker meat unless—

- (a) that meat has been sterilised;
- (b) that meat is removed from the premises referred to in paragraph (1)(e) and is intended to be delivered to another destination referred to in paragraph (1)(a) to (e) and its removal to that destination is authorised by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20;
- (c) that meat cannot be disposed of at those premises because of a permanent or temporary closure thereof or a breakdown of the machinery installed therein or a trade dispute, and it is removed therefrom in accordance with an arrangement in writing with, and under the supervision of, an authorised officer of the district council in whose district those premises are situated to another destination referred to in paragraph (1)(a) to (d) or to a place where it is buried or destroyed; or
- (d) that meat is removed from a hospital, medical or veterinary school, laboratory or similar institution in accordance with an arrangement in writing with, and under the supervision of, an authorised officer of the district council in whose district those premises are situated to another destination referred to in paragraph (1)(a) to (d) or to a place where it is buried or destroyed.

Keeping of records

19.—(1) Without prejudice to the requirements of regulation 11 of the Slaughter-houses Licensing Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1955(a) the occupier of a knackery shall keep an accurate record, entered in ink or indelible pencil in the book kept for the purposes of that regulation, within 24 hours of the removal of any knacker meat or any poultry meat from that knackery showing—

- (a) the date on which it was removed from the knackery;
- (b) the quantity and description of the meat; and
- (c) the destination to which it was delivered.

(a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1955 No. 169 (p. 483)

(2) An occupier of a slaughterhouse who removes or causes or permits to be removed from the slaughterhouse any poultry or poultry meat unfit for human consumption, or an owner of imported poultry or poultry meat not fit, or not intended for human consumption who removes it from its port or other place of entry, shall keep in respect of it an accurate record, entered in ink or indelible pencil in a book kept for the purpose within 24 hours of the removal of any consignment of poultry or poultry meat, showing in respect of each consignment—

- (a) the quantity and description of the poultry or poultry meat removed from the slaughterhouse, or port or other place of entry;
- (b) the day on which it was removed;
- (c) the means by which it was removed; and
- (d) the destination to which it was delivered.

(3) A person shall keep any record which he is required by this regulation to keep for a period of three years and shall make that record available for inspection by an authorised officer at any reasonable time.

Authorisation for removal of unsterilised meat from a slaughterhouse, knackery or port or other place of entry

20.—(1) At least two working days before the day on which it is intended to remove unsterilised meat from any premises from which, by virtue of regulation 8, 12, 13, 15 or 18(3)(b), such meat may not be removed otherwise than under the authority of a movement permit issued pursuant to this regulation, the occupier of the premises, or the owner of the meat, shall apply to the district council in whose district those premises, or that meat, are located and shall give to that district council the following information—

- (a) the day on which the removal is intended to take place;
- (b) the description of meat intended to be moved;
- (c) the address and description of the premises to which that meat is intended to be delivered; and
- (d) the expected date of arrival of the meat at those premises.

(2) Upon receipt of an application a district council shall, without undue delay, satisfy itself that the premises to which it is intended to deliver the unsterilised meat the subject of the application are premises of a kind referred to in regulation 18(1) and are capable of processing or otherwise disposing of the meat. If the premises are situated in the district of another district council, the district council to whom the application was made shall notify that other council that the application has been made, and shall take into account any information obtained from that district council in reaching its decision as to the nature of the premises.

(3) When a district council is satisfied in respect of the matters referred to in paragraph (2) it shall thereafter issue to the applicant a movement permit in the form specified in the Schedule (comprised of an original and 3 copies) of which Part I has been duly completed by the district council.

(4) When the occupier of any premises, or the owner of any meat, to which this regulation applies regularly delivers unsterilised meat of a specific description to a particular destination, the district council in whose district the premises, or as the case may be the meat, are situated shall, on application being made to it stating the description of that meat and the address and description of that destination, authorise in advance each such movement by issuing such quantity of movement permits as it considers appropriate.

(5) The occupier of any premises from which unsterilised meat is removed under the authority of such a movement permit shall complete Part II of the document delivered to him and shall give the original together with two copies thereof to the

driver of the vehicle by which the meat is to be removed and shall retain the other copy for a period of two years.

(6) When the driver delivers the meat to the premises named in the movement permit given to him he shall give to the occupier of those premises that permit.

(7) The occupier shall then complete Part III thereof and shall acknowledge receipt of the meat thus delivered to him by signing the original and its two copies and shall, within seven days from the date of receipt of the meat, send the original and one copy thereof to the district council in whose district his premises are situated.

(8) The occupier shall retain the other copy for a period of two years from the date on which he received the meat to which it relates.

(9) If the driver is unable to deliver the meat to the premises named in the movement permit given to him he shall without delay inform or cause to be informed either the district council by whom the permit was issued or the district council in whose district the premises are situated, who shall without delay authorise the delivery of the meat to another destination referred to in regulation 18(1) or, if no such alternative destination is available, require the meat to be returned to the premises from which it was removed, or to be buried or destroyed under its supervision. The driver shall hand the movement permit to the occupier of the premises to which the meat is delivered, or, in the case of its burial or destruction, to the supervising district council.

(10) The occupier of the premises to which the meat is delivered shall thereupon complete Part IV of the movement permit and acknowledge receipt of the meat to which the permit relates by signing the original and its two copies and shall, within seven days from the date of receipt of the meat, send the original and one copy to the district council in whose district his premises are situated.

(11) The occupier shall retain the other copy for a period of two years from the date on which he received the meat to which it relates.

(12) Any district council to which is sent a movement permit shall complete Part V thereof and shall send the original to the district council which issued it and shall retain the copy for a period of two years.

(13) Any person required by paragraph (5), (8) or (11) to retain a document shall make that document available for inspection by an authorised officer at any reasonable time.

PART III

POSSESSION FOR SALE, SALE AND STORAGE OF MEAT

Possession for sale of meat not sterilised

21.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), a person shall not have in his possession for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale—

- (a) any meat removed from a slaughterhouse which is unfit for human consumption;
- (b) any meat removed from a knackery;
- (c) any imported meat removed from its port or other place of entry which is not fit, or not intended, for human consumption;
- (d) any meat unfit for human consumption from any poultry or from any animal referred to in regulation 13(1);
- (e) any meat brought into Northern Ireland from England, Wales or Scotland which is unfit for human consumption,

unless it has been sterilised.

(2) The prohibition on possession for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale imposed by paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of any meat which—

- (a) is in the possession of any person while in transit to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a) under the authority of any movement permit required by these regulations to be issued in respect of that movement or, in the case of any meat brought into Northern Ireland from England, Wales or Scotland and accompanied by any consignment note or movement permit which relates to that meat;
 - (b) is in the possession of a person referred to in regulation 18(1)(e) at his premises or is in the possession of any person while in transit to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(b) to (e) under the authority of any movement permit required by these regulations to be issued in respect of that movement, or, in the case of any meat brought into Northern Ireland from England, Wales or Scotland accompanied by any consignment note or movement permit which relates to that meat and, if so required by these regulations, has been stained;
 - (c) is in the possession of any person at any premises referred to in regulation 18(1)(a) to (d) for any purpose contemplated by those provisions or with a view to its removal from those premises in accordance with the provisions of regulation 18(3)(c) or (d) or is in the possession of any person while in transit from such premises in accordance with those provisions; or
 - (d) is in the possession of any person while in transit to a port or other place of exit in accordance with written arrangements under regulation 8(1)(f) or 12(1)(f).
- (3) It shall be a defence for any person charged with a contravention of this regulation to prove—
- (a) that he did not know, and could not with reasonable diligence have ascertained, that the meat was unfit for human consumption, removed from a knackery or, being imported meat, was not intended for human consumption, as the case may be;
 - (b) that any meat removed from a slaughterhouse, or port or other place of entry became unfit for human consumption only after its removal; or
 - (c) that any meat brought into Northern Ireland from England, Wales or Scotland became unfit for human consumption only after its removal from a slaughterhouse.

Sale of unsterilised meat by retail

22.—(1) Subject to paragraph (3), a person shall not sell, offer or expose for sale, by retail—

- (a) any meat which is unfit for human consumption;
- (b) any knacker meat; or
- (c) any imported meat which is not fit, or not intended, for human consumption, unless that meat has been sterilised.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation, a sale by retail does not include a sale of meat direct from a slaughterhouse, knackery or port or other place of entry to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1).

(3) It shall be a defence for any person charged with a contravention of this regulation to prove that he did not know, and could not with reasonable diligence have ascertained, that the meat was meat to which the provisions of this regulation applied.

Storage and packaging of meat unfit for human consumption

23.—(1) Subject to paragraph (3), a person shall not store any unsterilised meat which is unfit, or not intended, for human consumption in the same room as any meat

which is fit for human consumption unless the meat unfit, or not intended, for human consumption is stored according to an arrangement which ensures that it is adequately separated from the meat which is fit for human consumption and that arrangement has been approved by the appropriate district council.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3), a person shall not store any unsterilised meat which is unfit, or not intended, for human consumption unless any container, wrapper or other packaging used to hold the meat bears a notice of adequate size which is conspicuously visible and contains a distinct, legible and unambiguous statement to the effect that the meat held therein is not for human consumption, together with the name of the packer and the address at which the meat was packed or, in the case of imported meat, the name of the country of origin.

(3) It shall be a defence for any person charged with a contravention of paragraph (1) or (2) to prove that he did not know, and could not with reasonable diligence have ascertained, that the meat was unfit, or not intended, for human consumption.

PART IV

ENFORCEMENT

Right of examination and seizure

24.—(1) An authorised officer may at all reasonable times examine any meat not fit, or not intended, for human consumption which has been sold, or is offered or exposed for sale, or is in the possession of, or has been deposited with or consigned to, any person for the purpose of sale or preparation for sale; and if it appears to him that the meat, being meat to which the requirements of Part II or III apply—

- (a) is required to be but has not been sterilised;
- (b) is required to be but has not been stained;
- (c) is required to bear but does not bear a notice;
- (d) is required to be but is not accompanied by a movement permit issued pursuant to regulation 20; or as the case may be,
- (e) is required to be, but is not, the subject of written arrangements under regulation 8(1)(f) or 12(1)(f),

in accordance with those requirements, he may seize it and either remove it or, if removal is impracticable, order its detention, in order to have it dealt with by a justice of the peace.

(2) An officer who seizes any meat under paragraph (1) shall inform the person in whose possession the meat was found of his intention to have it dealt with by a justice of the peace, and any person who under Part II or III might be liable to prosecution in respect of the meat shall, if he attends before the justice of the peace, be entitled to be heard and call witnesses.

(3) If it appears to a justice of the peace that any meat brought before him, whether seized under the provisions of this regulation or not, is meat to which the requirements of Part II or III apply and is required to be but has not been dealt with in accordance with those requirements, he shall condemn it and order it to be destroyed or to be so dealt with.

(4) If a justice of the peace refuses to condemn any meat seized under this regulation by an authorised officer, the district council shall compensate the owner of the meat for any depreciation in its value resulting from its seizure and removal.

25. If an authorised officer has reason to suspect that any vehicle or container contains any meat to which the requirements of Part II or III apply, and which is intended for sale or is in the course of delivery after sale, he may examine the contents of the vehicle or container and for that purpose may, if necessary, detain the vehicle or

container; and if the officer finds any meat to which the requirements of Part II or III apply and which is required to be but has not been dealt with in accordance with those requirements he may deal with it as meat falling within paragraph (1) of regulation 24 and paragraphs (2) to (4) of that regulation shall apply accordingly.

Disposal of unfit imported meat neither sterilised nor stained

26.—(1) If an authorised officer finds at a port or other place of entry any imported meat, being carcase meat, which is unfit, or not intended for human consumption and which has not been sterilised or stained, he shall notify the importer in writing that, unless within 24 hours after the notice is received the importer gives a written undertaking to the district council in whose district the meat is found, that he will within 14 days from the date of the undertaking—

(a) at his own expense—

(i) export the meat to which the notice relates; or

(ii) sterilise or stain the meat at the port or other place of entry or remove it therefrom to a destination referred to in regulation 18(1)(a); or

(b) prove in proceedings before a justice of the peace that the meat to which the notice relates is not required by these regulations to be sterilised or stained, the meat may be destroyed or disposed of so that it cannot be used for human consumption.

(2) If within the time specified in any notice given under paragraph (1) the district council has not received such written undertaking as is described in the notice, or if within that time they have received an undertaking that the importer will at his own expense export, sterilise, stain, or as the case may be, remove the meat and the importer fails to export, sterilise, stain, or as the case may be, remove the meat within 14 days after the receipt of the undertaking, that district council may cause it to be destroyed or disposed of under the supervision of an authorised officer by such means and in such manner as to prevent it from being used for human consumption.

(3) Where in pursuance of this regulation an importer has given an undertaking to prove that the meat to which the notice relates is not required by these regulations to be sterilised or stained, the district council shall within 24 hours after the receipt of the undertaking take steps to obtain the decision of a justice of the peace with respect thereto.

(4) Where in pursuance of this regulation an application is made to a justice of the peace in respect of any imported meat and he is satisfied that the importer has failed to prove that the meat is not required by these regulations to be sterilised or stained, he shall condemn the meat and order it to be destroyed or disposed of under the supervision of an authorised officer by such means and in such manner as to prevent it from being used for human consumption.

(5) If a justice of the peace refuses to condemn any meat in respect of which an application in pursuance of this regulation is made to him, the district council shall compensate the owner of the meat for any depreciation in its value resulting from the making of that application.

Penalties and enforcement

27.—(1) If any person contravenes any provision of these regulations, or knowingly or recklessly makes a false statement or declaration in any document required by these regulations for the movement of any meat, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding four hundred pounds or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months, or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

(2) Each district council shall enforce and execute the provisions of these regulations in its district.

Revocation

28. The Meat (Sterilization) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969(a) are hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 6th December 1984.

(L.S.)

R. W. McQuiston

Assistant Secretary .

SCHEDULE

(Regulation 20)

UNFIT OR KNACKER MEAT: MOVEMENT PERMIT

PART I (to be completed by the district council which authorises the movement)—

(1) Name and address of consignor:

(2) Name of consignee and address of the premises to which meat is to be delivered:

(3) Name and address of district council in whose district the address shown at (2) above is situated:

(4) (Completion optional)

(a) Maximum quantity of meat which may be moved:

(b) Period within which the meat may be moved:

(5) Authorisation

The consignor named at (1) above is hereby authorised to despatch unfit meat or knacker meat to the consignee at the address shown at (2) above subject to any limitations set out at (4) above.

(Signature of authorising officer)

(Name and address of district council)

PART II (to be completed by the consignor)

(6) Details of consignment

- (i) Description of material (species of animal, type of meat/offal, etc.):
(ii) Quantity of material:
(iii) Number of containers:

- (iv) Size and type of containers:
- (v) Expected date of arrival:

(7) Means of transport

- (i) Type of vehicle:
- (ii) Registration number:
- (iii) Name and address of owner:

(8) Declaration

I certify that the material described in (6) above was despatched today to the consignee at the address shown in (2) above using the means of transport described in (7) above.

.....
(Signature of consignor)

WARNING:

Any person who knowingly or recklessly makes a false statement or declaration in this document renders himself liable to prosecution

THIS FORM SHOULD NOW BE HANDED TO THE DRIVER OF THE VEHICLE, WHO SHOULD HAND IT TO THE CONSIGNEE ON ARRIVAL: KEEP ONE COPY FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.

PART III (to be completed by the consignee)

(9) Declaration

I certify that the material described in (6) above was received at the address shown in (2) above on (date).

WARNING:

Any person who knowingly or recklessly makes a false statement or declaration in this document renders himself liable to prosecution

.....
(Signature of consignee)

.....
(Date)

THIS FORM SHOULD NOW BE SENT TO THE DISTRICT COUNCIL AT THE ADDRESS SHOWN AT (3) ABOVE: KEEP ONE COPY FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.

PART IV (to be completed by the person taking delivery of the material if it was NOT delivered to the consignee at the address shown in (2) above)

(10) Reason why material was not delivered to the address shown in (2) above:

(11) Declaration

I certify that the material described in (6) above was delivered to me at:—

..... (insert address)
on (date).

WARNING:

Any person who knowingly or recklessly makes a false statement or declaration in this document renders himself liable to prosecution

.....
(Signature of person taking delivery of the material)

THIS FORM SHOULD NOW BE SENT TO YOUR DISTRICT COUNCIL'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT: KEEP ONE COPY FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.

PART V (to be completed by the district council in whose area the material was delivered)

Date of receipt of form:

.....
(Name of officer)

.....
(District Council)

THIS FORM SHOULD NOW BE RETURNED TO THE ORIGINATING DISTRICT COUNCIL SHOWN IN (5) ABOVE: ONE COPY SHOULD BE RETAINED.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations, which revoke the Meat (Sterilization) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969, have effect from 18th February 1985 and require, subject to exemptions, that —

- (a) meat unfit for human consumption removed from a slaughterhouse (regulations 6, 7 and 8);
- (b) meat removed from a knackery (regulations 10, 11 and 12);
- (c) meat unfit, or not intended, for human consumption removed from a port or other place of entry (regulation 15); and
- (d) meat of a specified kind unfit for human consumption removed from any other place (regulation 13),

shall be sterilised or stained before its removal.

Meat which is subject to the provisions of these regulations may be removed from the premises referred to in the preceding paragraph without having first been sterilised (or in certain cases stained) in the circumstances described below.

- (1) Animal flesh, and animal offal commonly used for human consumption, which, except in the case of the removal of such offal from a port or other place of entry, has been stained in accordance with the requirements of the regulations, may be delivered to a destination specified in the regulations if so authorised by the relevant authority (regulations 8(1)(b), 12(1)(b), 13(1)(b) and 15(b)).
- (2) Animal flesh, and animal offal commonly used for human consumption, may, even though it has not been stained, be delivered to a hospital, medical or veterinary school, laboratory for instructional purposes, manufacturing chemist or similar institution if so authorised by the relevant authority (regulations 8(1)(c), 12(1)(c), 13(1)(c) and 15(c)).
- (3) Offal not commonly used for human consumption (including offal of a kind referred to in paragraph (5) below which is not intended to be delivered to a processor) or, in the case of removal from a port or other place of entry, any offal, may be delivered to a destination specified in the regulations if so authorised by the relevant authority (regulations 8(1)(d), 12(1)(d), 13(1)(d) and 15(d)).
- (4) Poultry meat may be delivered to a destination specified in the regulations (regulations 8(1)(e), 12(1)(e), 13(1)(e) and 15(e)).
- (5) Offal consisting of the stomachs and intestines of animals removed from a slaughterhouse or knackery may be delivered to the premises of a processor for sterilisation by him (regulations 8(2) and 12(2)).
- (6) Meat unfit for human consumption, and knacker meat, intended to be delivered to a destination outside Northern Ireland may be moved from a slaughterhouse or knackery to a port or other place of exit in accordance with arrangements made in writing with an authorised officer (regulations 8(1)(f) and 12(1)(f)).

Supplementary provisions of the regulations prohibit, subject to exceptions —

- (a) the freezing in slaughterhouses of unfit meat of a kind commonly used for human consumption and the freezing of meat in knackeries unless that meat has first been sterilised or stained (regulation 14);

- (b) the possession for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale, and the sale by retail, of meat unfit for human consumption, and knacker meat, which has not been sterilised (regulations 21 and 22); and
- (c) the bringing into Northern Ireland from England, Wales or Scotland of unfit meat which has not been sterilised or stained (regulation 16).

Provision is also made relating to the storage of meat unfit for human consumption (regulation 23) and requiring the keeping of records in certain circumstances (regulation 19).

The regulations confer on authorised officers of district councils powers requisite for their enforcement and create criminal offences for contravention of, or failure to comply with, their provisions for which the maximum penalty on summary conviction is a fine of £400 or imprisonment for a term of three months or both (regulation 27).

The regulations do not apply to meat which is removed from any place or premises by a veterinary surgeon for examination by him or on his behalf (regulation 5).