

**STATUTORY RULES OF A GENERAL CHARACTER
ISSUED IN 1992**

1992 No. 1

AGRICULTURE

**The Beef Carcase (Classification) Regulations
(Northern Ireland) 1992**

Made 2nd January 1992

Coming into operation 29th January 1992

The Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland, being a Department designated(a) for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(b) in relation to the common agricultural policy of the European Economic Community, acting in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by the said section 2(2) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations, which may be cited as the Beef Carcase (Classification) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 shall apply in Northern Ireland and shall come into force on 29th January 1992.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations—

“adult bovine animal” has the meaning assigned to it by Article 1(2) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 805/68 on the common organisation of the market in beef and veal(c) as amended(d);

“authorised officer” means a person (whether or not an officer of the Department) authorised by the Department for the purposes of these Regulations;

“classification” means the classification of regulated carcasses in accordance with Articles 3 and 4(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1208/81 determining the Community scale for the classification of carcasses of adult bovine animals(e) as amended(f);

“classification requirements” means the requirements relating to the classification and identification of carcasses specified in the Community provisions and in regulations 5, 6, 7 and 8;

(a) S.I. 1972/1811
(b) 1972 c. 68; section 2 is subject to Schedule 2 to that Act and is to be read with S.I. 1984/703 (N.I. 3) and S.R. 1984 No. 253
(c) O.J. No. L148, 28.6.68, p. 24 (O.J./S.E. vol. I, p. 187)
(d) Relevant amending regulations of the European Communities are Council Regulation (EEC) No. 425/77 (O.J. No. L61, 5.3.77, p. 1) and Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3905/87 (O.J. No. L370, 30.12.87, p. 7)
(e) O.J. No. L123, 7.5.81, p. 3
(f) Amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1026/91 (O.J. No. L106, 26.4.91, p. 2)

- “Commission Regulation” means Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 344/91 laying down detailed rules for applying Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1186/90 extending the scope of the Community scale for the classification of adult bovine animals(a);
- “Community provision” means a provision of a regulation of the European Communities referred to in column 1 of Schedule 1 which is specified in column 2 thereof, and the subject matter of which is described in column 3 thereof, opposite the reference to that regulation;
- “the Department” means the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland;
- “exempt carcass” means a regulated carcass which has been obtained in the circumstance specified in the second indent to Article 2(2) of the Commission Regulation;
- “exempt occupier” means an occupier of a registered slaughterhouse to whom the first indent to Article 2(2) of the Commission Regulation applies;
- “LMC” means the Livestock Marketing Commission for Northern Ireland established under section 1 of the Livestock Marketing Commission Act (Northern Ireland) 1967(b);
- “occupier” in relation to any registered slaughterhouse means a person carrying on the business of that slaughterhouse;
- “pistola cut carcass” means a regulated carcass where after classification and identification—
- (a) the pistola and flank are separated by a horizontal cut immediately opposite to the middle of the last lumbar vertebra then continuing downwards in the line parallel to the fillet so that this is practically free from attached parts of the flank and severed from the thirteenth to the sixth rib (inclusive) by a line parallel to the dorsal edge of the vertebral spine; and
 - (b) the hindquarters are separated from the forequarters by a horizontal cut between the fifth and sixth ribs extending through the backbone.
- “prescribed communication” means communication of the results of classification as required under Article 1(2) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1186/90(c) extending the scope of the Community scale for the classification of carcasses of adult bovine animals;
- “registered slaughterhouse” means a slaughterhouse registered in accordance with the provisions of section 3(1A) of the Agricultural Produce (Meat Regulation and Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland) 1962(d) which implements in part the provisions of Council Directive

(a) O.J. No. L41, 14.2.91, p. 15
(b) 1967 c. 21 (N.I.)
(c) O.J. No. L119, 11.5.90, p. 32
(d) 1962 c. 13 (N.I.)

64/433/EEC on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat as amended(a);

“regulated carcase” means a carcase or half carcase(b) of an adult bovine animal slaughtered in Northern Ireland which has been marked in accordance with the provisions of Article 3.1(a) of Council Directive 64/433/EEC on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat(c) as amended;

“veterinary approval number” means the serial number allocated in relation to the approval of a registered slaughterhouse in accordance with the provisions of Article 10.1 of Council Directive 64/433/EEC as amended.

(2) Other expressions used in these Regulations have, insofar as the context admits, the same meanings as in the Community provisions.

Exemption

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) the classification requirements shall not be compulsory for an exempt occupier or an exempt carcase.

(2) Notwithstanding the exemption from the classification requirements granted under paragraph (1), regulations 4, 9(2), 11, 12, 13 and 14 shall apply in relation to an exempt occupier.

Registration

4.—(1) Every person who on the day after the date on which this regulation comes into force is, or on a subsequent date becomes, an occupier of a registered slaughterhouse shall within 28 days of that date give written notice to the Department of the particulars specified in Schedule 2.

(2) Where any change occurs in any of the particulars required to be notified under paragraph (1) the occupier who gave notice of those particulars shall within 28 days of the change give written notice to the Department of particulars of the change.

(3) Where an occupier of a registered slaughterhouse ceases to be its occupier he shall within 10 days of the date of such cessation give written notice to the Department of—

(a) the date of such cessation; and

(b) the person (if any) succeeding him as occupier of that slaughterhouse.

(4) Where a registered slaughterhouse ceases to be such a slaughterhouse its occupier shall within 10 days of such cessation give written notice to the Department of the date of such cessation.

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- (a) Relevant amending directives of the European Communities are Council Directive 66/601/EEC (O.J. No. L192, 28.10.66, p. 3302; O.J./S.E. 1965-66, p. 244), Council Directive 69/349/EEC (O.J. No. L256, 11.10.69, p. 5; O.J./S.E. vol. II, p. 431), Council Directive 83/90/EEC (O.J. No. L59, 5.3.83, p. 10), Council Directive 85/586/EEC (O.J. No. L372, 31.12.85, p. 44) Council Directive 88/288/EEC (O.J. No. L124, 18.5.88, p. 28) and Council Directive 91/497/EEC O.J. No. L268, 24.9.91, p. 69
- (b) See Article 2 of Council Regulation (EEC No. 1208/81 for a definition of “carcase” and “half carcase”
- (c) Articles 3.1(a) and 10.1 of Council Directive 64/433/EEC are implemented in Northern Ireland by the provisions of the Agricultural Produce (Meat Regulation and Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland) 1962 (1962 c. 13 (N.I.))

Position of marks

5. Subject to regulation 7, the marks to be applied on a regulated carcass in accordance with Article 1(1) of the Commission Regulation shall be applied on the positions specified in that Article or (except as regards a pistola cut carcass) on the positions specified in paragraph 1 of Schedule 3.

Labelling instead of marking

6. Subject to regulation 7, an occupier of a registered slaughterhouse may instead of marking a regulated carcass in accordance with Article 1(1) of the Commission Regulation and regulation 5, label it in accordance with Article 1(2) of the Commission Regulation and such labels shall be applied on the positions specified in Article 1(1) of that Regulation or (except as regards a pistola cut carcass) on the positions specified in paragraph 1 of Schedule 3.

Marking of carcasses intended for intervention or for private storage aid

7. Regulations 5 and 6 shall not apply in relation to a regulated carcass to which—

- (a) Article 4(3) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 859/89 laying down detailed rules for the application of intervention measures in the beef and veal sector(a) as amended(b) applies; or
- (b) Article 2(2) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 3445/90 laying down detailed rules for granting private storage aid for beef and veal(c) applies.

Licensing of Classifiers

8.—(1) Classification shall not be carried out by any person unless he holds a licence granted under this regulation and complies with the terms and conditions of that licence.

(2) The Department may grant a licence for the purposes of paragraph (1) to any person appearing to it to be qualified to carry out classifications.

- (3) A licence under this Regulation—
 - (a) shall come into force on the date of issue of the licence;
 - (b) shall be in the form prescribed in Schedule 4 and shall be subject to such conditions as are also specified in that form; and
 - (c) may be suspended or revoked—
 - (i) for contravention of any condition subject to which the licence was granted; or
 - (ii) in the circumstances referred to in the second paragraph of Article 3(2) of the Commission Regulation.

(a) O.J. No. L91, 4.4.89, p. 5

(b) The relevant amending regulation of the European Communities is Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1726/90 (O.J. No. L160, 26.6.90, p. 31)

(c) O.J. No. L333, 30.11.90, p. 30

Keeping, retention and production of records

9.—(1) An occupier of a registered slaughterhouse who is not an exempt occupier shall—

- (a) keep a record of the particulars specified in Part I of Schedule 5 relating to each regulated carcase which is classified in a registered slaughterhouse occupied by him; and
- (b) keep a record of the particulars specified in Part II of Schedule 5 relating to each exempt carcase which is obtained in a registered slaughterhouse occupied by him.

(2) An exempt occupier shall keep a record of the particulars specified in Part III of Schedule 5.

(3) A person who, under paragraph (1) or (2), is required to keep a record shall—

- (a) retain that record for a period of two years from the end of the calendar year to which such record relates; and
- (b) upon demand by an authorised officer produce or cause to be produced such record for inspection by the authorised officer and shall allow him to take copies and make extracts from it.

Classifications by the LMC

10.—(1) An occupier of a registered slaughterhouse may request the LMC to carry out the classification requirements at any such slaughterhouse occupied by him.

(2) An occupier shall—

- (a) make a request under paragraph (1) by written notice, to be given to the LMC not less than six months before the date on which he requires the LMC to commence the carrying out of the classification requirements at that slaughterhouse; and
- (b) within 30 days from the date of such notice, agree with the LMC a classification charge.

(3) The LMC may—

- (a) notwithstanding paragraph (2)(a), accept a notice of less than six months; and
- (b) notwithstanding paragraph (2)(b), agree with an occupier a classification charge at any time.

(4) If the occupier and the LMC fail to agree a classification charge, the LMC may refuse to carry out the classification requirements and in such event shall notify the occupier in writing of such refusal.

(5) Where the LMC has received notice of a request to carry out the classification requirements at a registered slaughterhouse and agreed with the occupier a classification charge, the LMC shall—

(a) forthwith notify that occupier in writing of:

- (i) its agreement to carry out the classification requirements at that slaughterhouse;

- (ii) the classification charge and the period for which such charge is to apply, as agreed between the LMC and that occupier; and
 - (iii) the date of commencement;
- (b) forthwith notify the Department in writing of its agreement to carry out the classification requirements at that slaughterhouse and the date of commencement;
- (c) subject to paragraph (6), from the date of commencement carry out the classification requirements in respect of every regulated carcase obtained in that slaughterhouse; and
- (d) as soon as reasonably practicable after carrying out such classification requirements provide the occupier with the particulars specified in paragraphs 1, 3 and 5 of Part I of Schedule 5 and any other details relating to such classification requirements as the occupier may reasonably require so as to enable him to give the prescribed communication and to comply with regulation 9.
- (6) The LMC having agreed to carry out the classification requirements at a registered slaughterhouse in accordance with paragraph (5) may suspend or revoke that agreement if the occupier of the slaughterhouse—
- (a) fails to pay to the LMC on demand the classification charge;
 - (b) fails to provide such information and assistance as the LMC may reasonably request so as to enable it to carry out the classification requirements at that slaughterhouse;
 - (c) carries out or allows any other person to carry out the classification requirements in respect of any regulated carcase obtained in that slaughterhouse at any time after the date of commencement; or
 - (d) fails at any time after the date of commencement to present to the LMC any regulated carcase obtained in that slaughterhouse so as to enable the LMC to carry out the classification requirements in respect of that carcase.
- (7) The LMC having agreed to carry out the classification requirements at a registered slaughterhouse may suspend or revoke that agreement if the period referred to in paragraph (5)(a)(ii) above has expired without the LMC and that occupier agreeing a classification charge for a further period.
- (8) The LMC shall forthwith give written notice to the occupier of the registered slaughterhouse concerned and the Department of any action it may have taken under paragraph (6) or (7).
- (9) Where the LMC has agreed with an occupier of a registered slaughterhouse to carry out the classification requirements at his registered slaughterhouse and has agreed with that occupier a classification charge, that occupier shall not revoke that agreement except—
- (a) by giving to the LMC a further notice in writing to take effect forthwith or on such date as may be specified in that notice where, for whatever reason, the LMC has failed to carry out the classification requirements in respect of every regulated carcase obtained in that slaughterhouse for a continuous period of 2 days (excluding days on which, under that agreement, the LMC is not obliged to carry out such requirements);

- (b) by agreement with the LMC; or
- (c) by giving to the LMC a further notice in writing of not less than 6 months provided that the occupier shall not give such notice during the first six months from the date of commencement.

(10) The occupier shall forthwith give written notice to the Department of any action he may have taken under paragraph (9).

(11) In this regulation—

- “classification charge” means the amount which the occupier of a registered slaughterhouse may from time to time agree with the LMC to pay to it for the classification requirements to be carried out by the LMC at that slaughterhouse in accordance with this regulation;
- “date of commencement” means the date, agreed between the LMC and an occupier of a registered slaughterhouse, from which the LMC will carry out the classification requirements at that slaughterhouse; and
- “regulated carcase” does not include an exempt carcase.

Powers of authorised officers

11.—(1) An authorised officer may at all reasonable hours and on producing, if so required, some duly authenticated document showing his authority, for the purpose of ascertaining whether the Community provisions or these Regulations have been or are being complied with—

- (a) enter any registered slaughterhouse or any slaughterhouse which he reasonably suspects to be such a slaughterhouse;
- (b) inspect any regulated carcase or part of such a carcase or any carcase or part of a carcase which he reasonably suspects to be such a carcase or part of such a carcase in that slaughterhouse;
- (c) examine any records which an occupier is required to keep under regulation 9 and where any such record is kept by means of a computer, have access to and inspect and check the operation of any computer and associated apparatus or material which is or has been in use in connection with that record;
- (d) require that copies of, or extracts from any such record be produced and where such record is kept by means of a computer, require it to be produced in a form in which it may be taken away;
- (e) retain any such record which he has reason to believe may be required as evidence in proceedings under these Regulations.

(2) An authorised officer entering any registered slaughterhouse by virtue of this regulation may take with him such other persons and such equipment as he considers necessary.

Assistance to authorised officers

12.—(1) The occupier of a registered slaughterhouse shall give to an authorised officer such assistance as the authorised officer may reasonably request so as to enable the authorised officer to exercise any power conferred under regulation 11.

(2) In paragraph (1) “occupier of a registered slaughterhouse” includes the LMC when carrying out the classification requirements under regulation 10 in respect of regulated carcasses obtained in that slaughterhouse.

Offences and penalties

13.—(1) If any person—

(a) intentionally obstructs an authorised officer in the exercise of the powers conferred by regulation 11; or

(b) fails to comply with a request under regulation 9(3)(b), 11(1)(d) or 12, he shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £400.

(2) If any person—

(a) fails to comply with any other requirement imposed on him under a Community provision or these Regulations; or

(b) for the purpose of obtaining a licence under regulation 8 knowingly or recklessly makes a statement which is false in a material particular; or

(c) makes an alteration to such a licence;

he shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £2,000.

(3) Proceedings for an offence under paragraph (1) or (2) may be brought within a period of six months from the date on which evidence sufficient in the opinion of the Department to justify proceedings comes to its knowledge and in any case within twelve months from the commission of the offence.

(4) A certificate purporting to be signed for the purposes of paragraph (3) by or on behalf of the Department shall be conclusive evidence of the date on which evidence sufficient to justify proceedings come to its knowledge.

(5) If any person—

(a) makes an entry which he knows to be false in any record which is required to be kept by virtue of regulation 9(1) or (2) or, with intent to deceive, makes use of any entry which he knows to be false; or

(b) with intent to deceive applies to a regulated carcass or part of such a carcass a mark prescribed by Article 1(1) of the Commission Regulation or, to a label attached by virtue of regulation 6, an indication prescribed by Article 1(2) of that Regulation; or

(c) applies to a regulated carcass or part of such a carcass a mark so closely resembling a mark prescribed by Article 1(1) of the Commission Regulation as to be calculated to deceive or applies to a label attached by virtue of regulation 6 an indication so closely resembling an indication prescribed by Article 1(2) of that Regulation as to be calculated to deceive,

he shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £2,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three months or both, or on conviction on indictment to a fine or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or both.

Defence of due diligence

14. It shall be a defence for a person charged with an offence under these Regulations to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence by himself or by a person under his control.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 2nd January 1992.

(L.S.)

D. A. J. Hirrell

Assistant Secretary

Community Provisions

(1) <i>Regulations containing Community provision</i>	(2) <i>Provision</i>	(3) <i>Subject Matter</i>
1. Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1208/81 determining the Community scale for the classification of carcasses of adult bovine animals (O.J. No. L123, 7.5.81, p. 3), as amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1026/91 (O.J. No. L106, 26.4.91, p. 2).	Article 3(1)	Categories of carcasses. Classes of conformation and fat cover.
	Article 3(2), read with Annexes I and II	
	Article 4(1)	Requirements as to the timing and location of classification.
2. Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1186/90 extending the scope of the Community scale for the classification of carcasses of adult bovine animals (O.J. No. L119, 11.5.90, p. 32).	Article 4(2)	Requirement to identify carcasses and half-carcasses.
	Article 4(3)	Authorisation to remove external fat.
	Article 1(1)	Requirement for registered slaughterhouses to classify and identify regulated carcasses from 1st January 1992.
3. Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2930/81 adopting additional provisions for the application of the Community scale for the classification of carcasses of adult bovine animals (O.J. No. L293, 13.10.81, p. 6) as amended by Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2237/91 (O.J. No. L204, 27.7.91, p. 11).	Article 1(2)	Requirement to give the prescribed communication.
	Article 1, read with Annex	Additional provisions specifying the definition of the classes of conformation and fat cover.
4. Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 563/82 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1208/81 (O.J. No. L67, 11.3.82, p. 23) as amended by Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 1935/83 (O.J. No. L191, 15.7.83, p. 41) and Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 3402/85 (O.J. No. L322, 3.12.85, p. 14).	Article 2	Requirements as to the criterion for differentiating between categories of uncastrated male animals.
	Article 3	Requirements as to the removal of external fat.

5. Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 344/91 laying down detailed rules for applying Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1186/90 (O.J. No. L41, 14.2.91, p. 15).	Article 1(1)	Requirements as to the identification of regulated carcasses by marking.
	Article 1(2)	Requirements to the identification of regulated carcasses by labelling.
	Article 1(3)	Prohibition on the removal of marks and labels before boning.
	Article 1(4)	Requirement to indicate the category of carcass.
	Article 2(3)	Exception from the identification requirements.

Particulars of the Occupier of a Registered Slaughterhouse to be notified to the Department

1. (i) if an individual, his name and address;
(ii) if a joint owner or a partnership, the full names and address of the joint owners or partners;
(iii) if a body corporate, the full name, registered office and registration number of the body corporate.
2. The address, telephone number and veterinary approval number of the registered slaughterhouse.
3. The principal place of business of the occupier, if different from item 2 above.
4. The name under which the registered slaughterhouse is operated, if different from item 1 above.
5. The date on which he became occupier of the registered slaughterhouse, if later than 31st October 1991.
6. A reasonable forecast (expressed as a weekly average) of the number of adult bovine animals to be slaughtered in the registered slaughterhouse during the next twelve months, based on the actual number of such animals slaughtered in that slaughterhouse (if any) during the preceding twelve months or other relevant factors.

Alternative positions of marks to be applied on regulated carcasses

1. (a) Hindquarters: between the eleventh and thirteenth rib inside the carcass.
(b) Forequarters: between the third and fifth rib inside the carcass.

FORM OF CLASSIFICATION LICENCE

Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland

Serial Number of Licence:

LICENCE TO CLASSIFY CARCASSES OF ADULT BOVINE ANIMALS

This licence is granted under regulation 8 of the Beef Carcase (Classification) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992 ("the Regulations") to:

Name in full Mr/Mrs/Miss
of

Name and full
address of
employer
.....

and authorise(s) you to carry out classification of regulated carcasses in accordance with these Regulations and the Community provisions specified therein.

The loss of this licence must be reported to the Department at once. If found this licence must be handed in at the nearest Police Station.

Conditions

The licence—

1. is valid only for use in registered slaughterhouses in Northern Ireland;
2. is not transferable to any other person;
3. must be kept in your possession when you are engaged in classification or any activities associated therewith and be made available for inspection by authorised officers of the issuing Department on demand;
4. becomes invalid if you leave the employment of the employer specified on this licence or (if self-employed) your home address changes;
5. remains the property of the issuing Department, may be suspended or revoked by the Department in accordance with the Regulations and must be surrendered to the Department on demand or on becoming invalid.

Issued by on (Date)

Signature
Chief Fatstock Officer

(for and on behalf of the
Department of Agriculture
for Northern Ireland)

PART I

RECORDS TO BE KEPT BY OCCUPIER FOR EACH REGULATED CARCASE
CLASSIFIED

1. The results of the classification.
2. The veterinary approval number of the registered slaughterhouse.
3. The kill or slaughter number of the animal from which the regulated carcass was obtained, as allocated by the occupier.
4. The date of slaughter.
5. The weight of the regulated carcass.
6. A record that the prescribed communication has been effected.
7. The name and Classification Licence serial number of the person who carried out the classification.

PART II

RECORDS TO BE KEPT BY OCCUPIER FOR EACH EXEMPT CARCASE OBTAINED

1. The veterinary control number of the registered slaughterhouse.
2. The kill or slaughter number of the animal from which the exempt carcass was obtained, as allocated by the occupier.
3. The name and address of the retailer on whose account the exempt carcass was obtained.

PART III

RECORDS TO BE KEPT BY EXEMPT OCCUPIER

1. The veterinary control number of the registered slaughterhouse.
2. Details *relating to the number* of all adult bovine animals slaughtered in that registered slaughterhouse, *recorded* in such form so as to indicate clearly to an authorised officer the number of such animals slaughtered in any consecutive period of twelve months.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations, which apply to Northern Ireland only, provide for the administration and enforcement of the Community system of classification of beef carcasses.

This system referred to in the previous paragraph ("the Community system") consists of the following main elements:

- (a) classification of carcasses and half-carcasses in accordance with the Community scale defined by Article 3 of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1208/91 (O.J. No. L123, 7.5.81, p. 3) as amended and by Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 2930/81 (O.J. No. L293, 13.10.81, p. 6) as amended;
- (b) identification of carcasses and half-carcasses which have been so classified by means of a mark or, if a Member State so authorises, a label (see Articles 1 and 2(3) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 344/91 (O.J. No. L41, 14.2.91, p. 15));
- (c) communication of the results of classification to the person who has the slaughtering carried out (see Article 1(2) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1186/90 (O.J. No. L119, 11.5.90, p. 32)); and
- (d) a requirement that classification is carried out only by qualified technicians who have obtained a licence for that purpose (see Article 3(1) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No. 344/91).

As from 1st January 1992 occupiers of slaughterhouses which are approved for intra-Community trade in fresh meat under Article 8 of Council Directive 64/433/EEC (O.J./S.E. 1963/64, p. 185) as amended (in the Regulations defined as "registered slaughterhouses") are obliged, subject to exemptions in relation to certain classes of occupier and of carcass which may be determined by Member States, to operate the Community system in relation to all carcasses and half-carcasses bearing the Community health stamp specified by Article 3 of that Directive (in the Regulations defined as "regulated carcasses"). Section 1(1)(e) of the Agricultural Produce (Meat Regulation and Pig Industry) Act (Northern Ireland) 1962 implements in part these provisions of the Directive in Northern Ireland.

The Regulations—

- (a) make provision for exemptions from the Community system (regulation 3);
- (b) in the case of regulated carcasses which are not intended for sale into intervention or for private storage aid, authorise replacement of identification marking by the use of labels and specify alternative positions on which marks and labels may be applied (regulations 5, 6 and 7);
- (c) make provision in connection with the granting of classification licences (regulation 8);
- (d) require occupiers of registered slaughterhouses to keep certain records (regulation 9);

- (e) prescribe arrangements for the Livestock Marketing Commission for Northern Ireland to carry out classifications and identifications of regulated carcasses and make provision for its entering into agreements with occupiers of registered slaughterhouses for such purpose (regulation 10);
- (f) confer on persons authorised by the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland powers of entry and inspection for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Community system and the Regulations and require that such assistance be given to them for that purpose as they may reasonably request (regulations 11 and 12);
- (g) create offences and penalties, and provide for defences (regulations 13 and 14).