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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**1997 No. 493**

**Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection)  
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997**

**Part V**

**Admission and Detention in Slaughterhouses and Farmed  
Game Processing Facilities of Animals and Carcasses**

**Period of time for keeping an animal in a lairage and removal of an animal from a slaughterhouse**

**15.—(1)** A person shall not keep or permit to be kept in any lairage for a period exceeding 72 hours any animal intended for slaughter unless—

- (a) the OVS gives his consent to it being kept in a lairage for a period exceeding 72 hours, which consent shall only be given in exceptional circumstances; and
- (b) it is isolated from animals in respect of which no such consent has been given.

(2) In this regulation “lairage” means any covered part of a slaughterhouse used for the confinement of animals awaiting slaughter there, but does not include any field, pasture or other open lairage forming part of any slaughterhouse or otherwise.

(3) A person shall not, unless directed by an OVS or a veterinary officer, remove from a slaughterhouse an animal intended for slaughter if it is intended that meat from it shall be sold for human consumption.