

1960. No. 110

[NC]

DISEASES OF ANIMALS**Brucellosis**

ORDER, DATED 5TH JULY, 1960, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND), 1958(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section fifty-three of the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland), 1958, and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Order:

Citation and commencement

1. This Order which may be cited as the Brucellosis Order (Northern Ireland), 1960, shall come into operation on the 1st day of August, 1960.

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

“approved disinfectant” means a five per centum solution of standard phenol or any other disinfectant approved by the Ministry for the purposes of the Animals Disinfection (Northern Ireland) Order, 1927, Amendment Order, 1931(b);

“attested herd” means an attested herd as defined by the Tuberculosis (Attested Herds) (Northern Ireland) Scheme, 1959(c), or a herd of equivalent status approved as such by the Ministry;

“Brucellosis (Certified) Herd” means an attested herd of which particulars are currently entered in the Brucellosis Register kept by the Ministry;

“Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd” means an attested herd, not being a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd, in respect of which an application for registration in the Brucellosis Register has been made, and which is the subject of official tests for the presence of brucella infection;

“herd” means all bovine animals, maintained upon the farm specified in the application, which are used or may be used or are capable of being used at any time for breeding purposes;

“Ministry” means the Ministry of Agriculture;

“reactor” means an animal which has failed to pass any test approved by the Ministry for the detection of brucella infection.

Application for registration of a herd in the Brucellosis Register

3.—(1) Where an owner of an attested herd of cattle—

(a) applies to the Ministry for the registration of his herd in the Brucellosis Register;

(b) produces *prima facie* evidence of the herd's freedom from brucellosis; and

(c) gives a written undertaking to the Ministry that he will observe the obligations imposed on him by this Order,

(a) 1958. c. 13.

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1931, No. 15.

(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1959, No. 54.

the Ministry may, if it is satisfied that the management of the herd and the conditions under which the herd is kept are suitable for the maintenance of a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd, carry out the official tests hereinafter described.

(2) *Prima facie* evidence of the herd's freedom from brucellosis shall be :

(a) a certificate of a veterinary surgeon, to the effect that all animals in the herd, referred to in the application for registration in the Brucellosis Register, were tested for the presence of brucella infection within the four weeks immediately prior to the date on which such application is received by the Ministry and that no animal in the herd was found to be a reactor; or

(b) a certificate of a veterinary inspector that, at the date on which this Order came into operation, the herd was the subject of official tests for brucellosis, and that on the occasion of the last test no animal in the herd was found to be a reactor.

(3) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (2), tests by a veterinary surgeon shall be by means of samples taken by him from each animal in the herd, from as many of the following sources as may be practicable—

Females—blood, milk and vaginal mucus.

Males —blood and semen.

Such samples shall be sent for testing to the Veterinary Research Laboratory of the Ministry or other laboratory approved by the Ministry.

Official tests

4.—(1) An official test for the presence of brucella infection shall consist of a test carried out by the Ministry, in respect of female cattle, on samples of blood and/or milk and/or vaginal mucus or, in respect of male cattle, on samples of blood and/or semen taken from animals in a herd by an officer of the Ministry.

(2) An official test shall not be carried out sooner than ninety days following any other such test or any test carried out, for the purposes of sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (2) of article 3, by a veterinary surgeon.

(3) The Ministry may, in respect of any application for the registration of a herd in the Brucellosis Register, carry out official tests not exceeding four in number, and may discontinue testing if it considers that the number of reactors revealed by any official test is disproportionately large in relation to the size of the herd or that the owner of the herd has failed to observe any obligation imposed on him by this Order.

Isolation and disposal of reactors and disinfection of premises

5. Where any reactor is found in any herd as the result of an official test, the Ministry shall inform the owner of the herd of such result and the owner of the herd shall, with the least possible delay

(a) isolate, to the satisfaction of the Ministry, such reactor from all other animals in the herd, and

(b) dispose of such reactor, and

(c) thereafter disinfect, in accordance with the provisions of the First Schedule, the premises in which the reactor had been housed and/or milked.

Brucellosis Register

6.—(1) The Ministry shall keep a register, herein described as the Brucellosis Register, of all herds of cattle in which no reactor has been revealed by either of two successive official tests and may at its discretion include in such register particulars of any herd which has been wholly constituted by the transfer of animals from herds registered as aforesaid and which, furthermore, has passed one official test after the date on which the herd was so constituted.

(2) The owner of any herd registered in the Brucellosis Register shall comply with the rules specified in the First Schedule.

(3) An entry in the Brucellosis Register relating to any herd may be cancelled if

- (a) in the opinion of the Ministry, the owner of the herd fails to observe any obligation imposed on him by this Order, or
- (b) the owner of the herd makes a request for the cancellation to be made.

(4) The Ministry may carry out official tests in respect of any herd registered in the Brucellosis Register and, should a reactor be revealed by any such test, the Ministry may, at its discretion, carry out further official tests and may, where

- (a) a high degree of brucella infection in the herd is revealed by any such test, or
 - (b) any reactor is revealed by each of two consecutive such tests,
- cancel the entry in the Brucellosis Register relating to that herd.

Issue of a Brucellosis Certificate

7. The Ministry shall issue, to the owner of each herd registered in the Brucellosis Register, a certificate which shall be evidence that brucellosis has not been detected in that herd. Such certificate, herein described as a Brucellosis Certificate, shall be valid for so long as the herd is registered in the Brucellosis Register and shall be sufficient for the purposes of the Milk (Amendment No. 2) Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1959(a).

Re-application for registration

8. Where, on application having been made for the registration of a herd in the Brucellosis Register, the herd is not so registered, or where the registration of a herd in the Brucellosis Register has been cancelled, the owner of the herd may re-apply for such registration. Provided that the application is accompanied by the evidence required to be produced under sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (1) of article 3, and by the undertaking required to be given under sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph (1) of article 3, and provided that the Ministry is satisfied that the management of the herd and the conditions under which the herd is kept are suitable for the maintenance of a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd, the Ministry may carry out two official tests, but the second of such tests shall be carried out only in the event of no reactor being revealed by the first of such tests.

Movement of cattle

9. Except under the authority of a permit issued by an officer of the Ministry and in accordance with the conditions of such permit as specified in the Second Schedule, a bovine animal shall not be moved—

(a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1959, No. 68.

- (a) on to any farm on which a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd or a Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd is maintained; or
- (b) to any place where it is to be accommodated in premises being used, with the approval of the Ministry, for the exhibition or sale of cattle from Brucellosis (Certified) Herds.

Ministry not liable for loss sustained by owner

10. The Ministry shall not be held liable for any loss sustained by the owner or other person as the result of the death, injury or illness of any animal caused or alleged to have been caused through the carrying out of an official test.

Saving

11. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Order, the Ministry may decline to accept and proceed upon any application received under this Order from an owner of any herd.

Power of entry, etc.

12. The owner of a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd or Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd shall give all reasonable facilities for the entry of a veterinary inspector or other officer of the Ministry on to his farm and premises for the purpose of examining such farm and premises, the animals thereon, the records required to be kept and permits issued under this Order, and for the official testing of animals. The owner shall furnish to the veterinary inspector or other officer all such information as may reasonably be required for the purposes of the Order.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this 5th day of July, nineteen hundred and sixty.

(L.S.)

J. C. Baird,
Assistant Secretary.

FIRST SCHEDULE

Rules to be observed by the owners of Brucellosis (Certified) Herds and Brucellosis (Eradication) Herds

Keeping of records

1. As from the date on which he applies for the registration of his herd in the Brucellosis Register, the owner of a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd or Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd shall at all times have an accurate written record of every animal in his herd and such record shall show:

- (a) the breed, age, sex, earmark or ear tag number of each animal in the herd and of every animal born or obtained;
- (b) the date of birth of each animal born into the herd;
- (c) the date of death or slaughter of each animal;
- (d) the names and addresses of persons to whom cattle are disposed or from whom cattle are obtained;
- (e) the date of and reason for the movement of animals to or from the herd;
- (f) the date on which each animal was vaccinated with an anti-abortion vaccine approved by the Ministry.

Any record kept for the purposes of the Tuberculosis (Attested Herds) (Northern Ireland) Scheme, 1959, or the Tuberculosis (Area Eradication) Order (Northern

Ireland), 1959(a), shall serve as a record for the purposes of this rule, provided it shows the particulars which are required by this rule to be shown.

Marking of animals

2. Every animal in a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd or Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd shall be marked by the owner in a manner approved by the Ministry.

Fences

3. The fences dividing the farm specified in the application form from adjoining land shall be maintained, to the satisfaction of the Ministry, in such condition as to prevent the infection of the herd by cattle on the adjoining land.

Use of milk for feeding to animals

4.—(1) Milk or dairy by-products shall not be brought, for feeding to bovine or other animals, on to a farm where a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd or a Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd is maintained except when the milk or dairy by-product

- (a) comes direct from a farm where a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd is maintained; or
- (b) has been converted into powder form; or
- (c) is boiled or pasteurised before use for feeding purposes.

(2) For the purposes of this rule, "pasteurised" means retained at a temperature of not less than 145° Fahrenheit and not more than 150° Fahrenheit for at least thirty minutes or at a temperature of not less than 162° Fahrenheit for at least fifteen seconds.

Abortion

5. In the event of any animal in a herd aborting, the owner shall with all practicable speed notify the Ministry of the circumstances.

Vaccination

6.—(1) All heifer calves born into a herd, and all heifer calves under nine months of age which have not previously been vaccinated and which are brought into a herd, shall be vaccinated with an anti-abortion vaccine approved by the Ministry, when they are aged between six and nine months. In respect of each animal so vaccinated, the owner of the herd shall send to the Ministry a certificate of a veterinary surgeon which shall show the identification number of the calf, the age of the calf, and the date on which it was vaccinated.

(2) Save as provided by rule 6(1), no animal in a herd shall be vaccinated with an anti-abortion vaccine unless the prior written consent of the Ministry is obtained.

Disinfection of premises

7. Where disinfection of premises is required, under article 5, disinfection shall be carried out in the following manner—

- (a) before removal from the premises, the manure, fittings and other things and materials therein, shall be thoroughly soaked with an approved disinfectant;
- (b) the manure shall then be removed from the premises and deposited in a place not normally accessible to cattle and such manure shall not subsequently be spread on pasture;
- (c) after the removal of the manure from the premises, all parts of the premises with which cattle have been in contact or which have been soiled with their excretions, shall be thoroughly scraped. The scrapings shall be removed and the scraped parts of the premises shall be thoroughly scrubbed and washed with a four per centum solution of washing soda in hot water,

and after the completion of such scrubbing and washing, the scraped parts shall be sprayed with an approved disinfectant;

- (d) all utensils and other articles, whether within or without the premises, which have been used in connection with the care, milking or management of any animal found to be a reactor, shall be thoroughly cleansed and washed with a four per centum solution of washing soda in hot water;
- (e) any person carrying out the disinfection described in this article shall, on completing the disinfection and before entering other premises or coming into contact with any animal, disinfect his boots and hands by washing them in an approved disinfectant.

SECOND SCHEDULE

Conditions which may be included in permits relating to the movement of cattle to Brucellosis (Certified) Herds or to Brucellosis (Eradication) Herds or to approved exhibitions or sales

1. Where a bovine animal is moved direct to a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd or to a Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd from—

- (a) a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd, or
- (b) a place of exhibition or sale where accommodation is reserved and approved by the Ministry for the exposure of cattle from Brucellosis (Certified) Herds,

a permit issued by the Ministry authorising such movement may contain the following conditions:—

- (i) the animal, during the course of movement, shall not be allowed or caused to come into contact with any other bovine animal which is not also being moved under the authority of a permit issued under this Order;
- (ii) any road vehicle used for the conveyance of such animal shall, immediately before its use for that purpose, have been cleansed and disinfected as follows:—

The floor, roof and sides of the inside of the vehicle and all other parts of the vehicle with which the animal to be conveyed or any fodder, litter or other matter, may come in contact, shall have been scraped and swept and the scrapings and sweepings and all dung, sawdust, litter and other matter shall have been removed, and thereafter all such parts of the vehicle shall have been thoroughly washed, scrubbed or scoured with water and disinfected by being thoroughly coated or washed with an approved disinfectant.

- (iii) any rail vehicle used for the conveyance of such animal shall, since it was last used for the conveyance of animals, have been cleansed and disinfected in accordance with article 24 of the Transit of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order, 1927(a), and shall, in addition, have been further disinfected by coating or washing the floor, roof and sides of the inside of the vehicle with an approved disinfectant immediately prior to the loading of the animal in the vehicle;
- (iv) water, if required by an animal during transit, shall be supplied in a clean bucket from a tap and not from a water trough or other source of supply to which livestock may have direct access;
- (v) any other condition which may reasonably be required by the Ministry.

2. Where a bovine animal is moved to premises for the purpose of joining a Brucellosis (Certified) Herd or a Brucellosis (Eradication) Herd from—

- (a) an attested herd not registered in the Brucellosis Register, or

(a) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1927, No. 38.