
 STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1974 No. 798

ANIMALS

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY

The Docking of Pigs (Use of Anaesthetics) Order 1974

<i>Made</i>	- - -	<i>6th May 1974</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		<i>14th May 1974</i>
<i>Coming into Operation</i>		<i>1st October 1974</i>

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretary of State (hereinafter referred to as the Ministers), acting jointly in exercise of their powers under section 5 of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968(a) and all other powers enabling them in that behalf, and after consultation with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and with such persons appearing to the Ministers to represent any other interests concerned as the Ministers have considered appropriate, hereby order as follows:—

Title, extent, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This order, which may be cited as the Docking of Pigs (Use of Anaesthetics) Order 1974, applies to Great Britain and shall come into operation on 1st October 1974.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(b) shall apply for the interpretation of this order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

Extension of classes of operations in which anaesthetics must be used

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 1 to the Protection of Animals (Anaesthetics) Act 1954(c) (which relate, respectively, to experiments authorised under the Cruelty to Animals Act 1876(d) and to first aid in emergency), paragraphs 7 and 8 of that Schedule (which exempt certain minor operations from the requirement to use anaesthetics imposed by the said Act of 1954) shall not in any circumstances permit the docking of the tail of a pig which is more than seven days old without the use of an anaesthetic so administered as to prevent any pain during the operation.

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 3rd May 1974.

(L.S.)

Frederick Peart,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

William Ross,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

6th May 1974.

(a) 1968 c. 34
(c) 1954 c. 46.

(b) 1889 c. 63.
(d) 1876 c. 77.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order prohibits the performance without anaesthetic of the operation of docking the tail of a pig more than seven days old except where authorised under the Cruelty to Animals Act 1876 or in emergency for the purpose of saving life or relieving pain.

Any contravention of this Order in England or Wales is an offence of cruelty under the Protection of Animals Act 1911 (c.27), and any such contravention in Scotland is an offence of cruelty under the Protection of Animals (Scotland) Act 1912 (c.14).

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