

1980 No. 286

MILK

Milk (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1980

Made 19th August 1980

Coming into operation 1st October 1980

The Department(a) of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 1(3)(a)(i)(b), 1(3)(b)(ii)(c), 3(1)(d) and 9(1) of the Milk Act (Northern Ireland) 1950(e) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Milk (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1980 and shall come into operation on 1st October 1980.

Amendments to the Regulations of 1963

2.—(1) The Milk Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1963(f) shall be amended as set out in paragraphs (2) to (5).

(2) For Regulation 15 there shall be substituted:

“Vessels and appliances

15.—(1) A vessel or appliance shall —

- (a) as soon as practicable after use be thoroughly rinsed with clean and wholesome water; and
- (b) then be cleaned thoroughly; and
- (c) then have all the surfaces thereof which come into contact with milk either sterilised by one of the methods set out in paragraph (2) or maintained in a manner which inhibits microbial growth on those surfaces; and
- (d) before further use be thoroughly rinsed with clean and wholesome water so that all traces of chemicals used are removed.

(2) Sterilising methods are:

- (a) scalding with boiling water or steam; or
- (b) using a chemical sterilising agent approved by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Secretary of State for Social Services and the Secretary of State for Wales under regulation 27(6) of the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959(g).”

(a) Formerly Ministry: see 1973 c. 36 s. 40 and Sch. 5 para. 8(1)

(b) As substituted by 1967 c. 15 (N.I.) s. 9(1) which replaced the substitution made by 1963 c. 11 (N.I.) s. 1(1)

(c) As substituted by 1963 c. 11 (N.I.) s. 1(1) as amended by 1967 c. 15 (N.I.) s. 9(2)

(d) As substituted by 1967 c. 15 (N.I.) s. 10(1) which replaced the substitution made by 1963 c. 11 (N.I.) s. 2

(e) 1950 c. 31 (N.I.)

(f) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1963 No. 44 (p. 128) as amended by S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1965 No. 46 (p. 234); S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967 No. 8 (p. 10); S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973 No. 30 (I, p. 106); S.R. 1974 No. 128 (I, p. 444); S.R. 1976 No. 376 (II, p. 2173)

(g) S.I. 1959/277 (1959 I, p. 1351)

(3) For Regulation 30(4) there shall be substituted:

“(4) A bottle cap or a carton, can or other container approved by the Department shall be clearly marked or labelled with:

- (a) the licence number of the pasteurising distributor or the name and address or the trade name of the pasteurising distributor;
- (b) the day of the week on which the milk was pasteurised;
- (c) the word “Pasteurised”.

A bottle cap shall not without the written approval of the Department bear any other printed matter. The lettering of printed matter on milk containers shall be of a height of not less than 3 mm. The printed matter required to be marked on a carton shall be in a colour other than green or red.”

(4) Regulation 30(7) shall be deleted.

(5) For Regulation 35 there shall be substituted:

“Quality requirements for milk

35.—(1) Milk shall be regarded as being of the required quality if samples of the milk are taken, transported, kept and tested in accordance with the procedure set out in the Third Schedule and are found to comply with the standards of quality set out in paragraphs (2), (3) and (4).

(2) Samples of milk produced for sale by the holder of a Farm Bottling Licence shall not contain more than 50,000 bacteria per millilitre.

(3) Samples of milk produced for sale by the holder of a Milk Licence when submitted to a Resazurin test shall give a disc reading not less than that specified in the Fourth Schedule on at least five occasions in any seven consecutive tests.

(4) Samples of pasteurised milk intended for sale shall contain no coliform bacteria in one-tenth of a millilitre and shall, when submitted to the phosphatase test, have a reading of not more than 10 microgrammes para-nitrophenol per millilitre.”

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 19th August 1980.

(L.S.)

S. R. Armstrong

Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)

These Regulations amend the Milk Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1963 in the following respects:

1. They permit on farms the cold cleaning without sterilisation of milk equipment. Previously such equipment had to be sterilised before re-use.
2. They provide that the caps of milk bottles, and cartons, cans and other containers approved by the Department shall be marked or labelled with the day of the week on which the milk is pasteurised. Previously they had to be marked or labelled with the day of the week on which it was intended that the milk should be delivered to the consumer being a day not later than that following the day on which the milk was pasteurised.
3. The minimum height of the lettering of all printed matter on milk containers, including bottle caps, is to be 3 mm. Previously the lettering of the day marking on bottle caps or cartons had to be not less than one-eighth of an inch in height. Three mm is the approximate metric equivalent of one-eighth of an inch.
4. They provide that samples of milk produced for sale by the holders of Milk Licences shall pass the Resazurin test on at least 5 out of 7 consecutive tests. Previously such samples were required to pass that test on every occasion.