



# Food Safety Act 1990

## 1990 CHAPTER 16

### PART II

#### MAIN PROVISIONS

##### *Defences etc.*

#### **20 Offences due to fault of another person.**

Where the commission by any person of an offence under any of the preceding provisions of this Part is due to an act or default of some other person, that other person shall be guilty of the offence; and a person may be charged with and convicted of the offence by virtue of this section whether or not proceedings are taken against the first-mentioned person.

#### **Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** S. 20 applied by S.I. 1991/370, **reg. 3(2)**  
S. 20 applied: (9.4.1992) by S.I. 1992/496, **reg. 7(1)(c)**; (29.5.1992) by S.I. 1992/1122, **reg. 4** (which S.I. was revoked (24.7.1992) by S.I. 1992/1601, **reg. 6**); (24.7.1992) by S.I. 1992/1601, **reg. 4**; (13.9.1992) by S.I. 1992/1971, **reg. 9(c)**; (14.9.1992) by S.I. 1992/1978, **reg. 7(c)**; (1.10.1992) by S.I. 1992/2037, **reg. 23(b)** (which S.I. was revoked (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/539, **reg. 25**, **Sch. 22** (with **regs. 3(2), 25, Sch. 22**))  
S. 20 applied: (14.7.1993) by S.I. 1993/1520, **reg. 2(2)(c)**; (29.7.1993) by S.I. 1993/1658, **reg. 7(c)**  
S. 20 applied (4.9.1996) by S.I. 1996/2265, **reg. 7(3)** (which S.I. was revoked (15.3.1997) by S.I. 1997/389, **reg. 14**)  
S. 20 applied (15.3.1997) by S.I. 1997/389, **reg. 10(3)** (which S.I. was revoked (1.8.1997 at 6.00 p.m.) by S.I. 1997/1905, **reg. 20**); (11.8.1997) by S.I. 1997/1729, **reg. 34(1)(c)**; (1.8.1997 at 6.00 p.m.) by S.I. 1997/1905, **reg. 16(3)**  
S. 20 applied (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1513, **reg. 6(2)(a)**  
S. 20 applied (W.) (1.4.2001) by S.I. 2001/1360, **reg. 7(1)(b)**
- C2** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (5.11.1991) by S.I. 1991/2486, **reg. 7(1)**

*Status: Point in time view as at 31/05/2004.*

*Changes to legislation: Food Safety Act 1990, Cross Heading: Defences etc. is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (1.1.1993 for certain purposes and 15.1.1993 otherwise) by S.I. 1992/3163, **regs. 1, 18(1)** (which S.I. was revoked (29.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/994, **reg. 59(1), Sch. 5**); (1.1.1993 for certain purposes and 15.1.1993 otherwise) by S.I. 1992/3164, **regs. 1, 19(1)** (which S.I. was revoked (29.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/994, **reg. 59(1), Sch. 5**); (18.12.1992 for certain purposes and 1.1.1993 otherwise) by S.I. 1992/3165, **regs. 1, 7(2)** (which S.I. was revoked (29.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/994, **reg. 59(1), Sch. 5**); (31.12.1992) by S.I. 1992/3236, **reg. 11(1)**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (1.4.1994) by S.I. 1994/743, **reg. 8(1)(c)**; (1.5.1994) by S.I. 1994/1029, **reg. 25(b)** (which S.I. was revoked (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/540, **reg. 26** (with **reg. 3(5)**)); (2.9.1994) by S.I. 1994/2127, **reg. 5**; (1.1.1995) by S.I. 1994/3082, **reg. 21**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (1.3.1995) by S.I. 1995/77, **reg. 23**; (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/539, **reg. 22**; (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/540, **reg. 24**; (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/614, **reg. 11**; (9.5.1995) by S.I. 1995/1086, **reg. 20(1)(c)**; (15.6.1995) by S.I. 1995/1372, **reg. 20(1)(c)**; (10.7.1995) by S.I. 1995/1544, **reg. 10**; (15.9.1995) by S.I. 1995/1763, **reg. 7(c)**; (15.9.1995) by S.I. 1995/2200, **reg. 18**; (20.9.1995) by S.I. 1995/2148, **reg. 17**; (1.1.1996) by: S.I. 1995/3116, **reg. 8**; S.I. 1995/3123, **reg. 9(c)**; S.I. 1995/3124, **reg. 11(c)**; S.I. 1995/3240, **reg. 10(c)** (which S.I. was revoked (1.7.1996) by S.I. 1996/1499, **reg. 49, Sch. 9**); (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3187, **reg. 9**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3202, **reg. 11**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3205, **reg. 14**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (29.3.1996) by S.I. 1996/961, **art. 4(c)**; (1.7.1996) by S.I. 1996/1499, **reg. 48**; (1.7.1996) by S.I. 1996/1502, **reg. 6**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (16.6.1997) by S.I. 1997/1335, **reg. 6**; (30.6.1997) by S.I. 1995/1544, **reg. 10(1)** (as substituted (30.6.1997) by S.I. 1997/1414, **reg. 3**); (4.7.1997) by S.I. 1997/1499, **reg. 6(1)** (which S.I. was revoked (18.6.2002 (E.), 1.7.2002 (S.), 2.8.2002 (W.)) by S.I. 2002/890, **reg. 11, Sch.**; S.S.I. 2002/267, **reg. 11, Sch.**; S.I. 2002/1886, **reg. 11, Sch.**); (17.11.1997) by S.I. 1997/2537, **reg. 9**; (16.12.1997) by S.I. 1997/2959, **reg. 11**; (1.1.1998) by S.I. 1997/2965, **reg. 30** (with **reg. 32**); (31.3.1999) by S.I. 1997/2042, **reg. 9**; (31.3.1999) by S.I. 1997/2182, **reg. 9**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (19.2.1998) by S.I. 1998/141, **reg. 10(c)**; (1.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/616, **reg. 6(1)(c)**; (29.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/994, **reg. 55(1)(b)**; (31.10.1998) by S.I. 1998/2424, **reg. 8(c)**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (S.) (1.10.1999) by S.S.I. 1999/34, **reg. 8(1)**; (S.) (17.2.1999) by S.S.I. 1999/186, **art. 9**; (19.3.1999) by S.I. 1996/1499 **reg. 48** (as substituted by S.I. 1999/747, **reg. 11**); (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1540, **reg. 19(1)(c)**; (1.10.1999) by S.I. 1999/2457, **reg. 8(1)**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (E.) (10.4.2000) by S.I. 2000/768, **reg. 10(1)**; (S.) (10.4.2000) by S.S.I. 2000/83, **reg. 10(1)**; (W.) (25.7.2000) by S.I. 2000/1925, **reg. 10(1)**; (E.) (15.1.2001) by S.I. 2000/3323, **reg. 10(c)**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (W.) (1.11.2001) by S.I. 2000/1866, **reg. 7(c)**; (S.) (1.11.2001) by S.S.I. 2000/130, **reg. 7(c)**; (E.) (1.11.2001) by S.I. 2000/845, **reg. 7(c)**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (S.) (17.3.2001) by S.S.I. 2001/38, **reg. 10**; (W.) (1.5.2001) by S.I. 2001/1361, **reg. 8(1)**; (W.) (1.5.2001) by S.I. 2001/1440, **reg. 10(c)**

S. 20 applied (with modifications): (E.) (2.2.2002) by S.I. 2002/183, **reg. 6(1)** (which S.I. was revoked (20.6.2002) by S.I. 2002/1614, **reg. 6**); (W.) (2.2.2002) by S.I. 2002/203, **reg. 6(1)** (which S.I. was revoked (12.7.2002) by S.I. 2002/1798, **reg. 6**); (S.) (2.2.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/36, **reg. 6(1)** (which S.S.I. was revoked (24.6.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/300, **reg. 6**); (E.) (16.2.2002) by S.I. 2002/334, **art. 5(1)(b)**; (S.) (16.2.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/64, **art. 5(1)(b)**; (W.) (23.2.2002) by S.I. 2002/402, **art. 5(1)(b)**; (E.W.) (8.3.2002) by S.I. 2002/333, **reg. 6(c)**; (S.) (8.3.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/50, **reg. 6(c)**; (E.) (23.3.2002) by S.I. 2002/773, **reg. 5(1)(a)** (which S.I. was revoked (13.9.2002) by S.I. 2002/2351, **reg. 7**); (E.) (23.3.2002) by S.I. 2002/774, **reg. 5(1)(a)** (which S.I. was revoked (13.9.2002) by S.I. 2002/2350, **reg. 7**); (S.) (25.3.2002 at 1700 hours) by S.S.I. 2002/148, **regs. 1(1), 5(1)(a)** (which S.S.I. was revoked (13.9.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/424, **reg. 7**); (S.) (25.3.2002 at 1700 hours) by S.S.I. 2002/149, **regs. 1(1), 5(1)(a)** (which S.S.I. was revoked (13.9.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/425, **reg. 7**); (W.) (26.3.2002) by S.I. 2002/820, **reg. 5(1)(a)** (which S.I. was revoked (9.9.2002) by S.I. 2002/2295, **reg. 7**); (W.) (26.3.2002) by S.I. 2002/821, **reg. 5(1)(a)** (which S.I. was revoked (9.9.2002) by S.I. 2002/2296, **reg. 7**); (E.) (4.4.2002) by S.I. 2002/931, **reg. 5(1)(b)**; (S.) (4.4.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/179, **reg. 6(1)(b)**; (W.) (16.4.2002) by S.I. 2002/1090, **reg. 5(1)(b)**; (E.) (18.6.2002) by S.I. 2002/890,

*Status: Point in time view as at 31/05/2004.*

*Changes to legislation: Food Safety Act 1990, Cross Heading: Defences etc. is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

- reg. 7(1)(b);** (E.) (20.6.2002) by S.I. 2002/1614, **reg. 5(1)(a);** (S.) (24.6.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/300, **reg. 5(1)(a);** (S.) (1.7.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/267, **reg. 7(1)(b);** (W.) (12.7.2002) by S.I. 2002/1798, **reg. 5(1)(a);** (W.) (2.8.2002) by S.I. 2002/1886, **reg. 7(1)(b);** (E.) (5.8.2002 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2004) by S.I. 2002/1817, regs. 1(2)(3), **9(c);** (W.) (9.9.2002) by S.I. 2002/2295, **reg. 5(1)(a)** and S.I. 2002/2296, **reg. 5(1)(a);** (E.) (13.9.2002) by S.I. 2002/2350, **reg. 5(1)(a)** and S.I. 2002/2351, **reg. 5(1)(a);** (S.) (13.9.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/424, **reg. 5(1)(a)** and S.S.I. 2002/425, **reg. 5(1)(a);** (S.) (23.9.2002 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2004) by S.S.I. 2002/397, regs. 1(2)(3), **8(c);** (W.) (31.12.2002 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2004) by S.I. 2002/2939, regs. 1(2)(3), **9(c);** (S.) (1.1.2003) by S.S.I. 2002/523, **reg. 5(1)(c);** (W.) (9.1.2003) by S.I. 2002/3157, **reg. 5(1)(c);** (E.) (13.1.2003) by S.I. 2002/3169, **reg. 5(1)(c)**
- C3** S. 20 extended (with modifications) (8.1.1992) by S.I. 1991/2843, **reg. 22(1)(b)**
- C4** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (E.) (28.3.2003) by Fish Labelling (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/461), regs. 1, **10(b)**
- C5** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (S.) (28.3.2003) by The Fish Labelling (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/145), regs. 1(1), **10(b)**
- C6** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (W.) (17.4.2003) by Food (Pistachios from Iran) (Emergency Control) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1119), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C7** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (30.6.2003) by Fish Labelling (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1635), regs. 1, **10**
- C8** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (30.6.2003) by Contaminants in Food (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1478), regs. 1, **7(1)(b)**
- C9** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (1.7.2003) by Contaminants in Food (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/289), regs. 1(1), **7(1)(b)**
- C10** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (11.7.2003) by Food (Brazil Nuts) (Emergency Control) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1722), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C11** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (12.7.2003) by Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1564), regs. 1(b), **9(c)**
- C12** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (12.7.2003) by Specified Sugar Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1563), regs. 1, **9(c)**
- C13** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (12.7.2003) by Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/293), regs. 1(1), **10(c)**
- C14** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (17.7.2003) by Condensed Milk and Dried Milk (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/311), regs. 1(1), **10(1)(c)** (with reg. 3)
- C15** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (17.7.2003) by Condensed Milk and Dried Milk (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1596), regs. 1, **9(1)(c)** (with reg. 11)
- C16** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (30.7.2003) by Food (Hot Chilli and Hot Chilli Products) (Emergency Control) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1940), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C17** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (31.7.2003) by Food (Pistachios from Iran) (Emergency Control) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1956), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C18** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (31.7.2003) by The Contaminants in Food (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1721), regs. 1, **7(1)(b)**
- C19** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (3.8.2003) by The Cocoa and Chocolate Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1659), regs. 1, **10(c)**
- C20** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (3.8.2003) by The Cocoa and Chocolate Products (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/291), regs. 1, **11(c)** (with reg. 4)
- C21** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (9.8.2003) by Food (Hot Chilli and Hot Chilli Products) (Emergency Control) (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/382), regs. 1(1), **6(1)(a)**
- C22** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (14.8.2003) by Food (Peanuts from Egypt) (Emergency Control) (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2074), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C23** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (27.8.2003) by Food (Brazil Nuts) (Emergency Control) (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/396), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C24** S. 20 applied (with modifications) (2.9.2003) by Meat Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2075), regs. 1(c), **8(e)** (with reg. 3)

*Status: Point in time view as at 31/05/2004.*

*Changes to legislation: Food Safety Act 1990, Cross Heading: Defences etc. is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

- C25 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (5.9.2003) by Food (Brazil Nuts) (Emergency Control) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2254), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C26 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (6.9.2003) by The Food (Pistachios from Iran) (Emergency Control) (Wales) (No.2) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2288), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C27 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (25.9.2003) by Honey (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2243), regs. 1, **9(c)**
- C28 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (25.9.2003) by Food (Hot Chilli And Hot Chilli Products) (Emergency Control) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2455), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C29 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (30.9.2003) by Food (Peanuts from Egypt) (Emergency Control) (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/418), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C30 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (30.9.2003) by Food (Pistachios from Iran) (Emergency Control) (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/414), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C31 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (14.11.2003) by Food (Peanuts from Egypt) (Emergency Control) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2910), regs. 1(1), **5(1)(a)**
- C32 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by The Specified Sugar Products (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3047), regs. 1, **9(c)**
- C33 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by Honey (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3044), regs. 1, **9(c)**
- C34 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by Specified Sugar Products (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/527), regs. 1(1), **9** (with reg. 10)
- C35 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by Cocoa and Chocolate Products (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3037), regs. 1, **10(c)**
- C36 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by Condensed Milk and Dried Milk (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3053), regs. 1, **9(1)(c)** (with reg. 3)
- C37 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by The Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3041), regs. 1, **9(c)**
- C38 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (18.12.2003) by Honey (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/569), regs. 1(1), **10(c)** (with regs. 3, 11)
- C39 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (31.12.2003) by Jam and Similar Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3120), regs. 1, **9(c)** (with reg. 3)
- C40 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (4.2.2004) by Meat Products (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (S.S.I. 2004/6), regs. 1(1), **9(1)(c)**
- C41 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (14.2.2004) by Food (Chilli and Chilli Products) (Emergency Control) (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (S.S.I. 2004/56), regs. 1(1), **6(1)(a)**
- C42 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (5.3.2004) by Jam and Similar Products (Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/553), regs. 1, **9(1)(c)** (with reg. 3)
- C43 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (16.4.2004) by Food (Jelly Mimi-Cups) (Emergency Control) (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (S.S.I. 2004/187), regs. 1(1), **6(b)**
- C44 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (28.4.2004) by Jam and Similar Products (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (S.S.I. 2004/133), regs. 1(1), **10(c)**
- C45 S. 20 applied (with modifications) (31.5.2004) by Meat Products (Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/1396), regs. 1(c), **8(c)** (with reg. 3)

## 21 Defence of due diligence.

- (1) In any proceedings for an offence under any of the preceding provisions of this Part (in this section referred to as “the relevant provision”), it shall, subject to subsection (5) below, be a defence for the person charged 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.

*Status: Point in time view as at 31/05/2004.*

*Changes to legislation: Food Safety Act 1990, Cross Heading: Defences etc. is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1) above, a person charged with an offence under section 8, 14 or 15 above who neither—
- (a) prepared the food in respect of which the offence is alleged to have been committed; nor
  - (b) imported it into Great Britain,
- shall be taken to have established the defence provided by that subsection if he satisfies the requirements of subsection (3) or (4) below.
- (3) A person satisfies the requirements of this subsection if he proves—
- (a) that the commission of the offence was due to an act or default of another person who was not under his control, or to reliance on information supplied by such a person;
  - (b) that he carried out all such checks of the food in question as were reasonable in all the circumstances, or that it was reasonable in all the circumstances for him to rely on checks carried out by the person who supplied the food to him; and
  - (c) that he did not know and had no reason to suspect at the time of the commission of the alleged offence that his act or omission would amount to an offence under the relevant provision.
- (4) A person satisfies the requirements of this subsection if he proves—
- (a) that the commission of the offence was due to an act or default of another person who was not under his control, or to reliance on information supplied by such a person;
  - (b) that the sale or intended sale of which the alleged offence consisted was not a sale or intended sale under his name or mark; and
  - (c) that he did not know, and could not reasonably have been expected to know, at the time of the commission of the alleged offence that his act or omission would amount to an offence under the relevant provision.
- (5) If in any case the defence provided by subsection (1) above involves the allegation that the commission of the offence was due to an act or default of another person, or to reliance on information supplied by another person, the person charged shall not, without leave of the court, be entitled to rely on that defence unless—
- (a) at least seven clear days before the hearing; and
  - (b) where he has previously appeared before a court in connection with the alleged offence, within one month of his first such appearance,
- he has served on the prosecutor a notice in writing giving such information identifying or assisting in the identification of that other person as was then in his possession.
- (6) In subsection (5) above any reference to appearing before a court shall be construed as including a reference to being brought before a court.

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C46** S. 21 applied by 1991/370, reg. 3 (2)  
S. 21 applied: (9.4.1992) by S.I. 1992/496, **reg. 7(1)(d)**; (13.9.1992) by S.I. 1992/1971, **reg. 9(d)**;  
(14.9.1992) by S.I. 1992/1978, **reg. 7(d)**; (1.10.1992) by S.I. 1992/2037, **reg. 23(c)** (which S.I. was  
revoked (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/539, reg. 25, Sch. 22 (with regs. 3(2), 25, **Sch. 22**))  
S. 21 applied: (14.7.1993) by S.I. 1993/1520, **reg. 2(2)(d)**; (29.7.1993) by S.I. 1993/1658, **reg.7(d)**  
S. 21 applied (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1513, **reg. 6(2)(b)**  
S. 21 applied (W.) (1.4.2001) by S.I. 2001/1360, **reg. 7(1)(c)**



*Status: Point in time view as at 31/05/2004.*

*Changes to legislation: Food Safety Act 1990, Cross Heading: Defences etc. is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

- C47** S. 21 applied (with modifications) (5.11.1991) by S.I. 1991/2486, **reg. 7(1)**
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (1.1.1993 for certain purposes and 15.1.1993 otherwise) by S.I. 1992/3163, **regs. 1, 18(1)** (which S.I. was revoked (29.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/994, **reg. 59(1), Sch. 5**); (1.1.1993 for certain purposes and 15.1.1993 otherwise) by S.I. 1992/3164, **regs. 1, 19(1)** (which S.I. was revoked (29.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/994, **reg. 59(1), Sch. 5**); (18.12.1992 for certain purposes and 1.1.1993 otherwise) by S.I. 1992/3165, **regs. 1, 7(2)** (which S.I. was revoked (29.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/994, **reg. 59(1), Sch. 5**); (31.12.1992) by S.I. 1992/3236, **reg. 11(1)**
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (1.4.1994) by S.I. 1994/743, **reg. 8(1)(d)**; (1.5.1994) by S.I. 1994/1029, **reg. 25(c)** (which S.I. was revoked (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/540, **reg. 26** (with **reg. 3(5)**)); (2.9.1994) by S.I. 1994/2127, **reg. 5**; (1.1.1995) by S.I. 1994/3082, **reg. 21**
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (1.3.1995) by S.I. 1995/77, **reg. 23**; (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/539, **reg. 22** and S.I. 1995/540, **reg. 24**; (1.4.1995) by S.I. 1995/614, **reg. 11**; (9.5.1995) by S.I. 1995/1086, **reg. 20(1)(d)**; (15.6.1995) by S.I. 1995/1372, **reg. 20(1)(d)**; (10.7.1995) by S.I. 1995/1544, **reg. 10**; (15.9.1995) by S.I. 1995/1763, **reg. 7(d)**; (15.9.1995) by S.I. 1995/2200, **reg. 18**; (20.9.1995) by S.I. 1995/2148, **reg. 17**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3116, **reg. 8**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3123, **reg. 9(d)** and S.I. 1995/3124, **reg. 11(d)**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3187, **reg. 9**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3202, **reg. 11**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3205, **reg. 14**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3240, **reg. 10(d)** (which S.I. was revoked (1.7.1996) by S.I. 1996/1499, **reg. 49, Sch. 9**)
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (29.3.1996) by S.I. 1996/961, **reg. 4(d)**; (1.7.1996) by: S.I. 1996/1499, **reg. 48**; S.I. 1996/1502, **reg. 6**
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (16.6.1997) by S.I. 1997/1335, **reg. 6(d)**; (30.6.1997) by S.I. 1995/1544, **reg. 10(1)** (as substituted (30.6.1997) by S.I. 1997/1414, **reg. 3**); (4.7.1997) by S.I. 1997/1499, **reg. 6(1)** (which S.I. was revoked (18.6.2002 (E.), 1.7.2002 (S.), 2.8.2002 (W.)) by S.I. 2002/890, **reg. 11, Sch.**; S.S.I. 2002/267, **reg. 11, Sch.**; S.I. 2002/1886, **reg. 11, Sch.**); (17.11.1997) by S.I. 1997/2537, **reg. 9**; (16.12.1997) by S.I. 1997/2959, **reg. 11**; (1.1.1998) by S.I. 1997/2965, **reg. 30**; (31.3.1999) by S.I. 1997/2042, **reg. 9** and S.I. 1997/2182, **reg. 9**
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (19.2.1998) by S.I. 1998/141, **reg. 10(d)**; (1.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/616, **reg. 6(1)(c)**; (29.4.1998) by S.I. 1998/994, **reg. 55(1)(c)**; (31.10.1998) by S.I. 1998/2424, **reg. 8(d)**;
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1540, **reg. 19(1)(d)**; (1.10.1999) by S.I. 1999/2457, **reg. 8(1)**; (1.10.1999) by S.S.I. 1999/34, **reg. 8(1)**; (19.3.1999) by S.I. 1996/1499, **reg. 48** (as substituted by S.I. 1999/747, **reg. 11**); (17.12.1999) by S.S.I. 1999/186, **reg. 9**
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (E.) (10.4.2000) by S.I. 2000/768, **reg. 10(1)**; (S.) (10.4.2000) by S.S.I. 2000/83, **reg. 10(1)**; (W.) (25.7.2000) by S.I. 2000/1925, **reg. 10(1)**
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (E.) (15.1.2001) by S.I. 2000/3323, **reg. 10(d)**; (W.) (1.11.2001) by S.I. 2000/1866, **reg. 7(d)**; (S.) (1.11.2001) by S.S.I. 2000/130, **reg. 7(d)**; (E.) (1.11.2001) by S.I. 2000/845, **reg. 7(d)**
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (S.) (17.3.2001) by S.S.I. 2001/38, **reg. 10**; (W.) (1.5.2001) by S.I. 2001/1361, **reg. 8(1)**; (W.) (1.5.2001) by S.I. 2001/1440, **reg. 10(d)**
- S. 21 applied (with modifications): (E.W.) (8.3.2002) by S.I. 2002/333, **reg. 6(d)**; (S.) (8.3.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/50, **reg. 6(d)**; (E.) (18.6.2002) by S.I. 2002/890, **reg. 7(1)(c)**; (S.) (1.7.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/267, **reg. 7(1)(c)**; (W.) (2.8.2002) by S.I. 2002/1886, **reg. 7(1)(c)**; (E.) (5.8.2002 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2004) by S.I. 2002/1817, **regs. 1(2)(3), 9(d)**; (S.) (23.9.2002 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2004) by S.S.I. 2002/397, **regs. 1(2)(3), 8(d)**; (W.) (31.12.2002 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2004) by S.I. 2002/2939, **regs. 1(2)(3), 9(d)**; (S.) (1.1.2003) by S.S.I. 2002/523, **reg. 5(1)(d)**; (W.) (9.1.2003) by S.I. 2002/3157, **reg. 5(1)(d)**; (E.) (13.1.2003) by S.I. 2002/3169, **reg. 5(1)(d)**
- C48** S. 21 applied (with modifications) (E.) (28.3.2003) by Fish Labelling (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/461), **regs. 1, 10(c)**
- C49** S. 21 applied (with modifications) (S.) (28.3.2003) by The Fish Labelling (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/145), **regs. 1(1), 10(c)**
- C50** S. 21 applied (with modifications) (30.6.2003) by Contaminants in Food (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1478), **regs. 1, 7(1)(c)**

*Status: Point in time view as at 31/05/2004.*

*Changes to legislation: Food Safety Act 1990, Cross Heading: Defences etc. is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

- C51 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (30.6.2003) by Fish Labelling (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1635), regs. 1, **10**
- C52 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (1.7.2003) by Contaminants in Food (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/289), regs. 1(1), **7(1)(c)**
- C53 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (12.7.2003) by Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1564), regs. 1(b), **9(d)**
- C54 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (12.7.2003) by Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/293), regs. 1(1), **10(d)**
- C55 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (12.7.2003) by Specified Sugar Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1563), regs. 1, **9(d)**
- C56 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (17.7.2003) by Condensed Milk and Dried Milk (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/311), regs. 1(1), **10(1)(d)** (with reg. 3)
- C57 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (17.7.2003) by Condensed Milk and Dried Milk (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1596), regs. 1, **9(1)(d)** (with reg. 11)
- C58 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (31.7.2003) by The Contaminants in Food (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1721), regs. 1, **7(1)(c)**
- C59 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (3.8.2003) by The Cocoa and Chocolate Products (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/291), regs. 1, **11(d)** (with reg. 4)
- C60 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (3.8.2003) by The Cocoa and Chocolate Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1659), regs. 1, **10(d)**
- C61 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (2.9.2003) by Meat Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2075), regs. 1(c), **8(d)** (with reg. 3)
- C62 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (25.9.2003) by Honey (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/2243), regs. 1, **9(d)**
- C63 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by Condensed Milk and Dried Milk (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3053), regs. 1, **9(1)(d)** (with reg. 3)
- C64 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by Specified Sugar Products (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/527), regs. 1(1), **9** (with reg. 10)
- C65 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by Honey (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3044), regs. 1, **9(d)**
- C66 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by Cocoa and Chocolate Products (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3037), regs. 1, **10(d)**
- C67 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by The Specified Sugar Products (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3047), regs. 1, **9(d)**
- C68 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by The Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars (Wales) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3041), regs. 1, **9(d)**
- C69 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (18.12.2003) by Honey (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/569), regs. 1(1), **10(d)** (with regs. 3, 11)
- C70 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (31.12.2003) by Jam and Similar Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/3120), regs. 1, **9(d)** (with reg. 3)
- C71 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (4.2.2004) by Meat Products (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (S.S.I. 2004/6), regs. 1(1), **9(1)(d)**
- C72 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (5.3.2004) by Jam and Similar Products (Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/553), regs. 1, **9(1)(d)** (with reg. 3)
- C73 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (28.4.2004) by Jam and Similar Products (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (S.S.I. 2004/133), regs. 1(1), **10(d)**
- C74 S. 21 applied (with modifications) (31.5.2004) by Meat Products (Wales) Regulations 2004 (S.I. 2004/1396), regs. 1(c), **8(d)** (with reg. 3)
- C75 S. 21(1)(5)(6) applied (29.5.1992) by S.I. 1992/1122, **reg. 4** (which S.I. was revoked (24. 7. 1992) by S.I. 1992/1601, **reg. 6**)  
S. 21(1)(5)(6) applied (24.7.1992) by S.I. 1992/1601, **reg. 4**
- C76 S. 21(1)(5)(6) applied (with modifications) (4.9.1996) by S.I. 1996/2265, **reg. 7(3)** (which S.I. was revoked (15.3.1997) by S.I. 1997/389, **reg. 14**)

*Status: Point in time view as at 31/05/2004.*

*Changes to legislation: Food Safety Act 1990, Cross Heading: Defences etc. is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

S. 21(1)(5)(6) applied (with modifications): (15.3.1997) by S.I. 1997/389, **reg. 10(3)** (which S.I. was revoked (1.8.1997 at 6.00 p.m.) by S.I. 1997/1905, **reg. 20**); (11.8.1997) by S.I. 1997/1729, **reg. 34(1)(d)**; (1.8.1997 at 6.00 p.m.) by S.I. 1997/1905, **reg. 16(3)**

## 22 Defence of publication in the course of business.

In proceedings for an offence under any of the preceding provisions of this Part consisting of the advertisement for sale of any food, it shall be a defence for the person charged to prove—

- (a) that he is a person whose business it is to publish or arrange for the publication of advertisements; and
- (b) that he received the advertisement in the ordinary course of business and did not know and had no reason to suspect that its publication would amount to an offence under that provision.

### Modifications etc. (not altering text)

- C77** S. 22 applied: (13.9.1992) by S.I. 1992/1971, **reg. 9(e)**; (14.9.1992) by S.I. 1992/1978, **reg. 7(e)**  
S. 22 applied (14.7.1993) by S.I. 1993/1520, **reg. 2(2)(e)**
- C78** S. 22 applied (with modifications): (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3116, **reg. 8**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3123, **reg. 9(e)** and S.I. 1995/3124, **reg. 11(e)**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3187, **reg. 9**; (1.1.1996) by S.I. 1995/3202, **reg. 11**  
S. 22 applied (with modifications) (1.7.1996) by S.I. 1996/1499, **reg. 48**  
S. 22 applied (with modifications): (11.8.1997) by S.I. 1997/1729, **reg. 34(1)(e)**; (31.3.1999) by S.I. 1997/2042, **reg. 9** and S.I. 1997/2182, **reg. 9**  
S. 22 applied (with modifications) (19.2.1998) by S.I. 1998/141, **reg. 10(e)**  
S. 22 applied (with modifications): (19.3.1999) by S.I. 1996/1499, **reg. 48** (as substituted by S.I. 1999/747, **reg. 11**); (30.6.1999) by S.I. 1999/1540, **reg. 19(1)(e)**; (1.10.1999) by S.I. 1999/2457, **reg. 8(1)**; (1.10.1999) by S.S.I. 1999/34, **reg. 8(1)**  
S. 22 applied (with modifications): (E.) (1.11.2001) by S.I. 2000/845, **reg. 7(e)**; (W.) (1.11.2001) by S.I. 2000/1866, **reg. 7(e)**; (S.) (1.11.2001) by S.S.I. 2000/130, **reg. 7(e)**; (E.) (15.1.2001) by S.I. 2000/3323, **reg. 10(e)**  
S. 22 applied (with modifications): (S.) (17.3.2001) by S.S.I. 2001/38, **reg. 10**; (W.) (1.5.2001) by S.I. 2001/1361, **reg. 8(1)** and S.I. 2001/1440, **reg. 10(e)**  
S. 22 applied (with modifications): (E.W.) (8.3.2002) by S.I. 2002/333, **reg. 6(e)**; (S.) (8.3.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/50, **reg. 6(e)**; (E.) (5.8.2002 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2004) by S.I. 2002/1817, **regs. 1(2)(3), 9(e)**; (S.) (23.9.2002 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2004) by S.S.I. 2002/397, **regs. 1(2)(3), 8(e)**; (W.) (31.12.2002 for certain purposes and otherwise 1.4.2004) by S.I. 2002/2939, **regs. 1(2)(3), 9(e)**; (S.) (1.1.2003) by S.S.I. 2002/523, **reg. 5(1)(e)**; (W.) (9.1.2003) by S.I. 2002/3157, **reg. 5(1)(e)**; (E.) (13.1.2003) by S.I. 2002/3169, **reg. 5(1)(e)**
- C79** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (12.7.2003) by Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1564), **regs. 1(b), 9(e)**
- C80** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (12.7.2003) by Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/293), **regs. 1(1), 10(e)**
- C81** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (12.7.2003) by Specified Sugar Products (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1563), **regs. 1, 9(e)**
- C82** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (17.7.2003) by Condensed Milk and Dried Milk (England) Regulations 2003 (S.I. 2003/1596), **regs. 1, 9(1)(e)** (with reg. 11)
- C83** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (17.7.2003) by Condensed Milk and Dried Milk (Scotland) Regulations 2003 (S.S.I. 2003/311), **regs. 1(1), 10(1)(e)** (with reg. 3)



*Status: Point in time view as at 31/05/2004.*

*Changes to legislation: Food Safety Act 1990, Cross Heading: Defences etc. is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details)*

- C84** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (3.8.2003) by [The Cocoa and Chocolate Products \(England\) Regulations 2003 \(S.I. 2003/1659\)](#), regs. 1, **10(e)**
- C85** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (3.8.2003) by [The Cocoa and Chocolate Products \(Scotland\) Regulations 2003 \(S.S.I. 2003/291\)](#), regs. 1, **11(e)** (with reg. 4)
- C86** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (2.9.2003) by [Meat Products \(England\) Regulations 2003 \(S.I. 2003/2075\)](#), regs. 1(c), **8(e)** (with reg. 3)
- C87** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (25.9.2003) by [Honey \(England\) Regulations 2003 \(S.I. 2003/2243\)](#), regs. 1, **9(e)**
- C88** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by [The Specified Sugar Products \(Wales\) Regulations 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3047\)](#), regs. 1, **9(e)**
- C89** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by [Specified Sugar Products \(Scotland\) Regulations 2003 \(S.S.I. 2003/527\)](#), reg. 1(1), **9** (with reg. 10)
- C90** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by [The Fruit Juices and Fruit Nectars \(Wales\) Regulations 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3041\)](#), regs. 1, **9(e)**
- C91** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by [Cocoa and Chocolate Products \(Wales\) Regulations 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3037\)](#), regs. 1, **10(e)**
- C92** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by [Honey \(Wales\) Regulations 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3044\)](#), regs. 1, **9(e)**
- C93** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (28.11.2003) by [Condensed Milk and Dried Milk \(Wales\) Regulations 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3053\)](#), regs. 1, **9(1)(e)** (with reg. 3)
- C94** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (18.12.2003) by [Honey \(Scotland\) Regulations 2003 \(S.S.I. 2003/569\)](#), regs. 1(1), **10(e)** (with regs. 3, 11)
- C95** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (31.12.2003) by [Jam and Similar Products \(England\) Regulations 2003 \(S.I. 2003/3120\)](#), regs. 1, **9(e)** (with reg. 3)
- C96** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (4.2.2004) by [Meat Products \(Scotland\) Regulations 2004 \(S.S.I. 2004/6\)](#), regs. 1(1), **9(1)(e)**
- C97** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (5.3.2004) by [Jam and Similar Products \(Wales\) Regulations 2004 \(S.I. 2004/553\)](#), regs. 1, **9(1)(e)** (with reg. 3)
- C98** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (28.4.2004) by [Jam and Similar Products \(Scotland\) Regulations 2004 \(S.S.I. 2004/133\)](#), regs. 1(1), **10(e)**
- C99** S. 22 applied (with modifications) (31.5.2004) by [Meat Products \(Wales\) Regulations 2004 \(S.I. 2004/1396\)](#), regs. 1(c), **8(e)** (with reg. 3)

**Status:**

Point in time view as at 31/05/2004.

**Changes to legislation:**

Food Safety Act 1990, Cross Heading: Defences etc. is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 15 January 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.