
 STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1973 No. 1350

FOOD AND DRUGS

FOOD HYGIENE

**The Imported Food (Northern Ireland) (Amendment)
Regulations 1973**

Made - - - - - 27th July 1973

Laid before Parliament 7th August 1973

Coming into Operation 1st September 1973

The Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Secretary of State for Social Services and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, acting jointly, being designated (a) Ministers for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(b) in relation to the common agricultural policy of the European Economic Community, in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by the said section 2(2) and in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by sections 13 and 123(1), (2), (5) and (6) of the Food and Drugs Act 1955(c) as applied to Northern Ireland by section 134 of, and Schedule 10 to, that Act as read with the Secretary of State for Social Services Order 1968(d), and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, after consultation with such organisations as appear to them to be representative of interests substantially affected by the regulations and after reference to the Food Hygiene Advisory Council under section 82 of the said Act of 1955 as so applied, hereby make the following regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Imported Food (Northern Ireland) (Amendment) Regulations 1973, and shall come into operation on 1st September 1973.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these regulations the expression “the principal regulations” means the Imported Food (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1968(e) and, unless the context otherwise requires, any reference herein to a numbered regulation shall be construed as a reference to the regulation bearing that number in the principal regulations.

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| (a) Designated by the European Communities (Designation) Order 1972—S.I. 1972/1811 (1972 III, p. 5216). | (b) 1972 c. 68. |
| (c) 4 & 5 Eliz. 2. c. 16. | (d) S.I. 1968/1699 (1968 III, p. 4585). |
| (e) S.I. 1968/98 (1968 I, p. 285). | |

(2) Subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 of the Second Schedule to the Food and Drugs Act (Northern Ireland) 1958^(a) the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954^(b) applies to the interpretation of these regulations as it applies to an enactment within the meaning of the last mentioned Act.

Amendment of the principal regulations

3.—(1) Regulation 2(1) shall be amended—

(a) by inserting after the definition of “health authority” the following definition:—

“ ‘health certificate’ means a health certificate issued by an official veterinarian designated by the competent central authority of the exporting country, such certificate to be expressed at least in the English language, to correspond in form and content to the model in Schedule 4 in the case of meat and to the model in Schedule 5 in the case of poultry meat and to contain the information specified in the appropriate model in each case;”;

(b) by substituting for the definition of “official certificate” the following definition:—

“ ‘official certificate’ means a certificate, label, mark, seal, stamp or other voucher which—

(a) the competent authority has affixed, or caused to be affixed in the country of origin to any meat, poultry meat or meat product or to a package containing or intended to contain any meat, poultry meat or meat product, or which, in the case of lard or any rendered animal fat transported unpackaged in the tank of a ship, aircraft or hover vehicle, the competent authority at the place of shipment has caused to be sent in that ship, aircraft or hover vehicle; and

(b) is for the time being recognised by the Ministry with the approval of the Minister in accordance with regulation 3 or 11(1)(c) as showing—

(i) that the meat or poultry meat to which it relates, or the meat from which the meat product to which it relates was prepared, was derived from mammals or poultry inspected before and after death, or in the case of mammals killed when wild, was derived from mammals inspected after death only, in the country of origin of the meat or poultry meat and passed in accordance with criteria satisfactory to the Minister and the Ministry; and

(ii) that the dressing, packing and other preparation of the meat, poultry meat or meat product was carried out with all necessary precautions for the prevention of danger to health;”;

(c) by inserting after the definition of “pig” the following definition:—

“ ‘poultry meat’ means the flesh or other edible part of domestic fowls, turkeys, guinea fowls, ducks and geese which in each case is fresh, chilled or frozen;”.

(2) The following regulation shall be substituted for regulation 11:—

“11.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (5) no person shall import into Northern Ireland for sale for human consumption—

^(a) 1958 c. 27 (N.I.).

^(b) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.).

- (a) any fresh, chilled or frozen meat derived from domestic animals of the bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine or equine species from the Channel Islands or a country of the European Economic Community, or remove any such meat into Northern Ireland from the Isle of Man for sale as aforesaid, unless that meat is accompanied in each case by a health certificate; or
- (b) (i) any meat product from any place elsewhere than the Republic of Ireland or the Channel Islands, or
 - (ii) any meat (other than meat of a description set out in Schedule 2) from any place elsewhere than the Republic of Ireland or the Channel Islands, or
 - (iii) any meat of a description set out in sub-paragraph (a) above (other than meat of a description set out in Schedule 2) from the Republic of Ireland or the Channel Islands, or remove any such meat into Northern Ireland from the Isle of Man for sale as aforesaid,unless in each case such meat product or meat is accompanied by an official certificate; or
- (c) any meat of a description set out in Schedule 2, or remove into Northern Ireland from the Isle of Man any such meat for sale as aforesaid, unless it is accompanied by an official certificate in the recognition of which by the Ministry it is expressly indicated that that recognition extends to that description of meat; or
- (d) any meat product imported into the Republic of Ireland or the Channel Islands and re-exported therefrom, or remove into Northern Ireland from the Isle of Man for sale as aforesaid any meat product imported into the Isle of Man, whether or not it has been subjected to any process or treatment while in those countries, unless that meat product is accompanied by an official certificate in each case; or
- (e) any poultry meat, or remove into Northern Ireland from the Isle of Man for sale as aforesaid any such meat, unless it is accompanied by an official certificate and by a health certificate.

(2) An official certificate required by this regulation shall be—

- (a) so placed as to be legible and clearly visible, and
- (b) affixed to any sides or quarters of meat, to any poultry meat, to packages of meat, meat products or poultry meat, as well as to any container in which any of the foregoing are packed.

(3) An official certificate in respect of lard or rendered animal fat transported unpackaged in a tank of a ship, aircraft or hover vehicle shall—

- (a) indicate the position in the ship, aircraft or hover vehicle of the tank;
- (b) state the quantity of lard or fat contained in the tank; and
- (c) state that the tank was inspected and found to be clean before the lard or fat was loaded.

(4) (a) In any case where the importation or removal into Northern Ireland of any meat, poultry meat or meat product described in paragraph (1) of this regulation is not permitted by an authorised officer, having regard to the

foregoing provisions of this regulation, by reason of the absence of an official certificate, or any health certificate (or both such certificates), or some deficiency or inaccuracy in the form of an accompanying official certificate or health certificate, as the case may be, and that officer has reasonable cause to believe that such absence, deficiency or inaccuracy is due to a bona fide mistake or to the official certificate or health certificate or both such certificates being lost or damaged in transit, he may forthwith notify the Ministry to that effect, and in that case shall furnish the Ministry with all relevant information in his possession.

(b) On receipt of such notification and information the Ministry shall consult with the Minister who shall make such enquiries as he considers appropriate, and shall communicate the results of his enquiries to the Ministry for transmission to the authorised officer.

(c) If, after taking into consideration the results of the Minister's enquiries and after consultation with the Ministry, the authorised officer is satisfied that—

- (i) the meat, poultry meat or meat product originally came from a country the official certificate of whose competent authority is for the time being recognised by the Ministry pursuant to regulation 3,
- (ii) the meat, poultry meat or meat from which the meat product was prepared, was derived from mammals or poultry inspected before and after death or in the case of mammals killed when wild, was derived from mammals inspected after death only, by the competent authority in the country of origin of the meat or poultry meat and passed in accordance with criteria satisfactory to the Ministry with the approval of the Minister, and
- (iii) the dressing, packing and other preparation of the meat, poultry meat or meat product were carried out with all necessary precautions for the prevention of danger to health,

and notifies the Ministry in writing to that effect, the foregoing provisions of this regulation shall have effect in relation to the meat, poultry meat or meat product as if it had been accompanied by an official certificate or a health certificate, or both such certificates, in compliance with the relevant requirements of paragraphs (1) to (3) of this regulation.

(5) This part of these regulations shall not apply to any article of food specified in Schedule 3."

(3) Regulation 12 shall be amended—

(a) by substituting for paragraphs (1) and (2) thereof the following paragraphs:—

"(1) If upon examination of any food an authorised officer is of the opinion that it comprises any meat, poultry meat or meat product imported or removed into Northern Ireland in contravention of the provisions of regulation 11 or that it comprises any meat, poultry meat or meat product to which regulation 11(4)(a) applies, he shall notify in writing the importer or master of the ship, aircraft or hover vehicle in which the food is so imported or removed that the food must not be removed for any purpose other than its exportation.

(2) Unless the authorised officer proposes to notify the Ministry under regulation 11(4)(a) of the absence, deficiency or inaccuracy of any official certificate or health certificate he shall, when giving a notice under paragraph (1) of this regulation, notify the importer in writing that unless within a time specified in the notice, being not less than 24 hours after the notice is received, he gives a written undertaking to the enforcing authority to export the food to which the notice relates at his own expense within fourteen days from the date of the undertaking, or to prove in proceedings before a justice of the peace that its importation or removal into Northern Ireland is not contrary to the provisions of regulation 11, it may be destroyed or disposed of so that it cannot be used for human consumption.”;

(b) by inserting in paragraph (3) thereof after the words “official certificate” the words “or of any health certificate”;

(c) by inserting in paragraphs (5) and (6) thereof after the word “importation” in each case where it appears the words “or removal into Northern Ireland”.

(4) Regulation 13 shall be amended by inserting after the word “importation” in each case where it appears the words “or removal into Northern Ireland”.

(5) Regulation 14 shall be amended by inserting after the words “any meat” the words “poultry meat”.

4. The principal regulations shall be amended by adding thereto, as Schedules 4 and 5 respectively, Schedules 1 and 2 to these regulations.

5. The principal regulations shall be further amended with effect from 1st October 1973—

(a) by deleting from regulation 2(1) thereof the definition of “health authority”;

(b) by inserting in that regulation after the definition of “country of origin” the following definition:—

“ ‘district council’ means a district council constituted in accordance with the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972(a).”;

(c) by substituting in regulation 5 thereof for the words “health authority” wherever they appear the words “district council”.

Robert Carr,

24th July 1973.

Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Keith Joseph,

25th July 1973.

Secretary of State for Social Services.

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 27th July 1973.

(L.S.)

Joseph Godber,

Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Regulation 3(1)(a) and (2)

SCHEDULE 1

HEALTH CERTIFICATE

(For meat imported or removed into Northern Ireland from the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or a country of the European Economic Community)

No.....

Exporting country

Ministry

Department

Ref..... (optional)

I. Identification of meat:

Meat of
(animal species)

Nature of cuts.....

Nature of packaging

Number of cuts or packages.....

Net weight

II. Origin of meat:

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the approved slaughterhouse(s)

.....

Address(es) and veterinary approved number(s) of the approved cutting plant(s)

.....

III. Destination of meat:

The meat will be sent from.....
(place of loading)

to
(country and place of destination)

by the following means of transport¹.....

Name and address of consignor

Name and address of consignee

IV. Health attestation:

I, the undersigned, official veterinarian, certify that:

- (a) the meat described above²/the packages of meat described above² bears a stamp to the effect that the meat comes wholly from animals slaughtered in approved slaughterhouses;
- (b) it has/they have² passed as fit for human consumption following a veterinary inspection carried out in accordance with the Directive on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat;
- (c) it has/they have² been cut in an approved cutting plant;
- (d) it has/they have/have not² been subjected to a trichinoscopic examination;
- (e) the transport vehicles and containers and the loading conditions of this consignment meet the hygiene requirements laid down in that Directive.

Done at.....on.....

Signature of official veterinarian

¹For railway wagons or lorries the registration number should be given, for aircraft the flight number and for boats the name.

²Delete as appropriate.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 3(1)(a) and (2)

HEALTH CERTIFICATE

(For all imported poultry meat¹ and poultry meat removed into Northern Ireland from the Isle of Man)

Exporting country.....No.².....

Ministry

Competent service

Ref²

I. Identification of meat

Meat of
(animal species)

Nature of cuts.....

Nature of packaging

Number of packages

Net weight

II. Origin of meat

Address(es) and veterinary approval number(s) of the slaughterhouse(s)

.....

.....

III. Destination of meatThe meat will be sent from.....
(place of loading)to
(country and place of destination)by the following means of transport³.....

Name and address of consignor

.....

Name and address of consignee

.....

IV. Health attestation

I, the undersigned official veterinarian, certify that:

(a) —the poultrymeat described above¹—the packaging of the meat described above⁴

bears a mark proving that the meat comes from animals slaughtered in approved slaughterhouses;

(b) this meat has been passed as fit for human consumption following a veterinary inspection carried out in accordance with the Council Directive of 15th February 1971 on health problems affecting trade in fresh poultrymeat;

(c) the transport vehicles or containers and the loading conditions of this consignment meet the hygiene requirements laid down in that Directive.

Done at.....on.....

Signature of official veterinarian

,

.....

¹Poultry meat; flesh or other edible part of domestic fowls, turkeys, guinea fowls, ducks and geese which in each case is fresh, chilled or frozen.

²Optional.

³For railway wagons and lorries the registration number should be given, for aircraft the flight number and for boats the name.

⁴Delete as appropriate.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations, which come into operation on 1st September 1973, amend the Imported Food (Northern Ireland) Regulations 1968 ("the principal regulations") so as to implement the provisions of—

- (a) EEC Council Directive No. 64/433/EEC (O.J. No. 121, 29.7.1964, p. 2012/64; O.J./S.E. 1963-64, p. 185) on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in fresh meat, as amended by EEC Council Directives No. 66/601/EEC (O.J. No. 192, 27.10.1966, p. 3302/66; O.J./S.E. 1965-66, (p. 244), No. 69/349/EEC) O.J. No. L. 256, 11.10.1969, p. 5; O.J./S.E. 1969 O.J./S.E. 1970 (III), p. 744), and
- (b) EEC Council Directive No. 71/118/EEC (O.J. No. L. 55, 8.3.1971, p. 23; O.J./S.E. 1971 (I), p. 106) on health problems affecting trade in fresh poultry meat.

As respects Community arrangements applicable to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man the Regulations, in implementing the above mentioned directives, take account of the provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 706/703 (O.J. No. L. 68, 15.3.1973, p. 1; 1973 Vol. 16) concerning Community arrangements applicable to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man for trade in agricultural products.

The Regulations require—

- (a) imports into Northern Ireland of specified kinds of meat from the Republic of Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man to be accompanied by an official certificate and a health certificate in the form set out in Schedule 1 to these Regulations Regulation 11(1)(a) and (b) of the principal Regulations as amended by Regulation 3(2) of these Regulations);
- (b) such imports of specified kinds of meat from any country of the official certificate as required by the principal Regulations, but also by a health certificate in the form set out in Schedule 1 to these Regulations Regulation 11(1)(a) of the principal Regulations as so amended);
- (c) imports of poultry meat from all sources, which under the principal Regulations were not subject to the official certificate procedure but only to the general requirements relating to imported food, to be accompanied by an official certificate and by a health certificate in the form set out in Schedule 2 to these Regulations Regulation 11(1)(e) of the principal Regulations as so amended).

The Regulations also make small changes to take effect on 1st October 1973, consequential on the provisions of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 (Regulation 5).

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