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WELSH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2007 No. 1029**

**The Mutilations (Permitted  
Procedures) (Wales) Regulations 2007**

**Title, commencement and application**

1. The title of these Regulations is the Mutilations (Permitted Procedures) (Wales) Regulations 2007. They apply in relation to Wales and come into force on 28 March 2007.

**Interpretation**

2. In these Regulations—

“the Act” (“*y Ddeddf*”) means the Animal Welfare Act 2006;

“cattle” (“*gwartheg*”) means all animals of the bovine species including bison and buffalo;

“desnooding” (“*torri crogrib*”) means removal of a turkey’s snood;

“disbudding” (“*dadimpio*”) means removal of the horn bud of cattle, goats or sheep;

“domestic fowl” (“*ffowlyn domestig*”) means a domesticated member of the species *gallus gallus*;

“dubbing” (“*torri crib*”) means removal of the comb of a domestic fowl;

“farmed” (“*a ffermir*”) means an animal bred or kept for the production of food, wool or skin or for other farming purposes;

“horses” (“*ceffylau*”) includes ponies, asses, donkeys, jennets and mules;

“in velvet” (“*yn bwrw eu melfed*”) means, in relation to the antlers of a deer, until the velvet is frayed and the greater part of it has been shed;

“laying hen” (“*iâr ddodwy*”) means a hen of the species *Gallus gallus* which has reached laying maturity and is kept for production of eggs not intended for hatching;

“poultry” (“*dofednod*”) means domestic fowl, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowl, quails, pheasants and partridges;

“prohibited procedure” (“*triniaeth waharddedig*”) means a procedure which involves interference with the sensitive tissues or bone structure of an animal, otherwise than for the purpose of its medical treatment;

“suitable instrument” (“*offeryn addas*”) means in relation to any procedure, an instrument that is in a fit state of repair and has been designed, or is of a kind commonly used, for the purpose of performing that procedure.

**Exceptions to the prohibition on mutilations**

3. Section 5(1) and (2) of the Act does not apply to a procedure listed in Schedule 1, providing that the procedure is carried out—

(a) in accordance with any relevant requirement in Schedules 2 to 9;

(b) in such a way as to minimise the pain and suffering it causes to the animal;

- (c) in hygienic conditions; and
- (d) in accordance with good practice.

#### **Performance of prohibited procedures in an emergency**

4.—(1) Section 5(1) and (2) of the Act does not apply where a prohibited procedure is carried out in an emergency for the purpose of saving the life or relieving the pain of the protected animal<sup>(1)</sup>.

(2) Any procedure carried out under paragraph (1) must be carried out in accordance with regulation 3, so far as this is practicable in all of the circumstances.

#### **Persons who may carry out permitted procedures**

5.—(1) Any procedure permitted under regulation 3 may only be carried out by a veterinary surgeon or any other person permitted to carry out that procedure under the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966<sup>(2)</sup> or the Veterinary Surgeons (Exemptions) Order 1962<sup>(3)</sup>.

(2) The restriction in paragraph (1) does not apply to—

- (a) tail docking, or
- (b) castration

of pigs aged not more than 7 days.

Signed on behalf of the National Assembly for Wales under section 66(1) of the Government of Wales Act 1998<sup>(4)</sup>.

27 March 2007

*D. Elis-Thomas*  
The Presiding Officer of the National Assembly

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(1) 2006 c. 45 Protected animal is defined in section 2 of the Act  
(2) 1966 c. 36; relevant amending instruments are S.I.1988/526, 1991/1412, 2002/1479.  
(3) S.I. 1962/2557; relevant amending instruments are S.I. 1982/1627, 2002/1646.  
(4) 1998 c. 38.