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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**1998 No. 237**

**Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1998**

**Part IV**

**Offences, Defences and Exceptions**

**Offences, penalties and enforcement**

**23.**—(1) A person shall be guilty of an offence if he—

- (a) contravenes regulation 3, 4, 5, 6(2), 8, 9, 10, 11, 32(1), (2), (3), (4) or (5) or any provision of a notice served on him under these Regulations; or
- (b) without the consent in writing of an authorised officer, defaces, obliterates or removes any marking made under regulation 21(2)(c).

(2) A person guilty of an offence under paragraph (1) or regulation 6(1) or 7 is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding the statutory maximum or on conviction on indictment to a fine.

(3) Each enforcement authority shall enforce these Regulations and shall give such assistance and information to each other enforcement authority as that other enforcement authority reasonably requires for the purpose of its duties under these Regulations.

(4) A prosecution for an offence under paragraph (1) or regulation 6(1) or 7 shall not be begun after the expiry of—

- (a) three years from the commission of the offence; or
- (b) one year from its discovery by the prosecutor,

whichever is the earlier.