



Animal Health Act 1981

CHAPTER 22

ANIMAL HEALTH ACT 1981

PART I

GENERAL

General powers of Ministers to make orders and to authorise regulations

- 1 General powers of Ministers to make orders.
- 2 Local authority regulations.

Eradication and prevention of disease

- 3 Expenditure for eradication.
- 4 Offences as to s. 3.
- 5 Veterinary services and therapeutic substances.
- 6 Eradication areas and attested areas.
- 6A Biosecurity guidance
- 6B Biosecurity compliance
- 6C Biosecurity codes: Scotland
- 6D Emergency biosecurity orders: Scotland
- 6E Tests and samples: Scotland
- 6F Samples: further testing

Cleansing and movement

- 7 Cleansing and disinfection.
- 8 Movement generally.
- 8A Animal gatherings: Scotland

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Transport by sea and air

- 9 Prohibition in specific cases.
- 10 Importation.
- 10A Annual review of import controls
- 11 Export to member States.
- 12 Export quarantine stations.

Control of dogs, and preventive treatment of sheep

- 13 Orders as to dogs.
- 14 Prevention of sheep scab.

PART II

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Outbreak

- 14A National contingency plan
- 14B Duty to consider vaccination
- 15 Separation and notice.
- 16 Treatment after exposure to infection.
- 16A Slaughter of vaccinated animals
- 16B Slaughter of treated animals: Scotland

Infection

- 17 Powers as to infected places and areas.
- 18 Other provisions as to infected places and areas.
- 19 Destruction of foxes etc. on rabies infection.
- 20 Additional provisions under s. 17 on rabies infection.
- 21 Destruction of wild life on infection other than rabies.
- 22 Powers of entry etc. for s. 21.
- 23 Orders as to infected places and areas.
- 24 Rabies: quarantine and virus control.
- 25 Movement of diseased or suspected animals.
- 26 Pleuro-pneumonia or foot-and-mouth disease found in transit.
- 27 Exclusion of strangers.
- 28 Seizure of diseased or suspected animals.
- 28A Deliberate infection
- 28B Deliberate infection: disqualification
- 28C Deliberate infection: Scotland
- 28D Deliberate infection: deprivation of entitlement to compensation
- 28E Deliberate infection: deprivation orders
- 28F Deliberate infection: disqualification orders
- 28G Seizure orders where disqualification breached
- 28H Suspension of orders pending appeal
- 28I Specified diseases: Scotland

Risk to human health

- 29 Control of zoonoses.
- 30 Provisions supplemental to s. 29.

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Slaughter

- 31 Slaughter in certain diseases.
- 32 Slaughter in other diseases.
- 32A Slaughter to prevent spread of disease
- 32B Disease control (slaughter) protocol
- 32C Protocol: exercise of powers
- 32D Explanation of preventive slaughter
- 32E Slaughter for preventing spread of disease: Scotland
- 32F Disease control (slaughter) statement: Scotland
- 33 Additional staff and expenses.
- 34 Slaughter and compensation generally.

Carcases etc. liable to spread disease

- 35 Seizure and disposal of carcasses etc.
- 36 Compensation for seizure.
- 36ZA Seizure of carcasses etc.: further provision for Scotland
- 36ZB Compensation for seizure

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- 36A Power of Secretary of State to specify sheep genotypes

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- 36B Identification of genetically susceptible sheep
- 36C Restrictions on breeding from genetically susceptible sheep
- 36D Appeals

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- 36K Compensation
- 36L Orders and Regulations
- 36M Interpretation

PART 2B

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- 36N Power to specify livestock genotypes and TSEs

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- 36O Ascertaining genotypes and identifying livestock
- 36P Restrictions on breeding
- 36Q Review

Enforcement

- 36R Scottish Ministers' powers of enforcement
- 36S Offences

Powers of slaughter

- 36T Powers of slaughter: TSE

Powers of entry

- 36U Powers of entry

Compensation

- 36V Compensation

General

- 36W Orders and regulations
- 36X Interpretation

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- 37 Prevention of suffering.
- 38 Food and water.

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- 39 Export of animals generally.

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- 40 Restriction on export of horses.

Export of horses defined as ponies

- 41 Restriction on export of ponies.
- 42 Restriction on export of registered ponies.
- 43 Regulation of export of ponies.

Other provisions as to export of horses

- 44 Slaughter on examination of inspection.
- 45 Marking of horses certified for export.
- 46 Slaughter of injured horses.
- 47 Exemption of thoroughbreds in transit.
- 48 Certificates.
- 49 Enforcement and interpretation.

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- 50 Local authorities for purposes of this Act.
- 51 Local authorities and their districts.
- 52 Inspectors and other officers.
- 53 Borrowing powers.
- 54 Provision of wharves etc.
- 55 Power to acquire land.
- 56 Public facilities for sheep dipping.
- 57 Burial of carcasses washed ashore.
- 58 Regulations.
- 59 Default.

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ENFORCEMENT, OFFENCES AND PROCEEDINGS

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- 60 Duties and authorities of constables.
- 61 Powers of entry and search in relation to rabies offences
- 62 Entry and search in exercise of powers to seize animals
- 62A Slaughter: power of entry
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- 62D Tests and samples: power of entry
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- 62H Warrants
- 62I Entry and warrants: supplementary
- 63 General powers of inspectors.
- 64 Powers of inspectors as to poultry.
- 64A Powers of inspectors relating to assimilated law
- 65 Power to detain vessels and aircraft.
- 65A Inspection of vehicles
- 65B Inspection of vehicles: Scotland
- 66 Refusal and obstruction.
- 66A Refusal and obstruction of inspector

Offences as to licences, declarations, certificates and instruments

- 67 Issue of false licences etc.
- 68 Issue of licences etc. in blank.
- 69 Falsely obtaining licences etc.
- 70 Alteration of licences etc.
- 71 Other offences as to licences.

Offences generally

- 71A Prosecutions: time limit
- 72 Offences made and declared by and under this Act.
- 73 General offences.

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Further provisions as to punishment of offences

- 74 Liability under the customs and excise Acts.
- 75 Penalties for certain summary offences
- 76 Certain importation offences triable either summarily or on indictment.
- 76A Fixed penalty notices

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- 77 Money recoverable summarily.
- 78 Appeal.
- 79 Evidence and procedure.

PART VI

SUPPLEMENTAL

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- 80 Yearly return to Parliament.
- 81 Reports to Minister.
- 82 Information from Agricultural Marketing Boards.

Notices, fees, and exemption from stamp duty

- 83 Form and service of instruments.
- 83A Electronic communication: Scotland
- 84 Fees.
- 85 Exemption from stamp duty.

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- 86 Ministers and their functions.
- 87 Meaning of “animals” and “poultry”.
- 88 Meaning of “disease”.
- 89 Other interpretation provisions.
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- 92 General application to Scotland.
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- 94 Transitional.
- 95 Savings.
- 96 Consequential amendments and repeals.
- 97 Short title, extent, and commencement.

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — Regulation of Manufacture of and Other Matters Connected with Veterinary Therapeutic Substances

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Substances to which this Schedule applies

- 1 (1) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (2) below, this...

Power to make orders as to substances to which this Schedule applies

- 2 (1) The Ministers may make orders for the following purposes—...

Licences to manufacture

- 3 (1) The following provisions shall have effect with respect to...

Licences to import

- 4 The issue of a licence to import a substance the...

Therapeutic substances to which this Schedule applies

- 5 The therapeutic substances mentioned in paragraph 1(1)(a) above are—

Offences under this Schedule

- 6 A person who— (a) contravenes or fails to comply with...

SCHEDULE 2 — Specific Matters with Respect to Which Provision may be made
in Orders Under Section 10

- 1 The conditions to be observed before, during and after importation....
2 Exemptions from provisions of the order by means of licences, ...
3 The prohibition of the importation of animals or other things...
4 Landing and quarantine of animals and other things.
4A The premises at which animals and other things are to...
5 Seizure, detention and treatment of animals and other things.
6 Slaughter of animals and destruction of other things.
7 Cleansing and disinfection.
8 Marking, testing and use of animals and other things.
9 Movement of persons and of animals and other things.
10 Recovery of costs.
11 Inspection.
12 Entitlement to compensation and the determination, subject to the
Treasury's...

SCHEDULE 2A — Specified diseases

Foot-and-mouth disease Swine vesicular disease Peste des petits
ruminants Lumpy...

SCHEDULE 2B — Specified diseases: Scotland

African horse sickness African swine fever Bluetongue Bovine
brucellosis Classical...

SCHEDULE 3 — Power to Slaughter in Relation to Certain Diseases

Cattle plague

- 1 (1) The Minister shall cause to be slaughtered all animals...

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Pleuro-pneumonia

- 2 (1) The Minister shall cause to be slaughtered all cattle...

Foot-and-mouth disease

- 2A (1) This paragraph applies to any premises which are declared...
3 (1) The Minister may, if he thinks fit, in any...

Swine-fever

- 4 (1) The Minister may, if he thinks fit, in any...

Diseases of poultry

- 5 (1) The Minister may, if he thinks fit, cause to...

SCHEDULE 3A — Power of slaughter for preventing spread of disease: Scotland

Cattle plague

- 1 With a view to preventing the spread of cattle plague,...

Pleuro-pneumonia

- 2 With a view to preventing the spread of pleuro-pneumonia, the...

Foot-and-mouth disease

- 3 With a view to preventing the spread of foot-and-mouth disease,...

Swine-fever

- 4 With a view to preventing the spread of swine-fever, the...

Diseases of poultry

- 5 With a view to preventing the spread of diseases of...

Additional power of slaughter

- 6 (1) With a view to preventing the spread of such...

Exercise of powers of slaughter

- 7 The Scottish Ministers may, in relation to a disease, exercise...

Compensation

- 8 (1) The Scottish Ministers must pay compensation, of such amount...

Orders

- 9 (1) No order is made under paragraph 6 unless a...

SCHEDULE 4 — Additional Provisions as to Food and Water at Railway Stations

- 1 The food and water, or either of them, provided under...
2 As regards water, if, in the case of any animal, ...
3 The Ministers may, if they think fit, by order prescribe...

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- 4 The body supplying food or water under section 38(2) may...
- 5 The amount of those additional charges accrued due in respect...
- 6 The body concerned shall have a lien for the amount...

SCHEDULE 5 — Consequential Amendments

1 Consequential Amendments

Food and Drugs Act 1955

- 2 In section 100(6) of the Food and Drugs Act 1955...

Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act 1956

- 3 In section 36(6) of the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act...

Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1963

- 4 Consequential Amendments

London Government Act 1963

- 5 In section 54(3) of the London Government Act 1963 for...

Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

- 6 In paragraph (b) of the proviso to section 5(1) of...

Agriculture Act 1967

- 7 In section 13(5) of the Agriculture Act 1967 for “Diseases...

Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968

- 8 In section 8(2) of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968
—...

Transport Act 1968

- 9 In paragraph 7(2)(b) of Schedule 16 to the Transport Act...

Agriculture Act 1970

- 10 In section 106(6) of the Agriculture Act 1970 for “Diseases...

Slaughterhouses Act 1974

- 11 In the Slaughterhouses Act 1974— (a) in section 20(5) for...

Slaughter of Animals (Scotland) Act 1980

- 12 In the Slaughter of Animals (Scotland) Act 1980—

Schedule 6 — Repeals

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 37-39 repealed by [2006 c. 45 Sch. 4](#)
- s. 92(3) words substituted by [2007 asp 3 Sch. 5 para. 11](#)
- Sch. 1 para. 6 words repealed by [2003 c. 44 Sch. 37 Pt. 9](#)