



# 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

*Cleansing and movement*

- 7 Cleansing and disinfection
- 8 Movement generally

*Transport by sea and air*

- 9 Prohibition in specific cases
- 10 Importation
- 11 Export to member States
- 12 Export quarantine stations

*Control of dogs, and preventive treatment of sheep*

- 13 Orders as to dogs

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- 14 Prevention of sheep scab

## **PART II**

### **DISEASE**

#### *Outbreak*

- 15 Separation and notice  
16 Treatment after exposure to infection

#### *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

#### *Risk to human health*

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

#### *Slaughter*

- 31 Slaughter in certain diseases  
32 Slaughter in other diseases  
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

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- 37 Prevention of suffering  
38 Food and water

#### *Export*

- 39 Export of animals generally

#### *Export of horses other than those defined as ponies*

- 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 or 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

**PART IV**

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

- 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
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- 57 Burial of carcasses washed ashore
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- 61 Powers of arrest as to rabies
- 62 Entry and search under s. 61
- 63 General powers of inspectors
- 64 Powers of inspectors as to poultry
- 65 Power to detain vessels and aircraft
- 66 Refusal and obstruction

*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*

- 72 Offences made and declared by and under this Act
- 73 General offences

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*Further provisions as to punishment of offences*

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- 75 Punishment of summary offences not otherwise provided for
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- 80 Yearly return to Parliament
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- 83 Form and service of instruments
- 84 Fees
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*Interpretation, functions, and orders etc.*

- 86 Ministers and their functions
- 87 Meaning of " animals " and " poultry "
- 88 Meaning of " disease "
- 89 Other interpretation provisions
- 90 Application to hovercraft
- 91 Orders etc.

*Scotland and Northern Ireland*

- 92 General application to Scotland
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SCHEDULES

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

*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.
- 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 3 — Power to Slaughter in Relation to Certain Diseases

*Cattle plague*

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

*Pleuro-pneumonia*

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

*Foot-and-mouth disease*

- 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...

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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...
- 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

*Protection of Birds Act 1954*

- 1 In paragraph (b) of section 4(1) of the Protection of...

*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 In section 16(3) of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1963...

*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 "..."

*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