1982 No. 395

ANIMALS

Transplantation of Ova (Animals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982

Made . . . . . *29th November 1982*

Coming into operation . . . *1st January 1983*

The Department of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Article 5(1) and (2) of the Artificial Reproduction of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Transplantation of Ova (Animals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982 and shall come into operation on 1st January 1983.

Revocation

2. The Transplantation of Ova (Animals) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1978(b) and the Transplantation of Ova (Animals) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1979(c) are hereby revoked.

Interpretation

3. In these regulations—

"animals" mean cattle, sheep, goats, swine and horses;

"approved" means approved by the Department;

"Artificial Insemination Centre" means a centre either operated or licensed by the Department from which a service of artificial insemination for animals is provided;

"donor animal" means a female animal from which ova are removed for implantation in other animals;

"full-time employee" means a person normally engaged in work for not less than 30 hours per week;

"ova" means ova, whether fertilised or unfertilised, at any stage of development;

"ova transplantation" means the removal of ova from a donor animal or the implantation thereof in recipient animals or both the removal and the implantation;

"Ova Transplantation Centre" means a centre from which a service of ova transplantation and associated procedures including the fertilisation of donor animals, processing and storage of ova and preparation of recipient animals for implantation of ova are provided;

"recipient animal" means the female animal into which ova removed from a donor animal are implanted;

"semen" means semen from a male animal of the same species as the donor animal;

(a) S.I. 1975/1834 (N.I. 17)
(b) S.R. 1978 No. 368
(c) S.R. 1979 No. 326

"sire" means the male animal from which the semen is obtained;

"veterinary surgeon" means a person lawfully qualified to practise veterinary surgery.

Control of Ova Transplantation Centres

4. A person shall not operate an Ova Transplantation Centre in Northern Ireland except under the authority of a licence granted by the Department and in accordance with the conditions set out in the First Schedule and such other conditions as may be specified in the licence.

Control of ova transplantation

5.—(1) A person shall not practise ova transplantation on animals unless:—

(*a*) he has been granted in accordance with regulation 6 a licence to undertake such practice; or

(*b*) he is the owner of a herd or flock or the full-time employee of such an owner and the ova transplantation is restricted to donor and recipient animals which have been in that herd or flock for a minimum period of 30 days prior to ova transplantation.

(2) Where ova transplantation has taken place in the circumstances set out in paragraph 1(*b*), the donor and recipient animals shall not be moved out of the herd or flock in the 30 days following ova transplantation.

Licences to practise ova transplantation

6.—(1) A licence to practise ova transplantation shall not be granted other than to a person:—

(*a*) who has been granted a licence under regulation 4 to operate an Ova Transplantation Centre; or

(*b*) who is employed in a licensed Ova Transplantation Centre; or

(*c*) who is the owner of a herd or flock; or

(*d*) who is a full-time employee of and nominated by a person who is the owner of a herd or flock.

(2) A person who applies for a licence to practise ova transplantation shall satisfy the Department that he has received approved instruction regarding ova transplantation and unless he shall so satisfy the Department it shall not grant such a licence to him.

(3) A licence granted to a person referred to in:—

(*a*) paragraph 1(*a*) or 1(*b*) shall only be valid for the practice of ova transplantation at the Ova Transplantation Centre stated in the licence and shall be subject to such other conditions as may be specified in the licence;

(*b*) paragraph 1(*c*) or 1(*d*) shall be subject to the conditions set out in the Second Schedule and to such other conditions as may be specified in the licence.

Collection and processing of ova for sale

7. The collection and processing of ova for sale are prohibited except in a licensed Ova Transplantation Centre.

Storage of ova

8. Storage of ova is prohibited except at a licensed Ova Transplantation Centre, an Artificial Insemination Centre or at the premises of an owner of a herd or flock who has been granted a licence under regulation 6(1)(*c*) or whose full-time employee has been granted a licence under regulation 6(1)(*d*).

Distribution and sale of ova

9. The distribution and sale of ova in Northern Ireland is prohibited except from a licensed Ova Transplantation Centre or an Artificial Insemination Centre.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 29th November 1982.

(L.S.) *W. H. Parker*
Assistant Secretary

FIRST SCHEDULE Regulation 4

Conditions attaching to a licence granted for the operation of an Ova Transplantation Centre

The licensee shall ensure that—

1. an approved veterinary surgeon shall control and supervise all veterinary activities in the Centre;
2. a person employed at the Centre to practise ova transplantation shall not do so unless he has been granted a licence for that purpose;
3. such part of the Centre as is used for the fertilisation of donor animals, the collection, processing and storage of ova or implantation of ova in recipient animals shall be constructed and maintained in such manner as the Department shall consider satisfactory;
4. such equipment as is used in the Centre for the fertilisation of donor animals, the collection, processing and storage of ova, or implantation of ova in recipient animals shall be of such type and maintained in such manner as the Department shall consider satisfactory;
5. the methods employed in the Centre for the fertilisation of donor animals, the collection, processing and storage of ova, or implantation of ova in recipient animals shall be such as the Department shall consider satisfactory;
6. all animals shall, before entering the Centre, pass all such veterinary tests and examinations and satisfy all such veterinary conditions as the Department may require;
7. all ampoules or straws containing ova for use at the Centre are clearly marked to permit the identification of the date of collection of the ova, the age of the ova at the time of collection and freezing and the name and identification number or marking of the donor animal and, when the ova are fertilised, the name and identification number or marking of the sire used;
8. a record is kept in respect of each ova transplantation, showing the date of service of the donor animal or other fertilisation of the ova, the breed and name and identification number or marking of the sire, donor and recipient animals used, the date and number of ova collected and the date frozen, blood type of the sire and donor animal, the dates of implantation, the date of birth, sex, blood type and sufficient identity of the resultant progeny;
9. the Department is notified in writing of any abnormal birth of progeny born to a recipient animal and that such notification is given within 28 days of any abnormal birth;
10. records maintained pursuant to paragraphs 7 and 8 shall be available at all reasonable times for inspection by an authorised person who may take copies of, or of any entry in, any such records.

SECOND SCHEDULE Regulation 6(3)(*b*)

Conditions attaching to a licence to practise ova transplantation granted to a person who is the owner of a herd or flock or his nominated full-time employee

The licensee shall—

1. practise ova transplantation only on animals which have been in the herd or flock stated in the licence for a minimum period of 30 days prior to implantation;
2. ensure that animals on which ova transplantation has been carried out remain in the herd or flock stated in the licence for at least 30 days following implantation;
3. use only ova obtained from a licensed Ova Transplantation Centre or ova brought into Northern Ireland under a licence granted by the Department under Article 6 of the Artificial Reproduction of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1975(a);
4. ensure that ova which are for implantation in animals in the herd or flock stated in the licence and which are stored on premises of the owner of the herd or flock are kept in a container of a type satisfactory to the Department and are not moved elsewhere without the prior approval in writing of the Department;
5. maintain or cause to be maintained a record of—
   (*a*) the date of receipt, identification number or marking and source of all ova;
   (*b*) the identification number or marking and breed of each recipient animal including detailed identification of the ova used and the date of each implantation (including repeat implantations);
   (*c*) the date of birth, sex and identification number or marking of progeny born from each such implantation;
6. ensure that the Department is notified in writing of any abnormal birth of progeny born to a recipient animal and that such notification is given within 28 days of any abnormal birth;
7. permit an authorised person at all reasonable times to inspect the premises and the equipment used for the practice of ova transplantation;
8. ensure that records maintained pursuant to paragraph 4 shall be available at all reasonable times for inspection by an authorised person who may take copies of, or of any entry in, any such records.

(a) S.I. 1975/1834 (N.I. 17)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These regulations provide for:—

1. the licensing of Ova Transplantation Centres;
2. the licensing of persons to practise ova transplantation;
3. control over the collection, processing, storage, distribution, sale and use of ova.

An owner of a herd or flock and his full-time employees do not require licences under these regulations to practise ova transplantation on donor and recipient animals which have been in the owner's herd or flock for more than 30 days prior to transplantation and which will remain in the herd or flock for at least 30 days following transplantation.

A contravention of, or failure to comply with these regulations, constitutes an offence under Article 10 of the Artificial Reproduction of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1975.