

Serial Number 1942/103



**THE SALE OF RABBIT-SKINS EMERGENCY  
REGULATIONS 1942**

C. L. N. NEWALL, Governor-General.

**ORDER IN COUNCIL.**

At the Government House at Wellington, this 15th day of  
April, 1942.

Present :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

PURSUANT to the Emergency Regulations Act, 1939, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, doth hereby make the following regulations.

**REGULATIONS.**

1. These regulations may be cited as the Sale of Rabbit-skins Emergency Regulations 1942.

2. In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires,—

“ Broker ” means a person whose ordinary business includes the sale of rabbit-skins as the agent of the owner :

“ Committee ” means the Rabbit-skins Committee appointed in accordance with these regulations :

“ Country dealer ” means a person who engages in the business of buying rabbit-skins from producers for sale to a wholesale trader or for sale to or through the agency of a broker :

“ Minister ” means the Minister of Labour :

“ Person ” includes a firm of persons, or any company or other corporation :

“ Premises ” means any land or buildings, and includes any ship or any vehicle or conveyance of any kind whatsoever :

“ Producer ”, in relation to any rabbit-skins, means the owner of such skins before the first sale thereof (whether such skins have then been separated from the carcasses or not) :

“ Wholesale trader ” means, as the case may require, a person engaged in the business of exporting rabbit-skins from New Zealand, or a person engaged in the business of manufacturing goods from rabbit-skins produced in New Zealand, or a person from whom rabbit-skins are acquired by a manufacturer for the purposes of his business.

THE RABBIT-SKINS COMMITTEE.

3. (1) For the purposes of these regulations there shall be a Committee, to be called the Rabbit-skins Committee, consisting of :—

- (a) The Controller of the Employment Division of the National Service Department :
- (b) The Director-General of Agriculture :
- (c) The Under-Secretary for Lands :
- (d) One member who shall be appointed by the Minister as a representative of Rabbit Boards established under the Rabbit Nuisance Act, 1928 :
- (e) Not more than three other members, who shall be appointed by the Minister in such manner as he thinks fit.

(2) The members appointed by the Minister in accordance with paragraph (d) or paragraph (e) of the last preceding subclause may, in the discretion of the Minister, be appointed for a term not exceeding three years in any case or may be appointed to hold office during the pleasure of the Minister.

(3) The Minister shall from time to time, as occasion requires, appoint a member of the Committee to be the Chairman thereof, and shall appoint another member to be the Deputy Chairman.

(4) The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman shall respectively hold office as such during the pleasure of the Minister.

4. (1) The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Committee at which he is present. In the absence of the Chairman from any meeting, the Deputy Chairman, if present, shall preside. In the absence from any meeting of both the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman, the members present shall select one of their number to be the Chairman for the purposes of that meeting.

(2) On any question before the Committee the Chairman shall have a deliberative vote, and, in case of an equality of votes, shall also have a casting vote.

(3) At any meeting of the Committee four members shall form a quorum.

(4) Except as provided in the foregoing provisions of this clause, the Committee shall regulate its own procedure.

5. (1) If any member of the Committee, being an officer of any Government Department, is unable to be present at any meeting of the Committee, he may, by writing addressed to the Chairman or Secretary of the Committee, authorize any officer of the same Department to attend the meeting in his stead. Any authority given for the purposes of this subclause may be of general application or may be limited in its application to any specified meeting or to specified meetings of the Committee.

(2) If any other member of the Committee is unable to be present at any meeting of the Committee he may, by writing, addressed to the Chairman or Secretary of the Committee, appoint a substitute to attend that meeting in his stead.

(3) Any authorized person, while attending a meeting of the Committee in place of any member, shall be deemed to be a member of the Committee.

6. (1) The Committee may, subject to the provisions of this clause, appoint any person employed in any Government Department to be an officer of the Committee.

(2) Any such officer may hold concurrently his office in such Department and his office with the Committee.

(3) No person shall be appointed an officer of the Committee as aforesaid except with the approval of the Public Service Commissioner (in the case of an officer under the control of the Commissioner) or, in any other case, except with the approval of the Minister in charge of the Department concerned.

(4) Nothing in this clause shall be construed to prevent the appointment of any other person as an officer of the Committee.

7. (1) Members of the Committee (not being officers of any Government Department) shall be entitled to allowances in respect of their attendance at meetings of the Committee or for transacting any business of the Committee at rates to be from time to time fixed by the Committee with the approval of the Minister.

(2) Such allowances shall be payable in accordance with the Travelling-allowance Regulations 1941,\* and those regulations shall, for the purposes of this clause, be deemed to be incorporated in these regulations.

(3) Except as provided in the foregoing provisions of this clause no member of the Committee shall be entitled to receive any remuneration or other payment in respect of his services as a member of the Committee.

8. (1) Any member of the Committee or any person acting with the written authority of the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the Committee may, at any reasonable time, enter upon any premises on or in which he believes or suspects any rabbit-skins to be (whether any such skins are intended for sale or not, or whether they have been separated from the carcasses or not), and may inspect any skins found on or in any such premises :

Provided that before proceeding to exercise any authority under this clause the person proposing to exercise the authority shall, if required so to do, produce written evidence of his authority.

(2) For the purposes of this clause a certificate purporting to be under the hand of the Chairman or Secretary of the Committee to the effect that the person named therein is a member of the Committee shall be sufficient evidence of the fact.

9. In the exercise of its functions under these regulations the Committee may, by writing under the hand of its Chairman or Deputy Chairman, require any person to answer in writing, within such time and in such form as the Committee may require, any questions or to furnish any returns relative to rabbit-skins, or to produce, for the inspection of any person appointed by the Committee for the purpose, any books or documents in his possession or under his control relating to rabbit-skins, and to allow copies of or extracts from such books or documents (in so far as they relate to rabbit-skins) to be made by the person so inspecting them.

#### LICENSES UNDER THESE REGULATIONS.

10. (1) No person shall hereafter carry on business as a country dealer in rabbit-skins, or as a wholesale trader in rabbit-skins, or as a broker for the sale of rabbit-skins unless he is licensed so to do by the Minister in accordance with these regulations.

\* Statutory Regulations 1941, Serial number 1941/149, page 486.

(2) The Minister, on application by any person engaged immediately before the commencement of these regulations in any of the businesses aforesaid, or on application by the successor in business of any such person, shall issue a license to the applicant to carry on business in the same capacity under these regulations. Every license issued under this subclause pursuant to an application in writing made at any time within one month after the commencement of these regulations shall be deemed to have come into force on the commencement of these regulations.

(3) Any other person, on application in that behalf, may, in the discretion of the Minister, be granted a license under these regulations.

(4) Any license issued under this clause may be revoked by the Minister on the commission by the licensee of an offence against these regulations, but shall not be revoked on any other ground.

(5) No fee shall be charged in respect of the issue of any license under this clause.

#### SALES OF RABBIT-SKINS.

11. (1) No rabbit-skins, unless sold by auction as hereinafter provided, shall hereafter be sold by any producer to any person other than a licensed country dealer, or a licensed wholesale trader, or a licensed broker.

(2) No rabbit-skins, unless sold by auction as hereinafter provided, shall hereafter be sold by a country dealer to any person other than a licensed wholesale trader or a licensed broker.

(3) No rabbit-skins shall hereafter be sold by a licensed broker on his own account or as the agent of the owner, except by auction. At any sale of rabbit-skins by auction no bid shall be accepted from any person other than a licensed wholesale trader.

#### RABBIT-SKINS EQUALIZATION FUND.

12. (1) For the purposes of these regulations there shall be a fund, to be called the Rabbit-skins Equalization Fund, which shall comprise the proceeds of the levy imposed in accordance with clause 14 hereof.

(2) The Equalization Fund shall be held in an account in a bank to be approved for the purpose by the Minister of Finance.

13. (1) The Equalization Fund shall be administered by the Committee and any moneys belonging to the Equalization Fund may be disbursed for the purposes of these regulations in accordance with the directions of the Committee.

(2) All expenses incurred by or with the authority of the Committee in the administration of these regulations (including the salaries or other remuneration of officers of the Committee, the travelling-expenses and travelling-allowances of members, and any charges payable in respect of the services of any Department of State) shall be a first charge on the Equalization Fund and shall be paid out of the Fund.

(3) The residue of the Fund shall be available for the payment of subsidies in accordance with clause 15 hereof.

**LEVIES AND SUBSIDIES IN RESPECT OF RABBIT-SKINS PURCHASED BY  
LICENSED WHOLESALE TRADERS.**

**14.** (1) The Committee may, in accordance with this clause, impose a levy in respect of any rabbit-skins purchased after the commencement of these regulations by any licensed wholesale trader. A levy may be imposed in respect of any skins purchased as aforesaid, notwithstanding that the skins may have been purchased under an agreement or contract to purchase entered into before the commencement of these regulations.

(2) The levy payable in respect of any rabbit-skins may be imposed as a percentage of the price paid or payable by the wholesale trader or in such other manner as the Committee may determine, and the rate of the levy or the basis of its computation may from time to time be varied by the Committee.

(3) All levies imposed in accordance with this clause in respect of any rabbit-skins shall be payable by the wholesale trader by whom they are purchased, and may be recovered in any Court of competent jurisdiction, at the suit of the Chairman of the Committee, as a debt due by the wholesale trader.

(4) All levies shall, when received by the Committee, be paid into the Rabbit-skins Equalization Fund.

**15.** (1) The Committee may, in accordance with this clause, pay a subsidy out of the Rabbit-skins Equalization Fund in respect of any rabbit-skins purchased after the commencement of these regulations by any licensed wholesale trader.

(2) The amount of the subsidy (if any) payable in respect of any such rabbit-skins shall be determined by the Committee in such manner as it thinks fit, and shall be paid to or to the order of the wholesale trader concerned.

**16.** In imposing any levy or in paying any subsidy under these regulations the Committee shall not differentiate inequitably as between one licensed wholesale trader and another, but it shall be no defence in any action for the recovery of any levy imposed under these regulations that the Committee has or may have failed to observe the requirements of this clause.

**17.** Notice of the imposition of any levy or of the granting of a subsidy in accordance with these regulations shall be given by the Committee to the persons concerned in such manner as the Committee thinks fit.

**AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS.**

**18.** (1) The accounts of the Committee shall be audited by the Audit Office, and the Audit Office shall have the same powers in respect thereof as it would have if the accounts of the Committee related to public moneys within the meaning of the Public Revenues Act, 1926.

(2) The Audit Office shall be entitled to charge for its services such fees (to be paid out of the Equalization Fund) as the Minister of Finance may from time to time approve.

## OFFENCES.

19. Every person commits an offence against these regulations and shall be liable accordingly under the Emergency Regulations Act, 1939, who buys or sells any rabbit-skins in contravention of these regulations, or who obstructs or interferes with any member of the Committee or with any other person in the exercise of any powers conferred by these regulations, or who, being duly required by the Committee to answer any questions or to furnish any returns or to produce any books or other documents, refuses or wilfully fails or neglects so to do or who furnishes any information that is false or misleading in any material particulars, or who otherwise commits a breach or fails to comply with any of the requirements of these regulations.

W. O. HARVEY,  
Acting Clerk of the Executive Council.

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Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act, 1936.  
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 16th day of April, 1942.  
These regulations are administered in the National Service Department  
(Employment Division).