

1969/194



**THE SLAUGHTER OF STOCK, GAME, AND POULTRY
REGULATIONS 1969**

—
ARTHUR PORRITT, Governor-General

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Government House at Wellington this 22nd day of September 1969

Present:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to the Meat Act 1964, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following regulations.

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ANALYSIS

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Title and commencement 2. Interpretation 3. Method of slaughter of cattle, horses, goats, and swine 4. Method of slaughter of sheep and lambs 5. Slaughter in accordance with religious requirements 6. Director may approve other methods of slaughter 7. Slaughter of game 8. Slaughter of other animals 9. Slaughter of poultry 10. Use of instrument administering electrical shock 11. Use of carbon dioxide gas | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Use of captive bolt type or other stunning instrument 13. Time between rendering stock, game, other animals, or poultry insensible and bleeding 14. Equipment to be kept and maintained in good order 15. Stock, game, or other animals not to be hung up before rendered insensible 16. Director may require provision, alteration, or removal of equipment 17. Only competent persons to carry out slaughtering 18. Offences and penalty 19. Revocation |
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REGULATIONS

1. Title and commencement—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Slaughter of Stock, Game, and Poultry Regulations 1969.

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the 1st day of October 1969.

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

“The Act” means the Meat Act 1964:

“Establishment” means an abattoir or an export slaughterhouse:

“Slaughtering place” means any place registered, licensed, or approved under the Act or any regulations made thereunder where stock or game is slaughtered; and, in relation to animals other than stock or game, means any place registered, licensed, or approved under the Act or any regulations made thereunder where such animals are slaughtered:

Other expressions defined in the Act have the meanings so defined.

3. Method of slaughter of cattle, horses, goats, and swine—(1) No person shall in any slaughtering place slaughter any head of cattle, horses, goats, or swine, unless and until it has been rendered insensible to pain by a method prescribed in subclause (2) of this regulation and will remain so until death supervenes from the operation of bleeding, which shall be carried out promptly and skilfully.

(2) For the purposes of subclause (1) of this regulation, the methods of inducing insensibility to pain shall—

(a) In the case of cattle (except bobby calves), horses, goats, and swine, be by means of—

(i) A captive bolt type of stunning instrument operated by explosive charge or compressed air; or

(ii) An instrument which causes insensibility by the administration of an electric shock; or

(iii) The use of carbon dioxide gas in a suitably enclosed chamber:

Provided that at slaughtering places (other than export slaughterhouses and abattoirs) a suitable safe firearm with a type of solid bullet or frangible bullet which renders the animal instantaneously insensibile to pain may be used:

(b) In the case of bobby calves, be by any of the methods of inducing insensibility permitted by paragraph (a) of this subclause, or by manual stunning by a single blow to the frontal region of the head.

4. Method of slaughter of sheep and lambs—No person shall in any slaughtering place slaughter any sheep or lamb unless—

(a) It is first rendered insensibile to pain in accordance with any of the methods specified in paragraph (a) of subclause (2) of regulation 3 of these regulations and will remain so until death supervenes from the operation of bleeding, which shall be carried out promptly and skilfully; or

(b) It is slaughtered in a manner whereby the sheep or lamb is rendered unconscious by anoxia brought about by the simultaneous and instantaneous severance of the carotid arteries and jugular veins together with the simultaneous severance of the spinal cord.

5. Slaughter in accordance with religious requirements—Notwithstanding the provisions of regulations 3 and 4 of these regulations, any stock may be slaughtered in an establishment, but in no other premises, in accordance with the ritual requirements of the Jewish faith or any

other religious faith that requires a method of slaughter whereby the animal suffers loss of consciousness by anoxia caused by the simultaneous and instantaneous severance of the carotid arteries and jugular veins with a sharp instrument:

Provided that in the case of cattle (other than bobby calves) the operation of slaughter shall be carried out in a pen of a type designed for the purpose and approved by the Director.

6. Director may approve other methods of slaughter—Notwithstanding the provisions of regulations 3, 4, and 5 of these regulations, the Director may approve any other method of inducing insensibility to pain or slaughter which in his opinion is safe and humane.

7. Slaughter of game—No person shall in any premises approved by the Director pursuant to the Game (Packing and Export) Regulations 1967* slaughter any game except by a method approved by the Director.

8. Slaughter of other animals—No person shall in any slaughtering place slaughter any animals (not being stock or game) except by a method approved by the Director.

9. Slaughter of poultry—No person shall in any premises licensed pursuant to section 61A of the Act slaughter any poultry, except in accordance with a method approved by the Director.

10. Use of instrument administering electrical shock—Where, pursuant to these regulations, an instrument is used to administer an electrical shock, the instrument shall be so operated that the animal is rendered insensible to pain immediately and with a minimum of excitement and discomfort.

11. Use of carbon dioxide gas—Where, pursuant to these regulations, carbon dioxide gas is used to render the animal insensible to pain, the apparatus shall be of a type approved by the Director, the equipment shall be maintained in good order and condition, and the concentration of the gas shall be maintained in the appropriate area of the apparatus sufficient to ensure the rapid onset in the animal of insensibility to pain.

12. Use of captive bolt type or other stunning instrument—Where, pursuant to these regulations, a captive bolt type of instrument or implement for stunning (including types operated by explosive charge or compressed air) is used, such use shall be restricted to those types which avoid unnecessary excitement and instantaneously render the animal insensible to pain; and the person using the stunning instrument or equipment shall be trained and skilful in its use.

13. Time between rendering stock, game, other animals, or poultry insensible and bleeding—(1) The slaughter of any stock, game, or other animals in a slaughtering place or of poultry in premises licensed pursuant to section 61A of the Act shall be so co-ordinated that the time

between the stock, game, other animals or poultry being rendered insensible (where this applies) and being subjected to bleeding is kept to the absolute minimum.

(2) In any slaughtering place or premises licensed under section 61A of the Act at which an Inspector is carrying out his duties under the Act, the co-ordination prescribed in subclause (1) of this regulation shall be to his satisfaction.

14. Equipment to be kept and maintained in good order—The proprietor of every slaughtering place, and, in the case of poultry, of premises licensed pursuant to section 61A of the Act, shall keep or cause to be kept on the premises equipment efficient for the purpose of carrying out the requirements of these regulations, and such equipment shall be provided in sufficient numbers and shall be maintained in good working order and repair to enable the provisions of these regulations to be carried out as appropriate to the type of stock, game, other animals or poultry dealt with on the premises.

15. Stock, game, or other animals not to be hung up before rendered insensible—No stock or game or other animals slaughtered in any slaughtering place shall prior to bleeding be hung from a shackle or other holding device by one or more legs, unless and until it has been rendered insensible to pain in accordance with these regulations.

16. Director may require provision, alteration, or removal of equipment—(1) The Director may at any time, by notice in writing to the manager or licensee or proprietor, as the case may be, of any slaughtering place or, in the case of poultry, premises licensed pursuant to section 61A of the Act,—

- (a) Require the provision in the slaughtering place or, as the case may be, the premises licensed pursuant to the said section 61A of any specified equipment to enable slaughtering to be carried out in a humane manner in accordance with the requirements of these regulations; or
- (b) Require the alteration to or removal of any specified equipment provided for slaughtering purposes in the slaughtering place or, as the case may be, the premises licensed pursuant to the said section 61A, if he has reason to believe that it does not enable slaughtering to be carried out in a humane manner in accordance with the requirements of these regulations.

(2) The manager or licensee or proprietor, as the case may be, of any slaughtering place or premises licensed pursuant to the said section 61A shall comply with every requirement of the Director under subclause (1) of this regulation.

17. Only competent persons to carry out slaughtering—No person shall in any slaughtering place or, in the case of poultry, in premises licensed pursuant to section 61A of the Act—

- (a) Use any method of rendering any stock, game, other animals or poultry insensible to pain before slaughter, unless he is competent to use the method being employed; or
- (b) Slaughter any stock, game, other animals or poultry, unless he is competent to use the humane method of slaughter being employed:

Provided that it shall not be a breach of this regulation if the person using any method of rendering any stock, game, other animals or poultry insensible to pain or of slaughter is doing so under the close supervision of a competent person who is instructing him in the correct methods.

18. Offences and penalty—(1) Every person commits an offence who does any act in contravention of or fails to comply with any provision of these regulations.

(2) Every person commits an offence who permits or suffers any person in his employment or acting as his agent to do any act in contravention of any provision of these regulations or to omit to comply in any respect with any such provision.

(3) Any act done in contravention of any provision of these regulations or any omission to comply in any respect with any such provision by an agent or servant in the course of his agency or employment shall be deemed to have been permitted or suffered by his principal or employer until the contrary is proved.

(4) Every person who commits an offence against these regulations is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$100.

19. Revocation—The Slaughter of Stock Regulations 1951* are hereby revoked.

P. J. BROOKS,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

*S.R. 1951/178

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.

These regulations replace the Slaughter of Stock Regulations 1951. They prescribe the methods of slaughtering cattle, horses, goats, swine, sheep, lambs, game, other animals, and poultry to be used in premises registered, licensed, or approved pursuant to the Meat Act 1964 or to regulations under that Act.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 25 September 1969.

These regulations are administered in the Department of Agriculture.