

1963/83



## THE SHEARERS REGULATIONS 1963

BERNARD FERGUSSON, Governor-General

### ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Government House at Wellington this 29th day of May 1963

Present:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to the Shearers Act 1962, 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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#### REGULATIONS

**1. Title and commencement**—(1) These regulations may be cited as the Shearers Regulations 1963.

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the commencement of the Shearers Act 1962.

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

“The Act” means the Shearers Act 1962:

“The Chief Inspector” means the Chief Inspector of Factories appointed under the Factories Act 1946.

## PART I

**3. Accommodation and amenities**—The accommodation and amenities to be provided by employers who employ and accommodate five or more shearers shall conform or be superior to the requirements of this Part of these regulations.

**4. Access**—The means of access and the entrance to the accommodation shall be safe and convenient and shall be maintained in good order and condition by the employer.

**5. Site**—(1) All buildings used for the accommodation of shearers shall be located on a site suitable for the purpose.

(2) The site shall be situated at a reasonable distance from any cowyard, pigsty, killing pen, sheep dip, or any other building, yard, or enclosure where offensive or unhygienic conditions exist or are likely to occur.

(3) The site shall be well drained, sheltered as far as is practicable, and kept clear of all overgrowing vegetation.

**6. General construction**—Every building in which shearers are accommodated shall comply with the following requirements:

(a) It shall be built of sound materials and so constructed as to exclude wind and water:

(b) If the roof is covered with iron or other material that will cause condensation, it shall be adequately lined with suitable material:

(c) The walls and ceilings shall be lined with suitable material and so constructed as to prevent draughts. They shall be painted, papered, varnished, or finished in a workmanlike way:

Provided that these requirements shall not apply to any room used primarily for the laundering of clothes:

(d) A suitable draught-proof floor shall be laid throughout:

(e) There shall be a free ventilating space of not less than 6 in. between the underside of every joist, sleeper-plate, stringer, or bearer on which the floor is laid or supported and the surface of the ground:

(f) Adequate vents shall be provided to the underside of the flooring and all such openings shall be covered in such manner as will prevent the entry of animals and birds without unduly impeding ventilation:

Provided that the requirements of paragraph (e) and paragraph (f) of this regulation shall not apply where the floor is of concrete laid on gravel or porous material and is waterproofed and finished with a suitable covering to the satisfaction of an Inspector.

**7. Cookhouse and dining room**—(1) A suitable cookhouse and dining room shall be provided for use by the shearers.

(2) Every cookhouse shall—

(a) Have sufficient floor space to enable every person working therein to carry out his duties efficiently and to permit easy access for cleaning:

(b) Have walls and ceilings of a light colour with a smooth, non-absorbent, and readily cleansed surface, which shall be painted, varnished, or finished in a workmanlike way:

(c) Be provided with a sink with an adequate supply of hot and cold water laid on thereto.

(3) Every dining room shall have sufficient space for the shearers to have their meals in reasonable comfort.

(4) Every cookhouse and every dining room shall have—

(a) A floor made of non-absorbent material having a smooth surface or of close-clamped tongued-and-grooved boards:

(b) Adequate lighting and ventilation.

(5) Where any cookhouse or dining room is too close to any noxious place so that a nuisance is created by flies or other insects, every ventilation opening and every window (not being a window fitted with a fixed glazed sash) shall be fitted, if an Inspector so directs, with a covering of wire gauze or other suitable material that will exclude flies, and every doorway opening to the outside air, with a self-closing door of wire gauze or other suitable material that will exclude flies.

(6) The paintwork, finish, or varnish on the walls and ceilings of the cookhouse and dining room shall be maintained by the employer in good order and condition.

**8. Sleeping rooms—**(1) Sufficient and suitable sleeping accommodation shall be provided for use by the shearers.

(2) Where members of both sexes are employed, not being members of the same family, the sleeping accommodation for each sex shall be separate so as to ensure privacy.

(3) Each sleeping room shall be of not less than the following dimensions:

(a) For one person:

63 sq. ft. of floor space.

8 ft high in any part.

6 ft wide in any part.

(b) For two persons:

100 sq. ft. of floor space.

8 ft high in any part.

7 ft wide in any part.

(c) For more than two persons:

100 sq. ft. of floor space for the first two persons and 50 sq. ft. for each additional person.

8 ft high in any part.

7 ft wide in any part.

(4) Beds shall be of the bedstead or divan type or such other type as is approved by the Chief Inspector, but no bed shall be less than 2 ft 6 in. in width and 6 ft 2 in. in length.

(5) Each bed shall be fitted with a woven wire or other suitable base and shall, except in the case of divan beds, be raised sufficiently above floor level to provide adequate ventilation and easy access for cleaning.

(6) Top bunks will be permitted only on the written approval of an Inspector. The Inspector may grant this approval only where the employer shows good reason why single stand beds cannot be used.

(7) If top bunks are permitted there must be—

(a) Adequate space between the bottom bunk and the top bunk and between the top bunk and the ceiling:

(b) A cover of plywood, sheetmetal, or similar material extending the full length and breadth of the underside of the top bunk so as to prevent dust, fluff, and other matter descending on the person below.

(8) Mattresses shall be of wool, kapoc, inner spring, foam rubber, or other type approved by the Chief Inspector.

(9) The mattresses shall be provided for the shearers in a clean and hygienic condition.

**9. Furniture and utensils**—(1) The employer shall provide an adequate supply of cooking and eating utensils and appliances for the use of the shearers and sufficient furniture to enable the shearers to have their meals in reasonable comfort.

(2) Cups, saucers, and plates shall be of glazed earthenware, suitable plastics, or other similar material.

(3) Adequate provision shall be made for the hanging of the shearers' clothes.

**10. Water for drinking and culinary purposes**—(1) There shall be an adequate supply of wholesome water for drinking and culinary purposes.

(2) All pipes, tanks, vessels, or other means used to collect, convey, or store such water shall be so constructed as to prevent the water from becoming polluted or contaminated.

**11. Washing facilities**—(1) Suitable and adequate washing facilities shall be provided.

(2) Baths or shower baths shall be provided in accordance with the following scale:

Maximum Number of Shearers to be Served	Number of Baths or Shower Baths
6	1
14	2
24	3
36	4
48	5

(3) Two tubs and a copper or other suitable means shall be provided for the laundering of clothes.

(4) A suitable clothes line shall be provided for the drying of shearers' clothes.

(5) An adequate supply of hot and cold running water shall be provided over at least one tub and in each bath and shower bath.

(6) Where it is not practicable to make provision for an adequate supply of water, the Inspector may modify the requirements of subclause (5) of this regulation under section 11 of the Act.

(7) Where separate facilities are not provided for females, adequate means shall be provided to ensure privacy.

**12. Lighting**—(1) Adequate and suitable lighting shall be provided.

(2) Where electric power reticulation extends to the farm buildings including the woolshed, electric lighting shall be provided throughout the accommodation.

(3) Where electricity is not available or where subclause (2) of this regulation does not apply, lighting shall be by means of pressure lamps or other appliances approved by the Chief Inspector.

(4) The level of illumination in any case shall be not less than seven lumens per square foot.

(5) All electric lights shall be equipped with adequate shades.

**13. Heating**—The employer shall provide and maintain in one room such heating appliances (if any) as are necessary for the comfort of the shearers.

**14. Ventilation**—(1) All rooms shall be adequately ventilated by means of windows having an area of not less than one-tenth of the floor area.

(2) Not less than one-half of such window space shall be capable of being opened.

(3) Wherever practicable cross ventilation shall be provided.

**15. Sanitary conveniences**—(1) Suitable sanitary conveniences shall be provided of either the water closet, earth closet, bore hole privy, or other type approved by the local authority or by the Medical Officer of Health.

(2) Sanitary conveniences shall be provided in accordance with the following scale:

Maximum Number of Shearers to be Served	Number of Fittings
6	1
14	2
24	3
36	4
48	5

(3) All compartments shall be conveniently accessible and shall be of not less than the following dimensions:

Average height, 7 ft; width, 2 ft 6 in.; floor area, 12 sq. ft.; cubic capacity, 96 cu. ft.

(4) Doors and walls shall be properly constructed of sound materials.

(5) The door shall be capable of being fastened on the inside.

(6) Floors shall be constructed of an impervious material or of close-clamped tongued-and-grooved timber.

(7) Any convenience not connected to sewerage or a septic tank shall be entirely separate from living and cooking quarters.

(8) Earth closets and similar types of conveniences shall be so constructed as to exclude flies and shall not be sited so as to be offensive or likely to be injurious to health. The opening in the seat shall be fitted with a hinged lid.

(9) All conveniences shall be adequately ventilated, kept clean and, where the system necessitates disposal, such disposal shall be arranged in a safe and hygienic manner.

(10) Where separate conveniences are not provided for females there shall be sufficient means provided to ensure privacy.

**16. Cleanliness**—(1) All accommodation shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected or fumigated before occupation by shearers.

(2) It shall be the duty of the shearers to maintain the accommodation in a clean and hygienic condition during their occupancy and, at the termination thereof, to leave it clean and tidy.

(3) All necessary cleaning equipment shall be provided by the employer.

(4) No skins, fertiliser, or offensive material or matter shall be stored in the accommodation at any time.

**17. Storage**—All accommodation shall be provided with:

- (a) Adequate facilities to store perishable provisions:
- (b) A fly-proof safe, or other suitable container, of sufficient size for the storage of meat:
- (c) Suitable facilities for the storage of other provisions and utensils.

**18. Disposal of refuse**—(1) Receptacles of metal or of other suitable material with close-fitting lids shall be provided in sufficient numbers to hold all refuse from the dining room and kitchen.

(2) Such receptacles shall be emptied and cleaned at least once in every period of 24 hours while the accommodation is in use.

(3) The refuse shall be disposed of in such a manner as not to create a nuisance or to be a danger to health.

(4) Where meals are cooked and provided in the accommodation, the shearers shall be responsible for disposal of refuse. In all other cases the employer shall be responsible.

## PART II

**19. Amenities**—This Part of these regulations prescribes the amenities to be provided by employers for all shearers who are not required to be provided with accommodation and amenities under Part I of these regulations.

**20. Eating facilities**—(1) Sufficient and suitable provision shall be made to enable the shearers to have their meals in reasonable comfort.

(2) Adequate provision shall be made for the boiling of water.

**21. Drinking water**—There shall be an adequate supply of wholesome drinking water.

**22. Sanitary conveniences**—(1) Sufficient and suitable conveniences shall be provided for all shearers.

(2) Where separate sanitary conveniences are not provided for females there shall be adequate means to ensure privacy.

(3) Installation and construction of sanitary conveniences shall be in accordance with the local authority bylaws.

**23. Washing facilities**—(1) Adequate and suitable washing facilities shall be provided for all shearers.

(2) One hand wash basin shall be provided for every 10 shearers or part thereof.

(3) A sufficient supply of hot and cold water shall be provided.

(4) Installation shall be in accordance with the local authority bylaws.

## PART III

### MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

**24. Offence**—Every person who sleeps in the cookhouse or dining room of any accommodation provided for shearers commits an offence against these regulations and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5.

**25. Revocation**—The regulations made under the Shearers' Accommodation Act 1919 on the 18th day of January 1926 and published in the *Gazette* of the 4th day of June of that year at page 1488, are hereby revoked.

T. J. SHERRARD,  
Clerk of the Executive Council.

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

These regulations prescribe the accommodation and amenities to be provided for shearers under the Shearers Act 1962.

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Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 30 May 1963.

These regulations are administered in the Department of Labour.