

# Animal Health Regulations [2017]

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# Animal Health Regulations [2017]

## Schedule 1

### Forms and Certificates

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## Schedule 2

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## Schedule 4

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[Enabling powers, etc.]

## Part 1

### Preliminary

#### 1 Citation and commencement

These Regulations may be cited as the Animal Health Regulations [2017] and come into force on [date / procedure].

#### 2 Interpretation

In these Regulations

- (a) words and expressions defined in section 2 of the Act have the meaning given in that Act;
- (b) the Act means the Animal Health and Production Act 2016; and
- (c) unless the context otherwise requires

[to be added, as needed]

#### 3 Electronic documents

- (1) The Director may accept a certificate or any other document referred to in these Regulations that is transmitted in electronic form, including by facsimile.
- (2) Every person who imports anything in respect of which a certificate or other document has been transmitted in electronic form to the Director shall, upon the Director's request, provide the Director with an original signed copy of the certificate or document.

## Part 2

### Notifiable diseases

#### 4 Listing of notifiable diseases

- (1) The Director, when adopting or updating a list of diseases of national concern, based on risk analysis, under section 16(2) of the Act shall list a disease as notifiable if it meets
  - (a) all of the following criteria
    - (i) scientific evidence indicates that the disease is transmissible;

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- (ii) animal species are either susceptible to the disease or vectors and reservoirs thereof exist in The Bahamas;
  - (iii) the disease causes negative effects on animal health or poses a risk to public health due to its zoonotic character;
  - (iv) diagnostic tools are available for the disease; and
  - (v) risk-mitigating measures and, where relevant, surveillance of the disease are effective and proportionate to the risks posed by the disease in The Bahamas; and
- (b) at least one of the following criteria
- (i) the disease causes or could cause significant negative effects in The Bahamas on animal health, or poses or could pose a significant risk to public health due to its zoonotic character;
  - (ii) the disease agent has developed resistance to treatments which poses a significant danger to public and/or animal health in The Bahamas;
  - (iii) the disease causes or could cause a significant negative economic impact affecting agriculture or aquaculture production in The Bahamas;
  - (iv) the disease has the potential to generate a crisis or the disease agent could be used for the purpose of bioterrorism; or
  - (v) the disease has or could have a significant negative impact on the environment, including biodiversity, of The Bahamas.

### **5 Emerging diseases**

A disease other than a published notifiable disease shall be considered to be an emerging disease (emerging disease) provided it has the potential to meet the criteria for listing diseases provided for in regulation 4 and

- (a) results from the evolution or change of an existing disease agent;
- (b) is a known disease spreading to a new geographic area, species or population;
- (c) is diagnosed for the first time in The Bahamas; or
- (d) is caused by an unrecognised or a previously unrecognised disease agent.

### **6 Reporting of notifiable diseases**

- (1) An owner of an animal [or an authorized person] who knows or ought to know that a notifiable disease is or may be present in an animal must, within 24 hours, report it to the Director either in person or by telephone to a telephone number designated by the Director for the purpose of reporting reportable diseases.
- (2) A report made pursuant to sub-regulation (1) must provide the following information, if known to the person making it
  - (a) the address where the animal is located, or reasonable directions to find the animal;
  - (b) the animal's species;
  - (c) the animal's presumptive diagnosis;

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- (d) the name and contact information of the owner of the animal;
- (e) the type of operation at which the animal is located;
- (f) a description of the identifier (if any) that distinguishes the animal, or group of animals, within the herd or group, such as a tag number, animal identifier, group lot number or pen number;
- (g) the total number of animals of the same species where the animal is located;
- (h) the total number of animals of all species that appear to be affected with the reportable disease where the animal is located;
- (i) whether diagnostic samples have been submitted to a laboratory for testing.

### **7 Operators' surveillance obligation**

- (1) For the purpose of detecting the presence of notifiable diseases and emerging diseases, operators shall
  - (a) observe the health and behaviour of animals under their responsibility;
  - (b) observe any changes in the normal production parameters in the establishments, animals or germinal products under their responsibility that may give rise to a suspicion of being caused by a listed disease or emerging disease;
  - (c) look for abnormal mortalities and other signs of serious disease in animals under their responsibility

and shall report to the Director [or: a veterinarian] within 24 hours of making the observation, any observation that may indicate the presence of notifiable diseases and emerging diseases.

### **8 Publicity**

The Director shall give publicity to the list of notifiable diseases by all reasonable means, including but not limited to publication in national and trade media, publication on the internet and notices in public offices.

## **Part 3 Registration and Licensing**

### **9 Requirement for registration and licence**

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), no person shall operate, or cause or permit another person to operate, an animal establishment unless
  - (a) the establishment is registered with the Department in accordance with regulation 10;
  - (b) the operator has been issued with a license under regulation 13; and
  - (c) the establishment is operated in accordance with that registration and that licence.
- (2) Paragraph (1)(b) does not apply to a non-commercial facility.

### **10 Application for registration**

- (1) Any person who wishes to register an animal establishment shall
  - (a) apply to the Director using Form 1 set out in Schedule 1; and

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- (b) pay the fee specified in Schedule 2.
- (2) The application shall be accompanied by such information or supporting documents that the Director may require and shall be submitted together with the prescribed fee.
- (3) The Authority shall carry out an inspection of the premises indicated in the application, and shall evaluate the application on the basis of the criteria established in these regulations.

### **11 Registration**

- (1) Where an application made under regulation 10(1)ô
  - (a) relates to a non-commercial establishment, the Director shall register the establishment if he is satisfied that the requirements in section 31(3) of the Act are satisfied;
  - (b) in all other cases, the Director shall register the establishment after the applicant has been issued a licence under regulation 13.
- (2) Where the Director registers an establishment under paragraph (1), he shallô
  - (a) assign to it a unique identification number; and
  - (b) issue to the applicant a certificate corresponding toô
    - (i) in the case of a non-commercial establishment, Certificate 2 in Schedule 1
    - (ii) in other cases, Certificate 1 in Schedule 1.
- (3) When making an application under regulation 10(1), the burden is on the applicant to prove that the establishment is a non-commercial establishment.

### **12 Conditions of registration**

- (1) Where the Director grants a registration certificate, other than to an establishment referred to in paragraphs (2) or (3), it shall be a condition of the registration that the operator of the establishmentô
  - (a) keep a record ofô
    - (i) the movement of any animal and any animal product into and out of the premises of the business;
    - (ii) the mortality in each epidemiological unit within the premises, as is relevant for the type of production carried on by the business;
    - (iii) the results of any surveillance carried out by the operator of the business; and
    - (iv) the results of any surveillance carried out by an animal health inspector or veterinary officer which have been notified to the business,
  - (b) implement good hygiene practice;
  - (c) comply with any surveillance requirement; and
  - (d) have a system in place which enables the operator to demonstrate to the Department that the requirements of sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) are being met.
- (2) Where the Director grants a registration certificate in relation to a processing establishment, it shall be a condition of the registration that the operator of the establishmentô

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- (a) keep a record of the movement of any animal and any animal product into and out of the establishment;
  - (b) implement good hygiene practice; and
  - (c) have a system in place which enables the operator to demonstrate to an animal health inspector that the requirements of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) are being met.
- (3) Where the Director grants a registration certificate in relation to a non-commercial establishment, it shall be a condition of the registration that the operator of the establishment
- (a) keep a record of the movement of any animal and any animal product into and out of the establishment;
  - (b) implement good hygiene practice;
  - (c) comply with any surveillance requirement; and
  - (d) have a system in place which enables the operator to demonstrate to the Department that the requirements of sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) are being met.
- (4) The Director may attach to a registration certificate granted to a non-commercial establishment, any specific conditions as he may think fit in order to ensure the proper functioning of the premises in accordance with the Act and these Regulations.

### **13 Licensing of animal establishments**

- (1) Where the Director is considering the registration of an animal establishment under regulation 11(1)(b), he shall also consider issuing a licence under this regulation.
- (2) The Director shall not issue (whether on the first or on any subsequent occasion) a licence for the purpose of regulation 11(1)(b) unless he is satisfied
- (a) the requirements in section 31(3) of the Act are met;
  - (b) the applicant has drawn up standard operating procedures, in accordance with regulation 43, that are suitable
    - (i) for the premises, the categories of animal and the operations in respect of which a licence is sought; and
    - (ii) for the proper management of animal health risks in the establishment;
  - (c) the applicant has sufficient knowledge of the provisions of all relevant legislation and guidance relating to that operation, category of animal and operations for which the licence is sought;
  - (d) the premises to which the application relates are suitably designed and equipped for the proper management of animal health risks in the establishment; and
  - (e) the applicant has paid the fee specified in Schedule 2.
- (3) The Director may attach to any license issued under sub-regulation (1) any specific conditions as he may think fit in order to ensure the proper functioning of the establishment in accordance with the Act and these Regulations.

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### **14 Duration of certificates or licences**

A certificate or a licence granted under these Regulations is valid for 1 year from its date of issue unless it is revoked earlier under regulation 16 or by a court.

### **15 Refusal to grant a certificate or licence**

- (1) The Director may refuse to grant a certificate or licence if satisfied that the applicant<sup>o</sup>
  - (a) has failed to meet any of the conditions specified for the grant of such certificate or licence under these Regulations; or
  - (b) is not a fit and proper person to hold a certificate or licence.
- (2) Where the Director refuses to grant a certificate or licence, or grants it subject to any condition other than a condition imposed under regulation 12, he shall notify the applicant in writing of<sup>o</sup>
  - (a) the reasons for the refusal or the imposition of the condition; and
  - (b) the applicant<sup>s</sup> right of appeal under section 64(1) of the Act.
- (3) For the purpose of determining whether an applicant is a fit and proper person, under paragraph (1)(b), the Director may, without limitation, take account of the applicant<sup>s</sup> history of compliance with animal health regulations or any other laws relating to animal welfare, food safety or agriculture.

### **16 Suspension or revocation of a certificate or licence**

- (1) The Director may, by notice in writing, suspend or revoke a certificate or licence if satisfied that<sup>o</sup>
  - (a) the holder of the certificate or licence has not complied with, is not complying with or is not likely to comply with any condition of the certificate or licence or with any provision of the Act or these Regulations;
  - (b) the aquaculture production business or processing establishment is no longer operated for the purpose for which the authorisation was granted or has ceased to operate; or
  - (c) it is necessary to revoke the authorisation to prevent or limit the risk of the spread of disease.
- (2) Written notice under this regulation must<sup>o</sup>
  - (a) give reasons for the suspension or revocation;
  - (b) state when the suspension or revocation comes into effect and, in the case of suspension, state on what date or event it is to cease to have effect; and
  - (c) give details of the right of appeal against the decision.
- (3) Any person whose certificate or licence is suspended or revoked must, whether or not that suspension or revocation is the subject of an appeal pursuant to regulation 18, surrender it to the competent authority within 14 days of receipt of the notice informing that person of the suspension or revocation.

### **17 Modification of a certificate or licence**

- (1) The Director may<sup>o</sup>



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- (a) on his own initiative; or
  - (b) on the application of the operator of an animal establishment, modify a certificate or licence, including any condition of a certificate or licence.
- (2) An application under sub-regulation (1)(b) shall be made on a form provided by the Director for the purpose and be accompanied by such information in such form as the Director may reasonably require.
  - (3) Where the Department modifies a certificate or licence under sub-regulation (1) or, in the case of an application under sub-regulation (1)(b), refuses to grant the modification, it shall, by notice served on the operator
    - (a) specify the amendment and state the date on which it is to take effect or, in the case of a refusal, state its decision not to grant the application;
    - (b) give the reasons for the amendment or the refusal; and
    - (c) inform the operator of the right of appeal under section 64(1) of the Act.

### **18 Appeals**

- (1) A person who is aggrieved by a decision of the Director to refuse, suspend or revoke a certificate or licence, or to refuse to modify a certificate or licence, may appeal against it within 14 days of the decision of the Director, in writing to the Executive Director.
- (2) The Executive Director shall determine and communicate the results in writing of an appeal made under sub-regulation (1) within 14 days.
- (3) A further right of appeal shall exist under section 64(2) and (3) of the Act as if the decision under sub-regulation (2) were a decision under section 64(1) of the Act.
- (4) A decision to suspend or revoke a licence or certificate is not suspended pending an appeal unless the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Appeal Tribunal orders otherwise.

### **19 Public register of animal establishments**

- (1) The Director shall establish and maintain a register of
  - (a) aquaculture production businesses authorised under this Part; and
  - (b) processing establishments authorised under this Part.
- (2) In the case of an animal establishment other than a processing establishment, the register shall contain the information specified in Part 1 of Schedule 3.
- (3) In the case of a processing establishment, the register shall contain the information specified in Part 2 of Schedule 3.
- (4) The Authority shall
  - (a) make the register available for inspection by the public free of charge at all reasonable times and at such place as may be determined by the Authority; and
  - (b) afford members of the public reasonable facilities for obtaining from the Authority, on payment of reasonable charges, a copy of any entry in the register.

**Part 4  
Imports and Exports**

**20 Designation**

- (1) For the purpose of preventing the introduction of a disease into The Bahamas from an animal or thing imported into The Bahamas, the Minister may designate a country or part of a country as being free of a disease or as posing a negligible risk for a disease.
- (2) The designation shall be in writing and be based on the following criteria respecting the country or part of the country that is the subject of the designation<sup>o</sup>
  - (a) the prevalence of the disease;
  - (b) the time since the most recent outbreak of the disease;
  - (c) the disease surveillance programs in effect;
  - (d) the measures taken to prevent the introduction or spread of the disease;
  - (e) the natural barriers to the movement of the disease;
  - (f) the zoosanitary infrastructure; and
  - (g) any other criteria relevant to the state, extent or propagation of the disease.
- (3) The Minister may amend or repeal the designation.

**21 Designated points of entry**

Except as otherwise provided in these Regulations, every animal imported into The Bahamas may be admitted only at a quarantine port, an inspection port or other place approved by the Minister.

**22 Regulation of imports from third countries**

- (1) No person shall import into The Bahamas animals or animal products which originate in a third country unless<sup>o</sup>
  - (a) the animals or animal products are landed or presented for inspection at a designated point of entry;
  - (b) the entry of the animals into The Bahamas is not prohibited pursuant to the [prohibitions];
  - (c) the animals are accompanied by a health certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of export; and
  - (d) the animals otherwise satisfy the conditions of importation imposed by or under any enactment.

**23 Notice before arrival**

An importer or consignee of animals must notify a customs officer, in writing, at least 24 hours in advance of the time of import of the matters referred to in section 46(1) of the Act.

**24 Presentation and display of documents**

- (1) A health certificate issued by the competent authority of the country of export must accompany a consignment of animals or animal products and must be delivered by the importer to an animal health inspector within three days of its landing.

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- (2) An importer of a consignment of animals or animal products must include in a customs document relating to the consignment
  - (a) a statement that this consignment contains produce of animal health relevance;
  - (b) the reference number of the health certificate and the name of the importing country; and
  - (c) the registration number of the importer.

### **25 Prohibition on the removal of animals and animal products from animal health control**

- (1) No person may remove any animal or animal product or cause any animal or animal product to be removed from its area of animal health control unless an animal health inspector has discharged the material under regulation 26.
- (2) Any notifiable relevant material which is being held must be stored by the importer under the supervision and in accordance with the instructions of an animal health inspector.
- (3) The importer is liable for the costs of storing the animal or animal product pending its release.

### **26 Animal health discharge**

- (1) An animal health inspector may discharge an animal or animal product from its area of animal health control only if the animal health inspector is satisfied
  - (a) that the animal or animal product is free from any notifiable disease or emerging disease;
  - (b) that the documentation accompanying the consignment meets the prescribed import requirements; and
  - (c) that the import of the animal or animal product
    - (i) would not lead to the introduction or spread of a vector or a notifiable disease; or
    - (ii) based on risk analysis, create a serious risk to human health, animal health or the ecosystem.
- (2) An animal health inspector may, for the purpose of being satisfied as to the matters referred to in paragraph (1), carry out an examination of a consignment of relevant material and its packaging and, where necessary, the vehicle transporting the consignment.
- (3) Where the animal health inspector is satisfied that the relevant material may be discharged from its area of animal health control, the inspector must
  - (a) stamp the health certificate with the official stamp; and
  - (b) where applicable, complete the relevant headings of the health certificate.
- (4) An animal health inspector may, for the purpose of performing an animal health check, require the occupier or other person in charge of the premises in which the check is to take place to provide
  - (a) where appropriate, suitable areas of inspection;
  - (b) adequate lighting; and

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- (c) inspection tables.

### **27 Requirements for export – general**

No person shall export any animal or animal product unless the animal or animal product

- (a) satisfies the animal health requirements of the State of destination;
- (b) comes from a registered animal establishment;
- (c) can be identified in accordance with the requirements of the [Aquatic or Identification Regulations]; and
- (d) is registered in such a way that the original animal establishment can be traced.

### **28 Certificates for export or re-export**

- (1) A person who intends exporting or re-exporting any animal or animal product may apply to the Director, in such form and manner as he may specify, for a certificate under this regulation.
- (2) Where the Director has received an application, made in accordance with paragraph (1), an animal health inspector shall
  - (a) carry out any of services which he considers necessary to allow him to issue the certificate; and
  - (b) if he is satisfied that a certificate should be issued, issue the certificate on behalf of the Director upon payment of the fee specified in regulation 29.

### **29 Fees**

An applicant for a certificate shall pay to the Director, in respect of the services referred to in the first column of Schedule 2, the fee set out opposite in the second column of that Schedule.

## **Part 5 Quarantine**

### **30 Requirement for quarantine**

- (1) Except as otherwise provided in these Regulations, every animal imported into The Bahamas is subject to inspection, testing and treatment at a quarantine port, an inspection port or other place approved by the Minister for inspection purposes.
- (2) A veterinary inspector may, for the purpose of preventing the introduction of disease into The Bahamas or into any other country from The Bahamas, require any animal imported into The Bahamas to be quarantined.
- (3) A veterinary inspector may, on veterinary grounds, require that the animals are held at a quarantine station specified by him or her.
- (4) An animal required to be quarantined pursuant to these Regulations shall be quarantined at an approved quarantine centre or other place approved by the Minister for quarantine purposes.
- (5) No person shall remove from a quarantine port, inspection port or other place approved by the Minister under this regulation an animal subject to quarantine

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pursuant to paragraph (2) until the animal has been quarantined by a veterinary inspector.

### **31 Quarantine**

- (1) Where an animal health inspector finds or suspects that
- (a) a thing is a disease agent;
  - (b) an animal or thing is infected by or contaminated with a communicable disease; or
  - (c) any record or document required by or under the Act or any Regulations under it is not produced for inspection by an inspector,
- the inspector may order the person who owns or has possession, care or control of the animal or thing, to quarantine the animal or thing.

### **32 Quarantine procedures**

- (1) If a veterinary inspector orders a quarantine of an animal, written notice of the order (quarantine order) shall be communicated by personal delivery to the person who owns or has possession, care or control of the animal and the notice may specify the manner, condition, place or places and period of quarantine.
- (2) In respect of an animal quarantined pursuant to these Regulations, no person shall do or permit to be done any of the following actions, without the authorization of a veterinary inspector
- (a) remove the animal from the place of quarantine;
  - (b) allow the animal to come into contact with an animal that is not quarantined under the same quarantine order;
  - (c) destroy the animal; or
  - (d) treat or test the animal for a communicable disease.
- (3) Every person who owns or has the possession, care or control of an animal quarantined under these Regulations shall without delay notify a veterinary inspector of any quarantined animal that appears sick.
- (4) No person shall transport or cause to be transported an animal quarantined pursuant to these Regulations unless
- (a) a veterinary inspector has provided written authorisation for its transportation;
  - (b) a copy of the written authorisation issued pursuant to paragraph (a) has been provided to the person in charge of the conveyance transporting the animal; and
  - (c) the animal is transported directly to the location stated in the written authorisation.
- (5) Every person who receives a quarantine order referred to in subsection (1) shall comply with the notice.

### **33 Approved quarantine centres**

The Minister may approve a facility as an approved quarantine centre in accordance with the criteria in Schedule 5.

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### Part 6 Disease Control and Management

#### 34 Segregation and inspection

- (1) Where an animalô
- (a) is infected or suspected of being infected with a published notifiable disease;
  - (b) has been in contact with an animal so affected or suspected of being so infected;
  - (c) is in a provisional zone or infected zone; or
  - (d) is imported or presented for import into The Bahamas,
- an animal health inspector may order the person having the possession, care or custody of the animal to keep separate the animal in a place and manner suitable for inspection and testing within the period of time specified by the inspector.
- (2) It as an offence for a person to fail to comply with an order given under paragraph (1).
- (3) An animal health inspector may inspect any animal in The Bahamas thatô
- (a) is infected or suspected of being infected with a communicable disease;
  - (b) has been in contact with an animal so infected or suspected of being so infected;
  - (c) is in a provisional zone or infected zone; or
  - (d) is imported or tendered for import into The Bahamas.

#### 35 Infected animals

- (1) Where an animal is infected or suspected of being infected with a published notifiable disease or has been in contact with an animal so infected or suspected of being so infected, a veterinary inspector may order the person having the possession, care or custody of the animalô
- (a) to quarantine, keep separate or treat the animal;
  - (b) to destroy the animal; or
  - (c) to destroy the animal and dispose of its carcass;
- in such a manner, at such a place or places, under such conditions and within such period of time as are necessary to prevent the spread of the a published notifiable disease, which manner, place or places, conditions and time shall be specified in the order.
- (2) It as an offence for a person to fail to comply with an order given under paragraph (1).
- (3) Where an order referred to in paragraph (1) requiring an animal to be destroyed or destroyed and disposed of is not complied with within the time specified therein, a veterinary inspector may have the animalô
- (a) removed to and destroyed at an abattoir or approved place of slaughter; or
  - (b) destroyed at a time and place determined by him, and have its carcass disposed of as determined by him.

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### **36 Conditions for specific notifiable diseases**

- (1) Schedule 4 applies with respect to the specific notifiable diseases included within that Schedule.
- (2) It is an offence not to comply with a requirement contained in Schedule 4.

## **Part 7**

### **General obligations for production, marketing, etc.**

### **37 Responsibilities for animal health and biosecurity measures**

- (1) Operators shall
  - (a) as regards kept animals and animal products under their responsibility, be responsible for
    - (i) the health of kept animals;
    - (ii) careful and responsible use of veterinary medicines, without prejudice to the role and responsibility of veterinarians;
    - (iii) minimising the risk of the spread of diseases;
    - (iv) good animal husbandry;
  - (b) where appropriate, take such biosecurity measures regarding kept animals, and products under their responsibility, as are appropriate for
    - (i) the species and categories of kept animals and products;
    - (ii) the type of production; and
    - (iii) the risks involved, taking into account local circumstances and practices; and
  - (c) where appropriate, take biosecurity measures regarding wild animals.
- (2) In taking appropriate biosecurity measures, operators shall have regard to
  - (a) codes of practice issued by the Director;
  - (b) international or national standards and guidelines related to good agricultural practice and animal health.

### **38 Obligations of laboratories, etc.**

Laboratories, facilities and other natural or legal persons handling disease agents for the purpose of research, education, diagnosis or the production of vaccines and other biological products shall, whilst taking into account any relevant international standards

- (a) take appropriate biosecurity, biosafety and biocontainment measures to prevent the escape of the disease agents and their subsequent contact with animals outside the laboratory or other facility handling disease agents for those purposes;
- (b) ensure that the movement of disease agents, vaccines and other biological products between laboratories or other facilities does not give rise to a risk of the spread of listed and emerging diseases.

### **39 Responsibilities of veterinarians and aquatic animal health professionals**

- (1) Veterinarians shall in the course of their activities which fall within the scope of these Regulations

## **Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

- (a) take all appropriate measures to prevent the introduction, development and spread of diseases;
  - (b) take action to ensure the early detection of diseases by carrying out proper diagnosis and differential diagnosis to rule out or confirm a disease; and
  - (c) cooperate with the competent authority, operators, animal professionals and pet keepers in the application of the disease prevention and control measures provided for in the Act or under these Regulations.
- (2) Aquatic animal health professionals may undertake activities assigned to veterinarians under these Regulations in relation to aquatic animals provided that they are authorised to do so by the Director.
  - (3) Veterinarians and aquatic animal health professionals shall maintain and develop their professional capacities related to their areas of activities which fall within the scope of these Regulations.

### **40 Public information**

Where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that animals or products originating from within The Bahamas or entering from outside The Bahamas may present a risk, the competent authority shall take appropriate steps to inform the public of the nature of the risk and the measures which are taken or about to be taken to prevent or control that risk, taking into account the nature, seriousness and extent of that risk and the public interest in being informed.

### **41 Effect of code of practice for discharge of general responsibilities**

- (1) This section applies if a code of practice states a way of discharging a person's general responsibilities, as set out in regulation 37.
- (2) Unless otherwise stated in the code of practice, the code of practice does not state all that a person to whom the code of practice applies must do, or must not do, to discharge the person's general biosecurity obligation.
- (3) However, for applying the general biosecurity obligation offence provision, the person fails to discharge the general biosecurity obligation if the person
  - (a) contravenes, or otherwise acts inconsistently with, the code of practice; and
  - (b) does not follow a way that is as effective as, or more effective than, the code of practice for discharging the general biosecurity obligation.
- (4) Also, for applying the general biosecurity obligation offence provision, if a regulation requires a person to comply with the whole or a stated part of a code of practice to discharge the person's biosecurity obligation, the person fails to discharge the general biosecurity obligation if the person contravenes, or otherwise acts inconsistently with, the code of practice or stated part.

### **42 Codes of practice**

- (1) The Director may, in consultation with the Minister
  - (a) develop or commission the development of codes of practice; or
  - (b) adopt codes of practice prepared by other organisations or persons for the purpose of facilitating the implementation of and compliance with these Regulations.



## **Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

- (2) When developing, commissioning or adopting codes of practice under sub-regulation (1), the Director shall have regard to any generally accepted international practice and standards, including animal health standards disseminated by the OIE.
- (3) The Minister may approve a code of practice by
  - (a) notice in the *Gazette*; and
  - (b) publishing with that notice (either in the notice or by reference to publication elsewhere) the code of practice being approved.
- (4) The Director may, within an approved code of practice or otherwise, determine procedures for certification, monitoring and auditing in respect of particular activities and classes of activity designed to ensure that approved codes of practice are adequately applied and may make compliance with such procedures a condition of a licence or certificate issued under these Regulations.

### **43 Standard operating procedures**

- (1) Business operators shall draw up and implement standard operating procedures appropriate to the types of operation and the types of animals present in their business.
- (2) For the purpose of paragraph (1), a business operator may use standard operating procedures in an approved code of practice.
- (3) Business operators shall maintain a copy of the standard operating procedures at the licensed premises and shall make it available to an animal health inspector upon request.

### **44 Supervision of animal welfare**

- (1) The business operator, in respect of an animal establishment, shall appoint one or more members of staff to be an animal welfare supervisor in accordance with this regulation.
- (2) The animal welfare supervisor shall
  - (a) systematically assess animal welfare in the establishment in order to identify the priorities, in particular by determining which animals have specific welfare needs and the corresponding measures to be taken; and
  - (b) monitor the welfare conditions of each consignment of animals.

## **Part 8 Transportation**

### ***Sub-Part A. General Conditions***

#### **45 Sick, pregnant and unfit animals**

- (1) No air carrier or sea carrier shall take on board for export out of The Bahamas or for movement within The Bahamas an animal infected with a communicable disease.
- (2) No person shall load or cause to be loaded on any vehicle, aircraft or vessel and no one shall transport or cause to be transported an animal

## **Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

- (a) that by reason of infirmity, illness, injury, fatigue or any other cause cannot be transported without undue suffering during the expected journey;
  - (b) that has not been fed and watered within five hours before being loaded, if the expected duration of the animal's confinement is longer than 24 hours from the time of loading; or
  - (c) if it is probable that the animal will give birth during the journey.
- (3) Paragraph (2)(a) does not apply to an animal that is being transported for veterinary treatment or diagnosis on the advice of a veterinarian.
  - (4) Paragraph (2)(b) does not apply to a chick of any species if the expected duration of the chick's confinement is less than 72 hours from the time of hatching.
  - (5) No motor carrier shall continue to transport an animal that is injured or becomes ill or otherwise unfit for transport during a journey beyond the nearest suitable place at which it can receive proper care and attention.

### **46 Loading and unloading**

- (1) No person shall load or unload, or cause to be loaded or unloaded, an animal in a way likely to cause injury or undue suffering to it.
- (2) Every ramp, gangway, chute, box or other apparatus used by a carrier in loading or unloading animals shall be so maintained and used as not to cause injury or undue suffering to animals and where livestock is loaded or unloaded by a ramp, gangway, chute or other apparatus, the slope shall not be greater than 45 degrees.
- (3) Every ramp and gangway used by a carrier in loading or unloading animals shall have sides of sufficient strength and height to prevent animals from falling off the ramp or gangway.
- (4) Every ramp used by a carrier in loading or unloading animals shall be so placed that no unprotected gap exists between the ramp or either side thereof and the railway car, motor vehicle, vessel or aircraft.
- (5) Every vehicle and aircraft in which livestock is transported shall be provided by the carrier with a loading gate or chute that is
  - (a) fitted with safe and secure footholds; and
  - (b) suitable for the loading and unloading of livestock.
- (6) Paragraph (5) does not apply to an aircraft equipped for the loading of livestock in containers.

### **47 Prohibition of overcrowding**

- (1) No person shall load or cause to be loaded any animal in any vehicle, aircraft, vessel, crate or container if, by so loading, that vehicle, aircraft, vessel, crate or container is crowded to such an extent as to be likely to cause injury or undue suffering to any animal therein.
- (2) No person shall transport or cause to be transported any animal in any vehicle, aircraft, vessel, crate or container that is crowded to such an extent as to be likely to cause injury or undue suffering to any animal therein.

## **Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

### **48 Segregation**

- (1) Subject to this regulation, no person shall load on any vehicle, aircraft or vessel and no carrier shall transport animals of different species or of substantially different weight or age unless those animals are segregated.
- (2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to a female animal and its suckling offspring.
- (3) Every cow, sow or mare with its suckling offspring shall be segregated from all other animals during transport.
- (4) Animals of the same species that are incompatible by nature shall be segregated during transport.
- (5) Groups of bulls, de-tusked boars, rams and goat bucks, if mature, shall be segregated from all other animals during transport.
- (6) Every mature boar that has not been de-tusked and every mature stallion shall be segregated from all other animals during transport.
- (7) An equine shall, unless its hind feet are unshod, be segregated from other equines during transport.
- (8) Every equine over 14 hands in height shall be segregated from all other animals during transport by air.
- (9) Every mature bull shall be securely tied during transport by air.
- (10) Every horse shall be segregated from all other animals during transport by sea.

### **49 Transport accommodation**

- (1) No person shall transport or cause to be transported animals in a vehicle, aircraft or vessel unless
  - (a) each animal is able to stand in its natural position without coming into contact with a deck or roof; and
  - (b) provision is made for the drainage or absorption of urine from all decks or levels.

### **50 Protection of animals from injury or sickness**

- (1) No person shall transport or cause to be transported any animal in a vehicle, aircraft, vessel, crate or container if injury or undue suffering is likely to be caused to the animal by reason of
  - (a) inadequate construction of the vehicle, aircraft, vessel, container or any part of it;
  - (b) insecure fittings, the presence of bolt-heads, angles or other projections;
  - (c) the fittings or other parts of the vehicle, aircraft, vessel or container being inadequately padded, fenced off or otherwise obstructed;
  - (d) undue exposure to the weather; or
  - (e) inadequate ventilation.
- (2) Subject to paragraph (3), every vehicle, aircraft or vessel used to transport livestock shall be
  - (a) strewn with sand or fitted with safe and secure footholds for the livestock; and
  - (b) littered with straw, wood shavings or other bedding material.

## **Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

- (3) Where livestock is expected to be confined in a vehicle or aircraft for not more than 12 hours, the vehicle or aircraft need only meet the requirements of paragraph (2)(a) or (b).

### **51 Containers**

- (1) No person shall load or transport or cause to be loaded or transported a container used in the transportation of animals unless the container is constructed and maintained so that
  - (a) animals therein may, where required, be fed and watered without being removed therefrom;
  - (b) animals therein may be readily inspected; and
  - (c) the escape of any liquid or solid waste therefrom is prevented.
- (2) No person shall load or transport or cause to be loaded or transported a container used in the transportation of animals unless the container is equipped with a sign or symbol indicating
  - (a) the presence of live animals therein; and
  - (b) the upright position of the container.
- (3) Every container used in the transportation of animals shall be so secured to the railway car, motor vehicle, aircraft or vessel in which it is carried as to prevent it from being displaced during transportation.
- (4) Paragraph (2) does not apply to a container if all animals therein are readily visible from outside.

### **52 Protective facilities**

Every carrier shall, at every place where animals are loaded or unloaded for food, water and rest, maintain or have access to facilities at which such animals may be fed, watered and cared for and that provide protection from extremes of weather.

### **53 Ventilation**

- (1) Every air carrier shall provide every aircraft cabin in which animals are transported with means of ventilation that will provide a change of air not less than once every five minutes when the aircraft is on the ground and not less than once every four minutes when the aircraft is in flight.
- (2) Every sea carrier shall provide separate ventilation for each enclosed compartment in which animals are transported and, in addition to any ventilation obtained by means of the hatchways, shall, for each such compartment, provide mechanical means of ventilation of sufficient capacity to change the air entirely once every five minutes, except in the case of a compartment on the main or superstructure deck where natural ventilation may be used.

### **54 Food and water for animals in transit**

- (1) No person shall confine in a vehicle, aircraft or vessel
  - (a) equines, swine or other monogastric animals for longer than 36 hours; or
  - (b) cattle, sheep, goats or other ruminants for longer than 48 hours.
- (2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to animals if motor vehicle, aircraft or vessel is suitably equipped to feed, water and rest the animals.

## **Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

- (3) Livestock that is unloaded from a vehicle, aircraft or vessel to be fed, watered and rested before the livestock is re-loaded, shall be unloaded into a pen, rested for not less than five hours, provided with an ample quantity of suitable food and potable ice-free water, and before the livestock is re-loaded, the floor of the railway car, motor vehicle, aircraft or vessel shall be littered with straw, wood shavings or other bedding material.
- (4) A pen in which livestock is unloaded pursuant to paragraph (3) shall provide
  - (a) sufficient space for all the livestock to lie down at the same time;
  - (b) properly designed racks and troughs for feeding and watering the livestock;
  - (c) well-drained and clean floors of concrete or gravel that provide safe footing;
  - (d) an adequate amount of straw or other litter to bed the livestock; and
  - (e) protection from inclement weather.
- (5) Every sea carrier shall
  - (a) provide a sufficient amount of suitable food and water for animals carried on a vessel, having regard to the expected duration of the voyage;
  - (b) provide, in addition to the requirements of paragraph (a), two days supply of food and water for each estimated eight days of the voyage;
  - (c) store such food and water in a sanitary manner and in a place not unduly exposed to the weather; and
  - (d) provide sufficient water pipes and taps on the vessel for watering the animals.

### **55 Calves**

Every motor carrier and air carrier shall provide suitable food and water at intervals of not more than 18 hours for calves transported in a railway car, motor vehicle or aircraft if the calves are too young to be fed exclusively on hay and grain.

### **56 Reports of injured animals**

Every air carrier and sea carrier shall, on the completion of a voyage or flight, make a report to the veterinary inspector at the port of embarkation respecting every animal that has died or was killed or seriously injured during the flight or voyage, stating in each case the cause of the death or injury.

### **57 Records**

- (1) Every person engaged in the transportation of animals between islands of The Bahamas, or into or out of The Bahamas, shall keep a record of each vehicle, aircraft or vessel in which animals are transported, with respect to each shipment, that shall include
  - (a) the name and address of the shipper;
  - (b) the name and address of the consignee;
  - (c) the number, description and gross weight of the animals;
  - (d) the identifying or registration number of the vehicle, aircraft or vessel;

## **Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

- (e) the number of square metres of floor area in the vehicle, aircraft or vessel that is being used to transport the animals;
  - (f) the time when, date on which and place where the animals came into the carrier's custody;
  - (g) the time when, date on which and place where the animals were fed, watered and rested while in the carrier's custody;
  - (h) the time when, date on which and place where the animals were unloaded at destination;
  - (i) the name and address of the driver of the motor vehicle in which the livestock or other animals were transported; and
  - (j) the date on which and place where the motor vehicle was last cleaned and disinfected.
- (2) A copy of the record referred to in paragraph (1) shall accompany every shipment of animals and shall be produced to an animal health inspector on his request by the carrier or person in charge of the shipment.
- (3) Every person to whom paragraph (1) applies shall
- (a) keep the record referred to in paragraph (1) for a period of two years from the date on which the animals, for which the record is being kept, are shipped;
  - (b) provide to an animal health inspector at all reasonable times during the period referred to in paragraph (a) the record referred to in paragraph (1) for examination, the taking of extracts and the making of copies; and
  - (c) upon receipt of a written request by an animal health inspector, provide to the animal health inspector, in a form approved by the Minister, the information contained in the record referred to in paragraph (1) relating to the shipment of animals specified in the request.

### ***Sub-Part B. Additional requirements for carriage of animals by sea***

#### **58 Attendants and inspectors**

- (1) Every sea carrier transporting livestock shall have, as a signed member of the ship's crew
- (a) a person experienced in dealing with livestock as a foreman to supervise the care of the animals on board;
  - (b) if there are more than 300 head of livestock, an assistant foreman;
  - (c) one attendant for every 25 equines or fraction thereof;
  - (d) a qualified veterinarian, where there are more than 25 equines; and
  - (e) one attendant for every 50 head of livestock or fraction thereof, excluding equines.
- (2) Every sea carrier or air carrier shall, when requested to do so in writing by the Minister, have a veterinary inspector on a vessel or aircraft transporting animals.
- (3) Every sea carrier shall notify a veterinary inspector of the time of departure of a vessel transporting animals and shall, not less than six hours before such time, supply him with the names of the foreman, assistant foreman and attendants provided to care for animals on board the vessel.

## **Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

- (4) The foreman, assistant foreman and attendants caring for animals on board a vessel shall report to a veterinary inspector at least six hours before the time of departure of the vessel.

### **59 Protection of Animals on Board a Vessel**

- (1) No person shall transport or cause to be transported animals aboard a vessel
- (a) on more than three decks, unless any additional deck is specially fitted for the transportation of animals;
  - (b) on a deck exposed to the weather, except in a container or in an enclosure forming part of the structure of the vessel;
  - (c) on a deck structure not suited for the transportation of animals;
  - (d) in a part of the vessel where their presence would interfere with the management, ventilation, operation or safety of the vessel;
  - (e) on a hatch above a compartment containing other animals; or
  - (f) on a hatch, if there is no other access to the space below.
- (2) Every sea carrier shall ensure that
- (a) no freight or feed for animals is loaded on a hatch above a compartment containing animals;
  - (b) a space of not less than 12.96 square metres (144 square feet) is kept free and clear at all times on a hatch on which animals are transported; and
  - (c) passageways are provided to permit the care and feeding of animals in holds and compartments.

### **60 Securing animals**

- (1) Every sea carrier shall ensure that, on every vessel in which animals are transported
- (2) every bovine not transported in a pen is securely tied by the head or neck to a securing rail with a halter or with a rope not less than 12.5 millimetres in diameter in such a manner as to stand athwartships facing a passageway;
  - (3) every equine is secured by ropes in such manner as to prevent the animal from biting other animals or striking its head on the deck above; and
  - (4) sheep, goats and swine are transported in pens or in enclosed containers.

### **61 Reserve Pens**

A veterinary inspector may order a sea carrier to keep empty such pens on a vessel as are designated by a veterinary inspector in order to accommodate animals that are injured or become ill or otherwise unfit for transport during the voyage.

### **62 Lighting**

Every sea carrier shall provide adequate lighting on a vessel to permit animals on board to be fed, watered and properly cared for.

### **63 Insulation**

No person shall transport or cause to be transported animals near the engine or boiler room casing of a vessel unless such casings are covered by adequate means of insulation.

## Animal Health Regulations [2017]

### **64 Disposal of injured animals**

- (1) Every sea carrier shall provide on every vessel in which livestock is transported a suitable humane killing device that is in good working order.
- (2) Every sea carrier shall destroy an injured animal on board a vessel by means of the killing device described in paragraph (1) unless the master of the vessel is of opinion that the animal can be kept alive without undue suffering.

### **65 Veterinary drugs to be carried**

Every sea carrier shall provide every vessel in which animals are transported with a sufficient quantity of veterinary drugs suitable for the treatment of the animals on board.

## **Part 9 Disposal of Dead Animals**

### **66 Owners' duties**

- (1) The owner of a dead animal shall dispose of the dead animal in accordance with this Regulation.
- (2) In storing or disposing of a dead animal, the owner of the dead animal shall ensure that
  - (a) the odours generated by the dead animal are minimized,
  - (b) any run-on or run-off water at the site where the dead animal is located is minimized,
  - (c) the risk of the spread of disease is minimized, and
  - (d) the dead animal does not create a nuisance.
- (3) The owner of a dead animal shall dispose of the dead animal within 7 days unless the owner stores the dead animal
  - (a) in a freezer unit, or
  - (b) in accordance with the directions of a veterinary officer, an animal health inspector or the Director.
- (4) The owner of a dead animal shall comply with any direction of a veterinary officer or an animal health inspector directing the owner to dispose of the dead animal.
- (5) The owner of an animal that is euthanized with drugs or other chemical substances shall take steps to prevent scavengers from gaining access to the animal beginning at the time the drugs or other chemical substances are administered until the final disposal of the dead animal.
- (6) In this Regulation, "dead animal" means
  - (a) all or part of an animal that has died from a cause other than having been slaughtered or killed for
    - (i) human or animal consumption, or
    - (ii) an animal product or animal by-product,
  - (b) inedible offal, condemned material or waste material from an animal that was slaughtered or killed for
    - (i) animal consumption, or
    - (ii) an animal product or animal by-product, and



## Animal Health Regulations [2017]

- (c) inedible offal, condemned material or waste material from an animal processed at a meat facility.

### **67 Methods of disposal**

- (1) Subject to regulation **Error! Reference source not found.** and the terms of any [Notice ó Act/Regulations?], a dead animal may be disposed of
  - (a) in landfill site [as defined in waste control regulation? Landfill type?],
  - (b) in a farm burial pit
  - (c) others ó to be clarified.

## **Part 11 Veterinary Medicines**

### **68 Veterinary Medicines Committee**

- (1) There is hereby established a Veterinary Committee which shall consist of
  - (a) the Director, or his nominee, who shall act as Chair;
  - (b) a veterinary inspector, nominated by the Director;
  - (c) a representative of the Authority, nominated by the Executive Director;
  - (d) two veterinarians, nominated by [specify organization ó or other procedure?].
- (2) The functions of the Veterinary Committee shall be to
  - (a) carry out the duties specified for it in this Part; and
  - (b) provide advice to the Director regarding veterinary medicines relative to animal health, disease prevention, control and eradication, zoonoses and trade in animals and animal products.
- (3) The Veterinary Committee shall determine its own rules of procedure.

### **69 Prohibition on certain vaccines, etc.**

- (1) No person shall have in his possession, under his control, import, sell, supply or administer to an animal a prohibited vaccine or other prohibited medicine.
- (2) The Veterinary Committee shall draw up and publish a list of prohibited vaccines and prohibited medicines for the purpose of paragraph (1) and shall
  - (a) review and update that list from time to time; and
  - (b) cause that list, as updated, to be published in the Gazette.

### **70 Sale or supply of prescribed vaccines**

A person must not sell or supply a veterinary medicine for use on livestock unless the sale or supply is to a veterinary surgeon, or to some other person approved by the [Director], for use by that person.

### **71 Storage and handling of veterinary medicine**

- (1) A veterinary surgeon shall store veterinary medicine in a manner recommended by the manufacturer of the medicine.
- (2) Without restricting the generality of paragraph (1), a veterinary surgeon shall store or display veterinary medicine in a manner that

## **Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

- (a) prevents the medicine from coming in contact with any food or medicine designated for human use; and
  - (b) is clean and sanitary at all times.
- (3) A veterinary surgeon using a veterinary medicine shall ensure that the medicine is stored and handled in a manner that protects animals and their feed from being contaminated with the medicine.
- (4) A veterinary surgeon shall, immediately after the expiration date of any veterinary medicine, remove the medicine from public view and keep it separate from other stock until it is destroyed or returned to the supplier.

**Schedule 1  
Forms and Certificates**

**Form 1 - Application to Register an Animal Establishment**

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**Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

*Application to Register an Animal Establishment*

Application No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of owner/operator of establishment \_\_\_\_\_  
Business address of owner/operator \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of operator of establishment \_\_\_\_\_  
Business address of operator if different from address of establishment \_\_\_\_\_  
Particulars of export operations \_\_\_\_\_

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Other operations at the processing establishment if any, likely to affect the export operations carried on at the establishment \_\_\_\_\_

---

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Your application shall be accompanied by the following:-

1. The documents required by the Guidelines to Veterinary Inspection and Monitoring of Fish Processing Establishment Operations set by the Veterinary Services Division of the Ministry responsible for agriculture.
2. The Public Health Certificate pursuant to regulation 13 (4) (a).
3. The prescribed application and inspection fees.

**Signature of Applicant** \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR OFFICIAL USE**

Date Inspected \_\_\_\_\_  
Result of Inspection \_\_\_\_\_  
Document Received \_\_\_\_\_ Application Granted/Refused  
Fee Received \_\_\_\_\_ If Granted: Licence No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Operating Certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated Application Received \_\_\_\_\_ If refused reasons therefore \_\_\_\_\_

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**Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

**Certificate 1  
Animal Establishment Registration Certificate**

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**Animal Health Regulations [2017]**

***Animal Establishment Registration Certificate***

Identification No.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*(Name of Operator)*

of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*(Business Address of Operator)*

is hereby authorised to operate a processing establishment at \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*(Address of Registered Premises)*

This certificate is valid for a period of 12 months, unless earlier suspended or revoked, and is not transferable.

The operations which may be carried out under the authority of this certificate areô

This certificate is granted under the following conditionsô

Breach of the Act or Regulations may result in suspension or revocation of this authority.

Dated the     day of     , 20

**(Affix Stamp of Competent Authority)**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Director, Veterinary Services Division  
Ministry of Agriculture

**Schedule 2**  
**Fees**

In respect of an application of a type described in column 1 of the Table, a person must pay to [the Director] the fee specified in column 2 in relation to that type of application.

*Table*

Type of application	Fee (\$)
Application for a licence	100
Application for a certificate	20
Application to modify a licence	40
Application to modify a certificate	8

- (5) In respect of an assessment by an authorised veterinary surgeon exercising functions on behalf of the Director under these regulations, a person must pay to the Director a fee calculated as follows:
- (a) \$50 for each half-hour or part thereof spent by an authorised veterinary surgeon on an assessment including time spent on associated documentation; and
  - (b) the actual cost of travelling, accommodation and any other expenses reasonably incurred by the authorised veterinary surgeon.

**Schedule 3**  
**Information Required in the Official Register of Animal**  
**Establishments**

The following minimum information on each animal establishment shall be kept in a register

- a. the name and addresses of the animal establishment, and contact details (telephone, facsimile, e-mail);
- b. the registration number and particulars of the authorisation delivered, (i.e. dates for specific authorisations, identification codes or numbers, specified conditions for production, any other matter relevant to the authorisation(s));
- c. the geographical position of the animal establishment defined by a suitable system of coordinates of all farm-sites (if possible, GIS coordinates);
- d. the species of animals reared or handled in the authorised establishment;
- e. the purpose, type and maximum volume of production where this is regulated;
- f. details on the animal establishment's water supply, effluent treatment systems and discharges.

**Schedule 4**  
**Conditions for Specific Diseases**

[These would need to be specified for specific diseases, e.g. *Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy*, according to national policies and technical requirements].

**Schedule 5**  
**Conditions for Approval of a Quarantine Centre**

**(1) Facilities, services and equipment**

An approved quarantine centre must have

- (a) facilities (which must be easy to clean and disinfect) for loading and unloading the different means of transport, inspection, feeding, watering and treatment of the animals, with adequate space, lighting and ventilation for the number of animals to be inspected;
- (b) sufficiently large premises at the disposal of the staff responsible for carrying out veterinary checks, including changing rooms, showers and toilets;
- (c) appropriate premises and facilities for taking and processing the samples for the routine checks laid down in Community rules;
- (d) the services of an undertaking in the immediate vicinity which has the facilities and equipment to house, feed, water, treat and, if necessary, slaughter the animals;
- (e) appropriate equipment permitting the rapid exchange of information with border inspection posts and the competent authority;
- (f) equipment and facilities for cleaning and disinfecting.

**(2) Controls and location**

An approved quarantine centre must

- (a) be located at a distance from holdings or other places where animals are kept which are likely to be infected by contagious diseases;
- (b) have an efficient control system so as to ensure adequate surveillance of the animals.