

ORDER OF THE BOARD OF  
AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

(DATED 14TH FEBRUARY 1916.)

DEVONSHIRE (EPIZOOTIC ABORTION)  
ORDER OF 1916.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, by virtue and in exercise of the powers vested in them under the Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894 to 1914, and of every other power enabling them in this behalf, do order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

*Limitation of Scope of Order.*

1. This Order shall not apply to a premature calving resulting from accident or some other definite cause other than epizootic abortion.

*Notice of Premature Calving and Isolation pending Inquiry.*

2.—(1.) Every person having in his possession or under his charge a cow which has calved prematurely shall with all practical speed give notice of the fact to a constable of the police force for the police area in which the cow is.

(2.) The constable receiving such notice shall forthwith give information of the receipt by him of the notice to an Inspector of the Local Authority, who shall forthwith report the same to the Local Authority.

(3.) The cow and its calf (if any) shall be kept separate by the owner or person in charge thereof from any bull or cow (other than a calf) pending the inquiry by the Local Authority as to the existence of epizootic abortion.

(4.) The membranes, discharges and other matter liable to cause infection, and the calf, if born dead, shall be destroyed by the owner or person in charge of the cow as soon as possible by burning or burial in lime at a depth of not less than three feet, but not until such samples as are required for the purpose of the prescribed veterinary inquiry have been taken by the officer employed by the Local Authority to carry out such inquiry. Such matter shall, as far as practicable, be removed from contact with cows by the owner or person in charge of the cow.

*Inquiry by Local Authority as to existence of Epizootic Abortion.*

3.—(1.) The Local Authority on receiving information of a premature calving shall forthwith cause inquiry to be instituted, with the assistance and advice of a Veterinary Inspector or of a veterinary practitioner qualified according to the Act of 1894 to be a Veterinary Inspector, to ascertain whether it was caused by epizootic abortion.

(2.) The owner and occupier of any premises on which there is a cow which has calved prematurely shall give all reasonable facilities for the inquiry by the Local Authority under this Article.

*Isolation of Diseased Animals by Notice served by Inspector of Local Authority.*

4.—(1.) The Local Authority, unless satisfied by an inquiry under the preceding Article that the premature calving was not caused by epizootic abortion, shall forthwith cause a Notice (in the Form set forth in the First Schedule to this Order or to the like effect) to be served by an Inspector of the Local Authority on the owner or person in charge of the cow affected requiring that the cow and its calf (if any) be detained on or in a field, yard, shed, or other place specified in the Notice, and after the service of such Notice it shall not be lawful for any person, until the expiration of two calendar months from the date of the calving, or the previous withdrawal of the Notice by an Inspector of the Local Authority—

- (i.) to move the cow or its calf, or permit either to stray, from or out of such field, yard, shed, or other place, except as hereinafter provided;
- (ii.) to permit the cow or its calf to come in contact with any bull or cow (other than a calf); or
- (iii.) to remove from or out of such field, yard, shed, or other place any dung, fodder, litter, or other thing that has been in contact with the cow, without the written permission of an Inspector of the Local Authority.

(2.) An Inspector of the Local Authority, if satisfied that the movement of a cow or its calf to which a Notice applies to some other place of detention is expedient for purposes of isolation or other necessary purpose, may by Licence authorise such movement, and the cow or its calf may thereupon be so moved, subject to the directions of the Inspector, by the nearest available route and without unnecessary delay, to such place of detention, and thereupon the Notice shall have effect as if such place of detention were therein specified.

(3.) A cow or its calf detained under a Notice under this Order may be moved from or out of the place of detention specified in the Notice to a slaughterhouse, if accompanied by a Movement Licence authorising such movement granted by an Inspector of the Local Authority of the District in which the premises are situate from which the cow or calf is to be moved. On arrival at the slaughterhouse the cow or calf shall be there detained until it is slaughtered.

(4.) Every Licence granted under this Article shall be delivered up at, or sent by post to, the nearest police station in the same District by the person in charge of the cow or calf at the time of completing the movement authorised by the Licence.

(5.) An Inspector shall with all practicable speed send copies of any Notice or Licence issued by him under this Article to the Local Authority, and to the police officer in charge of the nearest police station of the District. Where the place of destination is in another District the Inspector shall also send a copy of the Licence to the Local Authority of that District.

(6.) A calf placed with a cow shall, for the purpose of this Article, be treated as its calf.