Provided that where a machine is so constructed and maintained as to afford such measure of protection as aforesaid in respect of only a part of the power take-off shaft of the machine, the said paragraph (1) shall apply to that machine in respect of any part of the shaft as to which such protection is not so afforded.

(4) Every guard required by this regulation shall be substantially constructed, and shall be maintained in good condition.

*Certificates of exemption*

**5.** Notwithstanding anything in these regulations, the Ministry may grant certificates exempting (for such periods as may be specified therein and subject to such conditions, if any, as may be so specified) particular cases or particular persons from the operation of the provisions of these regulations, and where any such conditions are imposed, an employer of a worker employed in agriculture, and a worker so employed, to whom any such certificate applies, shall comply with those conditions.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this 8th day of July 1966.

(L.S.) *A. McKelvie,*
Assistant Secretary.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)*

These regulations, made under Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, prohibit the use, where workers are employed in agriculture, of machinery having a power take-off, or power take-off shaft, unless the power take-off, or, as the case may be, the power take-off shaft, is guarded in the manner provided in the regulations. The provisions requiring the power take-offs of a tractor and power take-off shafts to be shielded come into operation on the 1st August 1967.

**1966. No. 164** [C]

# AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

## SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

### Circular Saws

REGULATIONS, DATED 8TH JULY 1966, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1959(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf,

(a) 1959. c. 24.

after consultation with such organisations as appear to it to represent the interests concerned, hereby makes the following regulations:—

*Citation and commencement*

**1.** These regulations, which may be cited as the Agriculture (Circular Saws) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1966, shall come into operation as follows:—

(*a*) this regulation and regulations 2 and 6 shall come into operation on the 1st day of August 1966;

(*b*) regulation 3 (in its application to paragraph 3 of the First Schedule), regulation 4 (in its application to paragraph 9 of that Schedule) and regulation 5 shall come into operation on the 1st day of November 1966; and

(*c*) regulation 3 (except in its application to the said paragraph 3) and regulation 4 (in its application to paragraph 8 of the said First Schedule) shall come into operation on the 1st day of August 1967.

*Interpretation*

**2.** In these regulations—

"the Act" means the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959.

"circular saw" means a machine intended for sawing wood by means of a circular blade in a fixed or portable bench or frame, but does not include a swing or other saw which is operated by movement towards the wood.

*Obligations affecting employers only*

**3.** Subject to the provisions of these regulations the employer of a worker employed in agriculture shall not cause or permit a worker so employed, in the course of his employment, to operate or assist at a circular saw unless the requirements contained in Part I of the First Schedule are complied with.

*Obligations affecting workers only*

**4.** Subject to the provisions of these regulations a worker employed in agriculture who, in the course of his employment, operates a circular saw shall comply with the requirements contained in Part II of the First Schedule.

*Obligations affecting both employers and workers*

**5.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of these regulations—

(*a*) the employer of a worker employed in agriculture shall not cause or permit a worker so employed, in the course of his employment, to operate, and

(*b*) a worker so employed shall not, in the course of his employment, operate,

a circular saw unless the requirements contained in Part III of the First Schedule are complied with, or in contravention of paragraph 1 of the Second Schedule.

(2) Subject to the provisions of these regulations—

(*a*) the employer of a worker employed in agriculture shall not cause or permit a worker so employed, in the course of his employment, to operate or assist at, and

(*b*) a worker so employed shall not, in the course of his employment, operate or assist at,

a circular saw in contravention of paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Second Schedule.

*Certificates of Exemption*

**6.** Notwithstanding anything in these regulations, the Ministry may grant certificates exempting (for such periods as may be specified therein and subject to such conditions, if any, as may be so specified) particular cases or particular persons from the operation of the provisions of these regulations, and where any such conditions are imposed, an employer of a worker employed in agriculture, and a worker so employed, to whom any such certificate applies shall comply with those conditions.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Ministry of Agriculture for Northern Ireland this 8th day of July 1966.

(L.S.) *A. McKelvie,*
Assistant Secretary.

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## FIRST SCHEDULE

*Regulation 3*

### PART I

### REQUIREMENTS AFFECTING EMPLOYERS ONLY

*Construction and maintenance*

1. Every circular saw shall be substantially constructed and properly maintained.

*Lighting*

2. At every circular saw there shall be adequate natural or artificial light.

*Defective saw blades*

3. No saw blade shall knowingly be used if—

(*a*) it is cracked;

(*b*) it has been repaired by brazing or welding;

(*c*) it has two or more teeth missing;

(*d*) while in motion its teeth come in contact with the bench table, whether by reason of warping, misalignment or otherwise.

*Riving knives*

4.—(1) In a direct line behind the saw blade, and in the same vertical plane there shall be a metal riving knife having a smooth surface. The knife shall be strong and rigid, its front edge extending upward and forward, and shall also conform with the following conditions, that is to say:—

(*a*) the distance between the front edge of the knife and the teeth of the saw blade shall not exceed half an inch at the level of the top surface of the bench table;

(*b*) the knife shall extend upward from the bench table for a distance of not less than half and not more than the full height of the saw blade above the bench table.

(2) This paragraph shall not apply to a circular saw the circular blade of which does not exceed twelve inches in diameter.

*Top guards*

5.—(1) The cutting edge of the saw blade above the bench table shall be guarded by a guard which shall—

(*a*) be rigid, not less than one inch wide measured horizontally, and as close to the edge of the saw blade as is practicable in the circumstances of use; and

(*b*) extend forward from above the riving knife at least as far as to a point that is directly over the point at which the cutting edge of the saw blade passes below the level of the upper surface of the bench table.

(2) So much of the guard as extends beyond the top of the saw blade shall, so far as it is not parallel to the bench table, slope or curve in a downward direction only.

*Bottom guards*

6.—(1) The part of the saw blade below the bench table shall be guarded by two plates of metal or other suitable material, one on each side of the blade.

(2) Such plates shall not be more than six inches apart and shall extend from the axis of the saw blade outward to a distance of not less than two inches beyond the edge of the saw blade:

Provided that this paragraph shall not apply if the circular saw is so constructed and maintained as to afford no less protection against coming in contact with the saw blade from below the bench table than would require to be afforded under this paragraph.

*Special provision for circular saws with swinging tables*

7.—(1) The provisions of this paragraph apply to a circular saw constructed with a swinging table, being a saw designed solely for cross-cutting.

(2) The cutting edge of the saw blade above the level of its axis shall be guarded by a guard which shall—

(*a*) be rigid, not less than one inch wide measured horizontally, and as close to the edge of the saw blade as is practicable in the circumstances of use; and

(*b*) extend upward and forward from the level of its axis to the top of the saw blade and thence at least as far as to a point that is directly over the point at which the cutting edge of the saw blade passes below the level of its axis.

(3) So much of any such guard as extends beyond the top of the saw blade shall, so far as it is not horizontal, slope or curve in a downward direction only.

(4) The part of the saw blade below the level of its axis shall be guarded by two plates of metal or other suitable material, one on each side of the blade.

(5) Such plates shall not be more than six inches apart and shall extend from the axis of the saw blade outward to a distance of not less than two inches beyond the edge of the saw blade:

Provided that the last foregoing subparagraph and this subparagraph shall not apply if the circular saw is so constructed and maintained as to afford no less protection against coming in contact with the saw blade below the level of its axis than would require to be afforded under this subparagraph.

(6) Paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 shall not apply to a circular saw of the kind mentioned in subparagraph (1).

PART II

*Regulation 4*

REQUIREMENTS AFFECTING WORKERS ONLY

*Use of safety appliances*

8. Without prejudice to subsection (1) of Section 9 of the Act (which makes it an offence for a worker wilfully to interfere with, or misuse, any equipment, appliance, facilities or other thing provided in pursuance of the Act or regulations thereunder) a worker shall keep in position and shall make full use of every riving knife, guard, facility and other thing provided, which satisfies the requirements of this Schedule:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall prevent a worker from carrying out adjustments to a circular saw (including any riving knife or guard), while the saw blade is not in motion.

*Defective saws*

9.—(1) If any circular saw which a worker is employed to operate is or becomes defective within the meaning of this paragraph, any worker employed to operate that saw shall, on discovering that it is defective, forthwith report the fact to his employer.

(2) A circular saw is defective within the meaning of this paragraph if—

(*a*) the saw blade is cracked, or two or more teeth thereof are missing;

(*b*) the teeth of the saw blade while in motion come in contact with the bench table;

(*c*) any riving knife or guard (of the respective kinds required under Part I of this Schedule) which has been fitted to a circular saw is damaged or missing.

(3) Nothing in this paragraph shall absolve an employer from complying with the requirements contained in Part I.

PART III

*Regulation 5*

REQUIREMENTS AFFECTING BOTH EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS

*Floors*

10. The floor of ground area used by a worker operating a circular saw shall be unobstructed and shall afford him a firm foothold.

*Push-sticks, etc.*

11. At every circular saw which is fed by hand a suitable push-stick or push-block of wood shall be used, whenever risk of injury can be thereby reduced.

*Prohibition of adjustments while saw blade is in motion*

12. No adjustment shall, while the saw blade is in motion, be made to any part of a circular saw (including any riving knife or guard) other than to any device fitted to the saw for determining the rate of feed or the width, depth or angle at which the wood is to be cut.

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SECOND SCHEDULE

*Regulation 5*

OTHER PROVISIONS AFFECTING BOTH EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS

*Instruction and supervision*

1. A worker who has never operated a circular saw shall not operate a circular saw unless its working or the working of one of similar type has been demonstrated to him by a person having a thorough knowledge of the working of the saw to be operated or of the working of one of similar type.

*Minimum age*

2. A worker shall not operate or assist at a circular saw unless he has attained the age of sixteen years.

*Explanation of regulations*

3. A worker shall not operate or assist at a circular saw unless the requirements contained in Parts II and III of the First Schedule and the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Schedule have first been explained to him.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)*

These regulations, made under Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, prescribe requirements concerning circular saws which are used by workers employed in agriculture. Obligations relating principally to the guarding and maintenance of circular saws are given to employers. Others, which mainly concern the use of safety appliances and the reporting of defects, are given to workers. In addition the regulations contain requirements relating to general conditions of operation which apply to both workers and employers.

**1966. No. 165** **[C]**

# AGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT

## SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE

### Safeguarding of Workplaces

REGULATIONS, DATED 8TH JULY 1966, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1959(a).

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 1 of the Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1959, and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, after consultation with such organisations as appear to it to represent the interests concerned, hereby makes the following regulations:—

*Citation and commencement*

**1.** These regulations, which may be cited as the Agriculture (Safeguarding of Workplaces) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1966, shall come into operation as follows:—

(*a*) This regulation and regulations 2 and 5 shall come into operation on the 1st day of August 1966.

(*b*) Regulations 3 and 4 shall come into operation on the 1st day of August 1967.

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(a) 1959. c. 24.