STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1978 No. 683

BEE DISEASES

The Importation of Bees Order 1978

Made - - - -	*4th May* 1978
Laid before Parliament	*15th May* 1978
Coming into Operation	*1st July* 1978

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Secretary of State for Wales, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers vested in them by section 10 of the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1954(**a**) and by article 2(3) of the Transfer of Functions (Wales) (No. 1) Order 1978(**b**) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following order:—

Citation, application and commencement

1. This order, which may be cited as the Importation of Bees Order 1978, shall apply to Great Britain and shall come into operation on 1st July 1978.

Revocation

2. The Importation of Bees Order 1955(**c**) is hereby revoked.

Interpretation

3.—(1) In this order, unless the context otherwise requires—

"acarine disease" means any sign of infestation of the bee by the mite *Acarapis woodi* Rennie;

"amoeba disease" means that disease of the bee caused by the organism *Malpighamoeba mellificae* Prell;

"apimyasis" means those diseases of the bee caused by the larvae of dipterous flies which attack the internal organs of the bee;

"bees" means honey bees, and includes such bees at any time of their life cycle;

"brood disease" means one of those diseases of the brood of bees known as American Foul Brood, European Foul Brood, Chalk Brood, Sac Brood, Stone Brood and Varroasis in the brood;

"hives" includes any receptacle used to house bees;

"nosema disease" means that disease of the bee caused by the organism *Nosema apis* Zander;

(**a**) 1954 c. 39. (**b**) S.I. 1978/272. (**c**) S.I. 1955/589.

"varroasis" means any sign of infestation of the bee by the mite *Varroa jacobsonii* Oudemans.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889(a) shall apply to the interpretation of this order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament, and as if this order and the order hereby revoked were Acts of Parliament.

Bees from the Isle of Man and Jersey

4. Nothing in this order shall be deemed to apply to bees originating in the Isle of Man or in Jersey and imported thence directly into Great Britain.

Importation of bees

5.—(1) The importation into Great Britain of bees in any fixed-comb hive is hereby prohibited.

(2) The importation of bees into Great Britain is hereby prohibited unless each consignment is accompanied by a certificate relating thereto, in the form hereinafter described, issued by the appropriate department of the country of origin of the bees, and unless before the bees were despatched a copy of the certificate relating thereto shall have been forwarded by post—

(*a*) in the case of bees consigned to an address in England, to the Horticulture Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AE,

(*b*) in the case of bees consigned to an address in Scotland, to the Animal Health Division of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, Chesser House, Gorgie Road, Edinburgh EH11 3AW,

(*c*) in the case of bees consigned to an address in Wales, to the Welsh Office, Agriculture Department, Plas Crug, Aberystwyth, Dyfed SY23 1NG.

(3) Subject to paragraph (5) of this article, in the case of the importation of colonies of bees the certificate required by paragraph (2) shall be in the form set out in Schedule 1 to this order or in an equivalent form providing the same information, and shall refer to an examination which shall have been carried out not more than fourteen days before the date of despatch of the bees.

(4) Subject to paragraph (5) of this article, in the case of the importation of queen bees the certificate required by paragraph (2) shall be in the form set out in Schedule 2 to this order or in an equivalent form providing the same information, and shall refer to an examination which shall have been carried out not more than 180 days before the date of despatch of the bees.

(5) Notwithstanding the revocation of the Importation of Bees Order 1955, in the case of bees imported into Great Britain before the 1st January 1979 the certificates specified by article 4(3) and (4) of that order and set out in the Schedule thereto may be substituted, as appropriate to the bees, for those specified by paragraphs (3) and (4) of this article and set out in Schedules 1 and 2 hereto.

(a) 1889 c. 63.

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 28th April 1978.

(L.S.)

John Silkin,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Bruce Millan,
Secretary of State for Scotland.

2nd May 1978.

John Morris,
Secretary of State for Wales.

4th May 1978.

SCHEDULE 1

Certificate for use in connection with the Importation of Colonies of Bees

This is to certify that all combs of ..... (number) colonies of bees packed in .....
forwarded by .....
to .....
were examined on ..... (date)
by ..... a duly authorised official of the .....
who found no evidence of brood disease: and also that a microscopic examination of samples of 100 bees of each colony by .....
of .....
has revealed no evidence that the bees are infected with acarine, nosema or amoeba disease, apimyasis or varroasis.

Signed .....
Official Status .....
Date .....

SCHEDULE 2

Certificate for use in connection with the Importation of Queen Bees

I hereby certify that the apiary/ies of .....

(name of beekeeper), in which the accompanying ..... (number) queen bee(s) and attendant workers were reared was/were inspected on

.....(date) and that no evidence was found therein of brood disease; and that a microscopic examination of 100 bees from each

colony by .....

of .....
has revealed no evidence that the apiary/ies is/are infected with any other disease of bees including acarine, nosema and amoeba diseases, apimyasis and varroasis.

Signed .....

Official Status .....

Date .....

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Order.*)

This Order, which supersedes the Importation of Bees Order 1955, prohibits the importation into Great Britain of bees in fixed-comb hives and bees which have not been certified by the responsible department of their country of origin to be free from disease.

The principal changes from the Order of 1955 are:

copies of certificates relating to bees imported into Wales are to be sent to the Agriculture Department of the Welsh Office of Aberystwyth;

certificates relating to queen bees must refer to inspections carried out not more than 180 days before the date of despatch of the bees;

varroasis is added to the list of bee diseases covered by the certificates required.

The importation of bees from the Isle of Man and Jersey is not affected by the Order.

SI 1978/683
ISBN 0-11-083683-9

