1982 No. 279

MEDICINES

Medicines (Stilbenes and Thyrostatic Substances) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982

Made	*27th August 1982*
Coming into operation . . .	*27th September 1982*

The Department(a) of Agriculture for Northern Ireland and the Department(a) of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland being Departments designated(b) for the purposes of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(c) in relation to the common agricultural policy of the European Economic Community and in relation to medicinal products, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by the said section 2(2), hereby make the following regulations:—

Citation and commencement

1. These regulations may be cited as the Medicines (Stilbenes and Thyrostatic Substances) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982 and shall come into operation on 27th September 1982.

Interpretation

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(d) shall apply for the interpretation of these regulations as it applies for the interpretation of a Measure of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

(2) In these regulations—

"animal products" means any products derived from the flesh or other edible parts of animals;

"animals" means domestic animals of the bovine species, swine, sheep, goats, solipeds and poultry, and wild animals of these species and wild ruminants which have been raised on a holding;

"benzestrol" means 4, 4'-(1, 2- diethyl-3-methyltrimethylene) diphenol and salts and esters thereof;

"dienoestrol" means 4, 4'- (diethylideneethylene) diphenol and salts and esters thereof;

"hexoestrol" means 4, 4'- (1, 2-diethylethylene) diphenol and salts and esters thereof;

"medicinal product" has the meaning assigned to it by section 130 of the Medicines Act 1968(e);

"stilbenes" means substances which consist wholly of any of the following:—

(*a*) benzestrol,

(*b*) dienoestrol,

(*c*) hexoestrol, or

(*d*) stilboestrol;

(a) Formerly Ministry: *see* Northern Ireland Constitution Act 1973 (c. 36) Sch. 5 para. 8(1)
(b) S.I. 1972/1811
(c) 1972 c. 68
(d) 1954 c. 33 (N.I.)
(e) 1968 c. 67

"stilboestrol" means (*E*) - ∝ β-diethylstilbene - 4, 4' - diol and salts and esters thereof;

"thyrostatic substances" means anti-thyroid substances with a depressant effect on thyroid activity and thyroid hormone production.

Prohibition of administration to animals of stilbenes or thyrostatic substances, etc.

3.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), no person shall administer, or cause or permit to be administered, to animals by any means whatsoever, any—

(*a*) stilbenes;

(*b*) thyrostatic substances;

(*c*) medicinal products consisting of or containing stilbenes or thyrostatic substances; or

(*d*) animal feedingstuffs in which a medicinal product consisting of or containing stilbenes or thyrostatic substances has been incorporated.

(2) The administration to animals of the materials which are subject to the provisions of paragraph (1) is not prohibited if reasonable steps are taken to ensure that these animals or animal products derived from them are not sold or otherwise disposed of for human or animal consumption.

Offences

4. A person who contravenes regulation 3 shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £1,000 or on conviction on indictment to a fine.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 27th August 1982.

(L.S.) *S. R. Armstrong*
Assistant Secretary

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health and Social Services for Northern Ireland on 27th August 1982.

(L.S.) *J. A. Wylie*
Assistant Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

The regulations partially implement Council Directive 81/602/EEC (O.J. No. L222, 7.8.81, p. 32) concerning the prohibition of certain substances having a hormonal action and of any substances having a thyrostatic action. The regulations prohibit the administration in Northern Ireland to animals (which are defined in the regulations) of:—

(1) stilbenes;

(2) thyrostatic substances;

(3) any medicinal product consisting of or containing stilbenes or thyrostatic substances; and

(4) any animal feedingstuff in which a medicinal product consisting of or containing stilbenes or thyrostatic substances has been incorporated.

The prohibition does not apply if all reasonable steps are taken to ensure that these animals and their products will not be available for human or animal consumption.