

To: Approved/licensed meat plant operators

18 December 2006

Reference: MHA 1203

Dear Sir/Madam,

GUIDE TO FOOD HYGIENE AND OTHER REGULATIONS FOR THE UK MEAT INDUSTRY

I am pleased to enclose a new, complete, 'Guide to Food Hygiene & Other Regulations for the UK Meat Industry'. It is also available at www.food.gov.uk/foodindustry/meat/. Please now discard the November 2005 'Working Draft' version.

As well as a binder, dividers and an index, the 2006 'Meat Industry Guide' (MIG) includes some changes. Some of the old chapters in PART TWO have been split up for easier use. The new titles should be self explanatory:

- **Chapter 9. Acceptance and Slaughter of Animals** - *previously Chapter 8 (Raw Materials including live animals) now includes transport of animals, advice on animal welfare and animal identification requirements.*
 - **Chapter 10. Dressing of Carcasses**
 - **Chapter 11. Cutting of Meat**
 - **Chapter 12. Meat Processing**
- while
- **Chapter 14. Wrapping, Packaging and Transport Hygiene** - *previously two separate chapters, now combined but excludes transport of animals (see above).*

PART THREE now includes:

- **Chapter 1. Application of HACCP Principles**
- **Chapter 2. Microbiological Criteria**
- **Chapter 3. SRM removal**
- **Chapter 4. TSE Testing**

I hope you find the new Guide helpful in explaining the new requirements and in the advice it gives. If you have queries on its content please discuss with your OV or contact the appropriate person listed at **Annex 1**. The Guide is also being sent to the organisations listed at **Annex 2**. Separate but similar letters are being sent to operators in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Please send suggested text or corrections of factual errors to the Industry Guide Editor, Meat Hygiene & Veterinary Division, Food Standards Agency, 3rd Floor, 125 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NH or email to: MeatIndustryGuide@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely



JOANNA FULLICK
Meat Hygiene & Veterinary Division

Contacts for enquiries on meat hygiene issues

- ❑ **Approval of slaughterhouses, cutting plants, game handling establishments and co-located meat plants**

Rachel Patrick
Room 315B
Tel: 020 7276 8369
Email: rachel.patrick@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

- ❑ **Red meat**

Patricia Elliott
Room 315C
Tel: 020 7276 8377
Email: patricia.elliott@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

- ❑ **Wild game and large farmed game**

Jane Gibson
Room 315C
Tel: 0207 276 8325
Email: jane.gibson@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

- ❑ **Poultry meat and lagomorphs**

- ❑ **Rendered animal fats and greaves, treated stomachs, bladders and intestines, gelatine and collagen**

Liz Stretton
Room 315C
Tel: 020 7276 8357
Email: liz.stretton@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

- ❑ **Minced meat, meat products, meat preparations and mechanically separated meat**

Rosalind Glover
Room 315C
Tel: 020 7276 8320
Email: rosalind.glover@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Letters to any of the above should be addressed to:

Food Standards Agency
Aviation House
125 Kingsway
London WC2B 6NH

A copy of this letter and the Guide has also gone to:

Association of British Abattoir Operators
Association of Meat Inspectors
Association of Independent Meat Suppliers (AIMS)
British Association for Shooting and Conservation
British Deer Society
British Meat Processors' Association (BMPA))
British Poultry Council (BPC)
British Retail Consortium (BRC)
British Veterinary Association (BVA)
British Veterinary Association (Scottish Branch)
British Wild Boar Association
Campden & Chorleywood FRA
Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH)
Cold Storage and Distribution Federation
Country Land and Business Association)
Deer Commission of Scotland
Deer Initiative and Deer Management Qualification)
Defra
FACE – UK Countryside Alliance
Farmers Union of Wales (FUW)
Federation of Wholesale Distributors
Foodaware
Food Commission
Guild of Welsh Lamb and Beef Suppliers
Halal Food Authority
Human BSE Foundation
Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome Help (HUSH)
International Meat Trade Association)
Islamic Cultural Centre
The Livestock and Meat Commission for Northern Ireland)
Meat & Livestock Commission (MLC)
Meat Training Council
Muslim Council of Britain (MCB)
National Association of British Markets Authorities
National Association of Catering Butchers
National Consumer Council
National Consumer Federation
National Council of Schechita Board (NCSB)
National Council of Women (GB)
National Farmers Union (NFU)
National Farmers Union, Cymru Wales (NFUCW)
National Farmers Union of Scotland
National Federation of Meat and Food Traders (NFMFT)
National Federation of Women's Institutes
National Game Dealers Association
National Gamekeepers Organisation
Northern Ireland Meat Exporters Association (NIMEA)
Northern Ireland Poultry Federation
Quality Meat Scotland

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)
Royal Environmental Health Institute, Scotland (REHIS)
RSPCA
Royal Society for the Promotion of Health (RSPH)
Scottish Association of Meat Wholesalers (SAMW)
Scottish Consumer Council
Scottish Executive
Scottish Federation of Meat Traders Association)
Scottish Game Dealers and Processors Association
Small Abattoir Federation (SAFE)
Soil Association
Small Business Service
Sustain
TAPPAG
Townswomen's Guild
The Ulster Farmers Union)
UNISON
Veterinary Public Health Association
Welsh Assembly Government
Welsh Consumer Council
Which? (formerly Consumers Association)