



THE ANIMAL DISEASES ACT, 1965

Date of commencement: 15th April, 1965.

An Act to make new provision for the prevention of disease amongst animals and other incidental or connected matters.

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the Animal Diseases Act, 1965.

2. Interpretation

In this Act, unless inconsistent with the context:

“**Animal**” includes bird;

“**Animal products**” means:

- (a) milk and milk products of animals,
- (b) uncooked meat (including biltong), organs, viscera and tissue of animals;
- (c) the hides and skins of animals,
- (d) the feathers, hair, bristle, horns, hoofs, bones, blood and manure of animals and the contents of their paunches; and
- (e) bone-meal and carcass-meal of animals;

“**Cattle**” means bulls, oxen, cows, heifers and calves;

“**Minister**” means the Minister for Agriculture;

“**Officer**” means Permanent Secretary for Agriculture or person authorised by him;

“**Stock**” means cattle, sheep, goats, horses, mules, asses, pigs, dogs, domesticated wild animals, and birds including poultry, and such other animals as the Minister may, by notice in the Gazette, declare to be stock.

3. Regulations

- (1) The Minister may, by notice published in the Gazette, make such regulations as appear to him to be necessary in order to prevent the introduction or spread of diseases amongst stock and other animals.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the regulations may provide for the following matters:

- (a) The definition of diseases and other expressions for the purposes of this Act;
- (b) The notification of outbreaks, or suspected outbreaks, of diseases;
- (c) The restriction and prohibition of the importation, exportation and movement of:
 - (i) animals, animal products or any other thing likely to introduce or spread disease among stock and other animals; and
 - (ii) containers and vehicles used for the conveyance of animals, animal products or any other thing likely to spread disease amongst stock and other animals;

The restriction and prohibition being effected by any necessary means, including the establishment of sanitary cordons by an officer guarded by or composed of officers who, in addition to other officers, may:

- (iii) stop and search persons, containers and vehicles; and
 - (iv) examine and detain animals, animal products or any other thing likely to introduce or spread disease amongst stock and other animals and disinfect or destroy them or do both, with or without compensation;
- (cc) the restriction and prohibition of:
 - (i) the importation, exportation and movement of live virus or other pathogenic agent capable of causing disease in animals or of serum, vaccine or other biological or chemical products intended for the treatment of animals; or
 - (ii) the use of biological or chemical products for the treatment of animals;
(Added A.2/1990.)

- (d) The examination and disinfection of premises, vehicles and any other thing likely to introduce or spread disease amongst stock and other animals
- (e) The inspection of stock and the payment by the owner or person in charge of a fee for the inspection;
- (f) The branding of stock and the payment by the owner or person in charge of the expenses of the branding;
- (g) The detention, isolation, concentration, testing, inoculation, disinfection, cleaning, dipping or removal of stock and the payment therefor by the owner or person in charge of those things;
- (h) The slaughter of stock or other animals with or without compensation to their owners, if any;
- (i) The restriction and prohibition of the slaughter of animals, whether or not wild and wherever situate;
- (j) the control of slaughter-places, butcheries and dairies, and other places if necessary in order to prevent the introduction or spread of disease amongst stock and other animals;
- (k) The burial or destruction of carcasses and the payment by the owner or person in charge of the expenses of the burial or destruction; and
- (l) The construction of roads and dipping tanks upon, and the fencing of, areas and where the cost of the construction of fencing is met from public funds the charging, in favour of the Government of the lands so fenced or upon which roads or dipping tanks are constructed.

- (3) Regulations made under this section may provide for penalties for offences against the regulations, and different penalties for successive offences against the regulations, but no such penalty shall exceed a fine of six hundred emalangeni or imprisonment for two years or both.

4. Price control and regulations

- 1) Where it appears to him to be desirable in the public interest owing to the existence of disease amongst stock, the Minister may, by notice published in the Gazette, fix maximum and minimum wholesale prices and maximum and minimum retail prices, at which any animal, animal product, and anything the movement of which is regulated under section 3, may be sold within Swaziland or a specified area of Swaziland.
- 2) A person who sells any animal, animal product or other thing referred to in subsection (1) at a price which is either in excess of the maximum or less than the minimum price fixed by a notice referred to in that subsection shall be guilty of an offence and liable, on conviction to a fine not exceeding four hundred emalangeni or, in default of payment thereof, to one year's imprisonment.
- 3) The Minister may, by notice published in the Gazette, make such regulations as appear to him to be necessary in order to provide for any matter necessary for, or incidental to, the effective administration or enforcement of the price control referred to in subsection (1).
- 4) Regulations made under this section may provide for penalties for offences against the regulations, and different penalties for successive offences against the regulations, but no such penalty shall exceed a fine of four hundred emalangeni or imprisonment for one year or both.

5. Validity of existing regulations

The Stock Diseases Regulations, 1933, as amended at the commencement of this Act, are deemed to have been made under section 3 of the Act.