



Notification Number: 1997/125/UK

## The Specified Bovine Material Order 1997.

Date received : 05/03/1997

End of Standstill : Closed

Invocation of the Emergency Procedure : Yes

### Message

MINISTERE DE L'INDUSTRIE ET DE LA RECHERCHE  
ATT. M. SERRIS

INSTITUT BELGE DE NORMALISATION,  
ATT. M. CROON

SERVICE DE L'ENERGIE DE L'ETAT, LUXEMBOURG  
ATT. M. J.P. HOFFMANN

MINISTERE DE L'INDUSTRIE  
ATT. M. CAVANNA

DEPT. OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, QUALITY AND EDUCATION DIVISION,  
ATT. MRS. B. O'GRADY

GOVERNMENT SERVICE OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, NSAI  
ATT. MR. J. NULTY

MINISTERIE VAN ECONOMISCHE ZAKEN, (DEPT OR),  
ATT. MR. VAN DER HEIDE

ERHVERVSFREMME STYRELSEN  
INDUSTRIMINISTERIET  
ATT. MR. KELD DYBKJAER

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY  
ATT. MR. Z.P. MAVROUKAS

HELLINIKOS ORG. TYPOPOSEOS  
ATT. MR. MELAGRAKIS

BUNDESMINISTERIUM FUER WIRTSCHAFT (BMWl)  
ATT. DR. WINKEL

BUNDESMINISTERIUM FUER WIRTSCHAFTLICHE ANGELEGENHEITEN  
ATT. ABT I/A/4 FRAU GREGORICH / FRAU HASLINGER-FENZEL



MIN PARA RELACIONES CON LA COMUNIDA  
ATT M. LUIS ANTONIO RICO URIOS

INSTITUTO PORTUGUES DA QUALIDADE  
ATT MR. CANDIDO DOS SANTOS, PORTUGAL

KOMMERSKOLLEGIUM  
ATT. MS. KERSTIN CARLSSON

MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY  
ATT. MS. TOLONEN

DGS INTERNATIONAL BELGIUM

REP PERMANENTE ROYAUME UNI

REP PERMANENTE IRLANDE

REP PERMANENTE GRECE

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION SURVEILLANCE AUTHORITY

EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION  
ATT. MS. BAKKE-D'ALOYA

TELEX 001

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION - SG (97) D/50563  
DIRECTIVES 83/189/EEC, 88/182/EEC AND 94/10/EC

NOTIFIKATION - NOTIFIZIERUNG - NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICACION  
NOTIFICATION - NOTIFICA - KENNISGEVING - NOTIFICACAO - ILMOITUS  
ANMÄLAN : 97/0125/UK.

FRISTERNE INDLEDES IKKE -KEIN FRISTBEGINN - DOES NOT OPEN THE  
DELAYS - NO ABRE EL PLAZO - N'OUVRE PAS DE DELAIS - NON FA  
DECORRERE LA MORA - GEEN TERMIJNBEGIN - NAO INICIA O PRAZO  
MÄÄRÄAIKA EI ALA TÄSTÄ - INLEDER INGEN FRIST.

- 3B1 : 9700563.EN

**1. Structured Information Line**

TLX 001 IND- 97 0125 UK- EN ----- 970305 --- ---

**2. Member State**

United Kingdom

**3. Department Responsible**

Department of Trade and Industry: Standards and Technical



Regulations Directorate

### 3. Originating Department

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

### 4. Notification Number

97/0125/UK

### 5. Title

The Specified Bovine Material Order 1997.

### 6. Products Concerned

Specified Bovine Material (SBM) derived tallow

### 7. Notification Under Another Act

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### 8. Main Content

The amendment Order extends the current prohibition in Great Britain on the use of SBM in food and feed to cover also cosmetic, pharmaceutical and medical products and the sale of any such products containing SBM. The existing provision for using fatty acids extracted from SBM tallow in animal feed is thereby removed. Effectively the only outlet for SBM derived material will be for technical purposes, e.g. tyres, paints, etc. Companies in the oleochemical industry wishing to process SBM tallow for this purpose must be approved under Article 21 of the SBM Order (as consolidated), having in place the necessary controls to ensure no possible diversion of SBM for illegal uses.

Other minor amendments include a requirement for those handling SBM to ensure stain remains visible over its entire surface; explicitly precluding longitudinal splitting of the carcass through the vertebral column other than in slaughterhouses (to ensure that SBM is not accidentally removed in uncontrolled conditions); and providing for treatment of SBM when no longer needed at veterinary or laboratory premises, etc.

The Department of Agriculture, Northern Ireland are to introduce parallel amendments to their own legislation for Northern Ireland - these will be notified in due course.

The UK will fulfil its obligations under Article 12 of Directive 83/189 when these regulations are published

### 9. Brief Statement of Grounds

In April 1996 the Scientific Veterinary Committee (ScVC), issued advice on tallow. This recognised the lesser risks in tallow, but opined that no material derived from SBM should be used for food, feed, medical, pharmaceutical or cosmetic



products'. In the light of this advice the Minister agreed to the issue of a consultation letter which proposed to ban the use of SBM derived tallow for any purpose. Some respondents to the April 1996 consultation felt that the science did not support a total ban. This was accepted and the proposed amendment therefore allows for SBM tallow to be used in approved premises for technical purposes.

Note: SBM derived tallow is not currently available as SBM is being rendered and destroyed together with OTMS material. However, it is possible that it may be rendered on separate lines once the current IBEA agreements with renderers expire at the end of March or if an SBM/OTMS renderer should decide at any time to cease processing OTMS carcasses but continue to process SBM from under 30 month cattle.

#### **10. Reference Documents - Basic Texts**

- i. The Specified Bovine Material Order 1997
- ii. The Specified Bovine Material (No.3) Order 1996 (Notification 96/0285/UK)
- iii. Risk assessment attached.

#### **11. Invocation of the Emergency Procedure**

Yes

#### **12. Grounds for the Emergency**

This amendment Order is required urgently to tighten the already strict controls on the handling and disposal of SBM and the uses to which SBM derived material can be put. It implements the advice of the Scientific Veterinary Committee on tallow and is made as part of the UK Government's continuing commitment to maintaining consumer confidence in the safety of British beef and implementing related human and animal health controls. It is important that the strengthened controls are in place before SBM tallow potentially becomes available for use again, following the end of the current IBEA agreements with renderers in March 1997.

#### **13. Confidentiality**

No

#### **14. Fiscal measures**

No

D. WILLIAMSON  
COMEUR  
NNNN