

Meat Division

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Private Bag Wellington

Circular

84/16/4

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31 May 1984

to: All Meat Division Staff
Meat Export Slaughterhouses

subject: INSPECTION PROCEDURES - SCABBY MOUTH

previous circular Manual 4: 16: 16.129.3: 16.137.1: 16.144.2
or manual ref:

1. Background
 - 1.1 There is considerable variation in the way mobs of sheep affected with scabby mouth are handled.
 - 1.2 Scabby mouth virus is not a meat-transmitted public health risk.
 - 1.3 Scabby mouth virus is frequently found on fleece from normal sheep and there is no significant difference in hazard to freezing workers handling clinically affected lines or those showing no symptoms.
 - 1.4 The Animal Health Division has no restrictions on the movement of scabby mouth sheep from farm to farm to saleyard etc anywhere in New Zealand.
 - 1.5 It is valuable to inspectors carrying out post-mortem and finding tongue lesions for it to be confirmed that the line suffered from scabby mouth at ante-mortem inspection.

2. Aim

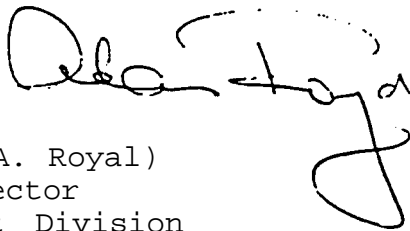
To establish a uniform national procedure for the handling of scabby mouth lines.

3. Procedures

- 3.1 when scabby mouth lines are identified at ante-mortem in the yards this fact is to be recorded on the pen card set.
- 3.2 Scabby mouth lines will not be designated SPVD unless secondary infection is evident.
- 3.3 If the company requests, and the veterinarian approves, scabby mouth lines may be removed from the premises.
- 3.4 At post-mortem, head and/or tongue which show lesions to be condemned.
- 3.5 MD Manuals are to be amended accordingly.

4. Implementation

From receipt of this Circular.



(W.A. Royal)
Director
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