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Meat Hygiene Enforcement Report **47**



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Contents

Licensing of meat plants	2
New licences	2
Licence revocations	3
News items	
Meat inspection charges	4
Foot and mouth disease	
- use of licenced abattoirs	4
Unfit poultry meat - 19 arrested	6
Meat Hygiene Advisory Committee	
- second meeting: 13 February	7
Use of hyperchlorinated water in poultry plants	7
European Commission website	8
Enforcement Results	
Banded HAS scores	10
Clean livestock policy	16
Statutory enforcement	20
Informal enforcement	20
MHS disciplinary action	20
Audit of Meat Hygiene Service	21
Legal Action	
Actions continuing	22
Investigations	22
Glossary	23
Further information	23

This month

The Food Standards Agency's London-based staff are in the process of moving to new premises. By 8 May, all staff currently located in Ergon House, Hannibal House and Skipton House will have moved to the new building in London's Holborn. Veterinary and administrative staff dealing with BSE, meat hygiene, licensing, and publication of the MHER will move on 9 April:

Aviation House
3rd Floor
125 Kingsway
London
WC2B 6NH

Switchboard: +44 (0)20 7276 8000
(GTN 276 8000)

Email addresses will not change.

Jill Wilson
Editor

Licensing of meat plants

At 1 March 2001 the numbers of licensed premises by type in the United Kingdom (including those operating under appeal provisions following licence revocation) were as follows:

Type of premises ¹		England	Scotland	Wales	N Ireland	United Kingdom
<i>Fresh meat</i>						
Slaughterhouses	Full throughput	186	35	15	15	251
	Low throughput	129	8	20	1	158
Cutting plants ²	Full throughput	194	28	11	32	265
	Low throughput	137	11	14	4	166
Cold stores ²		186	29	17	20	252
Re-packaging Centres		2	0	0	0	2
Farmed game handling/ processing facilities		65	5	7	1	78
All premises		899	116	84	73	1,172
<i>Poultrymeat, farmed game bird meat and rabbit meat</i>						
Slaughterhouses	Full throughput	70	8	5	12	95
	Low throughput	41	4	5	3	53
Cutting plants	Full throughput	45	2	8	2	57
	Low throughput	46	3	11	3	63
Cold stores		2	23	9	4	38
Re-wrapping centres		0	2	0	0	2
All premises		204	42	38	24	308
Wild game meat processing facilities		19	16	1	1	37

Notes

- ¹ "Slaughterhouses" may be stand alone plants or combined with a cutting premises and/or cold store; "cutting plants" may be stand alone plants or combined with a cold store; "cold stores" are stand alone plants
- ² Figures for fresh meat cutting plants and cold stores include premises also licensed for poultry meat etc

New Licences issued in January 2001

Type of premises ¹		Licence Number	Name
Cutting plants	Fresh meat	5478	Vatan Catering Ltd, Tottenham Hale, London ²
	Poultry meat	4284	Haskell & Co, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire
Cold stores	Fresh meat	7185	Dalziel Foods Ltd, Newport, Gwent ²
	Poultry meat	4284	Haskell & Co, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire

Notes

- ¹ "Slaughterhouses" may be stand alone plants or combined with a cutting premises and/or cold store; "cutting plants" may be stand alone plants or combined with a cold store; "cold stores" are stand alone plants
- ² Poultrymeat licence also issued
- ³ New low throughput licence following revocation of full throughput licence

Licence revocations

The hygiene Regulations provide for licences to be revoked for a number of different reasons including, for example, failure to comply with the hygiene requirements, where premises have ceased operating, or, in some cases, where the nature of the business carried on at the premises has changed.

Operators of premises in Great Britain where licences have been revoked have a right of appeal to the Meat Hygiene Appeals Tribunal. Generally premises

operating immediately prior to revocation may continue to operate during the 21 day period given for appeal and thereafter pending the outcome of any appeal lodged.

Details of the licences that have been revoked in Great Britain during February 2001 for which information is available, are given below. In all cases the information given is for revocation letters actually issued.

Type of premises ¹		Reason	Licence Number	Name
Slaughterhouses	Poultry meat	Ceased operating	6020	Webbs Country Foods Ltd, Winchester, Hampshire ⁴
Cutting plants	Fresh meat	Full throughput licence revoked to enable downgrade to low throughput	6179	Meat & Livestock Commission, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire
		Full throughput licence revoked to enable downgrade to low throughput	1543	Strathclyde Meats Ltd, Glasgow, Strathclyde
		Ceased operating	5267	A J W Meats Ltd, Harlow, Essex
		Ceased operating	4682	Salford Meat Packers Ltd, St Helens, Merseyside ²
		Ceased operating	2405	Greenhill Farm Poultry Products, Rotherham, South Yorkshire ^{2,3}
		Ceased operating	4389	Towers Thompson Ltd, Trafford Park, Manchester
	Poultry meat	Licence surrendered	4716	Blackwell Fresh Poultry Ltd, Birmingham, West Midlands ²
		Ceased operating	4040	R S Meat and Poultry Ltd, Bilston, West Midlands
		Licence surrendered on grounds of exemption	2416	T W Motley and Son, Harrogate, North Yorkshire ³
	Cold stores	Fresh meat	Ceased operating	6144
Ceased operating			1669	Lidl UK GmbH, Livingston, Midlothian ²

Notes

¹ "Slaughterhouses" may be stand alone plants or combined with a cutting premises and/or cold store; "cutting plants" may be stand alone plants or combined with a cold store; "cold stores" are stand alone plants

² Poultrymeat licence also revoked

³ Low throughput premises

⁴ Cutting premises licence also revoked

i For further information, contact **Jeremy Jones** on + 44 (0)20 7238 6496
From 9 April: +44 (0)20 7276 8365
 email: jeremy.jones@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

News Items

Meat inspection charges

The new meat inspection charging system in Great Britain will be introduced on 2 April 2001. As reported last month, the Agency revised its proposals for implementing a new charging system in the light of responses to its consultation exercise. The revised proposals were agreed by Ministers and the Statutory Instrument amending the existing legislation in England was laid before Parliament on 9 March. The equivalent legislation in Scotland was laid before the Scottish Parliament on 12 March and in Wales, the legislation was debated and approved by the National Assembly on 27 March.

The key features of the new system are:

- In each accounting period, slaughterhouse and cutting plant operators will be charged the lower of either the standard charge(s), based on headage/throughput, or the actual inspection costs (subject to the minimum charges of 45% of the standard charge, as laid down in the EU Directive);
- Fixed fees for MHS inspections at cold stores, based on plant capacity;
- Cutting plant charges based on the tonnage of meat entering the plant;
- From time to time, the MHS and plant operators will agree an operational programme based on agreed working hours and working practices;
- Where, under the standard charge system, the MHS incurs additional costs due to the plant operator's inefficiencies, defined in the legislation, additional charges may be levied;
- Plant operators may instigate an independent appeals procedure if they do not agree that an additional charge should be levied;
- The Agency will maintain a panel of independent nominees to deal with any appeals and refer appeals to someone on the panel. The nominee will inform the appellant and the Agency of their decision within a month. Stakeholders have been consulted on an initial panel, to take effect from 2 April 2001.

i For further information, if you live in England, contact **Gareth Williams** in the FSA's Meat Hygiene Division on **+44 (0)20 7238 5511** (From 9 April +44(0)20 7276 8336)

email: gareth.williams@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

In Scotland, contact **Jennifer Howie** on **+44 (0)1224 285142** Fax: +44 (0)1224 285167
email: jennifer.howie@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

In Wales, contact **Owen Davies** on **+44(0)29 2067 8908** Fax: +44(0)29 2067 8919
email: owen.davies@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Foot and Mouth Disease: use of licensed abattoirs

Over 300 licensed red meat slaughterhouses have been approved by the Meat Hygiene Service to operate under the Foot and Mouth Disease "Direct to Slaughter" Scheme.

When applying to the MHS for approval, slaughterhouses are required to confirm that their premises meet all of the following criteria:

- i) that there are no animals in the lairage or adjacent field lairages;
- ii) that the lairage has been cleaned and disinfected; and
- iii) that all the necessary facilities and equipment are in place:
 - to cleanse and disinfect each livestock vehicle before it leaves the premises;
 - to allow full veterinary ante-mortem inspection of animals;
 - to ensure that all animals are slaughtered within 24 hours of their arrival at the slaughterhouse.

Approvals are issued once this information has been checked by the OVS and plant operator and the MHS have agreed hours of operation and MHS staffing levels.

Arrangements for the scheme include: a maximum 4 hour journey time from farm of origin to the slaughterhouse; slaughter of the animals within 24 hours of their arrival at the slaughterhouse; full veterinary ante mortem inspections of all the animals and additional post mortem checks on the mouth and hooves/feet of all species; and, MHS supervision of the cleaning and disinfection of each livestock vehicle before it leaves. As no live animals may be returned, any Clean Livestock Policy Category 5 animals presented are slaughtered and the carcasses disposed of as by-products.

These arrangements, however, do not apply to premises wishing to participate in the cull of cattle, sheep, pigs, deer, goats and poultry under any of the foot and mouth slaughter schemes where the carcasses will not be used for human consumption. This includes the welfare disposal scheme. Because licensed slaughterhouses may only be used to slaughter animals intended for human consumption, operators must first surrender their licence if the premises are to be used in the culls.

Applications for re-licensing from operators of slaughterhouses no longer being used for the cull scheme will be dealt with under a 'fast-track' process with the Agency's licensing staff giving priority to re-licensing applications ahead of any other tasks.

In considering and assessing re-licensing applications, the Agency will apply the normal legislative requirements and standards for the granting of a license. As with any other application, any significant areas of non-compliance with the current licensing standards would have to be corrected before the Agency could grant a re-licence. Operators will be aware of standards in their premises – they may, for example, be currently subject to enforcement action by the MHS. Operators with concerns about whether or not their premises comply with the current legislative standards should seek advice from their MHS Official Veterinary Surgeon and/or local Veterinary Meat Hygiene Adviser.

The Agency will not apply higher standards than normal to operators applying to be re-licensed and is legally obliged to licence any slaughterhouse that complies with the required standards laid down in the Regulations.

Operators of "cull" abattoirs with a co-located licensed cutting plant would not be required to relinquish the cutting plant licence, provided the cutting plant could still be operated hygienically. The MHS would continue to enforce the meat hygiene and BSE controls in the licensed cutting plant.

The following premises have surrendered their licences

Licence Number	Name
8071	West Devon Meat Ltd, Hatherleigh, Devon
7132	Fairfield Meat Co Ltd, Marchwiel, Wrexham
7080	Cardigan Abattoir Ltd, Cardigan, Ceredigion
7017	Welsh Country Foods Ltd, Gaerwen, Anglesey
6062	Anglo Dutch Meats (Charing) Ltd, Charing, Kent
5090	Elmkirk Limited, Brentwood, Essex
4488	North West Meats Ltd, Oldham, Lancashire
4405	Wholesale Meat Supply Ltd, Blackburn, Lancashire
4357	F Redfern & Sons Ltd, Buxton, Derbyshire
4347	Midland Lamb Co Ltd, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire
4089	Midland Meat Packers Ltd, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire
2241	Wooley Bros (Wholesale Meats) Ltd, Sheffield, South Yorkshire
2138	West Scottish Lamb, Carlisle, Cumbria
2066	George Thompson & Son, Bishop Auckland, Co Durham
1505	Vivers, Annan
1136	AP Jess (Brechin) Ltd, Brechin

i Further information about foot and mouth disease is available on MAFF's website at: www.maff.gov.uk/animalh/fmd/default.htm

MAFF's local rate FMD Helpline is open between 8.00 am and 11.00 pm seven days a week on **0845 050 4141**

The Intervention Board's Welfare (Disposal) Helpline on **0191 226 5144** is available 8am–6pm Monday to Friday 10am–4pm Saturday and 10am–2pm Sunday

For further information about licensing in **England** contact Jeremy Jones on + **44 (0)020 7238 6496**

From 9 April: +44 (0)20 7276 8365
email: jeremy.jones@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

In **Scotland** contact Mark Scott on +44 (0)1224 285144 Fax: +44 (0)1224 285168
email: mark.scott@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

In **Wales** contact Owen Davies on +44 (0)29 2067 8908 Fax: +44 (0)29 2067 8919
email: owen.davies@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

In **Northern Ireland** contact Jill Boal on +44 (0)28 9041 7706 Fax: +44 (0)28 9041 7726
email: jill.boal@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Unfit poultry meat – 19 arrested

Nineteen people were arrested earlier this month following an investigation into allegations of unfit poultry meat coming back onto the market as food fit for human consumption. Derbyshire Constabulary led the joint operation with the Food Standards Agency and Amber Valley Borough Council, supported by other local authorities and the Meat Hygiene Service.

On the morning of 22 March 2001, warrants were executed at 20 premises and homes of people suspected of being involved in the production, distribution and sale of these products, including outlets that allegedly distribute and sell the products back onto the market as food fit for human consumption. A substantial amount of paperwork and computers were seized and will be examined by experts. In addition, Amber Valley Council and the other agencies involved have taken the necessary legal action to seize and subsequently destroy any poultry products which were unfit for human consumption.

Denby Poultry Products, a pet food processing plant, near Ripley, Derbyshire was one of the premises where a warrant was executed. Following an inspection of the premises that same morning, MAFF suspended its registration under the Animal By Products Order 1999 to receive low-risk waste from poultry slaughterhouses for use in pet food.

Speaking on the day of the operation, the Food Standards Agency's Director of Enforcement and Food Standards, David Statham, said:

"The alleged activities that led to today's action show the need for vigilance and tough action to protect the consumer, and the need for vigorous enforcement of the rules governing the production and distribution of food. If these are breached, or indeed if they prove inadequate, the Agency and its partners will act to protect the consumer.

"The FSA has stepped up its work with enforcement authorities to improve detection and prosecution in cases where there is a potential risk to public health. The Agency is investigating what further measures may be necessary to prevent any cases of unfit meat entering the food chain.

"We cannot be sure what public health risks there may have been from this alleged trade. There are specific controls on meat to ensure it is fit for human consumption. When these controls are not in place there is an increased risk of food poisoning. Today's action to apply to seize the meat will protect the public from any further risks of this meat entering the food chain.

"The public needs protection where it is alleged that food unfit for human consumption is finding its way back into the human food chain by whatever means. If anyone has any information indicating that such things are happening, they should contact the Police, their local authority or the Food Standards Agency."

This was the latest phase of a multi-agency operation that has been underway for four months, involving over 100 police officers as well as around 50 local authority environmental health officers and Meat Hygiene Service staff around the country. Four other police forces and local councils were involved in the day's operation in Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire (Thames Valley Police), Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire.

The investigation is continuing and is expecting to take some considerable time to complete.



For further information, contact **Sarah Appleby** in the FSA's Local Authority Enforcement (Support) Division on +44 (0)20 7972 5886

email: sarah.appleby@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Meat Hygiene Advisory Committee – Second Meeting: 13 February

The second meeting of the Meat Hygiene Advisory Committee (MHAC) took place on 13 February. It was chaired by FSA Deputy Chair, Suzi Leather. The main item on the agenda was the Efficiency Study of the MHS prepared for the FSA by Deloitte & Touche (see MHER #46).

After reviewing action points from the first meeting (see MHER #44), it was agreed that a small group of Committee members would examine in more detail the issue of plants with persistently low HAS scores. They were asked to report back to the full Committee at the next meeting.

The Committee were brought up to date on the public consultation on meat inspection charges (see MHER #46). The 2000-01 and 2001-02 MHS performance targets were among other items covered in the meeting (see MHER #45).

The Acting Chief Executive of the MHS, Chris Lawson, made his first report to the Committee. He summarised recent activity in the MHS, including settlement of the 2000-01 pay award and progress towards implementation of the meat inspection charging system and of full-time veterinary supervision at full-throughput plants – both from April 2001. He also reported on the successful implementation of alterations to domestic BSE controls after changes in EU legislation on 1 October 2000 and 1 January 2001.

Finally, the Committee was given a progress report on the appointment of external members to MHAC (see MHER #41 and 46). Interviews are due to be completed in the first week in April and the names of those appointed will be announced in due course. The five new members are expected to attend the next MHAC meeting in York on 15 May.

i For further information, contact **Simon Petty** in the Food Standards Agency's Meat Hygiene Division on +44 (0)20 7238 6231
From 9 April: +44 (0)20 7276 8326
 email: simon.petty@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Use of hyperchlorinated water in poultry plants

The Food Standards Agency has instructed the MHS (and DARD in Northern Ireland) to fully enforce the prohibition on the use of hyperchlorinated water in the production of poultry meat from 1 May 2001.

Use of hyperchlorinated water has been permitted by the UK authorities for some time (on grounds of public health benefit) despite the fact that both EU and UK legislation only allows use of potable water in poultry meat production. However, the Commission has begun infraction proceedings because of the lack of proper enforcement. In the light of this, the FSA reviewed this issue. It concluded that hyperchlorinated water had minimal health benefit and has therefore advised that the existing prohibition should be fully enforced.

Ministers accepted this advice and the Commission has been informed that the prohibition will be enforced from 1 May 2001. The FSA has notified operators of the enforcement and timing of the prohibition and will issue further advice to poultry plant operators shortly.

i For further information, contact:
 In England, **Sylvia Ankrah** in the FSA's Meat Hygiene Division on +44 (0)20 7238 6444
From 9 April: +44 (0)20 7276 8356
 email: sylvia.ankrah@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk
 In Scotland, **Jennifer Howie** on +44 (0)1224 285142
 email: jennifer.howie@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk
 In Wales, **Owen Davies** on +44 (0)29 2067 8908
 email: owen.davies@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk
 In Northern Ireland, **Kirsten Dunbar** on +44 (0)28 9041 7710
 email: kirsten.dunbar@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

European Commission website

The following documents are now available on the Commission's website:

- Final report of 6-10 November 2000 to the UNITED KINGDOM to look at the production of game and rabbit meat (The Food Standards Agency is in the process of putting together its response - we shall include an article next month)
- Summary report of 18-22 September 2000 mission to NEW CALEDONIA to assess the monitoring system for production and export of farmed game meat products
- Final report of 8-12 May 2000 mission to SPAIN to evaluate controls on production of wild game, farmed game meat and rabbit meat
- Summary report of 5-7 September 2000 mission to LUXEMBOURG to look at the production and marketing of game and rabbit meat
- Final report of 16-20 October 2000 mission to FINLAND to evaluate the operation of controls over the production of wild game, farmed game meat and rabbit meat
- Final report of 16-20 October 2000 mission to LITHUANIA to look at the production of fresh meat, meat products, and game meat for exported to the European Union
- Final report of 4-8 September 2000 mission to SWITZERLAND to evaluate the operation of controls over the production of meat products and casings
- Final report of 19-30 June 2000 to the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA to look at the approval, control and supervision of cold stores and certification of fresh meat and meat products
- Final report of 3-7 July 2000 mission to ROMANIA to look at the health conditions and guarantees for production, export and certification of live bovine, porcine, ovine, caprine and equine animals and, fresh meat, meat-based products and casings
- Final report of 6-10 November 2000 mission to BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA to look at veterinary services, the general animal health situation, fresh meat and meat products
- Final report of 4-8 September 2000 mission to SWEDEN to look at the production and marketing of meat products, meat preparations, minced meat and offal
- Final report of 19-23 June 2000 mission to SWITZERLAND to evaluate pig meat controls
- Final report of 26-30 June 2000 mission to THE NETHERLANDS to evaluate pig meat controls
- Final report of 26-30 June 2000 to SPAIN to look at the production of pig meat
- Final report of 25-29 September 2000 mission to GREECE to look at the production of fresh pig meat
- Final report of 4-8 September 2000 mission to the CZECH REPUBLIC to evaluate the operation of controls over the production of pig meat
- Final report of 27 November – 1 December 2000 to HUNGARY to look at animal health controls
- Final report of 25-29 September 2000 mission to GREECE concerning the implementation of disease surveillance programmes
- Final report of 29 May-2 June 2000 mission to SWAZILAND to study the animal health situation and evaluate their animal health controls
- Final report of 19-23 June 2000 mission to PORTUGAL to monitor the progress of their *Brucella melitensis* eradication programme
- Final report of 18-22 September 2000 mission to BULGARIA concerning the general animal health situation and bluetongue disease in particular
- Final report of 25 September- 6 October 2000 mission to ITALY concerning border inspection posts
- Final report of 30-31 October 2000 mission to GERMANY concerning border inspection posts
- Final report of 4-8 September 2000 mission to BELGIUM concerning border inspection posts
- Final report of 11-15 September 2000 mission to ARGENTINA regarding foot and mouth disease

- Final report of 2-6 October 2000 mission to TURKEY to study the foot-and-mouth vaccination programme
- Final report of 18-22 September 2000 mission to PARAGUAY regarding foot and mouth disease
- Final report of 23-27 October 2000 mission to SOUTH AFRICA to evaluate the operation controls following outbreaks of foot and mouth disease
- Animal Health – Commission decision concerning certain protection measures
- Food Quality in Europe – Debate and speech by David Byrne, European Commissioner on European Consumer Day: 15 March 2001
- Scientific Committee on Veterinary Measures (SCVM) opinion on ovine gas de-pelting. Adopted 14-15 February 2001

i The index for the Commission's inspection mission reports are at:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/inspections/vi/reports/index_en.html

This will then give you the links for access to individual reports.

Commissioner Byrne's European Consumer Day speech is available at: **http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/health_consumer/library/debate/index_en.html**

The SCVM Opinion on gas de-pelting is available at: **http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/sc/scv/out39_en.pdf**

Links to various documents about foot and mouth disease including press releases, Commission Decisions, Q&A, an overview of measures, links to other useful sites and vaccination policy can be found at: **http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/ah_pcad_links_en.html**

Enforcement Results

Banded HAS scores

In Great Britain, hygiene standards in slaughterhouses and cutting plants are regularly monitored by means of the Hygiene Assessment System (HAS). This is a risk-based method of assessing hygiene standards arising from slaughtered livestock, the people working in the plant, the premises themselves and any other relevant sources.

Premises are assessed against performance criteria covering all significant aspects of production, each weighted according to their relative risk. The end product of an assessment under the system is the "HAS score", a value of 0-100 with higher scores indicating better performance.

Assessments are carried out by the Official Veterinary Surgeon at least once a month in full throughput premises and quarterly in low throughput premises. The results enable the MHS to monitor the performance of licensed premises and to identify those premises where additional supervision and enforcement action might be necessary.

Results

Latest banded results for red meat & white meat slaughterhouses and cutting plants in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are given below.

Red meat slaughterhouses

Great Britain

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total No	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		over 65	over 70
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	2	0.7%	3	1.0%	21	7.0%	139	46.0%	89	29.5%	48	15.9%	302	89.1%	76.4%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%	20	7.8%	119	46.3%	78	30.4%	38	14.8%	257	90.8%	78.0%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	19	6.8%	133	47.5%	90	32.1%	37	13.2%	280	91.9%	80.0%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	1.0%	12	4.1%	136	46.6%	98	33.6%	43	14.7%	292	93.1%	80.8%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	9	3.5%	125	48.4%	89	34.5%	34	13.2%	258	94.6%	81.7%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.7%	14	5.0%	142	50.5%	92	32.7%	31	11.0%	281	95.1%	82.3%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.7%	17	5.7%	134	45.0%	105	35.2%	40	13.4%	298	94.6%	82.3%
October	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	1	0.4%	15	5.8%	126	48.6%	81	31.3%	35	13.5%	259	93.8%	82.3%
November	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	2	0.7%	11	3.9%	142	50.4%	93	33.0%	33	11.7%	282	94.0%	83.4%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.7%	12	4.3%	133	47.3%	90	32.0%	44	15.7%	281	94.5%	84.7%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%	15	6.1%	120	48.6%	74	30.0%	36	14.6%	247	94.4%	85.2%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%	11	4.3%	131	50.8%	82	31.8%	32	12.4%	258	94.4%	84.7%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	4	0.1%	23	0.7%	176	5.3%	1,580	48.0%	1,061	32.2%	451	13.7%	3,295		

England

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	2	0.8%	3	1.2%	17	7.0%	120	49.2%	69	28.3%	33	13.5%	244	88.3%	73.2%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.0%	17	8.3%	104	50.7%	60	29.3%	22	10.7%	205	90.2%	75.2%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	16	7.1%	116	51.6%	72	32.0%	20	8.9%	225	91.4%	77.4%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.9%	10	4.3%	119	50.9%	75	32.1%	28	12.0%	234	92.8%	78.5%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.5%	7	3.4%	107	51.9%	70	34.0%	21	10.2%	206	94.4%	79.7%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.9%	11	4.8%	124	54.6%	71	31.3%	19	8.4%	227	95.1%	81.1%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.8%	13	5.5%	116	48.7%	81	34.0%	26	10.9%	238	94.6%	81.5%
October	0	0.0%	1	0.5%	1	0.5%	11	5.3%	110	53.4%	62	30.1%	21	10.2%	206	93.9%	82.1%
November	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	1	0.4%	11	4.8%	126	55.5%	70	30.8%	18	7.9%	227	93.9%	83.0%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.9%	11	4.9%	118	52.9%	66	29.6%	26	11.7%	223	94.1%	83.8%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.0%	13	6.6%	104	53.1%	58	29.6%	19	9.7%	196	93.7%	83.7%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.0%	9	4.3%	115	55.3%	63	30.3%	19	9.1%	208	93.8%	83.3%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	4	0.2%	21	0.8%	146	5.5%	1,379	52.3%	817	31.0%	272	10.3%	2,639		

Wales

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	13.6%	10	45.5%	6	27.3%	3	13.6%	22	84.6%	81.5%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	15.0%	9	45.0%	7	35.0%	1	5.0%	20	84.4%	79.7%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	9.1%	11	50.0%	8	36.4%	1	4.5%	22	87.5%	81.3%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	9.1%	9	40.9%	10	45.5%	1	4.5%	22	89.1%	79.7%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.3%	12	63.2%	5	26.3%	1	5.3%	19	92.1%	79.4%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.5%	13	59.1%	7	31.8%	1	4.5%	22	93.7%	76.2%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	13.6%	11	50.0%	7	31.8%	1	4.5%	22	92.1%	74.6%
October	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	21.1%	11	57.9%	3	15.8%	1	5.3%	19	87.3%	68.3%
November	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.8%	0	0.0%	12	57.1%	7	33.3%	1	4.8%	21	87.1%	71.0%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.0%	9	45.0%	9	45.0%	1	5.0%	20	90.0%	76.7%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	12.5%	10	62.5%	3	18.8%	1	6.3%	16	93.0%	84.2%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	11.1%	11	61.1%	4	22.2%	1	5.6%	18	90.7%	83.3%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.4%	24	9.9%	128	52.7%	76	31.3%	14	5.8%	243		

Scotland

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	9	25.0%	14	38.9%	12	33.3%	36	98.0%	95.1%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	18.8%	11	34.4%	15	46.9%	32	99.0%	96.0%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	3.0%	6	18.2%	10	30.3%	16	48.5%	33	98.0%	96.0%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.8%	0	0.0%	8	22.2%	13	36.1%	14	38.9%	36	98.0%	97.0%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	3.0%	6	18.2%	14	42.4%	12	36.4%	33	97.1%	96.1%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	6.3%	5	15.6%	14	43.8%	11	34.4%	32	96.0%	94.1%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.6%	7	18.4%	17	44.7%	13	34.2%	38	96.1%	92.2%
October	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	14.7%	16	47.1%	13	38.2%	34	97.1%	92.3%
November	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	11.8%	16	47.1%	14	41.2%	34	99.1%	93.4%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	15.8%	15	39.5%	17	44.7%	38	100%	94.3%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	17.1%	13	37.1%	16	45.7%	35	100%	94.4%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	15.6%	15	46.9%	12	37.5%	32	100%	94.3%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	6	1.5%	73	17.7%	168	40.7%	165	40.0%	413		

White meat slaughterhouses**Great Britain**

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.9%	11	10.2%	38	35.2%	43	39.8%	15	13.9%	108	86.4%	74.4%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	11	11.0%	37	37.0%	37	37.0%	14	14.0%	100	87.7%	76.9%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	1.9%	10	9.4%	38	35.8%	39	36.8%	17	16.0%	106	88.5%	78.0%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	9.4%	38	35.8%	39	36.8%	19	17.9%	106	89.1%	80.1%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	6.8%	41	39.8%	37	35.9%	18	17.5%	103	90.8%	80.3%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	3.9%	48	46.6%	35	34.0%	16	15.5%	103	93.3%	80.4%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.0%	2	1.9%	44	41.9%	45	42.9%	13	12.4%	105	95.5%	81.4%
October	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.0%	47	47.5%	36	36.4%	14	14.1%	99	97.1%	82.4%
November	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.9%	54	50.5%	38	35.5%	14	13.1%	107	98.1%	83.6%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	2.7%	48	42.9%	41	36.6%	20	17.9%	112	98.1%	84.3%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	3.0%	45	45.0%	39	39.0%	13	13.0%	100	97.8%	85.0%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	2.9%	45	44.1%	41	40.2%	13	12.7%	102	97.1%	85.4%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.4%	67	5.4%	523	41.8%	470	37.6%	186	14.9%	1,251		

England

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	11	11.8%	36	38.7%	34	36.6%	11	11.8%	93	84.3%	70.8%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	11	12.6%	35	40.2%	29	33.3%	11	12.6%	87	85.7%	73.6%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.2%	10	11.1%	35	38.9%	30	33.3%	13	14.4%	90	86.7%	74.4%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	10	11.0%	36	39.6%	32	35.2%	13	14.3%	91	87.3%	76.9%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	7.7%	39	42.9%	31	34.1%	14	15.4%	91	89.3%	77.6%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	4.5%	44	50.0%	29	33.0%	11	12.5%	88	92.2%	77.8%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	2	2.2%	41	45.6%	37	41.1%	9	10.0%	90	94.8%	79.2%
October	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.3%	44	51.2%	29	33.7%	11	12.8%	86	96.6%	79.9%
November	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	49	53.8%	30	33.0%	11	12.1%	91	97.8%	81.6%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	3.2%	43	45.3%	36	37.9%	13	13.7%	95	97.8%	82.0%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	2.3%	43	49.4%	32	36.8%	10	11.5%	87	97.8%	83.2%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	3.4%	41	46.6%	35	39.8%	9	10.2%	88	97.0%	84.1%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	0.5%	66	6.1%	486	45.1%	384	35.7%	136	12.6%	1,077		

Wales

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	25.0%	4	50.0%	2	25.0%	8	100%	100%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	16.7%	3	50.0%	2	33.3%	6	100%	100%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	25.0%	3	37.5%	3	37.5%	8	100%	100%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	25.0%	2	25.0%	4	50.0%	8	100%	100%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	20.0%	1	20.0%	3	60.0%	5	100%	100%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	2	28.6%	4	57.1%	7	100%	100%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	25.0%	3	37.5%	3	37.5%	8	100%	100%
October	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	33.3%	2	33.3%	2	33.3%	6	100%	100%
November	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	37.5%	3	37.5%	2	25.0%	8	100%	100%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	40.0%	2	20.0%	4	40.0%	10	100%	100%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	33.3%	2	33.3%	2	33.3%	6	100%	100%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	33.3%	1	16.7%	3	50.0%	6	100%	100%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	24	27.9%	28	32.6%	34	39.5%	86		

Scotland

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	71.4%	2	28.6%	7	100%	95.2%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	5	71.4%	1	14.3%	7	100%	95.5%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	12.5%	6	75.0%	1	12.5%	8	100%	100.0%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	71.4%	2	28.6%	7	100%	100.0%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	5	71.4%	1	14.3%	7	100%	95.5%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	37.5%	4	50.0%	1	12.5%	8	100%	95.5%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	5	71.4%	1	14.3%	7	100%	90.9%
October	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	5	71.4%	1	14.3%	7	100%	95.5%
November	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	25.0%	5	62.5%	1	12.5%	8	100%	90.9%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	3	42.9%	3	42.9%	7	100%	95.5%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	5	71.4%	1	14.3%	7	95.5%	90.9%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	25.0%	5	62.5%	1	12.5%	8	95.5%	86.4%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.1%	13	14.8%	58	65.9%	16	18.2%	88		

All Slaughterhouses - Great Britain

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	2	0.5%	4	1.0%	32	7.8%	177	43.2%	132	32.2%	63	15.4%	410	88.4%	75.9%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.8%	31	8.7%	156	43.7%	115	32.2%	52	14.6%	357	89.9%	77.7%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.8%	29	7.5%	171	44.3%	129	33.4%	54	14.0%	386	91.0%	79.4%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.8%	22	5.5%	174	43.7%	137	34.4%	62	15.6%	398	92.0%	80.6%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	16	4.4%	166	46.0%	126	34.9%	52	14.4%	361	93.5%	81.3%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.5%	18	4.7%	190	49.5%	127	33.1%	47	12.2%	384	94.6%	81.8%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	0.7%	19	4.7%	178	44.2%	150	37.2%	53	13.2%	403	94.9%	82.1%
October	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	1	0.3%	17	4.7%	173	48.3%	117	32.7%	49	13.7%	358	94.7%	82.4%
November	0	0.0%	1	0.3%	2	0.5%	12	3.1%	196	50.4%	131	33.7%	47	12.1%	389	95.1%	83.5%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.5%	15	3.8%	181	46.1%	131	33.3%	64	16.3%	393	95.5%	84.6%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	18	5.2%	165	47.6%	113	32.6%	49	14.1%	347	95.4%	85.1%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.6%	14	3.9%	176	48.9%	123	34.2%	45	12.5%	360	95.2%	84.9%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	4	0.1%	28	0.6%	243	5.3%	2,103	46.3%	###	33.7%	637	14.0%	4,546		

Cutting plants - Great Britain

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	3	0.5%	33	6.0%	100	18.1%	173	31.3%	243	43.9%	553	93.4%	89.3%
April	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	4	0.8%	20	3.8%	99	18.8%	174	33.0%	230	43.6%	528	94.1%	89.7%
May	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	4	0.7%	21	3.4%	138	22.7%	184	30.2%	261	42.9%	609	94.8%	90.3%
June	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	3	0.5%	23	4.1%	118	20.9%	189	33.5%	231	40.9%	565	95.4%	90.5%
July	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%	26	4.8%	111	20.4%	183	33.6%	221	40.6%	544	95.2%	90.3%
August	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	31	5.1%	130	21.6%	216	35.8%	225	37.3%	603	94.9%	90.1%
September	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%	24	4.3%	115	20.6%	188	33.8%	227	40.8%	557	94.8%	90.3%
October	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	17	3.2%	111	20.9%	186	35.0%	215	40.5%	531	95.4%	91.0%
November	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	17	2.8%	132	22.1%	216	36.2%	231	38.7%	597	96.2%	91.9%
December	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	17	3.1%	110	20.0%	192	35.0%	229	41.7%	549	96.7%	92.8%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	16	3.1%	97	18.9%	184	35.9%	214	41.8%	512	96.8%	93.3%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	16	2.8%	109	18.8%	209	36.1%	244	42.1%	579	96.8%	94.0%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	10	0.1%	21	0.3%	261	3.9%	1,370	20.4%	###	34.1%	2,771	41.2%	6,727		

England

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	3	0.6%	32	6.9%	93	20.0%	143	30.8%	193	41.5%	465	92.4%	87.7%
April	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	4	0.9%	20	4.5%	93	21.0%	146	33.0%	179	40.4%	443	93.2%	88.2%
May	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	4	0.8%	21	4.1%	128	25.0%	154	30.1%	203	39.7%	511	93.9%	88.7%
June	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	3	0.6%	23	4.8%	111	23.4%	155	32.6%	182	38.3%	475	94.5%	89.1%
July	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%	26	5.6%	105	22.8%	157	34.1%	170	36.9%	461	94.3%	88.9%
August	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	31	6.1%	118	23.4%	180	35.6%	175	34.7%	505	93.9%	88.7%
September	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	2	0.4%	24	5.2%	105	22.6%	166	35.7%	167	35.9%	465	93.9%	88.7%
October	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	1	0.2%	17	3.8%	103	23.0%	162	36.2%	163	36.5%	447	94.5%	89.7%
November	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	17	3.4%	118	23.7%	185	37.2%	176	35.4%	497	95.5%	90.8%
December	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	0	0.0%	17	3.7%	99	21.7%	163	35.7%	177	38.7%	457	96.1%	91.8%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	15	3.5%	91	21.2%	160	37.3%	162	37.8%	429	96.2%	92.3%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	15	3.1%	102	20.9%	186	38.2%	183	37.6%	487	96.4%	93.0%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	10	0.2%	21	0.4%	258	4.6%	1,266	22.4%	###	34.7%	2,130	37.8%	5,642		

Wales

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.7%	6	16.2%	17	45.9%	13	35.1%	37	97.2%	95.4%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	13.9%	16	44.4%	15	41.7%	36	98.1%	96.3%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	18.9%	16	43.2%	14	37.8%	37	99.1%	97.3%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	15.8%	19	50.0%	13	34.2%	38	100%	96.4%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	11.8%	14	41.2%	16	47.1%	34	100%	96.3%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	7	17.9%	17	43.6%	15	38.5%	39	100%	95.5%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	8	21.1%	14	36.8%	16	42.1%	38	100%	97.3%
October	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	14.3%	16	45.7%	14	40.0%	35	100%	96.4%
November	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	9	23.1%	15	38.5%	15	38.5%	39	100%	95.5%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	15.8%	16	42.1%	16	42.1%	38	100%	96.4%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	4	12.5%	15	46.9%	13	40.6%	32	100%	97.2%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	6	18.8%	10	31.3%	16	50.0%	32	100%	100%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	73	16.8%	185	42.5%	176	40.5%	435		

Scotland

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total	3 month average	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		No	over 65
2000																	
March	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.0%	13	25.5%	37	72.5%	51	99.4%	99.4%
April	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.0%	12	24.5%	36	73.5%	49	99.4%	99.4%
May	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	4.9%	14	23.0%	44	72.1%	61	100%	99.4%
June	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.9%	15	28.8%	36	69.2%	52	100%	99.4%
July	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	4.1%	12	24.5%	35	71.4%	49	100%	99.4%
August	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	8.5%	19	32.2%	35	59.3%	59	100%	99.4%
September	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	3.7%	8	14.8%	44	81.5%	54	100%	99.4%
October	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	3	6.1%	8	16.3%	38	77.6%	49	100%	98.1%
November	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	8.2%	16	26.2%	40	65.6%	61	100%	98.8%
December	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	5	9.3%	13	24.1%	36	66.7%	54	100%	98.8%
2001																	
January	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	2.0%	2	3.9%	9	17.6%	39	76.5%	51	99.4%	99.4%
February	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	1.7%	1	1.7%	13	21.7%	45	75.0%	60	98.8%	98.8%
12 months to Feb 2001	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	0.3%	31	4.8%	152	23.4%	465	71.5%	650		

Northern Ireland
Slaughterhouses
Red meat

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total No	% over 65
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		
2000																
March	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	10.0	4	20.0	6	30.0	8	40.0	20	90.0
April	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.0	4	20.0	8	40.0	7	35.0	20	95.0
May	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	10.0	2	10.0	10	50.0	6	30.0	20	90.0
June	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.0	4	20.0	7	35.0	8	40.0	20	95.0
July	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.0	4	20.0	8	40.0	7	35.0	20	95.0
August	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.0	3	15.0	11	55.0	5	25.0	20	95.0
September	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.3	4	21.1	9	47.4	5	26.3	19	94.7
October	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.3	3	15.8	10	52.6	5	26.3	19	94.7
November	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.0	3	15.0	10	50.0	6	30.0	20	95.0
December	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	5.0	3	15.0	10	50.0	6	30.0	20	95.0
2001																
January	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	10.0	9	45.0	9	45.0	20	100
February	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	10.0	12	60.0	6	30.0	20	100
12 months to February 2001	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	12	5.5	36	16.5	98	45.0	72	33.0	218	94.5

White meat

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total No	% over 65
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		
2000																
March	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	8.3	2	16.7	7	58.3	2	16.7	12	91.7
April	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	7.1	6	42.9	6	42.9	1	7.1	14	92.9
May	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	7.1	6	42.9	5	35.7	2	14.3	14	92.9
June	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.0	4	40.0	3	30.0	2	20.0	10	90.0
July	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	8.3	0	0.0	6	50.0	2	16.7	3	25.0	12	91.7
August	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	11.1	3	33.3	4	44.4	1	11.1	9	88.9
September	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	9.1	7	63.6	2	18.2	1	9.1	11	90.9
October	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	9.1	6	54.5	3	27.3	1	9.1	11	90.9
November	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	20.0	1	10.0	6	60.0	1	10.0	10	80.0
December	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.0	4	40.0	4	40.0	1	10.0	10	90.0
2001																
January	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.0	4	40.0	3	30.0	2	20.0	10	90.0
February	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.0	4	40.0	3	30.0	2	20.0	10	90.0
12 months to February 2001	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.8	11	8.9	49	39.8	45	36.6	17	13.8	123	90.2

All slaughterhouses

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total No	% over 65
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		
2000																
March	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	9.4	6	18.8	13	40.6	10	31.3	32	90.6
April	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	5.9	10	29.4	14	41.2	8	23.5	34	94.1
May	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	8.8	8	23.5	15	44.1	8	23.5	34	91.2
June	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	6.7	8	26.7	10	33.3	10	33.3	30	93.3
July	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	3.1	1	3.1	10	31.3	10	31.3	10	31.3	32	93.8
August	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	7.1	6	21.4	14	50.0	6	21.4	28	92.9
September	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	6.7	11	36.7	11	36.7	6	20.0	30	93.3
October	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	7.1	9	32.1	11	39.3	6	21.4	28	92.9
November	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	11.1	4	14.8	13	48.1	7	25.9	27	88.9
December	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	6.3	7	21.9	16	50.0	7	21.9	32	93.8
2001																
January	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	3.3	6	20.0	12	40.0	11	36.7	30	96.7
February	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	3.0	6	20.0	15	50.0	8	27.0	30	97.0
12 months to February 2001	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.3	23	6.8	85	25.2	139	41.2	89	26.4	337	92.9

Cutting plants

HAS band	0-30		31-40		41-50		51-65		66-75		76-85		86-100		Total No	% over 65
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%		
2000																
March	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.7	2	3.4	3	5.1	16	27.1	37	62.7	59	94.9
April	0	0.0	1	1.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	6	10.3	13	22.4	38	65.5	58	98.3
May	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.6	1	1.6	7	11.1	19	30.2	35	55.6	63	96.8
June	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	5.3	2	3.5	13	22.8	39	68.4	57	94.7
July	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	2.1	6	12.5	10	20.8	31	64.6	48	97.9
August	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	7.0	14	32.6	26	60.5	43	100
September	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	14.9	14	29.8	26	55.3	47	100
October	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.9	5	9.4	17	32.1	30	56.6	53	98
November	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.8	7	12.5	17	30.4	31	55.4	56	98
December	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	3.4	10	16.9	15	25.4	32	54.2	59	97
2001																
January	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.9	6	11.1	13	24.1	34	63.0	54	98
February	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	2.0	7	12.0	16	28.0	33	58.0	57	98.0
12 months to February 2001	0	0.0	1	0.2	2	0.3	12	2.0	62	10.4	161	27.0	359	60.1	597	97.5

Clean livestock policy

The Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995 empower an OVS or MHI to prohibit the slaughter of any animal which is, in their opinion, "so dirty as to be likely to prevent hygienic dressing operations if it was taken into the slaughterhall of that slaughterhouse". Alternatively, they can require detention of an animal in a lairage, or require the occupier of a slaughterhouse to clean the animal prior to re-presenting it for ante mortem inspection. The animal's welfare is given top priority when deciding what action to take.

It is well recognised that only clean animals should be presented for slaughter - the slaughter of dirty livestock can compromise the hygienic operation of the slaughterhouse. Since its launch on 1 April 1995, the MHS has taken a very firm line regarding the slaughter and dressing of dirty livestock. The launch of a specific strategy on clean livestock was reported in MHER #2 - June 1997.

The MHS Clean Livestock Policy recognises 5 levels of fleece or hide contamination and gives advice on action to be taken in each category.

Action taken on "dirty" livestock

Only animals in categories 1 and 2 may normally be slaughtered. Only under exceptional circumstances eg for overriding welfare concerns, may category 3 animals be slaughtered, and the situation must be even more extreme before category 4 animals can be considered. Normally, the OVS will give the supplier or abattoir management the option of retaining and attempting to remedy the conditions of the animals on site (for instance by detaining animals in a lairage overnight to dry them out) or returning the animals to source, provided their welfare is not compromised.

Results

The tables below show the rejection rates for cattle and sheep by month since March 2000, together with the percentage of throughput for those falling into categories 3, 4 and 5 of the MHS Clean Livestock Policy.

Cattle

Month	No of animals rejected	% Animals rejected	Monthly throughput
2000			
March	327	0.2%	154,907
April	382	0.2%	190,072
May	199	0.1%	151,063
June	195	0.1%	146,914
July	156	0.1%	196,115
August	228	0.1%	159,776
September	367	0.2%	157,654
October	502	0.2%	211,515
November	878	0.5%	178,716
December	671	0.3%	193,647
2001			
January	1,156	0.7%	160,854
February	519	0.3%	170,639
12 months TOTAL	5,580	0.3%	2,071,872

Sheep

Month	No of animals rejected	% Animals rejected	Monthly throughput
2000			
March	4,654	0.4%	1,133,241
April	8,170	0.6%	1,271,254
May	1,785	0.2%	1,003,142
June	2,608	0.2%	1,170,076
July	3,138	0.2%	1,748,117
August	6,824	0.4%	1,587,455
September	20,792	1.3%	1,629,585
October	27,345	1.3%	2,085,501
November	32,590	1.9%	1,703,610
December	17,691	0.9%	2,033,444
2001			
January	12,439	0.9%	1,349,555
February	8,119	0.7%	1,168,448
12 months TOTAL	146,155	0.8%	17,883,428

Slaughter of animals in categories 3 & 4

There are inevitably occasions when animals in categories 3 or 4 must be slaughtered, usually when the animal's welfare would suffer as a result of a journey back to the producer. In these circumstances the OVS must decide if he or she will permit slaughter for sale for human consumption, under strictly controlled conditions, or humane destruction and disposal. If slaughter for sale for human consumption is permitted, additional control measures are adopted so that the animals can be dressed hygienically. These include decreasing the line speed or decreasing the number of carcasses on a line at any one time. If, in the event, the workforce is unable to dress these animals hygienically, slaughter is stopped. In all cases, action is taken to ensure that any animals slaughtered for human consumption are handled with the utmost regard for hygiene. Where animals are despatched from the premises, MHS staff in other plants are contacted and informed of the circumstances, in case the same animals are re-presented at another abattoir.

The information given below gives details on a monthly basis of the action taken on animals which were in categories 3-5 when first presented for ante mortem inspection.

Cattle

Month	2000										2001		Total From Mar-00
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	
No of animals rejected	327	382	199	195	156	228	367	502	878	671	1156	519	5,580
Detained in lairage overnight and ante-mortem next day	40 12.2%	214 56.0%	74 37.2%	46 23.6%	32 20.5%	90 39.5%	142 38.7%	185 36.9%	310 35.3%	123 18.3%	145 12.5%	94 18.1%	1,495 26.8%
Cleaned before being represented for ante-mortem	163 49.8%	49 12.8%	28 14.1%	22 11.3%	46 29.5%	15 6.6%	22 6.0%	129 25.7%	253 28.8%	269 40.1%	492 42.6%	202 38.9%	1,690 30.3%
Detained and re-presented later same day for ante-mortem	61 18.7%	199 52.1%	48 24.1%	112 57.4%	69 44.2%	96 42.1%	78 21.3%	106 21.1%	257 29.3%	198 29.5%	300 26.0%	119 22.9%	1,643 29.4%
Reject for slaughter and dispose as unfit	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Reject for slaughter	50 15.3%	47 12.3%	9 4.5%	18 9.2%	20 12.8%	11 4.8%	34 9.3%	58 11.6%	110 12.5%	106 15.8%	187 16.2%	69 13.3%	719 12.9%
Allow animals to be slaughtered under special precautions	71 21.7%	5 1.3%	35 17.6%	48 24.6%	26 16.7%	16 7.0%	109 29.7%	62 12.4%	94 10.7%	38 5.7%	223 19.3%	87 16.8%	814 14.6%
Slaughter allowed to proceed and subsequently stopped	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Other	31 9.5%	15 3.9%	16 8.0%	4 2.1%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	1 0.3%	11 2.2%	36 4.1%	21 3.1%	8 0.7%	0 0.0%	143 2.6%

Sheep

Month	2000										2001		Total From Mar-00
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	
No of animals rejected	4,654	8,170	1,785	2,608	3,138	6,824	20,792	27,345	32,590	17,691	12,439	8,119	146,155
Detained in lairage overnight and ante-mortem next day	551 11.8%	2,877 35.2%	893 50.0%	1,369 52.5%	1,450 46.2%	4,263 62.5%	10,788 51.9%	14,869 54.4%	13,092 40.2%	6,784 38.3%	5,194 41.8%	2,114 26.0%	64,244 44.0%
Cleaned before being represented for ante-mortem	2,260 48.6%	3,085 37.8%	950 53.2%	933 35.8%	1,342 42.8%	1,244 18.2%	5,068 24.4%	11,349 41.5%	14,624 44.9%	9,918 56.1%	6,721 54.0%	5,019 61.8%	62,513 42.8%
Detained and re-presented later same day for ante-mortem	1,455 31.3%	2,248 27.5%	497 27.8%	778 29.8%	1,275 40.6%	1,811 26.5%	6,008 28.9%	4,719 17.3%	6,194 19.0%	2,451 13.9%	1,684 13.5%	1,790 22.0%	30,910 21.1%
Reject for slaughter and dispose as unfit	1 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	2 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	3 0.0%
Reject for slaughter	130 2.8%	1,147 14.0%	134 7.5%	19 0.7%	59 1.9%	228 3.3%	1,280 6.2%	738 2.7%	1,389 4.3%	557 3.1%	1,015 8.2%	346 4.3%	7042 4.8%
Allow animals to be slaughtered under special precautions	968 20.8%	195 2.4%	40 2.2%	134 5.1%	50 1.6%	170 2.5%	431 2.1%	495 1.8%	1,084 3.3%	580 3.3%	216 1.7%	948 11.7%	5,311 3.6%
Slaughter allowed to proceed and subsequently stopped	293 6.3%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	4 0.0%	61 0.2%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	358 0.2%
Other	748 16.1%	153 1.9%	74 4.1%	8 0.3%	0 0.0%	94 1.4%	0 0.0%	40 0.1%	591 1.8%	332 1.9%	297 2.4%	16 0.2%	2,353 1.6%

- Cattle throughput does not include animals processed under the Over Thirty Month Slaughter Scheme and the Selective Cull, which are not for human consumption.
- “Dirty” livestock may be subject to more than one type of action
- “Other” types of action may include detention over weekend, bedding up to go last, clipping by owner (sheep only), holding on abattoir farm and re-assessing later (which may allow the animals to dry out), returning to farm or livestock market.

Cattle Rejection Statistics

Month	No. cattle rejected for slaughter	No. consignments containing one or more animals rejected for slaughter	No. occasions local plant MHS staff warned of rejected consignments	% warnings compared with consignments rejected
2000				
March	50	20	16	80.0%
April	47	13	5	38.5%
May	9	5	5	100%
June	18	6	4	66.7%
July	20	4	3	75.0%
August	11	2	2	100%
September	34	12	9	75.0%
October	58	13	6	46.2%
November	110	40	27	67.5%
December	106	34	24	70.6%
2001				
January	187	58	45	77.6%
February	69	17	10	58.8%
12 month Total	719	224	156	69.6%

Sheep Rejection Statistics

Month	No. sheep rejected for slaughter	No. consignments containing one or more animals rejected for slaughter	No. occasions local plant MHS staff warned of rejected consignments	% warnings compared with consignments rejected
2000				
March	130	10	8	80.0%
April	1,147	21	20	95.2%
May	134	5	4	80.0%
June	19	2	2	100%
July	59	4	3	75.0%
August	228	9	6	66.7%
September	1,280	36	24	66.7%
October	738	33	22	66.7%
November	1,389	39	31	79.5%
December	557	18	12	66.7%
2001				
January	1,015	16	13	81.3%
February	346	11	5	45.5%
12 month Total	7,042	204	150	73.5%

Statutory enforcement action

There is a spectrum of enforcement action that authorised MHS staff can take to make sure that licensed premises operate within the law. This starts with informal oral advice and guidance, and proceeds through written advice and warnings to the service of statutory notices, and ultimately to the prosecution of an individual or company and licence revocation. An article covering the range of statutory notices available to authorised MHS staff appeared in MHER #1 (May 1997). The number of statutory notices served during the last 12 months to February 2001 is given below.

NOTE: This section reports on enforcement action related specifically to meat hygiene and authorised officers of the Meat Hygiene Service. It is not intended to give a comprehensive picture of all enforcement action available to all food law enforcement officers.

Figures may change slightly month on month. Changes are indicated by *italics*

	2000											2001		12 months Total
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb		
Minded to Notice	79	33	26	81	26	23	34	54	54	42	38	20	510	
No premises	17	13	9	26	14	16	18	22	26	15	<i>13</i>	12	201	
Regulation 10 Notice	24	66	14	26	22	20	32	22	35	10	<i>19</i>	10	300	
No premises	15	11	9	12	15	14	17	13	14	7	<i>10</i>	8	145	
Improvement Notice	12	48	17	28	43	15	8	16	19	37	11	19	273	
No premises	7	4	11	11	9	10	7	8	11	14	6	5	103	
Emergency prohibition	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
No premises	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Voluntary Plant Closure	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
No premises	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Informal enforcement

	Written warnings issued	Verbal warnings issued	Action plans drawn up following written warnings
2000			
March	118	77	19
April	98	48	22
May	107	82	30
June	167	74	44
July	113	59	33
August	113	64	36
September	127	51	66
October	125	43	50
November	99	75	56
December	87	99	96
2001			
January	<i>81</i>	<i>104</i>	127
February	68	70	124
12 months TOTAL	1,303	846	703

MHS Disciplinary Action

The MHS has suspended an OVS on full pay pending an investigation.

Audit of Meat Hygiene Service

The Meat Hygiene Service is audited by the Veterinary Public Health Unit of the Food Standards Agency in England and by the State Veterinary Service in Scotland and Wales. The purpose of the audit is to determine whether MHS operations, practices and activities at supervised abattoirs and cutting plants comply with the requirements specified in the MHS Operations Manual, relevant legislation and Codes of Practice: it is not an inspection of the premises.

There are currently seven Veterinary Meat Hygiene Advisers who carry out the audits. Each is scheduled to complete six audits, each quarter.

Each audit comprises a review of MHS responsibilities including the following areas:

Enforcement
Animal Welfare
Post-mortem and Ante-mortem inspection
Health marking and Veterinary certification
SRM and animal by-products
Hygiene Assessment System score
Documentation
Retention of records
Residue sampling

Ensuring operators have complied with requirements for:

Pest control
Water testing
Staff training
Cleaning
Medical certificates
Commercial documentation

Number of audits by VMHAs in red meat premises in GB

Type of premises	Mar	Total April 1999 to March 2000	2000									2001	
			April	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Full throughput slaughterhouse	4	36	0	4	5	0	4	5	6	4	2	4	5
Full throughput cutting plant	4	55	1	6	4	3	2	4	6	4	2	4	1
Low throughput slaughterhouse	4	25	1	4	1	1	1	5	2	1	1	2	0
Low throughput cutting plant	1	5	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	1	0	1
Cold store	4	38	1	2	2	2	1	3	0	3	1	0	1
Total	17	159	3	16	13	8	9	17	15	13	7	10	8

Number of audits by VMHAs in white meat premises in GB

Type of premises	Mar	Total April 1999 to March 2000	2000									2001	
			April	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Full throughput slaughterhouse	0	9	1	1	3	3	2	3	3	3	1	1	3
Full throughput cutting plant	0	30	1	4	4	4	5	5	4	2	3	1	1
Low throughput slaughterhouse	1	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0
Low throughput cutting plant	1	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	2	0	1
Cold store	1	23	2	1	2	1	2	4	0	3	1	0	1
Total	3	78	4	8	9	8	9	12	13	8	8	2	6

Follow-up

If any problems - non-compliances - are found, they are discussed with the OVS responsible for the premises and in some cases the POVS, both of whom may have accompanied the VMHA when the audit was being carried out. These discussions occur during and immediately after the audit so that immediate remedial action can be taken, where necessary. This is followed by a written audit report to the OVS and POVS. The MHS Regional Director is also given a copy.

Each non-compliance is categorised according to the following definitions:

critical:- public health: any non-compliance which causes an immediate, serious risk to public health requiring immediate corrective action by the MHS;

- **animal welfare:** any non-compliance which permits an animal to sustain any avoidable excitement, pain or suffering;

major:- any non-compliance which may have significant implications for public health or animal welfare and which constitutes a clear breach of working instructions or an unequivocal failure to fulfil a statutory duty; or

minor:- any non-compliance which does not fall into either of the above.

VMHA Audit of HAS scores

The table below shows the number of plants where a HAS non-compliance has been recorded i.e. the OVS has not completed the HAS score assessment according to the instructions in the MHS Operations Manual.

			2000										2001		12 month total	
			Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb		
Red meat	Slaughterhouse	Full throughput	1	0	0	2	0	1	2	1	1	2	0	1	11	
		Low throughput	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	
	Cutting Plant	Full throughput	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	2	0	7	
		Low throughput	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
White meat	Slaughterhouse	Full throughput	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	6	
		Low throughput	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	
	Cutting Plant	Full throughput	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	
		Low throughput	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Monthly Total			2	2	2	3	2	1	4	4	4	3	2	2	31



For further information, contact **Robert Peters** on +44 (0)20 7238 5720
 From 9 April: +44 (0)20 7276 8377
 email: robert.peters@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

Legal Action

Actions continuing

Food Standards Agency

Co-operative Meats

Mr Mohammed Mushtaq, who operates a slaughterhouse trading as Co-operative Meats in premises near Bradford, West Yorkshire has pleaded guilty to 22 offences under the Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995, the Welfare of Animals (Slaughter and Killing) Regulations 1995 and the Specified Risk Material Regulations 1997. At Bradford Magistrates' Court on 14 March the case was adjourned to 4 April 2001 for preparation of a presentence report.

Universal (Halal) Meats Ltd

Mr Tariq Siddiqi, acting on behalf of Universal (Halal) Meats Ltd, a licensed slaughterhouse company in Birmingham, has pleaded not guilty to an offence under the Welfare of Animals (Slaughter and Killing) Regulations 1995. At Birmingham Magistrates' Court on 12 March the case was adjourned to 14 June 2001.

Oriel Jones and Sons Ltd

This company which runs a full throughput red meat slaughterhouse and cutting plant at Llanbedder in Carmarthenshire has been charged with two offences under the Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995. The case is due to be heard at Llanelli Magistrates' Court on 25 April 2001.

Investigations

The Food Standards Agency is investigating a number of cases of alleged offences under the Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995, the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995 and Wild Game Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995. The Food Standards Agency also investigates on behalf of MAFF allegations of offences under the Welfare of Animals (Slaughter or Killing) Regulations 1995 at licensed premises.

Glossary

Cold store

Premises used for cold storage of meat for human consumption - not part of a slaughterhouse, cutting plant or farmed game processing or handling facility

Cutting plant

Premises used for cutting up fresh meat for human consumption

Dressing

Processes involved in turning a slaughtered animal into fresh meat, e.g. removal of skin and viscera

Emergency prohibition notice

A Statutory Notice that can be issued by authorised officers to act against an immediate risk of injury to human health. See MHER #1

FSA

Food Standards Agency

HACCP

Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point - systematic assessment of production process identifying key areas for control

HAS

Hygiene Assessment System - risk-based method of assessing hygiene standards in licensed slaughterhouses and cutting plants - generates the HAS score

Hygiene Regulations

The Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995, the Poultry Meat, Farmed Game Bird Meat and Rabbit Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995, and the Wild Game Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995

Improvement notice

A Statutory Notice that can be issued when informal action has not achieved results, there remains a risk to public health and when a Regulation 10 notice is not appropriate. It specifies improvements to plant, procedures or equipment that need to be made to remove a risk to public health. See MHER #1

MHI

Meat Hygiene Inspector - together with OVSS, make up the Hygiene Inspection Teams stationed at individual licensed slaughterhouses

MHS

Meat Hygiene Service - Agency of the FSA responsible for enforcement of hygiene, welfare at slaughter and SRM controls at premises licensed under the Fresh Meat (Hygiene and Inspection) Regulations 1995 (as amended). Also carries out meat inspection and health marking, and provides export certification where required by importing country or Community rules.

Minded-to notice

A Statutory Notice that must be issued by authorised officers before an improvement notice can be served. They give plant operators a specified period to make representations before further action is taken. See MHER #1

OVS

Official Veterinary Surgeon - together with MHIs, make up the Hygiene Inspection Teams stationed at individual licensed slaughterhouses

POVS

Principal Official Veterinary Surgeon - based at regional level, POVSs are responsible for overall supervision of OVSS and MHIs at plants in their geographical area

Regulation 10 notice

A Statutory Notice that can be issued by authorised officers to prohibit the use of equipment, or any part of a licensed premises if the relevant requirements of legislation are not being followed. See MHER #1

Slaughterhouse

Any place used for slaughtering animals for human consumption

State Veterinary Service (SVS)

MAFF's veterinary body dealing with all animal health and welfare matters. Covers Great Britain and plays a major role in advising on and implementing animal health policy.

VMHA

Veterinary Meat Hygiene Adviser - employed by the Food Standards Agency. VMHAs are field-based veterinary staff with a major role in the audit of the MHS, licensing of meat plants, and other activities

Further information

If you would like to receive regular monthly copies of the Meat Hygiene Enforcement Report, or know of anyone who would like to do so; if you require back issues, or if you have any general comments, queries or suggestions, contact **Jill Wilson** on + 44 (0)20 7238 6498 or 6410, or write to:-

Mrs J Wilson, MHER Editor, Room 517, Ergon House, PO Box 31037 c/o 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3WG

From 9 April ✉ Mrs J Wilson, MHER Editor
Room 311C, Aviation House
125 Kingsway
LONDON WC2B 6NH

Tel: +44 (0)20 7276 8315 or 8313

Fax: +44 (0)20 7296 8312

email: jill.wilson@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

The contents of this Report together with back issues and related material, can be found on the **Food Standards Agency website** at: www.foodstandards.gov.uk

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