CHAPTER 211

183/2001.

BELIZE AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (BIOLOGICAL RESIDUES) (CONTROL) REGULATIONS

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

FIRST SCHEDULE

SECOND SCHEDULE

THIRD SCHEDULE

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

CHAPTER 211

183/2001.

BELIZE AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (BIOLOGICAL RESIDUES) (CONTROL) REGULATIONS

[29th December, 2001.]

Short title.

1. These Regulations may be cited as the

BELIZE AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (BIOLOGICAL RESIDUES (CONTROL) REGULATIONS.

Interpretation.

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires –

CAP. 211.

"Act" means the Belize Agricultural Health Authority Act;

"active principle" means any chemical substance which gives any product the nature of the pesticide or medicine specific to it;

"animal" has the meaning assigned to it in the Act;

"approved laboratory" means a laboratory approved by the Authority for the purpose of examining official samples in order to detect the presence of residues;

"authority" means the Belize Agricultural Health Authority established under section 3 of the Act;

"authorised officer" means an officer of the Authority designated for the purposes of these regulations;

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

"biological residue" means the residue of any substance, including metabolic products; metabolites remaining in the tissues and organ of an animal after slaughter or processing, as a result of treatment or exposure of the animals to insecticide, herbicide, fungicide, organic or inorganic compound, hormone or hormone like substance, growth promoter, antibiotic, anthelmintic, tranquilizer or other therapeutic or prophylactic agents;

"lot" means a quantity of a food material delivered at one time and known or presumed, by the sampling officer to have uniform characteristics such as origin, producer, variety, packer, type of packing, markings, consignor or other similar characteristics;

"maximum residue limit" means the maximum concentration of a pesticide or veterinary drug residue legally permitted in or on a food or food commodity;

"official sample" means a sample taken by the Authority or an authorised officer thereof which bears, for the purposes of the examination of the residues or substances listed in the Second Schedule (livestock and poultry, fish and fishery products, milk, eggs, and farmed game), a reference to the species, the type, the quantity concerned, the method of collection and particulars identifying the sex of the animal, the origin of the animal, or the origin of the animal product;

Second Schedule.

"pesticide" means any substance intended for preventing, destroying or controlling any pest or any vestor of human, animal or plant disease and includes any substance intended for use as a plant growth regulator, defoliant, dessicant, agent for thinning fruit, or for preventing the premature fall of fruits, or a substance applied to crops either before or after harvest to protect the commodity from deterioration during storage and transportation, and any substance applied externally to animals for the control of ectoparasites;

"tolerance level" means that level of biological residue, which does not render the meat, poultry, meat product, fish, fishery product, or other animal products such as milk, honey, unacceptable directly or indirectly for human consumption;

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

"withdrawal time" means the minimum period of time necessary for any substance used in the treatment of an animal, to be eliminated or reduced to the tolerance level, so that on the day the animal is presented for slaughter or for processing, in the animal so treated or exposed to such substances, any residue will not render the meat or animal product harmful or unacceptable for human food.

Authority to take samples.

3. An authorised officer shall have the authority to take such samples as he deems necessary for the determination of biological residues "free of charge".

Authorised officer to take samples.

Second Schedule.

4. (a) The authorised officer shall conduct a regular surveillance of the biological residues in live animals, their to take excrement and body fluids and in tissue, animal products, animal feed and drinking water for the purpose of detecting the presence of the residues and substances listed in the Second Schedule.

(b) The authorized officer shall institute a sampling programme, taking into consideration the *ante mortem* and *post mortem* signs, the history of the farm and area from which the animals or animal products come from and the chemicals and/or drugs used on the farm.

(c) Such samples shall be taken according to the phase of the investigation, which shall in the first instance be an investigatory phase, followed by the second or routine surveillance phase. However, in any known or suspected situation of biological residue abuse or accident more intensive sampling may be instituted as deemed necessary by the Authority.

(i) In the investigatory phase, the animals or animal products of a lot shall be randomly selected and one set of samples shall be taken from the carcass, meat, fish or animal product in accordance with the sampling

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

strategy outlined in the Second Schedule. Second Schedule.

(ii) Where the animals or the animal products are of unknown or undisclosed origin, the carcasses, meat, fish or animal product shall be subjected to more intense sampling regime in accordance with the principles of *Codex Alimentarius Commission.*

(iii) All carcasses, meat, fish oranimal products of such animals shall be retained by the authorised officer pending the receipt of the laboratory results:

Provided that the carcases, meat, fish or animal products of any animal may be exported to those countries which do not require laboratory tests, before the receipt of such laboratory results.

(iv) In the routine surveillance phase, samples shall be taken from randomly selected carcasses, meat, fish or animal products of animals at about half the rate of sampling used in the investigatory phase:

Provided that where there is a specific requirement for the sampling levels and frequency to meet certain export specifications, then the level and frequency of such testing shall meet such requirements.

(d) All samples shall be accompanied by a Laboratory Request

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

First Schedule.

Form A as prescribed in the First Schedule, stating the analysis requested, species of animal, type of animal product or tissue submitted, name and address of establishment, name and address of the owner of the animal and of the farm, feedlot, aquaculture facility, processing enterprise, or other source of the animals. The type of sample and amounts to be submitted will depend on the analytical method used but will be based on the recommendations of *Codex Alimentarious*.

(e) Samples shall be taken in duplicate and the duplicate sample shall be retained by the authorised officer pending the receipt of the laboratory results.

(f) The methods of analysis shall be those specified by the Authority following internationally acceptable protocols.

First Schedule.

(g) The laboratory results shall be reported in the Primary Analysis Certificate Form B as prescribed by First Schedule.

(h) (1) Where the primary analysis shows that an official sample contains -

(a) a prohibited substance; or

(b) an un-registered substance; or

(c) a substance which an analyst reasonably suspects to be an unregistered substance; or

(d) in the case of a sample taken from an animal, its excrement or body fluids or from its tissues or products, an authorised substance at a concentration which is

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

notified to the analyst by an authorised officer as one which causes him reasonably to suspect that meat or a food product derived from that animal may contain an authorised substance at a concentration exceeding the relevant maximum residue limit; or

(e) in the case of a sample taken from any meat or food product of animal origin, an authorized substance at a concentration exceeding the relevant maximum residue limit, the analyst shall give a primary analysis certificate, in the form specified in the Primary Analysis Certificate Form B in the First Schedule to an authorized officer who shall then give this to the owner of the animal, meat or food product of animal origin. First Schedule.

(11) Where the primary analysis does not show anything requiring a Primary Analysis Certificate to be given under subparagraph (1) above, the analyst shall notify an authorised officer of that fact and the authorised officer shall then notify the owner of the animal, meat or food product of animal origin.

(i) (1) Any Primary Analysis Certificate given by an analyst under these Regulations shall be signed by the analyst and shall specify the name of the authorised officer who submitted the sample for analysis.

(2) In any proceedings under these Regulations, the production by one of

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

the parties-

(a) of any document purporting to be a Primary Analysis Certificate given by an analyst under subparagraph (1) above;or

(b) of a document supplied to him by the other party as being a copy of such a Certificate,

shall be sufficient evidence of thefacts stated in it unless, in a case falling within sub-paragraph (1) above, the other party requires the analyst to be called as a witness.

Records to be kept.

5. The authorised officer shall keep a record of all samples submitted for analysis and the record shall show the species of animals, type of animal product, origin of the animal or animal product (processing enterprise, farm and owner) and the laboratory findings. The authorised officer shall submit a monthly report of these to the Managing Director of the Authority.

Tolerance levels.

6. Tolerance levels for biological residues shall be as specified in the *Codex Alimentarius* for the specific animal species or commodity of animal origin.

Suspect carcasses.

7. Suspect carcasses, meat, fish or animal products suspected of containing biological residues as evidenced by the history, *ante mortem* and *post mortem* examination shall be retained by the authorised officer and shall have a "retained" tag affixed, pending the receipt of the laboratory results.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

Action on laboratory results.

8. (a) Where carcasses, meat, fish or animal products are found to have biological residues in excess of the permitted tolerance levels as specified in *Codex Alimentarius,* they shall be condemned and disposed of as required by the regulations under the supervision of the authorised officer.

(b) Where positive results are obtained as described in subparagraph (a) above, the Authority shall obtain without delay -

(i) all the information required to identify the animal or animal product and the farm or processing enterprise of the animal's origin or departure;

(ii) full details of the examination and its results.

(c) Where positive results are obtained as described in subparagraph (a) above, the Authority shall carry out -

(i) an investigation on the farm of origin or departure, as appropriate, to determine the reasons for the presence of residues;

(ii) in the case of illegal treatment, an investigation of the source or sources of the substances or products concerned at the stage of manufacture, handling storage, transport, administration, distribution or sale, as appropriate.

(iii) any other further investigations which the Authority considers necessary.

(d) Animals from which samples have been taken are to be clearly

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

identified and may not in any circumstances leave the farm until the results of the checks are available.

Sampling methods in cases of illegal treatment.

9. Where illegal treatment of an animal or fish is established, the Authority shall ensure that the livestock, fish or animal product concerned in the investigations referred to in Regulation 8 *(c)* (ii) above is immediately placed under official control. Such animals or animal products shall bear an official mark or identification and, as a first step, an official sample shall be taken from a statistically representative sample, on internationally recognized scientific basis.

Consequences of persistent violations by owner of animals.

10. (1) Where there is evidence of residues of authorised substances or products of a level exceeding the maximum limit for residues, the Authority shall carry out an investigation on the farm of origin or departure, as applicable, to determine why the above limit was exceeded in accordance with the results of that investigation, and the Authority shall take all necessary measures to safeguard public health including prohibiting animals from leaving the farm concerned or animal products from leaving the farm or establishment concerned for a period determined by the Authority.

(2) In the event of repeated infringements of maximum residue limits pursuant to this regulation when animals are placed on the market by a farmer or products are placed on the market by a farmer or a processing establishment, intensified checks on the animals and products from the farm and/or establishment in question shall be carried out by the Authority for a period of at least six months, and such products or carcasses may be impounded by the Authority pending the results of analysis of the samples. Any results showing that the maximum residue limit has been exceeded shall result in the carcasses or products concerned being declared unfit for human consumption.

Liability of owner of animal to pay costs.

11. (1) The costs of the investigations and checks referred to in Regulation 10 shall be borne by the owner or person having charge of the

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

animals or animal product. Where the investigation confirms that suspicion was justified, the costs of analyses carried out under Regulations 8 and 9 shall be borne by the owner or person having charge of the animals.

(2) Without prejudice to criminal or administrative penalties, the cost of destroying animals or animal products which test positive to examination to determine maximum residue limits shall be borne by the owner of the animals without indemnity or compensation.

Power of authorised officers to control use of pesticides, etc.. CAP. 216. Fourth Schedule.

12. Without prejudice to the provisions of the Pesticide Control Act, and any other subsidiary legislation to the same effect, the authorised officer shall control the use of pesticides and veterinary drugs in authorised establishment or enterprises, and shall take steps to prevent the introduction of prohibited chemicals and similar substances for use in registered establishments. Prohibited pesticides and veterinary drugs are listed in the Fourth Schedule.

Removal of destruction of prohibited substances.

13. Where prohibited or non-approved substances are found in a registered establishment, the authorised officer shall make provision for their removal and/or destruction without prejudice to the possible imposition of administrative penalties on the offender.

Administering unregistered substances on animals.

14. (1) Subject to subregulations (2) and (3) below, no person shall administer any unregistered substance to an animal.

(2) Nothing in subregulation (1) above shall prohibit the administration of any veterinary product to an animal where it is administered in accordance with the provisions of Regulations providing for the registration and control of veterinary drugs and animal feed.

(3) Nothing in subregulation (1) above shall prohibit the administration to an animal of -

(a) any medicated feeding stuff where it is

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

administered in accordance with a veterinary written direction from a veterinarian duly registered in Belize; or

(b) any veterinary product which has been specially prepared in accordance with the approval of the Authority or some other competent authority for animal health in Belize, in cases to which paragraph (a) of this subregulation does not apply.

Offences.

15. (1) No person shall sell or supply for slaughter, or slaughter or process, any animal or animal product for human consumption if it contains -

(a) a prohibited substance;

(b) an unregistered substance;

(c) an authorised substance in any of its tissues or food product at a concentration exceeding the relevant maximum residue limit.

(2) No person shall sell or supply for slaughter, or slaughter or process, any animal or animal product for human consumption if the withdrawal period in respect of any veterinary product which has been administered to the animal or to the animal from which the food product originated from, has not expired.

(3) No person shall sell for human consumption -

(a) any meat or fish (whether or not mixed with other food); or

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

(b) any other food product of animal origin,

in which there is any substance or unregistered substance or an authorised substance at a concentration exceeding the relevant maximum residue limit.

Animals to be slaughtered after withdrawal time.

16. Where animals have been treated with or exposed to various drugs or pesticides, a sufficient period of time (the "withdrawal time") shall be allowed before such animals are presented for slaughter or processing so that any biological residue may be eliminated or reduced to acceptable levels as prescribed by regulations and as listed in *Codex Alimentarius Commission.*

Experimental animals offered as food animals - how to be dealt with.

17. (1) No animal that has been experimentally exposed to any pharmaceutical, chemical or biological product shall be accepted for slaughter or processing at a registered establishment or enterprise unless the Manager, research worker and sponsor of the experiment submit in advance to the Managing Director of the Authority an evaluation of the protocols which demonstrate that the use of the experimental product not result in adulteration of the meat, fish or animal product or the methods for the detection of the residues of the product and its withdrawal period.

(2) On a basis of the above information submitted in subregulation (1) above to the Managing Director of the Authority, the Managing Director of the Authority shall inform the authorised officer of the guidelines for control in each case in compliance with the standards prescribed for that purpose in Regulations.

Power of Minister to prohibit use of pesticides on farms, etc., where use poses danger to health of other animals, etc..

18. The Minister, on advice from the Managing Director of the Authority and the Chairman of the Pesticide Control Board, may prohibit or restrict the use of pesticides on farms, feedlots, ranches, processing enterprises, aquaculture facilities, apiaries, poultry houses, ponds, stables, pens or other such places where animals are kept where such pesticides constitute or may constitute a danger to the health and well being of useful animals and humans.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

Additional offences and penalties.

19. (1) Any failure to cooperate with the Authority and any obstruction by any person employed in a slaughterhouse or as a processing plant supervisor or, in the case of a private enterprise, by the slaughterhouse or processing plant owner or owners, or by the ownerof the animals or animal products or person having charge of them, during inspection and sampling as required for the monitoring of residues, and during the investigations and checks provided for in these Regulations shall result in appropriate criminal and/or administrative penalties being imposed by the Authority.

(2) Any person who contravenes these Regulations commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding three thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both such fine and term of imprisonment.

Repeals. S.I. 26 of 2001.

20. Upon the commencement of these Regulations, the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (Biological Residues) (Control) Regulations, 2001, shall stand repealed.

Commencement.

21. These Regulations shall come into force on the 12th day of December, 2001.

MADE by the Minister responsible for Agriculture and Fisheries this 12th day of December, 2001.

(DANIEL SILVA)
MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR
AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND
COOPERATIVES

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

FIRST SCHEDULE

FORM A
(Regulation 4 (b)

LABORATORY REQUEST FORM

BELIZE AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

VETERINARY MEAT INSPECTION SERVICES FORM
FOR REMITTANCE OF MEATS SAMPLES
FOR ANALYSIS OF PESTICIDE AND BIOLOGICAL RESIDUES

Place .....Date .....

Establislirnent No. .....Type of Tissue .....

Quantity ..... Type of Packing .....

ANALYSIS REQUESTED:

Organophosphates
Herbicides
Carbamates
Heavy Metals
Diethylstilbestrol
Fungicides
Antibiotics and
Drugs
Species
Other

*Indicate specific drug or chemicals when necessary e.g., Chloramphenicol

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

Inspector taking sample: .....

No. of animals slaughtered: .....

No. of animals sampled: .....

Lot No: .....

Farm of Origin: .....
.....

Date of slaughter: ..... Date submitted ..... Time .....

Laboratory to which samples sent: .....

Deceision made: .....

.....	.....
Sender	Received by
.....	.....
Signature	Date & time received
	.....
	Signature

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

FIRST SCHEDULE

FORM A

LABORATORY REQUEST FORM

BELIZE AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
FOOD SAFETY SERVICE

BIOLOGICAL RESIDUES IN FOOD OF ANIMAL ORIGIN

LABORATORY REQUEST FORM FOR THE REMITTANCE OF SAMPLES FOR THE ANALYSIS OF PESTICIDES AND BIOLOGICAL RESIDUES

A. Place: ..... B. Date: .....

C.Establishment/EnterpriseNo..... D. Type of Sample: 1. Tissue *(specify)*.....
2. Water
E. Condition of Sample ..... 3. Urine
4. Milk
F. Purpose of Submission: 5. Honey
6. Feed
1. []Diagnostic 2. []Suspect 3. []Monitoring 7. Environ(*specify*)

4. []Surveillance 5. []Hacep 6. [] Other *(specify)* .....

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

G. ANALYSIS REQUESTED:

1.	Organochlorines
2.	Organophosphates
3.	Herbicides
4.	Carbamates
5.	Heavy Metals
6.	Fungicides
7.	Antibiotics*
8.	Veterinary Drug*
9.	Species
10.	Toxins (1. • Aflatoxin, 2.• Ciguatoxin, 3. • Other (Specify)
11.	Other (Specify)

* Indicate specific veterinary drug or antibiotic

H. Type of Analysis Requested: 1. •Screening 2. •Confirmatory

I. Instrumentation: 1. •Charm II Analyzer 2. •HPLC 3.•AA 4. •GC 5.•MS 6. •Other

J. Authorized Officer taking sample.....
K. No. of animals/ animal products processed .....
L. No. of animals or animal products sampled: .....M. Lot No: .....
N. Farm of Origin .....
O. Processor .....
P. Date of slaughter/processing .....
Q. Date and time submitted .....
R. Name (Print) and signature of submitter .....
S. Received by..... T. Action .....

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

FIRST SCHEDULE

FORM B
(Reaulation 4 (d) and (h) (1)

BELIZE AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
FOOD SAFETY SERVICE
BIOLOGICAL RESIDUES IN FOOD OF ANIMAL ORIGIN

PRIMARY ANALYSIS CERTIFICATE

Name .....
Address .....

Primary analysis of the official sample described below has shown that it contains a residue of:

[Tick the appropriate]

(a) a prohibited substance;

(b) an unregistered substance;

(c) a substance reasonably suspected of being an unregistered substance;

(d) an authorised substance at a concentration which an authorised officer has notified the analyst as being one which he reasonably suspects will produce, in animal tissue or a food product derived from the animal to which the sample relates an authorised substance at a concentration exceeding the relevant maximum residue limit;

(e) an authorised. substance at a concentration exceeding the relevant maximum residue limit.

As indicated in box 9 overleaf

Signature of analyst ..... Date .....

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

Name (in block letters) .....

Analyst at: Biological Residue Laboratory,
Central Investigation Laboratory
Belize City, Belize

An approved laboratory for the purposes of the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (Food Safety) Regulations, 2001.

1. Sample Reference No.
2. Sample type and amount
3. Date of Collection
4. Method of Collection
5. Species and sex (if applicable)
6. Age (months) approx
7. Tested for
8. Relevant maximum residue limit (If applicable)
9. Primary analysis result
10. Laboratory Ref. No.

NOTES

1. You have the right to challenge the result of the primary analysis indicated in box 9 above. A challenge must be made in writing to the authorised officer at the official address indicated below within a period of seven days from receipt of the primary analysis certificate.

2. On receipt of such a challenge the officer will submit the official sample for a confirmatory analysis.

3. Enforcement authority: Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA)

Authorised Officer: Director, Food Safety Services
Address: Central Investigation Laboratory
P.O. Box 181
St. Joseph Street
Belize City, Belize

_____...____

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

BELIZE AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AUTHORITY
FOOD SAFETY SERVICE
BIOLOGICAL RESIDUES IN FOOD OF ANIMAL ORIGIN
FORM B

LABORATORY REPORT FORM

FOR LABORATORY USE ONLY

Date Received _____ Lab Ref. No. _____

Sample Conditions Lot No. _____

Owner _____ SamplingOfficer _____

Address

Test For _____ Type of Test _____

Results of Analysis:

		MRL (if appropriate)
Screening		
Screening 2		
Confirmatory		

Comments _____

Name: _____ Date _____

Signature: _____ Action _____

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

SECOND SCHEDULE
(Regulations 2, 4 (a) and 4 (c) (I)

GROUP A
SUBSTANCES HAVING ANABOLIC EFFECT AND UNAUTHORISED SUBSTANCES

(1) Stilbenes, stilbenes derivatives, and their salts and esters
(2) Antithyroid agents
(3) Steroids
(4) Resorcylic acid lactones including zeranol
(5) Beta-agonists
(6) Compounds prohibited for use in food producing animals in Belize

GROUP B
VETERINARY DRUGS AND CONTAMINANTS

(1) Antibacterial substances, including sulphonomides, quinolones

(2) Other veterinary drugs

(a) Anthelmintics
(b) Anticoccidials, including nitroimidazoles;
(c) Carbamates and pyrethroids
(d) Sedatives
(e) Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)
(f) Other pharmacologically active substances

(3) Other substances and environmental contaminants

(a) Organochlorine compounds including PcBs
(b) Organophosphorus compounds
(c) Chemical elements
(d) Mycotoxins
(e) Dyes
(f) Others

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

Including unregistered substances which could be used for veterinary purposes.

THIRD SCHEDULE

The purpose of this Schedule is to define the minimum number of animals or animal products from which the samples must be taken. Each sample can be analysed for detecting the presence of one or more substances.

GROUP 1

BOVINE, PROCINE, OVINE, CAPRINE AND EQUINE ANIMALS

1. BOVINE ANIMALS

The minimum number of animals to be controlled each year for all kinds of residues and substances must at least equal 0.4% of bovine animals slaughtered the previous year, with the following breakdown:

Group A: 0.25 % divided as follows:

- one half of the samples are to be taken from live animals on the holding; (by derogation, 25% of samples analysed for the research of Group A 5 substances can be taken from appropriate material (serum, feeding stuffs, drinking water, etc.)

- one half of the samples are to be taken at the slaughterhouse. Each sub-group in Group A must be checked each year using a minimum of 5% of the total number of samples to be collected for Group A. The balance will be allocated according to the experience and background information of the result of the investigatory phase.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

Group B: 0.15%

30% of the samples shall be checked for Group B 1 substances.
30% of the samples shall be checked for Group B 2 substances.
10% of the samples shall be checked for Group B 3 substances.
The balance will be allocated according to the situation found after the investigatory phase.

2. PORCINE ANIMALS

The minimum number of animals to be checked each year for all kinds of residues and substances must at least equal 0.05% of the pigs slaughtered the previous year, with the following breakdown:

Group A: 0.02 %

In those cases where the sampling of animals is carried out at the slaughterhouse, in addition the analysis of drinking water, feedingstuff, faeces, or all other appropriate parameters must be undertaken at farm level. In that case, the minimum number of farms to be visited annually must represent at least one farm per 1000 pigs slaughtered the previous year.

Each sub-group in Group A must be checked each year using a minimum of 5% of the total number of samples to be collected for Group A.

The balance will be allocated according to the experience and background information of the investigatory phase.

Group B: 0.03%

The same breakdown per sub-group as for bovine animals has to be respected.
The balance will be allocated according to the situation of the investigatory phase.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

3. SHEEP AND GOATS

The minimum number of animals to be checked for all kind of residues and substances must at least equal 0.05% of sheep and goats over three months of age slaughtered the previous year, with the following breakdown:

Group A: 0.01 %

Each sub-group of Group A must be checked each year using a minimum of 5% of the total number of samples to be collected for Group A.

The balance will be allocated according to the experience and background information of the investigatory phase.

Group B: 0.04 %

The same breakdown per sub-group as for bovine animals has to be respected. The balance will be allocated according to the experience of the investigatory phase.

4. EQUINE ANIMALS

The number of samples is to be determined by the Authority in relation to the problems identified.

GROUP 2
BROILER CHICKENS, SPENT HENS, TURKEYS, OTHER POULTRY

A sample consists of one or more animals depending on the requirements of the analytical methods.

For each category of poultry considered (broiler chickens, spent hens, turkeys,

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

and other poultry), the minimum number of samples to be taken each year must at least equal one pertwohundred tonnes of annual production (deadweight), with a minimum of one sample for each group of substances if the annual production of the category of birds considered is over five tonnes.

The following breakdown must be respected:

Group A: 50 % of the total samples

The equivalent of one fifth of these samples must be taken at farm level.

Each sub-group of Group A must be checked each year using a minimum of 5% of the total number of samples to be collected for Group A.

The balance will be allocated according to the experience and background information of the investigatory phase.

Group B: 50 % of the total sample

30% must be checked for Group B 1 substances,
30% must be checked for Group B 2 substances,
10% must be checked for Group B 3 substances.

The balance will be allocated according to the situation of the investigatory phase.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

GROUP 3
AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS

1. Finfish farming products

A sample is one or more fish, according to the size of the fish in question and of the requirements of the analytical method.

Belize will respect the minimum sampling levels and frequencies given below, depending on the production of farmed fish (expressed in tonnes).

The minimum number of samples to be collected each year must be at least one per ten tonnes of annual production.

The compounds sought and the samples selected for analysis should be selected according to the likely use of these substances.

The following breakdown shall be respected:

Group A: one third of the total samples:

All the samples must be taken at farm level, on fish at all stages of farming including fish which is ready to be placed on the market for consumption.

Group B: two thirds of the total samples:

The sampling should be carried out:

(a) preferably at the farm, on fish ready to be placed on the market for consumption;

(b) either at the processing plant, or at wholesale level, on fresh fish, on condition that tracing-back to the farm of origin, in the event of positive

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

results, can be done.

In all cases, samples taken at farm level should be taken from a minimum of 10% of registered sites of production.

2. Other aquaculture products

If there is reason to believe that veterinary medicine or chemicals are being applied to the other aquaculture products, or when environmental contamination is suspected, then these species shall be included in the sampling plan in proportion to their production as additional samples to those taken for finfish farming products. In the investigatory phase, a minimum of one sample per ten tonnes of annual production shall be collected each year.

For sea-farming, in which sampling conditions may be especially difficult, sample may be taken from feed in place of samples from fish.

GROUP 4
MILK

1. Bovine milk

A. Sampling requirements

- Each official sample shall be taken by the BAHA in such way that it is always possible to trace it back to the farm of origin of the milk.

- The samples, according to the choice of BAHA, may be taken:

  (a) either at farm level from the collection tank,

  (b) or at the level of the dairy industry before the bulk tanker has discharged.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

The sample size will depend on the analytical methods used.

B. Sampling level and frequency

The annual number of samples is one per five tonnes of the annual production of milk, with a minimum of fifty samples.

The following breakdown must be respected:

(a) 70% of the samples must be examined for the presence of residues of veterinary drugs. In this case, each sample has to be tested for at least four different compounds from at least three grouped among groups A 6, B 1, B 2 (a) and B 2 (e) of the Second Schedule to this regulation.

(b) 15% of the samples must be tested for the presence of residues designated in group B 3 of Annex 1 to this regulation.

(c) The balance (15) must be allocated according to the situation of the investigatory phase.

2. Milk from other species (ovine, caprine, equine)

The number of samples for these species will be detennined by the Authority according to any problems identified.

GROUP 5
EGGS

1. Hen eggs

A. Sampling requirements

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

- Each official sample must be taken by the Authority in such way that it is always possible to trace it back to the farm of origin of the eggs.

- The samples, according to the choice of the Authority, can be taken:

  (a) either at farm level;

  (b) or at the level of the packing centre.

- The sample size is at least twelve eggs or more, according to the analytical methods used.

B. Sampling level and frequency

The number of samples to be taken each year must be at least equal to one per ten tonnes of the annual production of consumption eggs, with a minimum of twenty samples. The breakdown of samples may be decided by the Authority according to the structure of the industry, particularly as regards levels of integration within it.

At least 30% of samples must be collected from packing centres, which represent the most significant proportion of eggs supplied for human consumption.

The following breakdown must be respected:

- 70% of the samples must be tested for at least one compound from each following group: group A 6, B 1 and B 2 (b) mentioned in annex 1of this regulation.

- 30% of the samples must be allocated to the situation in the investigatory phase, but must include some analyses for substances in Group B 3 (a) of The Second Schedule.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

2. Eggs from other species of poultry

The number of samples for these species is to be determined by BAHA according to the level of production and the problems identified. The eggs from these species must be included in the sampling plan as additional samples to those taken for hen eggs.

GROUP 6
RABBIT MEAT AND THE MEAT OF WILD GAME AND FARMED GAME

1. Rabbit meat

A. Sampling requirements

One sample consists of one or more animals from the same producer, according to the requirements of the analytical methods.

- Each official sample must be taken by the Authority in such way that it is always possible to trace it back to the farm of origin of the rabbits.

- The samples, according to the structure of the rabbit production in Belize, can be taken:

  (a) either at farm level,

  (b) or at the level of the registered Establishments.

Some additional samples of drinking water and feedingstuff may be taken at farm level, for the control of illegal substances.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

B. Sampling level and frequency

The number of samples to be taken each year will be determined by the Authority.

2. Farmed game

A. Sampling requirements

The sample size will depend on the analytical method used.

The sample must be taken at the processing unit level. It must be possible to trace the animals or their meat back to the farm of origin.

Some additional samples of drinking water and feedingstuff may be taken at farm level, for the control of illegal substances.

B. Sampling level and frequency

The number of samples to be taken each year must at least be equal to ten samples.

The following breakdown shall be respected:

- Group A: 20 % of the total number of samples

The majority of the samples must be analysed for compounds of group A 5 and group A.
The majority of the samples must be analysed for compounds of group A 5 and group A6.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

- **Group B: 70% of the total number of samples**

The breakdown must be:

- 30% must be checked for Group B 1 substances,
  30% must be checked for Group B 2 (a) and (b) substances,
  10% must be checked for Group B 2 (c) and (e) substances,
  30% must be checked for Group B 3 substances.

The balance (10%) will be allocated according to the experience of the Investigatory phase.

3. Wild game

A. Sampling requirements

The sample size will depend on the analytical method used.

The samples will be taken at the processing unit level or at the hunting place.

It must be possible to trace the animals back to the region where they were hunted.

B. Sampling level and frequency

The number of samples to be taken each year must at least be equal to ten samples. These samples will be taken to analyse residues of chemical elements.

Printed by the Government Printer,
No. 1 Power Lane,
Belmopan, by the authority of
the Government of Belize.

GROUP 7
HONEY

A. Sampling requirements

The sample size will depend on the analytical method used.

The samples can be taken at any point in the production chain, provided that it is possible to trace the honey back to the original producer.

B. Sampling level and frequency

The number of samples to be taken each year must be at least equal to one per thirty tonnes of the annual production for the first three hundred tonnes of production and one sample for each additional thirty tonnes.

The following breakdown must be respected:

- Group B I and Group B 2 (c): 50% of the total number of samples,

- Group B 3 (a), (b) and (c): 40% of the total number of samples.

The balance (10%) must be allocated according to the experience of the Investigatory phase. In particular, consideration could be given to mycotoxins.

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]

FOURTH SCHEDULE

LIST OF VETERINARY PRODUCTS PROHIBITED FOR USE IN FOOD PRODUCING ANIMALS IN BE IZE

1. Chloramphenicol
2. Furazolidone
3. Nitrofurans
4. Dimetridazole
5. Metronidazole
6. Ethyl Stilbestrol

[Printed by the Government Printer, No. 1 Power Lane, Belmopan, by the authority of the Government of Belize.]