

**L.N. 311/03 of 2003**

**VETERINARY SERVICES ACT, 2001  
(ACT NO. XXIII OF 2001)**

**For the Criteria for approval and supervision of Breeders Associations and Breeding Organisations which establish or maintain Herd-Books for Pure-Bred Breeding Pigs, Regulations 2003**

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 34(b) of the Veterinary Services Act, 2001 the Minister for Rural Affairs and the Environment has made the following regulations:-

**Title and Scope.**

**1.** (1) The title of these regulations is the Criteria for approval and supervision of Breeders Associations and Breeding Organisations which establish or maintain Herd-Books for Pure-Bred Breeding Pigs Regulations 2003.

(2) The scope of these regulations is to implement the provisions found under European Union Commission Decision 89/501/EEC laying down the criteria for approval and supervision of breeders' associations and breeding organisations which establish or maintain herd-books for pure-bred breeding pigs which in turn finds its legal basis in article 6(d) of European Union Council Directive 88/661/EEC.

**Official approval of breeders' associations and breeding organisations.**

**2.** In order to be officially approved, breeders' associations or breeding organisations which maintain or establish herd-books must submit an application to the authorities of the territory of Malta, on whose territory their headquarters are situated.

For the purpose of these regulations "trading partner" in the meaning of article 2 of the Veterinary Services Act shall mean –

- (a) Member State of the European Community;
- (b) Third countries to the European Community.

### **Authorities to grant approval.**

3. (1) The authorities of the territory of Malta must grant official approval to any breeders' association or breeding organisation which maintains or establishes herd-books if it meets the conditions laid down in the Schedule to these regulations.

(2) However, in the territory of Malta or a Member State in which in respect of a given breed one or more officially-approved breeders' associations or breeding organisations already exist, the authorities concerned may refuse to recognise a new breeders' association or breeding organisation if it endangers the preservation of the breed or jeopardises the zootechnical programme of the existing association or organisation. In such a case, the competent authorities shall inform the European Commission of approvals granted and refusals to give recognition.

### **Withdrawal of official approval.**

4. The authorities shall withdraw official approval from any breeders' association or breeding organisation which maintains herd-books if the conditions laid down in the Schedule are no longer being fulfilled in a persistent manner by the breeders' association or breeding organisation concerned.

## **SCHEDULE**

**In order to be officially approved, breeders' associations and breeding organisations which maintain or establish a herd-book must -**

1. Have legal personality in accordance with the legislation in force in the territory of Malta or in the Member State where the application is made;
2. Prove to the competent authorities –
  - (a) that they operate efficiently;
  - (b) that they can carry out the checks necessary for recording pedigrees;
  - (c) that they have a sufficiently large herd to carry out a breed improvement programme, or that they have a sufficiently large herd to preserve the breed where this is considered necessary;
  - (d) that they can make use of the livestock performance data necessary for carrying out their breed improvement or preservation programme;
3. Have a set of rules covering –
  - (a) the definition of the breed's (or breeds') characteristics;
  - (b) the system for identifying animals;
  - (c) the system for recording pedigrees;
  - (d) the definition of their breeding objectives;
  - (e) the systems for making use of livestock performance data, enabling the genetic value of the animals to be assessed;
  - (f) the division of the herd-book, if there are different conditions for entering animals or if there are different procedures for classifying the animals entered in the book;
4. Have articles of association, laying down, in particular, the principle of non-discrimination between members.