



GUYANA

ACT No. 4 of 1974

SLAUGHTER OF CATTLE (CONTROL) ACT 1974.

I assent.

A. Chung
A. CHUNG,
President.
9th February, 1974.

Arrangement of Sections

Section

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An Act providing for the control of the slaughter of cattle

A.D. 1974 Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:—

Short title. 1. This Act may be cited as the Slaughter of Cattle (Control) Act 1974.

Interpretation. 2. In this Act —

“cattle” means any bull, ox, steer, cow, heifer or calf;

“veterinary officer” means the Principal Veterinary Officer and includes any veterinary officer, livestock officer or livestock assistant of the Department of Agriculture authorised in writing by the Principal Veterinary Officer to perform the functions of the Principal Veterinary Officer.

Prohibition. 3. No person shall, without the permission in writing of a veterinary officer, slaughter or caused to be slaughtered —

- (a) any cattle with less than one permanent incisor tooth; or
- (b) any cattle of the female sex.

Skin and skeleton of the head to be retained. 4. Where a person slaughters or causes to be slaughtered any cattle he shall retain the skin and skeleton of the head (including the horns) of cattle for forty-eight hours after it has been slaughtered and during that time he shall, if so required, produce the skin and skeleton of the head (including the horns) to a veterinary officer or a police constable.

Powers of entry of veterinary officer and police constable. 5.(1) A veterinary officer or a police constable may, at any time, enter a place where he reasonably believes that there is a carcass or other things in connection with which this Act applies and examine the carcass or other thing found therein and take samples thereof.

(2) A veterinary officer shall be furnished with a prescribed identification card and on entering any place pursuant to subsection (1) shall, if so required, produce the card to the owner or occupier thereof.

(3) The owner or occupier of a place entered by a veterinary officer or a police constable pursuant to subsection (1) and every person found therein shall give the veterinary officer or a police constable all reasonable assistance in his power and furnish him with such information as he may reasonable require.

Seizure and detention of carcass, etc. 6.(1) Whenever a veterinary officer or a police constable believes on reasonable grounds that this Act has been contravened he may seize the carcass and other thing in connection with which he reasonably believes the contravention was committed.

(2) The carcass and other thing seized pursuant to subsection (1) shall not be detained after the expiration of fourteen days from the day of seizure, unless before that time proceedings have been instituted in respect of the contravention in which event, the carcass or other thing may be detained until the proceedings are finally determined.

7. Where a veterinary officer or a police constable in exercise of his powers under this Act has taken a sample of any thing and it appears from any examination or investigation by the veterinary officer or the police constable that there has been no contravention of this Act in respect of the sample, the owner of the sample shall be entitled to compensation from the veterinary officer or the police constable for the sample if it cannot be returned to the owner without prejudice to the owner. Compensation to owner.

8. Where a person has been convicted of an offence against this Act, the court may order that the carcass and any other thing in connection with which the offence was committed be forfeited to the State and upon such order being made the carcass and other thing may be disposed of as the Minister may direct. Forfeiture.

9.(1) No person shall obstruct a veterinary officer or a police constable in the exercise of his functions under this Act. Obstruction of veterinary officer and police constable.

(2) No person shall make any false or misleading statement either verbally or in writing to a veterinary officer or a police constable engaged in the exercise of his functions under this Act.

10. Every person who contravenes, or fails to comply with, any of the provisions of this Act is liable on summary conviction, to — Offence and penalty.

- (a) a fine of not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars and to imprisonment for not less nor more than twelve months in the case of a first conviction; and
- (b) a fine of not less nor more than one thousand dollars together with imprisonment for not less nor more than twelve months, in the case of a second or subsequent conviction.

Passed by the National Assembly on the 29th of January, 1974.

Harain
Clerk of the National Assembly.

(Bill No.1 1974).