



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
Single Market Enforcement
Notification of Regulatory Barriers

Notification Number : 2024/0086/DK (Denmark)

Order on the voluntary animal welfare labelling scheme.

Date received : 19/02/2024

End of Standstill : 21/05/2024 (closed)

Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2024) 0446

Directive (EU) 2015/1535

Notification: 2024/0086/DK

Notification of a draft text from a Member State

Notification – Notificación – Notifizierung – Нотификация – Oznámení – Notifikation – Γνωστοποίηση – Notificación – Teavitamine – Ilmoitus – Obavijest – Bejelentés – Notifica – Pranešimas – Paziņojums – Notifika – Kennisgeving – Zawiadomienie – Notificação – Notificare – Oznámenie – Obvestilo – Anmälan – Fógra a thabhairt

Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délai - Kein Fristbeginn - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Nezahajuje prodlení - Fristerne indledes ikke - Καμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - No abre el plazo - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Ne otvara razdoblje kašnjenja - Nem nyitja meg a késésket - Non fa decorrere la mora - Atidējimai nepradedami - Atlikšanas laikposms nesākas - Ma jiftaħ il-perijodi ta' dewmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Não inicia o prazo - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nezačína oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Inleder ingen frist - Ní osclaíonn sé na moilleanna

MSG: 20240446.EN

1. MSG 001 IND 2024 0086 DK EN 19-02-2024 DK NOTIF

2. Denmark

3A. Erhvervsstyrelsen
Langelinie Allé 17
2100 København Ø
+45 35 29 10 00
notifikationer@erst.dk

3B. Fødevarestyrelsen
Stationsparken 31-33
2600 Glostrup

Enheden for Dyrevelfærd og Veterinærmedicin
Kontaktperson: Anne Marie Wegersleff Hansen

4. 2024/0086/DK - C00A - AGRICULTURE, FISHING AND FOODSTUFFS



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
Single Market Enforcement
Notification of Regulatory Barriers

5. Order on the voluntary animal welfare labelling scheme.

6. The voluntary animal welfare labelling scheme (the animal welfare label) is a state labelling scheme that aims to bring about market-driven improvements in animal welfare for as many animals as possible.

7.

8. The Order on the voluntary animal welfare labelling scheme contains criteria that the herds and establishments that have signed up for the scheme with the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration must comply with in order for their products to be labelled with the animal welfare label. The scheme covers pig, broiler and bovine herds as well as establishments which, for example, slaughter, process or sell products from these herds.

The voluntary animal welfare labelling scheme (the animal welfare label) is a state labelling scheme that aims to bring about market-driven improvements in animal welfare for as many animals as possible. The scheme has been in place since 2017.

The Order on the voluntary animal welfare labelling scheme contains criteria that the herds and establishments that have signed up for the scheme with the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration must comply with in order for their products to be labelled with the animal welfare label. The requirements for the herds registered for the scheme are more far-reaching compared to the general animal welfare requirements for pig, broiler and bovine herds.

The animal welfare label currently contains one set of criteria for bovine herds producing milk and one set of criteria for bovine herds producing meat. These are now merged into one set of common criteria for all bovine herds under the label. The merge has led to an adjustment of some of the criteria for bovine herds.

The amendment of the Order adjusts the space requirements for bovine animals held in group penning, so that the requirements for herds registered for the animal welfare label continue to be more far-reaching compared to the general requirements for bovine herds.

In addition, limit values are introduced for maximum permitted mortality rates for cows and calves in the bovine herds wishing to be registered for the label. The limit values for mortality rates will only apply from 1 July 2026.

All level 3 bovine herds will in future be subject to a cow-calf period requirement of 24 hours after calving, as well as a requirement for milk delivery via teat or teat bucket during the first 12 weeks of the calf's life.

In addition, a requirement is introduced for level 1 bovine herds for calves and young animals to be held in groups of two or more animals which are uniform in age and weight, unless they are kept together with their mother or a 'nursing aunt' (a cow used for nursing calves that are separated from their mother).

For bovine herds of level 2 and 3 respectively, the applicable requirements for the access of the animals to outdoor and pasture areas shall be merged. Level 2 animals for slaughter are exempt from the requirement of access to outdoor and pasture areas. The starting point at level 3 is that bovine animals over four months must have access to pasture during the summer months.

In addition, a requirement is introduced that dairy cattle must have lived at least three months under the animal welfare label before they can deliver milk under the label.

9. The current amendment to the Order is a consequence of the expiry of a number of transitional arrangements laid down in the Order on minimum animal welfare requirements for the keeping of bovine animals (Order No 1743 of 30 November 2020). Following the expiry of the transitional arrangements, there will be a number of overlaps between the general requirements for bovine herds and requirements under the animal welfare label.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
Single Market Enforcement
Notification of Regulatory Barriers

The purpose of the amendment is to ensure that the criteria for bovine herds under the animal welfare label are still more far-reaching compared to the general requirements for bovine herds and thus continue to contribute to improving animal welfare.

No substantive changes shall be made to the criteria applicable to broiler and pig herds.

These are only a few limited changes to the criteria for bovine herds, as well as reviews of a more technical and administrative nature.

10. References of the basic texts: 2019/0424/DK

Basic texts have been forwarded within the framework of a previous notification:
2019/0424/DK

11. No

12.

13. No

14. No

15. No

16.

TBT aspects: No

SPS aspects: No

European Commission

Contact point Directive (EU) 2015/1535

email: grow-dir2015-1535-central@ec.europa.eu