

# The Animal Welfare Act

1988:534

Consolidated text  
(as last amended by SFS 2007:362  
of 31 May 2007)

Unofficial translation

## Scope of the Act

### Section 1

This Act applies to the care and treatment of domestic animals and laboratory animals. It also applies to other animals if they are kept in captivity. Act (2005:1226).

## EC provisions supplemented by the Act

### Section 1 a

(1) The Act supplements those provisions in EC regulations (EC provisions) that fall within the scope of the Act. The Government shall promulgate the basic regulations concerned in the Swedish Code of Statutes.

(2) With regard to EC provisions that fall within the scope of several acts, the Government shall promulgate the provisions supplemented by this Act in the same manner as in subsection (1).

(3) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations or, in individual cases, make decisions that are needed to supplement the EC provisions. Act (2006:809).

4

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## Definitions

### Section 1 b

‘Laboratory animals’ means animals that are used in animal experiments or are bred, kept or supplied for animal experiments. Act (2006:809).

### Section 1 c

(1) ‘Animal experiments’ means use of animals for:

1. scientific research;
2. diagnosis of disease;
3. the development and manufacture of pharmaceutical or chemical products;
4. teaching purposes, if the use means that the animal is killed, subjected to a surgical operation, injection or blood-letting or if the animal is caused or risks being caused suffering; and
5. other similar purposes.

(2) ‘Animal experiments’ also means production of genetically modified animals, if gene technology, chemical or other similar methods are used. Act (2006:809).

# Basic provisions concerning animal management and treatment

## Section 2

- (1) Animals shall be treated well and shall be protected from unnecessary suffering and disease.
- (2) Animals used as laboratory animals shall not be deemed to have been subjected to unnecessary suffering or disease where such use has been approved by an ethical committee on animal experiments. Act (2005:1226).

## Section 3

- (1) Animals shall be given sufficient food and water and adequate care. Feeding stuffs and water must be of good quality and appropriate for the species of animal that is being fed.
- (2) Livestock buildings and other holding rooms for animals shall provide sufficient space and shelter for the animals and shall be kept clean.
- (3) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations concerning:

- 1. feeding and watering of animals;
- 2. livestock buildings and other holding rooms for animals;
- 3. compulsory prior approval of such premises; and
- 4. compulsory pre-testing of new animal management technologies.

(4) The Government may prescribe that an extra charge shall be imposed upon persons who do not arrange for prior approval of livestock buildings or other holding rooms for animals. The person who was the owner of the building or room at the time when the construction measure was carried out shall be liable for payment of the charge. The charge shall correspond to an amount that is four times the charge that would have been payable if the building had been approved prior to use, unless there are special reasons for charging a lower amount.

(5) Subsection (1) shall not apply to laboratory animals, unless they are kept in captivity. The provisions of subsection (2) concerning sufficient space and shelter and the provisions of subsections (3) and (4) concerning authorization to issue regulations shall also apply to enclosures. Act (2007:362).

## Section 3 a

If a measure relating to livestock buildings or other holding rooms for animals that requires prior approval under regulations issued pursuant to section 3, subsection 3, point 3, has been taken without such approval, the authority designated by the Government shall prohibit use of the building to house animals. A prohibition shall not, however, be ordered if the authority finds that the measure can be approved retroactively. Act (2006:809).

#### **Section 4**

(1) Animals shall be accommodated and handled in an environment that is appropriate for animals and in such a way as to promote their health and permit natural behaviour.

(2) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations laying down conditions for or prohibiting certain kinds of animal management. Act (2007:362).

#### **Section 5**

(1) Animals must not be overworked.

(2) They must not be beaten or driven with implements which may hurt or otherwise injure them.

#### **Section 6**

(1) Animals must not be tied or tethered in a way that causes pain or does not allow them the necessary freedom of movement or rest or sufficient shelter from the elements.

(2) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations concerning the tying of animals. Act (2007:362).

#### **Section 7**

The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations concerning conditions for, or prohibitions against, sales or other transfers of ownership of animals. Act (2007:362).

#### **Section 8**

(1) The means of transport used for the transportation of animals shall be suitable for the purpose and provide shelter against heat and cold and protect the animals from shocks and abrasions and the like. To the extent necessary, the animals shall be kept separate from each other.

(2) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations laying down conditions for or prohibiting the transportation of animals. Act (2007:362).

#### **Section 9**

If an animal is sick, injured or in other ways, through its behaviour, shows signs of ill-health, the animal shall be given the necessary care without delay, if necessary by a veterinarian, or other measures shall be taken, unless the illness or injury is so severe that the animal must be killed immediately. Act (2003:1077).

## **Surgical procedures etc.**

### **Section 10**

(1) Animals must not be subjected to surgical procedures or given injections except where they are necessary for veterinary medical reasons.

(2) Subsection (1) shall not apply to surgical procedures performed or injections administered in connection with activities that have been approved by an ethical committee on animal experiments.

(3) Where special reasons exist, the Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations concerning surgical procedures performed on or injections administered to animals and regulations providing for exceptions from subsection (1). Act (2003:1076).

### **Section 11**

(1) A veterinarian shall be engaged when a surgical procedure is to be performed on or an injection administered to an animal. The same shall apply to other treatment for the purpose of preventing, detecting, alleviating or curing illness or injury in an animal, if the treatment is liable to cause suffering that's not insignificant.

(2) Subsection (1) shall not apply if the treatment is so urgent that there is no time to engage the services of a veterinarian.

(3) In connection with activities that have been approved by an ethical committee on animal experiments injections may also be administered, procedures performed or other treatment given by persons who have the required training.

(4) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations providing for exceptions from subsection (1). Act (2007:362).

### **Section 12**

(1) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations laying down conditions for or prohibiting:

1. the administration of hormones or other substances to animals in order to alter their characteristics for any purpose other than to prevent, detect, alleviate or to cure disease or symptoms of disease; or
2. breeding, the object of which is such that it may entail suffering for the animals or affect their natural behaviour.

(2) Subsection (1), point 1, shall not apply to substances that fall within the Feeding stuffs and Animal By Products Act (2006:805). Act (2007:362).

## **Section 12 a**

The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations concerning the approval of farriers. The regulations may prescribe that a charge shall be made for applications for approval. Act (2007:362).

## **Slaughter etc.**

### **Section 13**

Animals shall be spared unnecessary discomfort and suffering when they are taken to slaughter and when they are slaughtered.

### **Section 14**

(1) Domestic animals shall be anaesthetized before being bled prior to slaughter. No other measures may be taken in connection with slaughter until the animal is dead.

(2) The first sentence of subsection (1) shall not apply to animals which, owing to illness or accident, must be slaughtered immediately.

(3) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations providing for exemptions from the first sentence of subsection (1) with respect to poultry and rabbits. Act (2007:362).

### **Section 15**

The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations on the slaughter and killing of animals in other cases. Act (2007:362).

## **Obligation to obtain permission to keep animals in certain cases**

### **Section 16**

(1) An operating permit is required by any person who, on a professional basis or on a substantial scale:

1. keeps, breeds, supplies or sells pet animals or receives pet animals for boarding or feeding;
2. keeps, breeds, supplies or sells horses or receives horses for boarding or feeding or uses horses in a riding school business; or
3. breeds fur animals.

(2) Applications shall be considered by the municipal committee or committees responsible for performing duties in the environmental and health protection areas. Such a committee may also withdraw permission after it has been granted.

(3) When applications are considered, special attention shall be paid to the question of whether the applicant has the qualifications required to carry on the activity in question and whether the premises in which the activity is to take place are suitable with regard to animal welfare.

(4) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations concerning:

1. the criteria for regarding a business as operating on a substantial scale;
2. exemptions from subsection (1).

(5) The Government may issue regulations or, in connection with a decision under section 24 d, subsection (1), decide in individual cases that questions of granting and withdrawing permits shall be examined by the county administrative board, instead of what is stated in subsection (2). Act (2007:362).

## **Sporting events and exhibitions involving animals**

### **Section 17**

(1) Animals must not be trained for or used in sporting events in such a way as to subject them to suffering. This shall also apply to film, video or television productions and shows or other types of exhibition arranged for the public.

(2) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations concerning such use of animals. Act (2007:362).

### **Section 18**

(1) An animal which is trained for or takes part in a sporting event in a sports arena or at a race-track must not be subjected to doping or other improper practices liable to affect the animal's performance or temperament.

(2) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations concerning unauthorized practices. Act (2007:362).

## Animal experiments

### Section 19

Animal experiments may only take place provided that

1. the purpose of the activity cannot be attained by any other satisfactory method that does not entail the use of animals;
2. as few animals as possible are used;
3. the activity is organized in such a way as not to subject the animals to greater suffering than is absolutely necessary; and
4. no animals other than animals bred for the purpose are used in the activity. Act (2005:1226).

### Section 19 a

(1) Permission must be granted by the Government or the authority designated by the Government before laboratory animals can be used, bred, kept or supplied. Such permission may subsequently be withdrawn.

(2) When applications for permission are considered, special attention shall be paid to the question of whether the applicant has the qualifications required to carry on the activity in question and whether the premises in which the activity is to take place are suitable with regard to animal welfare.

(3) When applications for permission to breed laboratory animals are considered, the need for such animals shall also be taken into account. Act (2007:362).

### Section 20

(1) In activities referred to in section 19 a there shall be

1. a supervisor approved by the authority designated by the Government, who shall be responsible for the activity;
2. a veterinarian who shall give advice and instructions about the conduct of the activity and assist with the treatment of the animals; and
3. personnel that is sufficient in number, and has the necessary training and skills for the activity.

(2) The supervisor and the veterinarian shall ensure that the activity is conducted in accordance with this Act and any regulations adopted in pursuance thereof.

(3) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations, or take decisions in individual cases, concerning the duties of supervisors and veterinarians and the training and skills of the personnel. Act (2007:362).



**Section 21**

(1) The use of animals in animal experiments shall be approved from an ethical perspective by an ethical committee on animal experiments before the activity commences.

(2) When examining a case the committee shall weigh the importance of the experiment against the suffering of the animal.

(3) The committee may only approve an animal experiment application if such use can be considered important in the public interest and the conditions set out in section 19, points 1-3 are fulfilled.

(4) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue further regulations concerning such approval, as well as regulations providing for exemption from the requirement for approval. Act (2007:362).

**Section 22**

(1) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations laying down conditions for or prohibiting the breeding, keeping, supply or use of laboratory animals.

(2) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations providing for exemptions from the provisions of this Act as regards animal experiments. Act (2007:362).

**Section 23**

A person who breeds, keeps, supplies or uses laboratory animals shall mark the animals and issue instructions for and make notes and submit information concerning these activities in accordance with the regulations issued by the Government or the authority designated by the Government. Act (2007:362).

**Official control by the control authorities**

**Section 24**

(1) Official control of compliance with this Act, the regulations and decisions issued pursuant to the Act, the EC provisions supplemented by the Act and the decisions adopted pursuant to the EC provisions, is exercised by the county administrative boards, other government agencies and the municipalities, as determined by the Government.

(2) Official control at municipal level shall be performed by the municipal committee or committees responsible for performing duties in the environmental and health protection areas. The committee shall have access to personnel trained in animal welfare to the extent needed for the committee to be able to perform its duties in a satisfactory manner. Act (2007:362).

## **Other responsibilities of the control authorities**

### **Section 24 a**

(1) The control authorities designated by the Government coordinate the activities of the other control authorities and provide advice and assistance in these activities where needed.

(2) By advice and information activities and other means, the authority that exercises official control shall make it easier for individuals to fulfil their obligations under the Act, the regulations and decisions issued pursuant to the Act, the EC provisions supplemented by the Act and the decisions issued pursuant to the EC provisions. Act (2007:362).

### **Section 24 b**

The authority that exercises official control shall work to ensure that action are taken against infringements of the Act, of the regulations or decisions issued pursuant to the Act or of the EC provisions supplemented by the Act. Act (2006:809).

12

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## **Inter-municipal cooperation in the performance of official control**

### **Section 24 c**

(1) A municipality may enter into an agreement with another municipality that the municipality's control duties under this Act shall be fully or partly managed by the other municipality. However, the municipality may not delegate the authority to adopt a decision in a matter.

(2) By agreement with another municipality, the municipality may also commission employees in that municipality to decide on behalf of the municipality in a certain case or group of cases, though not in the cases referred to in Chapter 6, section 34, of the Local Government Act (1991:900). The regulations given in Chapter 6, sections 24-27 and 35, of the Local Government Act concerning disqualification and reporting of decisions to committees shall apply to anyone making such decisions. Act (2006:809).

## **Voluntary transfer of official control**

### **Section 24 d**

(1) The county administrative board in the county in which a municipality is located may, in consultation with the municipality, decide in an individual case that the official control of a certain activity that is otherwise incumbent

upon the municipality shall be transferred to the county administrative board. Such a decision may be taken if the activity is on a large scale, is particularly complex or if there are other special reasons.

(2) The county administrative board may decide, if the county administrative board and the municipality agree, that the control shall be returned to the municipality. Act (2006:809).

## **Orders directed towards municipalities**

### **Section 24 e**

If a municipality does not fulfil the obligations that follow from its control responsibility, the county administrative board in the county in which the municipality is located may order the municipality to remedy this deficiency. Such an order shall contain information about the measures that the county administrative board considers necessary in order to remedy the deficiency. Act (2006:809).

## **Compulsory transfer of official control**

13  
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### **Section 24 f**

(1) If a municipality has grossly or persistently neglected its control responsibility with regard to a certain activity, the Government may, upon application from the county administrative board in the county in which the municipality is located, decide that responsibility for control of that activity shall be transferred to the county administrative board.

(2) The Government may decide that the responsibility for control shall be returned to the municipality. Act (2006:809).

## **Regulations concerning official control**

### **Section 25**

The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations concerning

1. how official control shall be conducted; and
2. the obligation of a control authority or a control body engaged in official control to provide information to a coordinating control authority referred to in section 24 a, subsection (1). Act (2007:362).

## **Section 25 a**

The Government may issue regulations prescribing which provisions in Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules, shall be applied when conducting official checks on animal keepers other than those holding food-producing animals. Act (2006:809).

## **Fees**

### **Section 25 b**

The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations on the obligation to pay a fee for official control under the Act, the regulations issued pursuant to the Act or the EC provisions supplemented by the Act. This authorisation includes a right to issue regulations on the obligation of municipalities to such a fee. Act (2007:362).

### **Section 25 c**

(1) The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations on the obligation to pay a fee in cases processed by government authorities under the Act, the regulations issued pursuant to the Act or the EC provisions supplemented by the Act.

(2) The Government or, where so authorized by the Government, a municipal council may issue regulations on the obligation to pay a fee for processing by a municipal committee of cases under the Act, the regulations issued pursuant to the Act or the EC provisions supplemented by the Act. Act (2007:362).

### **Section 25 d**

The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations on the calculation of fees charged by government authorities and control bodies. Act (2007:362).

## **Orders, prohibitions and remedies**

### **Section 26**

(1) Over and above what follows from the EC provisions supplemented by the Act or what is specifically stated in section 24 e, a control authority may issue the orders and prohibitions that are needed to ensure compliance with the Act, the regulations and decisions issued pursuant to the Act, the EC provisions supplemented by the Act and the decisions adopted pursuant to the EC provisions.

(2) Orders and prohibitions under subsection (1) or under the EC provisions supplemented by the Act may be combined with a conditional fine, though not in cases referred to in section 29.

(3) If a person fails to comply with the Act, the regulations or decisions issued pursuant to the Act, the EC provisions supplemented by the Act or the decisions adopted pursuant to the EC provisions, the control authority may decide on remedies at his or her expense. In urgent cases, such a decision may be adopted without a preceding order. Act (2006:809).

## **Right to information and access etc.**

### **Section 27**

(1) To the extent needed to carry out checks, a control authority and a control body engaged in official control have a right to

1. receive information and study documents on request; and
2. receive access to areas, facilities, buildings, premises and other places where animals are kept or that are associated with the keeping of animals and there inspect the animals, conduct investigations and take samples.

(2) The provisions in subsection (1) also apply as regards EC institutions and inspectors and experts appointed by the institutions.

(3) A person who is subject to official control shall provide the assistance that is needed to allow the control to be carried out. Act (2006:809).

## **Assistance from a police authority**

### **Section 27 a**

The police authority shall provide the assistance that is needed for exercise of official control or enforcement of decisions under this Act, the regulations or decisions issued pursuant to the Act, the EC provisions supplemented by the Act or the decisions adopted pursuant to the EC provisions. Act (2006:809).

## **Exceptions for animals used in the armed forces**

### **Section 28**

The provisions of sections 24-25, 25 b and 26-27 a shall not apply to animals used in the armed forces. Act (2006:809).

## Prohibition against having animals in care

### Section 29

(1) The county administrative board shall prohibit persons to have animals, or a particular species of animal, in their care if they:

1. fail to comply with a decision taken by a control authority pursuant to section 26 which is of significant relevance to animal welfare;
2. seriously neglect the control or care of an animal;
3. maltreat an animal;
4. have been convicted of cruelty to animals pursuant to chapter 16, section 13, of the Penal Code; or
5. have repeatedly been convicted of offences pursuant to sections 36 or 36 a or have repeatedly been the subject of decisions pursuant to section 26.

(2) No prohibition shall be imposed where the offence will manifestly not be repeated.

(3) If the person who is the subject of the prohibition is the owner of the animal, the county administrative board may also order him to dispose of it and may forbid him to procure animals, or a particular species of animal, again.

(4) The prohibition may apply for a fixed period or until further notice. Act (2006:809).

16



## Taking charge of animals

### Section 30

(1) If an animal is found so severely ill or injured that it should be killed immediately, a veterinarian or a police officer, and in urgent cases another person, may kill the animal at once.

(2) The person who has killed the animal shall immediately notify the owner or possessor of the animal to this effect. If this is not possible, the police authority shall be notified.

### Section 31

The county administrative board shall decide that an animal shall be taken in charge by the police authority if:

1. the animal is gratuitously subjected to suffering and nothing is done to remedy the situation despite a request to this effect by the control authority;

2. a decision adopted pursuant to section 26, which is of significant relevance to animal welfare, is not complied with;
3. a decision adopted pursuant to section 29 is not complied with;
4. the person who has the animal in his care has been convicted of cruelty to animals pursuant to chapter 16, section 13, of the Penal Code; or
5. the person who has the animal in his care has repeatedly been convicted of offences pursuant to sections 36 or 36 a or has repeatedly been the subject of decisions pursuant to section 26. Act (2006:809).

**Section 32**

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 31, point 1, concerning requests and remedies, the county administrative board, the control authority or the police authority shall decide that an animal which has been subjected to suffering shall be taken in charge forthwith, where:

1. there is no prospect of the fault being remedied;
2. the owner of the animal is unknown or cannot be found; or
3. for any other cause this is considered absolutely necessary in the interests of animal welfare.

(2) If such a decision is taken by an authority other than the county administrative board, the county administrative board shall be notified thereof and shall decide without delay whether or not it shall remain in force.

(3) The police authority shall arrange for the animal to be taken in charge. Act (2006:809).

**Section 33**

(1) Decisions under sections 31 or 32 shall also apply to offspring to which the animal taken care of gives birth while it is being taken care of.

(2) When an animal is taken in charge, the owner shall not have access to the animal or to its offspring which has also been taken in charge without the permission of the county administrative board. Act (2003:52).

**Section 34**

(1) When the county administrative board decides that an animal shall be taken in charge, it shall determine whether the animal is to be sold, otherwise transferred or killed.

(2) If it proves impossible to implement the county administrative board's decision to sell or otherwise transfer an animal, the board may instead decide that the animal shall be killed.

(3) The police authority shall arrange for the animal to be sold, otherwise transferred or killed. Act (2002:550).

## Section 35

- (1) Expenses incurred as a result of measures taken pursuant to sections 31 or 32 may be paid in advance out of public funds.
- (2) If an animal is taken in charge pursuant to sections 31 or 32, the cost of the measure shall subsequently be paid by the person against whom it was directed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary.
- (3) If the police authority has arranged for the sale of an animal taken in charge, the final amount to be paid by the owner may be deducted from the purchase sum.

## Penalty provisions

### Section 36

(1) The penalty for offences committed deliberately or through negligence in the following cases shall be a fine or imprisonment for not more than two years:

1. offences under sections 3, 5, 6, 8-II, 13, 14, 16-19a or 21;
2. failure to comply with a rule issued pursuant to this Act; or
3. failure to comply with an order or prohibition referred to in section 29.

(2) The penalty for offences committed deliberately and in breach of an obligation that is important from the point of view of animal welfare shall be imprisonment for not more than two years.

(3) No penalties shall be imposed for minor offences.

(4) No penalties shall be imposed pursuant to this Act where the penalty for the offence provided by the Penal Code is the same or more severe. Act (2002:550).

### Section 36 a

(1) A person who deliberately or through negligence infringes against the obligations, conditions or prohibitions contained in the EC provisions supplemented by the Act shall be sentenced to a fine or imprisonment for not more than two years. However, this does not apply if the infringement concerns provisions relating to exercise of official authority.

(2) The penalty for offences committed deliberately and in breach of an obligation that is important from the point of view of animal welfare shall be imprisonment for not more than two years.

(3) No penalties shall be imposed for minor offences.



(4) No penalties shall be imposed pursuant to this Act where the penalty for the offence provided by the Penal Code is the same or more severe. Act (2006:809).

**Section 37**

(1) A person who fails to comply with an order or prohibition issued under penalty of a fine shall not be liable under sections 36 or 36 a for the act to which such an order or prohibition applies.

(2) A person who has been ordered to pay an extra charge pursuant to section 3 subsection (4) for neglecting to arrange for prior approval of livestock buildings or other holding rooms for animals shall not be liable under section 36. Act (2006:809).

**Appeals etc.**

**Section 38**

(1) Appeals against decisions taken by a municipal committee under this Act, under the regulations issued pursuant to the Act or under the EC provisions supplemented by the Act may be lodged with the county administrative board.

(2) Appeals against decisions issued by a central government administrative authority under this Act, under the regulations issued pursuant to the Act or under the EC provisions supplemented by the Act may be lodged with an administrative court. Leave to appeal is required for an appeal to the administrative court of appeal.

(3) Appeals against other decisions taken by a central government administrative authority may be lodged with the Government. Act (2007:362).

**Section 39**

The Government may issue regulations on cases in which a decision under this Act, under the regulations issued pursuant to the Act or under the EC provisions supplemented by the Act shall have immediate effect even if an appeal has been lodged against it. Act (2006:809).

**Transitional provisions**

**1988:534**

1. This Act shall enter into force on 1 July 1988, when the Animal Welfare Act (1944:219) and the Slaughter of Domestic Animals Act (1937:313) shall cease to apply.

2. Decisions on orders, prohibitions or permits that have been given prior to the entry into force shall be deemed to have been adopted under the new Act, unless otherwise decided by the Government or the authority designated by the Government.

3. If reference is made in an Act or other legislation to a provision that has been replaced by a provision in this Act, the new provision shall apply instead. Act (1991:404).

**1995:1714**

This Act shall enter into force on 1 May 1996 but shall not apply in cases where the first decision in the case has been taken before then.

**1998:56**

1. This Act shall enter into force on 1 March 1998.

2. With regard to such use of laboratory animals as has been approved prior to the entry into force, approval under the new wording of section 21 is not required and the older wording of section 2 shall apply.

**2002:550**

1. This Act shall enter into force on 1 January 2003.

2. Orders and prohibitions adopted under older provisions shall continue to apply after the Act has entered into force.

3. Older provisions shall apply to cases initiated or decisions adopted before this Act entered into force.

4. The Government or, where so authorized by the Government, the Swedish Board of Agriculture may issue the regulations that may be necessary for a transitional period.

**2002:891**

1. This Act shall enter into force on the day determined by the Government.

2. Permits issued under older provisions shall continue to apply after the Act has entered into force.

3. Older provisions shall apply to cases initiated or decisions adopted before this Act entered into force.

4. The Government or, where so authorized by the Government, the Swedish Board of Agriculture may issue the regulations that may be necessary for a transitional period.

**2003:52**

1. Section 33 of this Act shall enter into force on 1 July 2003 and the remainder of the Act on 1 January 2004.
2. The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue the regulations that may be necessary for a transitional period.
3. The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue the regulations concerning exemptions from the permit requirement for activities under section 16 that may be necessary for a transitional period. Act (2003:1076).

**2003:1077**

1. This Act shall enter into force on 1 January 2004.
2. The provision in section 3 a shall apply to measures that require prior approval after 1 January 2004.

**2006:809**

1. This Act shall enter into force on 1 July 2006.
2. Up to and including 31 December 2010, instead of the provision in section 25 b the following shall apply. The Government or the authority designated by the Government may issue regulations directing that a fee may be charged for official control under the Act, the regulations issued pursuant to the Act or the EC provisions supplemented by the Act. The Government may delegate responsibility for issuing regulations on such fees to the municipality. Act (2007:362).

**2007:362**

This Act shall enter into force on 1 July 2007.