DEER CARCASE AND OFFAL DISPOSAL (FARMED & WILD)

GUIDANCE ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW CONCERNING THE DISPOSAL OF ANIMAL BY-PRODUCTS

DEER

Carcase/Offal Disposal

The leaflet sets out the law relating to the disposal of:-

1) Deer carcases,
2) parts of deer,
3) product of deer origin

Not intended for human consumption.
Strict controls are in place to ensure animal by-products are disposed of safely, to reduce the risk of the spread of disease, and the prevention of pollution.

Failure to comply with any provision of the law could result in a fine of up to £5,000 for each offence.

This is a guideline to advise you of the requirements of the legislation and the points you should consider before disposing of any deer by-product.

**The Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013 apply to:-**

1. Farmed deer, &
2. **Only** wild deer if suspected of being infected with a disease communicable to humans or animals.

**Notifiable Diseases**

If you think that a notifiable disease, in particular TB has caused ill health or death of a wild deer, you must report it to the Secretary of State at the local Animal Health Office of the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency. Carcases should be available to be examined by post mortem in these cases. Always consider the possibility of anthrax if death is sudden and unexplained. Do not dispose of the animal until directed to do so by either an AHVLA official or an Animal Health Inspector.

**DISPOSAL OF DEER CARCASES/OFFAL**

1. **Farmed Deer** – (Kept within a ring fence).

The disposal of deer carcases, parts of deer carcases, and products of deer origin, are controlled by the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2011.

These Regulations require that this material is collected and transported without **undue delay** to an approved premise:

1. For Incineration
2. For Rendering
3. To Technical Plants
4. Or to the following ‘Registered Premises’:
   a. For Diagnostic, Educational or Research purposes
   b. For Taxidermy
   c. Knacker Yard
   d. For Feeding to:
      - Zoo and Circus Animals, reptiles and birds of prey
      - Dogs from recognised kennels, recognised packs of hounds or dogs and cats in shelters
      - Maggots and worms for fishing bait

Burial or burning is **only** permitted on the Isles of Scilly and Lundy Island.
2. Wild Deer. The Regulations, only apply to wild deer in certain circumstances. Consequently, it is still permissible to remove Gralloch from carcasses in the field/forest in accordance with good hunting practice

It is recommended that it should be:

- Covered with soil, rocks or wood to prevent access by scavengers.
- At least 250m from any well, spring or borehole used as a source of drinking water.
- At least 30m from any other spring or watercourse and at least 10m from any drain.

A disposal pit may be used for the disposal of a limited quantity of By-Products from wild deer. The pit should be constructed in accordance with the Code of Good Agricultural Practice - the Water Code (revised 1998).

Gralloch from any deer suspected of having a **notifiable disease** in particular TB cannot be buried. This material will have to be collected in a sealable container, and carried back to the premise e.g. the larder for inspection and disposal. If affected, the carcase will be controlled by the Regulations. The removal of skins, hooves, horns and the draining of blood from the carcase may take place and there are no controls on these products.

However, parts of wild animals used to produce game trophies will be controlled by the Regulations.

Wild deer, suspected of being infected with a disease communicable to humans or animals must be disposed of as animal by-product by:-

- Rendering in an approved premise;
- Complete incineration in an incinerator.

**Wild game animal by-products**

Approved Game Handling Establishments (AGHEs) will now need to dispose of animal by-products generated in their premises in line with the Regulations. AGHEs should contact their local Animal Health office for a list of registered waste collectors.

**Transportation of Deer Carcases/and or Parts**

- Animal by-products must be collected and transported in suitable containers or vehicles in such a way as to prevent leakage.
- Containers/vehicles must be adequately covered.
- Vehicles, containers and covers must be maintained in a clean condition.
Documentation

Any person consigning, transporting or receiving the animal by-product shall keep a record of consignments, and must ensure that identifying documentation accompanies the by-product during transport. Such records and documentation must be retained by the consignor/haulier and consignee for two years and must show:

- The name and address of the Consignor
- The date on which the material was taken from the premises.
- The description of the material (including ear tag number if applicable)
- The quantity
- The destination to which it was delivered.
- The name and address of the haulier
- The place of origin of the material
- The name and address of the receiver and if applicable the approval number

The commercial document must be produced in triplicate (the original and two copies)

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – See the FSA publication – ‘The Wild Game Guide’ – A guide to the Hygiene Regulations for people who shoot wild game and supply in fur or in-feather or as small quantities of wild game meat.
http://www.food.gov.uk/multimedia/pdfs/wildgameguidejun09.pdf

This is not an authoritative document on the law, and is only intended for guidance.