



**submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution**

## **Annex II: Control programme – Reduction of prevalence of Salmonella serotypes in certain poultry populations**

Member States seeking an EU financial contribution for national programmes for eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonosis shall submit online this document completely filled out by the 31 May of the year preceding its implementation (part 2.1 of Annex I to the Single Market Programme Regulation).

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- 5) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit multi-annual programmes.
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Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : SLOVENIJA

Disease Salmonella

Animal population Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

This program is multi annual :

Request of Union co-financing from beginning :

1. Contact data

Name  Phone

Email  Your job type within the CA :

**Submission Date**

**30/11/2022 12:58:27**

**Submission Number**

**1669809498905-18893**



# Laying flocks of *Gallus gallus*

## A. Technical information

By submitting this programme, the Member State (MS) attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval, in particular:

- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of *Salmonella* and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents,
- Regulation (EU) No 517/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in laying hens of *Gallus gallus*,
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry.

As a consequence, the following measures will be implemented during the whole period of the programme:

### 1. Aim of the programme

It is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce the prevalence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium (including the serotypes with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-) in adult laying hens of *Gallus gallus* ('Union target') as follows:

- An annual minimum percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 10% where the prevalence in the preceding year was less than 10%.
- An annual minimum percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 20% where the prevalence in the preceding year was more than or equal to 10% and less than 20%.
- A reduction of the maximum percentage equal to 2% or less of positive flocks of adult laying hens.
- The Member States has less than 50 flocks of adult laying hens: the target is to have not more than one adult flock remaining positive.

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

The Union target shall be achieved every year based on the monitoring of the previous year.

Comments(max. 32000 chars) :

2. The programme will be implemented on the **whole territory** of the MS.

*yes*

*no*

*If No, please explain :*

# Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

## 3. Flocks subject to the programme

The programme covers all flocks of adult laying hens of *Gallus gallus* but does not apply to flocks for private domestic use or leading to the direct supply, by the producer, of small quantities of table eggs to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the eggs to the final consumer. For the latter case (direct supply), national rules are adopted ensuring *Salmonella* control in these flocks. The programme covers also all rearing flocks of future laying hens.

*yes*

*no*

*If No, please explain :*

Programme covers all the adult laying hen flocks, except:

1. The flocks the eggs whereof are used for own domestic consumption. No national rules are in place.  
2. The flocks with 50 or less laying hens if the eggs are sold at the place of production or on the open market directly to final consumers. The food business have to be registered for primary production and comply with the primary production requirements laid down in Part A of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 852/2004. No Salmonella testing is required for such producer.

3. The flocks with less than 350 laying hens if the eggs are sold only at the place of production directly to the final consumers. According to national Rules the Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 does not apply for producers keeping less than 350 laying hens if the eggs are sold only at the place of production directly to the final consumers. Such producers have to comply with the following national rules:

- the flock of laying hens is healthy and does not show diseases transmitted through eggs to humans,
- laying hens did not receive unauthorized or prohibited substances, or are not in a withdrawal period,
- eggs are kept in clean and dry rooms, protected from direct sunlight and pests, until they are laid,
- eggs are delivered directly to the final consumer no later than 21 days after they have been laid.

Programme also covers all the rearing laying hen flocks, except the rearing flocks with less than 350 hens, where the pullets are intended exclusively for sale to keepers of animals for the production of eggs for their own domestic consumption.

|                | Total number of flocks of layers in the MS | Number of flocks covered by the programme | Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place | Number of flocks where official sampling will take place |
|----------------|--|---|--|--|
| Rearing flocks | 190  |   | 160  | 1  |
| Adult flocks   | 500  | 265                                       | 265  | 93   |
|                |  |   |  |  |

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

|  |     |
|--|-----|
|  |     |
| Number of holdings with more than 1,000 laying hens                          | 69  |
| Number of flocks in these holdings   | 190 |
| <i>NB : All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available.</i> |     |

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

Holdings keeping laying hen flocks covered by Salmonella control programmes:  
In February 2022, there were in the Republic of Slovenia 131 holdings rearing the adult laying hens, with 194 registered houses. Out of 131 holdings, 62 holdings are rearing less than 1000 laying hens. Pullet rearing is carried out at 42 holdings.  
Only the data on the total number of flocks covered by the Salmonella control programme are available. Data on the total number of flocks is estimated.  
Annex 1: Number of holdings and houses keeping laying hen flocks per AFSVSPP Regional Offices

### 4. Notification of the detection of target *Salmonella* serovars

A procedure is in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses. Timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses.

yes

no

if no, please explain :

### 5. Biosecurity measures

FBOs have to implement measures to prevent the contamination of their flocks.

yes

no

if no, please explain. If yes, please describe the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) (max. 32000 chars) :

Holdings producing table eggs shall comply with the primary production requirements laid down in Part A of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs. No additional biosecurity measures for the keepers of laying hens are

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

prescribed.

Guidelines available: EU guidelines on good hygiene practice in laying hen flocks.

### 6. Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators (FBO):

Samples at the initiative of the FBOs will be taken and analysed to test for the target *Salmonella* serovars respecting the following minimum sampling requirements:

- a. Rearing flocks: day-old chicks, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit
- b. Adults laying flocks: every 15 weeks during the laying period

yes

no

*if no, please explain - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples, and, if additional FBO sampling, going beyond the minimum sampling requirements, is performed, please describe what is done.*

Sampling of laying hen flocks is conducted by business operators or by private veterinary practitioners or by veterinary technicians employed by veterinary practitioners.

### 7. Samples are taken in accordance with provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EU) No 517/2011

yes

no

*if no, please explain :*

### 8. Specific requirements laid down in Annex II.D of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant. In particular:

- due to the presence or the suspicion of the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-) in the flock, eggs cannot be used for human consumption unless heat treated;
- eggs from these flocks shall be marked and considered as class B eggs.

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

yes

no

*if no, please explain - Indicate also if prompt depopulation of the infected flocks is compulsory.*

Where Salmonella Enteritidis and/or Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic ST1,4,[5],12:i:-) is detected business operator shall decide whether the flock will be slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and if eggs will be destroyed or heat treated.

If eggs are used for human consumption must be marked as class B eggs as defined in Regulation (EC) No 589/2008 and delivered only to approved egg processing establishment for heat treatment. Business operator shall inform AFSVSPP Regional Office on the number/quantity of eggs intended for processing, and on the name and address of egg processing establishment.

If flock is slaughtered business operator shall notify the AFSVSPP Regional Office on the slaughter date, and name and address of the slaughterhouse.

At killing or destruction of the flock, the business operator shall notify AFSVSPP Regional Office on the date of killing, and ensure that the killing and destruction are conducted in compliance with the regulations governing animal welfare (Regulation No. 1099/2009) and regulation governing animal-by-products. (Regulation No. 1069/2009).

Time period for depopulation of a positive flock is not defined in the legislation. The time of depopulation of the flock is decided by FBO. In practice, the animals are depopulated as soon as everything is arranged for the slaughter/killing.

With the adoption of the new Rules in 2023, restrictive measures will also be imposed for the flocks where serological group O4 or O9 will be detected, and the flock will not be vaccinated against relevant Salmonella serovar.

9.If birds from flocks infected with SE or ST are slaughtered, please describe the measures that shall be implemented by the FBO and the CA to ensure that fresh poultry meat meet the relevant **EU microbiological criteria** (row 1.28 of Chapter 1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005): absence of SE/ST in 5 samples of 25g:

### *Measures implemented by the FBO (farm level)*

In case that a laying hen flock positive for S.Enteritidis or S.Typhimurium (including monophasic ST) is slaughtered, the business operator keeping breeding flocks shall:

- notify the AFSVSPP Regional Office of the slaughter date, and name and address of the slaughterhouse, where the positive flock is to be subjected to slaughter, specifying that a Salmonella-positive flock is to be slaughtered;
- indicate in the Food Chain Information (FCI) that presence of S.Enteritidis or S.Typhimurium or monophasic ST was identified in the flock;

### *Measures implemented by the FBO (slaughterhouse level)*

Food business operator of the slaughter activity shall notify the official veterinarian of the positive flock slaughter at least one working day in advance of the slaughter date, and provide that:

- slaughter of the positive flock is conducted as the last batch in the slaughter process of the relevant production day, in such a way that the possibility of spread of Salmonella is decreased to the minimum possible degree;
- meat obtained from the positive flock is heat treated or treated with another procedure ensuring the

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

destruction of Salmonella, or that the meat is disposed in accordance with Regulation (ES) 1069/2009.

### Measures implemented by the CA (farm and slaughterhouse level)

According to national legislation, the meat obtained from flocks with the identified SE/ST (including monophasic ST) must not be placed on the market as a fresh meat. Meat obtained from such flocks must be subject to heat treatment or another treatment to eliminate Salmonella spp before it is placed on the market.

Slaughter of positive flock and heat treatment of meat (or another treatment) are supervised by official veterinarian.

**10. Laboratories** in which samples (official and FBO samples) collected within this programme are analysed are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for *Salmonella* detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

yes

no

If no, please explain :

I. Investigations of samples taken by business operators may be conducted by laboratories, which are entered by AFSVSP into the list of approved laboratories involved in the national Salmonella spp. control programme. The list of approved laboratories includes nine laboratories. Seven laboratories have been accredited according to SIST EN ISO/IEC 17025, and analytical method for Salmonella spp. detection is within the scope of accreditation.

According to the national legislation, the requirement of point 1(b) of Article 12 of Regulation No 2160/2003 ("laboratories shall apply quality assurance system that conforms to the requirements of current ISO EN/ISO standard") is complied with also by a laboratory that is not accredited, provided that it:

- Operates according to SIST EN ISO/IEC 17025;
- The method of analysis used for the detection of presence of Salmonella spp. is validated, so as to facilitate the determination of the level of detection, sensitivity and specificity;
- Cooperates in the interlaboratory testing organised by the NRL.

In two laboratories, which are not accredited, AFSVSP jointly with experts of the NRL for Salmonella visit the laboratories to verify whether the laboratory operates according to SIST EN ISO/IEC 17025. This includes verification if laboratory applies required detection method, validation of the method and correct performance of the method.

II. Investigations of official samples are conducted by designated official laboratories. Analysis for Salmonella spp. are conducted by three official laboratories. In case of official confirmatory sampling, the investigations of official samples are conducted at the National Reference Laboratories. All official laboratories are accredited according to SIST EN ISO/IEC 17025 and has in place the accredited method of isolation of Salmonella spp.

Strain serotyping (Kauffmann-White-Le Minor Scheme (WHO) is conducted only by NRL for Salmonella spp. Serotyping method is within the scope of accreditation. All Salmonella spp. isolates from official samples and from FBO samples are send to NRL for salmonella for serotyping. Where the isolation is



## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

conducted by the NRL, serotyping begin on the same day, on conclusion of isolation. Where the isolation is conducted in another laboratory, the laboratory is required to submit the isolate to the NRL no later than on the following day upon conclusion of isolation

NRL for Salmonella organises the collaborative testing for Salmonella spp., i.e. isolation (detection) and biochemical confirmation, and serotyping up to serological group (not conducted by all the laboratories). All the laboratories involved in the Salmonella control programme regularly participate in the collaborative testing.

11. The **analytical methods** used for the detection of the target *Salmonella* serovars is the one defined in Part 3.2 of the Annex of Regulation (EU) No 200/2010 i.e. Amendment 1 of EN/ISO 6579-2002/Amd1:2007. *'Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs - Horizontal method for the detection of Salmonella spp. -- Amendment 1: Annex D: Detection of Salmonella spp. in animal faeces and in environmental samples from the primary production stage'*.

Serotyping is performed following the Kaufman-White-Le Minor scheme.

**yes**

**no**

*If no please explain.*

For samples taken on behalf of the FBO alternative methods if validated in accordance with the most recent version of EN/ISO16140 may be used.

**yes**

**no**

*If no please explain.*

Currently only the method ISO 6579-1 is applied for samples taken taken within the Salmonella Control Programme (FBO samples and official samples).

If during the official inspection at the holding non-compliances with regard to exceeding of time limit are found, the official veterinarian issues a warning or impose a relevant pecuniary penalty (a fine) to the FBO.

The new National Rules, which will be adopted in 2023, stipulates that the laboratory must notify the FBO and the competent authority in such a case. The FBO must re-sample the flock within three days of

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

notification at the latest.

12. Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 3.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 517/2011. In particular, samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 4 days after sampling.

*yes*

*no*

*If no, please explain :*

According to national legislation, in case of official confirmatory sampling, or official sampling when investigating Salmonella food-borne outbreak, the official laboratory shall start the examination no later than 24 hours from acceptance of samples.

13. Please describe the **official controls at feed level** (including sampling).

*Comments (max. 32000 chars) :*

Official control of animal feed in the Republic of Slovenia is conducted by the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection (AFSVSPP) and by the Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Agriculture, Forestry and Food (IRSAFF). Feed control is conducted on the basis of the Animal Feed Control and Monitoring Programme, which is prepared jointly by AFSVSPP and IRSAFF.

The Programme includes the official control of feed business operators (FBOs), as well as a feed sampling programme. Based on the Programme, the official veterinarian conduct sampling in the approved and registered feed establishments. Official samples of animal feed are taken at animal feed producers, importers and intermediaries, and at agricultural holdings.

Microbiological criteria for Salmonella in feed lays down in Commission Regulation 142/2011/EU. In addition national microbiological criteria for Salmonella in compound feeds for laying hens and breeding hen flocks lays down in Rules on feed safety criteria (absence in 25 g of relevant Salmonella spp. serovars).

A total of 56 official feed samples were taken in 2020 out of which 26 samples of compound feedingstuffs for poultry. In 2019, 54 official feed samples were taken out of which 26 samples of compound feedingstuffs for poultry. Salmonella spp. was not isolated from any of the official samples of feed for poultry.

Feed business operators carrying out the activity of feed production are obliged to ensure, based on the annual plans of internal controls, the compliance of raw materials and products with the microbiological criteria for animal feed. Where a feed business operator at implementation of internal controls establishes that the feed does not comply with the microbiological criteria, he shall immediately notify

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

thereof the competent AFSVSPP Regional Office, and take action in accordance with Article 20 of Regulation 178/2002/EC.

### 14. Official controls at holding, flock and hatchery level

- a. Please describe the official checks concerning the **general hygiene provisions** (Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004) including checks on biosecurity measures, and consequences in case of unsatisfactory outcome.

*(max. 32000 chars) :*

Official checks of implementation of SNCP is conducted by the official veterinarians on the basis of the AFSVSPP Work Plan. Frequency of official checks at holdings keeping laying hens is defined by the relevant Regional Office, taking into account the criteria for risk based controls (criteria are part of AFSVSPP Work Plan). Additionally, control is conducted also at all holdings where in the past year the presence of *S. Enteritidis* / *S. Typhimurium* had been identified.

Checklist for holdings keeping laying hen flocks includes, in addition to verification of implementation of Salmonella monitoring, the verification of hygiene conditions at the holding (conditions as laid down in Part A of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 852/2004) and conditions as laid down in Chapter I of Section X of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 (specific hygiene requirements for eggs).

Where during the official inspection and control any non-compliances are found, the official veterinarian issues a decision to the FBO, requiring their remedy and defining the relevant deadlines. On expiry of that deadline, the official veterinarian conducts follow up visit at the holding. Should the relevant non-compliances not be eliminated, the FBO shall be required to do so mandatorily, and imposed a relevant pecuniary penalty (a fine).

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

b. Routine official **sampling scheme**: EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. official sampling are performed:

- in one flock per year per holding comprising at least 1,000 birds;
- at the age of 24 +/- 2 weeks in laying flocks housed in buildings where the relevant Salmonella was detected in the preceding flock;
- in any case of suspicion of Salmonella infection when investigating food-borne outbreaks in accordance with Article 8 of Directive 2003/99/EC or any cases where the competent authority considers it appropriate, using the sampling protocol laid down in point 4(b) of Part D to Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003;
- in all other laying flocks on the holding in case Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium is detected in one laying flock on the holding;
- in cases where the competent authority considers it appropriate.

yes

no

*If no, please explain. - Indicate also 1)if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed give a description of what is done 2)who is taking the official samples*

Every year also approximately 30% of holdings with less than 1000 laying hens have been included in the official routine sampling as these holdings represent 45% of all holdings included in SNCP. Due to a high percentage of such holdings, and considering that such holdings may sell eggs to "mass caterers" - i.e. such as restaurants, canteens, schools, hospitals and catering enterprises, - AFSVSPP considers such official sampling appropriate to ensure adequate official control and public health protection.

Only official veterinarians conduct official sampling referred to in point 2.1 of Annex to Regulation 517/2011/EC and in Part D to Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

c. **Official confirmatory sampling** (in addition to the confirmatory samples at the holding which are systematically performed if FBO or official samples are positive at the hatchery):

After positive official samples at the holding

Always

Sometimes (criteria apply)

Never

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

After positive FBO samples at the holding

Always

Sometimes (criteria apply)

Never

When official confirmatory sampling is performed, additional samples are taken for checking the presence of antimicrobials:

Always

Sometimes

Never

Please insert any comments. Describe the criteria used to determine if confirmatory sampling is performed. Indicate also which samples (if any) are taken to check the presence of antimicrobials.

No official sampling in order to exclude false-positive initial results is carried out following detection of Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic strains) during official sampling.

In order to exclude the false-positive initial results, where S. Enteritidis and/or S. Typhimurium was detected in samples taken by business operator, official veterinarian shall carry out official sampling, using the sampling protocol defined in point 4(b)(i, ii or iii) of Part D, Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. During official sampling also samples for the detection of presence of antimicrobials are taken (five birds or 12 eggs in every house). The investigation of official samples is always conducted at the NRL for Salmonella (bootswabs/faeces) and NRL for residues (birds or 12 eggs).

In addition to official confirmatory sampling the following measures apply for the flock: ban on animal movements from the suspect flock, unless for slaughter or destruction of the flock and ban on placing the eggs from suspect flock on the market, unless handled as defined in point b of Part D of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. Measures shall apply pending the results of official confirmatory sampling.

For limiting the official confirmatory sampling after FBO positive samples to exceptional cases national legislation has to be modified. New draft of national rules will define the criteria to be taken into account for the decision for possible confirmatory sampling e.g. history of Salmonella spp. isolation on the premises, vaccination policy, certain biosecurity measures.

| 1  | 2                                | 3  | 4  |
|--|----------------------------------|--|--|
| For routine samples taken at the holding | No of flocks positive to SE / ST | Out of the flocks in column 2, No of cases where official confirmatory samples <sup>3</sup> were taken | Out of the cases in column 3, No of cases where confirmatory samples were negative |
| FBO samples <sup>1</sup>                 | 1                                | 1  | 1  |

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

|                               |   |   |   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Official samples <sup>2</sup> | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|

<sup>1</sup> Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.1 of the Annex

<sup>2</sup> Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.2 of the Annex

<sup>3</sup> Reg 2160/2003, point II.D.4 of the Annex

*What happened to the flocks counted under 4 (re checked for the presence of Salmonella? Checked for the presence of antimicrobials?) (max. 32000 chars):*

During the official sampling in order to exclude false positive initial results samples for the detection of presence of antimicrobials are always taken. If antimicrobials will be detected, the laying hen flock shall be reported as positive for verification of the Union target.

- d. Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 (**antimicrobials** shall not be used as a specific method to control *Salmonella* in poultry): please describe the official controls implemented (documentary checks, sampletaking) to check the correct implementation of this provision. For samples please describe the samples taken, the analytical method used, the result of the tests.

Comments - Describe also if any other measures are implemented(max. 32000 chars) :

Official sampling in order to check the use of antimicrobials are carried out if official confirmatory sampling is carried out or when official sampling referred to referred to in point 2.1.(b), (c), (d) and (e) of Annex to Regulation 517/2011/EC is carried out.

Sampling protocol for the verification of presence of antimicrobials (including the type of sample) is not laid down in Regulation (EU) No 517/2011 and/or Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. For this reason, the relevant national regulation stipulates that for the identification of antimicrobials in laying hen flocks a random sample shall be taken of at least 5 animals or at least 12 eggs. When sampling for detection of antimicrobials is conducted in adult laying hen flocks mostly eggs are taken for the detection of presence of antimicrobials.

Eggs are tested for the presence of antibiotics, quinolones and sulphonamides. The same sampling protocol and analytical method is used as for the testing of samples taken within National residue monitoring programme.

Laying hen flocks may be treated for other reasons (except for *Salmonella*) and according to national legislation, every treatment with antimicrobials shall be register in logbook of veterinary treatments including the reasons for treatment. Logbook of veterinary treatments is also checked before the official routine sampling on the holding is carried out. If antimicrobials were used in the flock and withdrawal period has not expire yet, the official sampling shall be postponed.

In line with the national legislation, the consequences of a positive result in antimicrobial test are as follows:

- For verification of the Union target, the breeding flock shall be reported as positive;
- The official veterinarian shall ban the movements of the birds from the flock and the movements of eggs from the holding;

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

- c) On expiry of the withdrawal period, the official veterinarian shall conduct the official sampling for the identification of presence of *Salmonella* spp., and the sampling for the presence of antimicrobials:
- Where the presence of *Salmonella* spp. and of antimicrobials is not identified in the official samples, the official veterinarian revokes the ban on movements of birds and eggs from the holding;
  - Where the presence of target *Salmonella* serovars is identified in the official samples, measures for positive flocks apply;
- d) The business operator and person responsible for the business operator shall be imposed a fine (pecuniary penalty);

From the beginning of implementation of SNCP, to date, the presence of antimicrobials has not been identified in laying hen flocks.

### 15. *Salmonella* vaccination

Voluntary

Compulsory

Forbidden

Use of *Salmonella* vaccines is in compliance with provisions of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

yes

no

*If no, please explain. - If performed please describe the vaccination scheme (vaccines used, vaccines providers, target flocks, number of doses administered per bird, etc) (max. 32000 chars) :*

Vaccination programme referred to in Article 3(3) is not applied in the Republic of Slovenia as the prevalence of *S. Enteritidis*/*S. Typhimurium* in laying hen flocks is below 10 %.

In the Republic of Slovenia, vaccination against *Salmonella* is not prohibited under national legislation. Business operators may decide on performing voluntary vaccination, where the full expenses in conjunction with vaccination are charged to animal owners' accounts.

Authorised is the use of vaccines only, which have had the marketing authorisation for circulation in the Republic of Slovenia. Vaccination of animals may be prescribed and/or conducted by veterinary practitioners of veterinary clinics.

Based on data obtained through inspection of laying-hen holdings approximately on 70 % of the holdings, flocks are vaccinated against *Salmonella*. Vaccination of laying hen flocks is conducted only during the rearing phase (rearing flocks). In most laying hen flocks, vaccination is carried out 2 or 3 times against *S. Enteritidis*. Vaccination of the flock shall be registered in the logbook of veterinary treatments on the holding, which is available for official inspection on the request of official veterinarian.

In case of live vaccines, the description of the differentiation procedure between the vaccination strain and the wild strain is an integral part of use instructions. Some laboratories has in place procedures for

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

the differentiation of the vaccination strain and the wild strain, other laboratories send isolate to NRL for Salmonella. Investigation for strain differentiation is always conducted if relevant serological group is detected (O9 or O4) and starts already in the phase of identification of serological group. The results of differentiation test are usually available before or at the same time as serotyping results. With the adoption of the new Rules in 2023, measures will also be imposed on flocks where serological group O4 or O9 is found and the flock is not vaccinated against the relevant serovar.

### 16. System for **compensation to owners** for the value of their birds slaughtered or culled and the eggs destroyed or heat treated.

*Describe the system for compensation to owners. Indicate also how improper implementation of biosecurity measures can affect the payment of compensation (max. 32000 chars):*

In case of identified presence of the Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium serovars in the adult laying hen flocks, the business operator is paid a compensation for the animals killed or slaughtered.

The compensation payment application for animals killed or slaughtered must be lodged by the animal owner within a 15-day period of time from the date of killing or slaughter of the animals. Official veterinarian shall decide on whether the business operator is eligible for compensation or not, and issue a relevant decision in writing.

Business operator shall not be entitled to compensation if the required Salmonella sampling is not conducted, if the Competent Authority is not notified of Salmonella presence identified in the flock, or if all the required measures in case of identified S.Enteritidis or S.Typhimurium are not implemented. Improper implementation of biosecurity measures according to the currently applicable national legislation, however, does not affect the payment of compensations.

The current Slovenian national legislation lays down fixed value of compensation for the animals slaughter in case of identification of S.Enteritidis / S.Typhimurium, which amounts to 4.4 EUR per animal. If an animal owner receive a payment for the meat of slaughtered animals, compensation is decreased for the value paid.

In the Republic of Slovenia, business operators are not entitled to compensation for eggs destroyed or eggs submitted to heat treatment.

### 17. Please describe the official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house (No of samples, No of tests, samples taken, etc).

*(max. 32000 chars):*

Upon removal or dispatch of the flock in which targeted Salmonella serotypes has been identified, business operator is responsible for cleaning and disinfection of the house and for bacteriological control in order to verify the effectiveness of disinfection. Restocking of the poultry house is allowed after the negative results of bacteriological tests are submitted to official veterinarian.

A sampling protocol for the verification of efficacy of disinfection is not defined in our national legislation. During official inspection at the holding, the official veterinarian informs the FBO on the appropriate sampling protocol: the boot swabs for taking of samples for Salmonella shall be used, and the walls, the floor, cages, feeding system, ventilation system, egg collection system shall be sampled. Samples may be pooled for testing. If the official veterinarian doubts the adequacy of sampling



# Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

conducted by the FBO, he/she may conduct the official sampling so as to verify the efficacy of disinfection.

## B. General information

### 1. Structure and organisation of the **Competent Authorities** (from the central CA to the local CAs)

*Short description and/or reference to a document presenting this description (max. 32000 chars) :*

Competent authority under Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 is the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection (AFSVSPP). In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 882/2004, AFSVSPP is the competent authority for official control of verification of compliance with the applicable legislation in the field of Animal health and welfare, Safety and quality of foodstuffs of animal and plant origin, Animal feed, Plant health, Plant protection products and Plant reproductive material and animal feed.

AFSVSPP includes:

- Food and Feed Division,
- Animal Health and Welfare Division, Plant Protection Products (PPP) Division,
- Plant Health and Plant Reproductive Material Division,
- Animal Identification and Registration and Information Systems Division,
- International Affairs Division,
- Internal Audit Office, and
- Food Safety, Veterinary and Plant Health Inspection, which includes 10 Regional Offices and 2 Border Inspection Posts.

Within AFSVSPP:

- a) Food and Feed Division is responsible for the preparation of the national control programmes and amendments thereto, for collecting data on the number of flocks sampled, and on positive flocks within the national control programmes, and for the submission of data to the European Commission (EFSA).
- b) Food Safety, Veterinary and Plant Health Inspection (including 10 Regional Offices) is responsible for the implementation of checks at poultry rearing holdings and at hatcheries, for the control of implementation of the national control programme by the business operators, for the implementation of official sampling, and for instituting and controlling the implementation of measures in case of identification of Salmonella spp. Official sampling and control of holdings is conducted by official veterinarians.

### 2. **Legal basis** for the implementation of the programme

*(max. 32000 chars) :*

1. Veterinary Compliance Criteria Act (UL RS 93/05)

## Laying flocks of *Gallus gallus*

2. Rules on the competent authorities and control programme of *Salmonella* spp. and other specified zoonotic agents (UL RS 67/2004)
3. Rules on the monitoring and control of *Salmonella* in poultry of *Gallus gallus*, UL RS 97/2010 (new national *Salmonella* monitoring and control regulation is in the preparation and adoption procedure and is envisaged to become applicable in 2017 or at the beginning of 2018)
4. Rules on fees in the veterinary sector (UL RS 105/2007)

### EU LEGISLATION

1. Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents
2. Commission Regulation (EU) No 517/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of certain *Salmonella* serotypes in laying hens of *Gallus gallus* and amending Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and Commission Regulation (EU) No 200/2010
3. Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of salmonella in poultry
4. Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the hygiene of foodstuffs
5. Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/268 of 15 February 2019 amending Regulations (EU) No 200/2010, (EU) No 517/2011, (EU) No 200/2012 and (EU) No 1190/2012 as regards certain methods for *Salmonella* testing and sampling in poultry

Under the Slovenian legal order, the Regulations of the European Parliament and of the Council, and Commission Regulations, are directly applicable in the Republic of Slovenia, and do not need to be transposed into the Slovenian legal order, except in parts, where the particular provisions of the Regulations need to be specified in greater detail.

3. Give a short summary of the outcome of the **monitoring of the target *Salmonella* serovars** (SE, ST) implemented in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC (evolution of the prevalence values based on the monitoring of animal populations or subpopulations or of the food chain).

(max. 32000 chars) :

### BREEDING FLOCKS:

In adult breeding flocks targeted serovars were detected in 2008, 2011, 2015 and 2019. In 2008, *S.Typhimurium* was detected in one (1) adult breeding flock, and in 2011 in two (2) flocks. All positive *S.Typhimurium* flocks was linked to the same holding, where the production of breeding flocks was concluded in 2012. In 2015, *S.Infantis* was detected in one adult breeding flock, and in two adult breeding flocks in 2019. Both flocks positive in 2019 were kept on the same holding and were of the same age. In period from 2012 by the end of 2018, and in 2020/2021 the Union target for breeding flocks was achieved, as the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks remaining positive for targeted serovars was below 1 %.

In 2021, 131 adult parent breeding flocks and 103 rearing breeding flocks were included in SNCP. *Salmonella* spp. was not detected in any breeding flock.

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

**LAYING HEN FLOCKS:** Within the baseline study conducted in the period 2004 – 2005, the presence of *Salmonella* spp. was detected in 19.4 % of the flocks, and thereof, the presence of *S. Enteritidis* was detected in 9.2 % laying hen flocks. *S. Typhimurium* was not detected in the adult laying hen flocks. In 2008, the EU target was not achieved as the percentage of adult laying hen flocks was by 0.4 % above the EU target. The percentage positive flocks for target serovars decreased from 8.7% in 2008, to 3.4% in 2009. Since 2010, the percentage of flocks positive for targeted serovars varies between 0% to 1.42%. The presence of targeted serovars was not detected in adult laying hen flocks. In 2021, 263 adult laying hen flocks and 158 rearing flocks were included in the SNCP. The presence of *Salmonella* spp. was detected in 3 adult laying hen flocks (1.14%). No laying hen flock was positive for targeted serovars.

Attachment 3: Number of tested and positive breeding and laying hen flocks.

**BROILERS:** Within the baseline study, 326 broiler flocks were sampled and *Salmonella* spp. was identified in 3,1% flocks. The estimated prevalence of *Salmonella Enteritidis/Salmonella Typhimurium* in broiler flocks amounted to 1.6 %, and the prevalence of the remaining *Salmonella* serovars amounted to 0.2 %. Since the beginning of the SNCP percentage of broiler flocks remaining positive for *S. Enteritidis* and/or *S. Typhimurium* was below EU target. In period from 2009 by the end of 2019 percentage of flocks positive for targeted serovars was between 0%-0.16%. In 2020, this percentage increased to 0.54%, and in 2021 decreased again to 0.24%.

Although serovar *Typhimurium* was more common in broiler flocks in the period 2009-2019, serovar *Enteritidis* was more frequent in 2020. In 2021, as in previous years, *S. Infantis* and *Salmonella* group O7 were the most common serovar in broiler flocks accounting for 72% of positive broiler flocks. In other poultry species *S. Infantis* occurs very rarely.

In 2021, 2480 broiler flocks were sampled. *Salmonella* spp. was detected in 363 flocks, and targeted serovars was detected in 6 broiler flock (*S. Enteritidis* – 2 flocks and *S. Typhimurium* – 4 flocks).

**TURKEYS:** In the R Slovenia, there are no breeding turkey flocks. Within the baseline study, there were 131 fattening turkey flocks sampled, and thereof, the presence of *Salmonella* spp. was identified in 22.1 % flocks. The estimated prevalence of *Salmonella* spp. amounted to 21.1 %, and the prevalence of *Salmonella Enteritidis/Salmonella Typhimurium* amounted to 4.7 %.

In the period 2010 – 2019, the presence of *Salmonella Enteritidis/Salmonella Typhimurium* was not identified in fattening turkey flocks within the SNCP. In 2020, targeted serovar was detected for the first time since the beginning of the SNCP. In 2021, 104 fattening turkey flocks were tested before slaughter. *Salmonella* spp. was detected in nine (9) fattening turkey flocks (8.65%) out of which in one (1) flock *S. Typhimurium* was detected (0.96%).

### 4. System for the registration of holdings and identification of flocks

(max. 32000 chars) :

Procedure of registration of establishments involved in primary food production is laid down in the Rules on registration and approval of food producing establishment (UL RS 96/14). In accordance with these Rules (establishments) holdings producing table eggs shall be registered. Business operators producing table eggs are entered in the register of establishments involved in primary food production, which is kept by AFSVSPP. Registration shall not be required for those establishments keeping less than 350 birds and selling eggs only at the place of production directly to the final consumers. In addition, all business operators with 350 or more laying hens have registered houses in accordance with to Commission Directive 2002/4/EC of 30 January 2002 and are entered in the register of laying hen rearing

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

establishments, which is kept by AFSVSPP as well. Registration of laying hen houses is required also for holdings with less than 350 laying hens, where so required for the identification of eggs in compliance with Regulation 1308/2013/EC and Regulation 589/2008/EC.

The identification system for the registration of individual adult laying hen flocks is not laid down in the national legislation. Business operator shall, at Salmonella sampling indicate in a sampling form the date of accommodation / housing of the flock, age of animals at sampling, and the identification number of the house where the holding comprises several poultry houses e.g. house 1, house 2,...

At holdings comprising a single poultry house, the linking of sampling (samples) with relevant flock is possible on the basis of the date of accommodation/housing of the animals and of the age of the animals. At holdings comprising several poultry houses, the linking of sampling (samples) with relevant flock is possible on the basis of data combination: date of accommodation/housing / age of the flock at sampling / registration number of the poultry house.

For the needs of implementation of official sampling and control within the Salmonella national control programme, according to the national rules business operators shall notify the competent AFSVSPP Regional Office of the new housing of the laying hen flock no later than within 1 week of the flock's housing.

### 5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

*(max. 32000 chars):*

At present, we do not have in place a national database (computer application) in Slovenia, for the specific collection of data on official or FBO samplings conducted for the presence of Salmonella in poultry.

All the laboratories conducting the investigations within the Salmonella Control Programme (testing of official samples and FBO samples) are submitting the investigation results and sampling protocols in document format (paper) to the Central Competent Authority, i.e. the AFSVSPP Main Office. At AFSVSPP Main Office, the investigation results are entered in an Excel table that comprises the data on samplings accomplished in the adult and rearing laying/breeding hen flocks.

An updated Excel table with data on samplings accomplished (by CA and FBO) in laying hen flocks and in breeding flocks is published every month on the AFSVSPP Main Office's internal portal and made accessible to all the official veterinarians at AFSVSPP Regional Offices. The data on the samplings accomplished on the particular holding are sent to the AFSVSPP Regional Offices also on the request of the official veterinarian responsible for official control.

Detection of relevant Salmonella serotypes in samples taken by business operator or official samples: laboratory submit a report on the investigation results no later than on the following working day from conclusion of serotyping, either by e-mail or by fax to the relevant Regional Office (see also point 4, Part A).

# Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

## C. Targets

### 1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

#### 1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

**2023**

| Type of the test (description)                        | Target population              | Number of planned tests |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Bacteriological detection test                        | Laying flocks of Gallus gallus | 196                     |
| Serotyping  | Laying flocks of Gallus gallus | 10                      |
| Antimicrobial detection test                          | Laying flocks of Gallus gallus | 3                       |
| Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection | Laying flocks of Gallus gallus | 0                       |

#### 1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year :

**2023**

| Type of the test (description)                    | Rearing flocks | Adult flocks |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| Total No of flocks (a)                            | 190            | 500          |
| No of flocks in the programme                     | 160            | 265          |
| No of flocks planned to be checked (b)            | 1              | 93           |
| No of flock visits to take official samples (c)   | 1              | 93           |
| No of official samples taken                      | 3              | 283          |
| Target serovars (d)                               | SE + ST        | SE + ST      |
| Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars | 0              | 1            |
| Possible No of flocks to be depopulated           | 0              | 1            |
| Total No of birds to be slaughtered/culled        | 0              | 12 000       |
| Total No of eggs to be destroyed                  | Text           | 28 000       |
| Total No of eggs to be heat treated               | Text           | 14 000       |

# Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

- (a) Including eligible and non eligible flocks
- (b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.
- (c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.
- (d) Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium = SE + ST  
Salmonella Enteritidis, Typhimurium, Hadar, Infantis, Virchow = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

## 2.1 *Targets on vaccination for year :* **2023**

| Type of the test (description)               | Target on vaccination |
|--|-----------------------|
| Number of flocks in the Salmonella programme | 0                     |
| Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated   | 0                     |
| Number of birds expected to be vaccinated    | 0                     |
| Number of doses expected to be administered  | 0                     |

# Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

## *E. Financial information*

### 1. Identification of the implementing entities - financial circuits/flows

Identify and describe the entities which will be in charge of implementing the eligible measures planned in this programme which costs will constitute the reimbursement/payment claim to the EU. Describe the financial flows/circuits followed.

Each of the following paragraphs (from a to e) shall be filled out if EU cofinancing is requested for the related measure.

a) Implementing entities - **sampling**: who perform the official sampling? Who pays?  
(e.g. authorised private vets perform the sampling and are paid by the regional veterinary services (state budget); sampling equipment is provided by the private laboratory testing the samples which includes the price in the invoice which is paid by the local state veterinary services (state budget))

Official veterinarians employed by Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Food Safety, Veterinary Sector and Plant Protection (AFSVSPP) carry out official sampling. Sampling equipment for official sampling is provided (ordered and paid) by AFSVSPP.

b) Implementing entities - **testing**: who performs the testing of the official samples? Who pays?  
(e.g. regional public laboratories perform the testing of official samples and costs related to this testing are entirely paid by the state budget)

Official samples are tested by designated official laboratories. Cost related to the testing are entirely paid by state budget. Invoices for the testing of official samples are sent to the central level of AFSVSPP and paid by the state budget. One common invoice per month is sent for all official samples tested in particular month.

## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

c) Implementing entities - **compensation**: who performs the compensation? Who pays?  
(e.g. compensation is paid by the central level of the state veterinary services,  
or compensation is paid by an insurance fund fed by compulsory farmers contribution)

In the Republic of Slovenia, business operators are not entitled to compensation for eggs destroyed or eggs submitted to heat treatment. Compensations shall be payable for animals killed or slaughtered only.  
The official veterinarian shall decide on whether the business operator is eligible for compensation or not, and issue a relevant decision in writing, and submit the Decision to the AFSVSPP Main Office. Based on Decision accepted, the AFSVSPP Finance Division shall prepare a compensation payment claim, which shall be disbursed by the Ministry of Finance (state budget).

d) Implementing entities - **vaccination**: who provides the vaccine and who performs the vaccination? Who pays the vaccine? Who pays the vaccinator?  
(e.g. farmers buy their vaccine to the private vets, send the paid invoices to the local state veterinary services which reimburse the farmers of the full amount and the vaccinator is paid by the regional state veterinary services)

In the Republic of Slovenia, business operators are not entitled to compensation for vaccination costs.

e) Implementing entities - **other essential measures**: who implement this measure? Who provide the equipment/service? Who pays?

No other measures which costs will constitute the reimbursement/payment claim to the EU are financed by the state budget.



## Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

### 2. Source of funding of eligible measures

All eligible measures for which cofinancing is requested and reimbursement will be claimed are financed by public funds.

*yes*

*no*

### 3. Additional measures in exceptional and justified cases

In the "*Guidelines for the Union co-funded veterinary programmes*", it is indicated that in exceptional and duly justified cases, additional necessary measures can be proposed by the Member States in their application.

*If you introduced these type of measures in this programme, for each of them, please provide detailed technical justification and also justification of their cost:*

# Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

## Attachments

### IMPORTANT :

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here : **jpg, jpeg, tiff, tif, xls, xlsx, doc, docx, ppt, pptx, bmp, pna, pdf.**
- 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE **SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD** ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!
- 5) Only use letters from a-z and numbers from 1-10 in the attachment names, otherwise the submission of the data will not work.

## List of all attachments

|  |  | Attachment name | File will be saved as (only a-z and 0-9 and - _): | File size |
|--|--|-----------------|---|-----------|
|  |  |                 |   |           |
|  |  |                 | Total size of attachments :                       |           |