



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).

If encountering difficulties:

- concerning the information requested, please contact HADEA-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu.
- on the technical point of view, please contact SANTE-BI@ec.europa.eu, include in your message a printscreen of the complete window where the problem appears and the version of this pdf:

Protection of Your Personal Data:

For consultation about the processing and the protection of your personal data, please click to follow this link

[Privacy Statement](#)

Instructions to complete the form:

- 1) You can attach documents (.docx, .xlsx, .pdf, etc) to complete your report.
Using the button "Add attachments" on the last page of the form.
- 2) Before submitting this form, please use the button "Verify form"(bottom right of each page).
If needed, complete your pdf document as indicated.
- 3) When you have finished completing this pdf document, save it on your computer.
- 4) Verify that your internet connection is active and then click on the "Submit notification" button and your pdf document will be sent to our server. A submission number will appear on your document.
Save this completed document on your computer for your record.
- 5) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit multi-annual programmes.
- 6) You are invited to submit your programmes in English.

Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : ELLADA

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

09/12/2022 14:22:15

Submission Number

1670588538192-19247



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) :

The National Salmonella Control Programme (NSCP) on laying flocks is implemented pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, Commission Regulation (EC) No 517/2011 of 25 May 2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of certain Salmonella serotypes in laying hens of Gallus gallus, Commission Regulation (EC) No 1237/2007 of 23 October 2007 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006.

The aim of the programme is to reduce the prevalence of the following salmonella serotypes: Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium in adult laying flocks of Gallus gallus to 2% or less by 31 December each year.

All references to S. Typhimurium include the monophasic S. Typhimurium (1,4,[5],12:i:-).

A flock is deemed salmonella-positive if the presence of any of the above salmonella serotypes is ascertained in laboratory tests in at least one of the samples.

In order to achieve its objective, the programme has a duration of one year. The programme is adapted in accordance with Community requirements.

In 2021, the number of laying hen holdings of Gallus gallus covered by the programme was 654. The number of holdings with more than 1,000 adult laying hens was 405. These holdings had 175 rearing flocks of layers of Gallus gallus and 504 adult laying flocks Gallus gallus. In total in 2021 there were 962 laying flocks with 6.400.342 birds. The number of laying hen holdings with less than 1,000 birds was 249 with 283 flocks.

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

yes

no

If No, please explain :

Greece is divided into 13 administrative regions and 74 regional units. The salmonella control programme in flocks of laying hens is implemented in laying hen flocks on the whole territory of the country.

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 :

The derogation laid down in Article 1.3 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, i.e. eggs produced for private domestic consumption, or where there is a direct supply of small quantities of products to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying primary products to the final consumer, has been used and national rules have been adopted.

In particular, the above derogation is granted to farmers with a holding of laying hens whose production (a) is used for private domestic use or (b) does not exceed 100,000 eggs/year or have less than 350 laying hens, provided that they sell their products either directly to the final consumer on the producer's premises or at local public markets in the regional unit where the farm is located (local kiosks, markets, bazaars, open-markets) or carry out door-to-door distribution or in small local retail shops, which supply directly the final consumer. The above derogation does not apply when they sell their products outside the boundaries of the regional unit in which the holding is located.

Poultry farmers making use of the derogation, subject to the following conditions and restrictions:

- a. The eggs must be sold to the aforementioned mentioned outlets, within a maximum 28 days of production.
- b. They must keep a record of the supply of quantities of eggs showing: the weekly number of eggs produced, the total weekly quantity of eggs sold directly to final consumers (in a local market or residential establishment) and the total weekly number of eggs sold to local small retailers, as well as the name and addresses of the aforementioned retailers.
- c. They must accept an official control (and possibly official sampling) by the competent veterinary authorities.

The possibility of using the derogations is granted upon request of the person concerned to the competent Regional Veterinary Authority, which, after carrying out the official control, issues a written confirmation called "Derogation granted".

The above statement should clearly specify:

- a) the place of production / sale and
- b) the number of laying hens.

The certificate is valid for one year and shall be revoked in case of non-compliance with the above provisions.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

	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	175		175	0
Adult flocks	907	787	787	405
Number of holdings with more than 1,000 laying hens				405
Number of flocks in these holdings				679
<i>NB : All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available.</i>				

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

The best estimation available is based on the animal population figures of the year 2021. In 2021, the total number of laying hen holdings was 654. Out of the 654 holdings, 249 laying hen holdings had less than 1.000 birds. The above gives 405 laying hen holdings with more than 1.000 birds. In addition, a small number out of the 249 laying holdings with less than 1.000 birds made use of the derogation mentioned under point 3 of this programme.

The total, number of laying hen flocks in 2021 was 962. Out of the 962 flocks, 283 flocks belonged to the holdings with less than 1.000 birds. This means that the 405 holdings with more than 1.000 birds had 679 flocks.

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 :

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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) :

Biosecurity is part of the national salmonella control programme (as an Annex attached to the national decision implementing the national salmonella control programme). There are guidelines in place and their implementation is linked to the compensation. In addition, biosecurity measures are regularly assessed by the CA each time an official control for the NSCP is performed, followed by a written report.

The national decision No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 930) and some of the relevant guidelines and manuals can be found at:

http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Apofasi_ornithes_ooparagogis2012.pdf
and

http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Paroyiaseis_Seminaria/6_salmo_bioasfalia.pdf.

In particular, at least the following biosecurity measures shall apply:

A. HYGIENE MANAGEMENT ON FARM

1. Facilities must be appropriately constructed and surrounded by a fence, with a sign at the entrance for prohibiting entry.
2. Only one species of poultry shall be reared in each establishment and, if possible, the "all in, all out" system should be applied.
3. In case that more than one flock exists in a holding, each one shall be treated as a separate entity.
4. The pen and the feedstuff storage areas must be protected from wild animals.
5. All pen surfaces should be constructed of materials allowing for easy cleaning and disinfection.
6. The area surrounding the pens should be covered by cement or similar material, and be free from vegetation or rubble, with an exception for trees (unless fruit-bearing), that protect the buildings from heat.
7. Similar protective measures shall be taken to prevent the spread of disease on the holding. Changing rooms and other areas (e.g. shower rooms) for personal hygiene of both employees and visitors can contribute to the above.
8. After the removal of poultry, the manure must also be removed and the area cleaned and disinfected. It is recommended that a bacteriological examination be carried out to check the effectiveness of the disinfection.
9. Pets are not allowed on the premises.

Biosecurity during handling and transport of eggs

- a. Nest litter must be kept clean, dry, in good condition and in sufficient quantity.
- b. Egg collection takes place regularly, at least twice a day. These eggs are then placed in clean, disinfected containers.
- c. Soiled, broken, cracked and bruised eggs are collected in separate containers.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

d. Eggs are kept in a clean, dust-free place, used exclusively for this purpose, at a temperature of 13-15°C and humidity of 70-80%.

e. Eggs are transported to hatcheries in clean crates, either disposable or disinfected by fumigation or by the use of a suitable disinfectant.

B. MEASURES TO PREVENT INCOMING INFECTIONS CARRIED BY ANIMALS, FEED, DRINKING WATER, PEOPLE WORKING AT FARMS

1. Pets are not allowed on the premises.

2. Rodents and insects must be dealt with using appropriate programmes for their destruction.

3. Restocking of sheds must be done with salmonella-free poultry.

4. All feed must comply with the requirements laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 on feed hygiene, and be confirmed to be free from Salmonella before being fed to poultry. Feed in pellet form or otherwise processed feed should be indicated as such, as a means of ensuring salmonella-free feed. Feed should then be stored in sealed storage spaces.

5. The water supply for the establishment should come from the mains network. If the water comes from a pump, its suitability for use must be ensured and microbiological tests must be carried out regularly.

6. Sick and dead poultry must be removed as soon as possible in a safe and effective way.

7. Each operator must keep a record in which diseases, deaths, treatments and vaccines administered are recorded. These records must be available whenever requested by an official inspection.

Biosecurity measures for staff and visitors.

Staff and visitors must:

1. wear clean overalls, head and shoe covers,

2. wash their hands with soap and water or disinfectant and dip their shoes in a disinfectant which is regularly changed,

3. avoid direct contact with poultry or poultry products.

C. HYGIENE DURING TRANSPORT OF ANIMALS TO AND FROM THE HOLDING

The equipment used for the capture and transportation of poultry must be clean and kept away from used/dirty equipment.

Transport vehicles must be licensed, in accordance with national and Community legislation and must be disinfected at regular intervals (or cleaned and disinfected before loading each batch of poultry).

Drivers must be aware of the basic rules of personal hygiene and the role that they may play in the spread of infections (e.g. through dirty hands, etc.).

In case of presence of salmonella-infected flocks, they must be captured and loaded last.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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 requirements on the initiative of the FBO complies with the minimum ones laid down in part B of annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and in point 2 of annex to Reg. (EC) No 517/2011.

FBO samples are collected either by the farmer himself, or by a private veterinarian of the farm. No additional sampling above minimum EU requirements is performed.

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 :

Comment: Samples for both official sampling and sampling on the initiative of the FBO are taken in accordance with the provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 517/2011.

Samples must be taken using properly sterilized instruments; they must be wrapped in appropriate safe packaging to which a label should be attached indicating the type of sample and sample code, and sent to the competent laboratory, accompanied by the appropriate forms.

In case that antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effect are detected, instead of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and/or *Salmonella* Typhimurium presence, then the flock is considered infected for the purpose of the Community target and the appropriate measures shall be implemented.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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.

yes

no

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

The submitted programme is in compliance with Annex II (D) to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

Pursuant to Article 8(5) of the Greek Ministerial Decision No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 930) on the "Control programme for salmonella in flocks of laying hens Gallus gallus", when positive results for S. Enteritidis or S. Typhimurium (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-), are notified, the competent veterinary authority of the region must issue a decision for the following measures to be taken, concerning the infected birds and the eggs originating from these birds.:

(a) Qualifying the flock as "salmonella positive".

(b) Prohibition of movement for:

i. poultry, unless an authorization is provided for killing or destruction under safe conditions or for their slaughter in a designated slaughterhouse, in accordance with the legislation on food hygiene and safety in force (Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Annex III, Section II).

ii. litter and manure from the holding unless a specific authorization is provided for them to undergo processing, in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force.

(c) Request for,

• either the slaughter and destruction of all poultry of the infected flock, provided that the poultry farmer expressly requests the destruction of the flock in writing pursuant to Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and No 142/2011. This request must be submitted to the competent authority no later than 24 hours after the positive result was notified to the operator of the holding.

• or the slaughter and heat treatment of all poultry in the flock provided that the poultry farmer sends the Regional Veterinary authorities a written request for such an action. This request must be submitted to the competent authority no later than 24 hours after the positive result was notified to the operator of the holding.

Slaughter is undertaken according to the food hygiene legislation in force. Products from those birds in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force may be placed under conditions on the market for human consumption.

d) Eggs produced from a positive flock:

i) shall be marked and considered as Class B eggs, in accordance with the relevant EU legislation regarding marketing standards for eggs,

ii) shall carry the B indication, as set out in the relevant EU legislation, (with a circle of at least 12mm in diameter around the letter 'B' at least 5mm in height, or an easily visible coloured spot of at least 5mm in

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

diameter), before being placed on the market for further processing,
iii) are prohibited from entering packing centers, unless the competent authority is satisfied with the preventive measures against possible cross-contamination by eggs from other flocks,
iv) - are sent, under controlled conditions, to an authorised egg-product processing facility for heat treatment ensuring the elimination of salmonella, in accordance with Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and No 142/2011 and Greek legislation,
- or are sent, under controlled conditions, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, to an authorised egg-product processing facility for heat treatment ensuring the elimination of salmonella, in accordance with Community food-health legislation.

In addition, according to article 8 of the above mentioned national decision, in every case of isolation of Salmonella spp. from a laying hen flock, the flock is qualified as "suspect" and is placed immediately under official supervision. The eggs produced from this suspect flock are stored separately and are not placed on the market as table eggs for the period pending the results of serotyping.

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)

The above mentioned EU microbiological criteria is not applicable for infected laying hens Gallus gallus, because according to Article 8(5) of Greek Decision No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 930) on the "Control programme for salmonella in flocks of laying hens Gallus gallus", birds from SE/ST infected flocks are either slaughtered and destroyed or slaughtered and heat-treated under appropriate measures in order to minimise the risk of spread of salmonella. Slaughter is carried out in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force. Products derived from such birds may be placed on the market for human consumption, provided they have been heat treatment, as set out in food hygiene legislation. If such products are not intended for human consumption, they must be used or disposed of in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.

Measures implemented by the FBO (slaughterhouse level)

Please, see above. In addition all flocks going to the slaughterhouse must be accompanied by the FCI. In case of a SE/ST positive flock, logistical slaughter of the infected flock takes place and appropriate cleaning and disinfection of the slaughterhouse follows the slaughter of the infected flock.

Measures implemented by the CA (farm and slaughterhouse level)

Pursuant to Article 8(5) of the national decision on the "Control programme for salmonella in laying hens Gallus gallus" No 1209/30007/13.03.2012, when positive results for S. Enteritidis or S. Typhimurium /S. Typhimurium serotypes with antigen type 1,4 [5], 12: i- are confirmed, the Regional veterinary authority issues a decision for the:

a) classification of the flock as "salmonella positive".

b) Prohibition of movement for:

i. any entry or exit of poultry of the holding, except for slaughtering or destruction in controlled conditions or for slaughtering for human or animal consumption after heat treatment, in accordance

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

with the legislation in force (Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Annex III, Section II) on food hygiene and safety,

ii. litter and manure from the holding, except for processing, in accordance with the legislation in force.

c) Request for,

- either the slaughter and destruction of all the poultry of the infected flock, provided that the poultry farmer expressly requests the destruction of the flock in writing pursuant to Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and No 142/2011,
- or the slaughter and heat treatment of all poultry in the flock provided that the poultry farmer sends the Regional Veterinary authorities a written request for such an action.

Slaughter is undertaken according to the food hygiene legislation in force. Products from those birds, following heat treatment in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force may be placed on the market for human consumption.

At the slaughterhouse the Official Veterinarian must check the FCI provided for completeness and contents as part of ante mortem inspection.

The OV is always entitled to request any additional data from the producer. FCI should also be taken into consideration when the post mortem inspection is carried out.

The OV is to:

- Check which Salmonella serotype is detailed on the FCI and ensure that the relevant clean-down procedure is followed (as detailed in the previous subtopics).
- Check that the procedure has been followed in accordance with the FBO's HACCP-based food safety management system.

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 :

Comment: Testing of the official samples collected in the framework of the national salmonella control programmes is performed at the following state veterinary laboratories of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food:

Chalkida Veterinary Laboratory (National Reference Veterinary Laboratory for Salmonella),
Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes and
Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory.

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three (3) above mentioned accredited laboratories.

The samples from the FBO checks (own-checks) are tested in 29 private laboratories which are designated and supervised by the Department of Zoonoses and the NRL for salmonella and participate in the comparative tests organized by the NRL.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

In case of detection of Salmonella spp. isolates, the above laboratories must send the results to the competent veterinary authority of the Region as well as to the Department of Zoonoses.

Our circular No 920/29816/15-3-2017 (which replaced the previous relevant circular) sets out the procedure for the participation of private laboratories, conducting own-check sample analyses under the National Salmonella Control Programmes (NCSPs) and the preconditions that laboratories must meet.

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.

Comment: We verify that ISO PN-EN ISO 6579-1: 2017-04 / A1: 2020-09 is applied for testing by all official and private laboratories involved.

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.

For samples taken on the initiative of the food business operator, alternative methods may be used instead of the methods for the sample preparation, detection methods and serotyping provided for above, if validated in accordance with the most recent version of EN/ISO 16140.

So far we have no such case.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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 :

Comment: Transport of samples is carried out in accordance with point 3.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 517/2011.

In particular, samples shall be sent preferably by express mail or courier to the state or private laboratories involved in the NSCPs within 24 hours after collection. If not sent within 24 hours, they shall be stored in a refrigerator. Transportation can be at ambient temperature as long as excessive heat (over 25 °C) and exposure to sunlight are avoided. In the laboratory, samples shall be kept refrigerated until examination, which shall be started within 48 hours following receipt and within 96 hours after sampling.

To ensure this, the sampler shall contact the laboratory prior to each sampling session. Samplers have been given detailed guides on the packaging and transport of samples.

Received samples are rejected by the laboratories when the time from sampling to the day/time of laboratory testing exceeds the limits.

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

The following rules apply as regards official controls of feeding stuffs for salmonella: Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 laying down the requirements for feed hygiene provides for the establishment of microbiological criteria on the basis of scientific risk criteria. Therefore, the relevant legislation on control of Salmonella in feed will be issued by the competent department of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food.

All feed must comply with the requirements of Regulation on feed hygiene, as well as being confirmed as free of salmonella before being fed to poultry. Feed in pellet form or otherwise processed should be properly indicated, as a means of ensuring salmonella-free feed. Feed should then be stored in sealed storage spaces.

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 853/2004) including checks on biosecurity measures, and consequences in case of unsatisfactory outcome.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Please, see also point 5 of this programme.

Biosecurity is part of the national salmonella control programme (as an annex attached to the national decision implementing the national salmonella control programme).

Specific guidelines exist and their implementation is regularly evaluated by the competent authority and is also linked to compensation. The CA evaluates the biosecurity measures each time an official control is carried out under the NSCPs. This assessment is followed by a written report that also includes the results of the biosecurity assessment. Any advice on the necessary corrective actions required shall be provided to the FBO. In case of significant deficiencies in the implementation of the biosafety measures, written recommendations shall be issued with a deadline for their satisfaction. The timeframe of the deadline for their implementation varies depending on the nature of the infringement. In case of dissatisfaction, sanctions may be imposed.

The competent authorities visit 5% of the laying farms each year to check animal welfare.

The biosecurity of the farm is also checked during these official visits as it is closely linked to animal welfare and protection.

A risk-based system is applied for the selection of 5% of farms.

In addition, the competent authorities visit, on an annual basis, all laying farms with less than 1.000 birds on their territory to verify biosecurity and the correct application of the NSCPs. The number of farms to be inspected will ultimately depend on the resources available.

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

Official sampling complies with the minimum sampling requirements as set out in point 2.1 of annex to Regulation (EC) No 517/2011. Official samples are collected by the official veterinarians of the regional veterinary authorities, as part of the NSCP and they are tested in the three (3) state veterinary laboratories which have been designated by the CCA to perform this testing.

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	Always
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sometimes (criteria apply)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Never

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Always	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes	<input type="checkbox"/> 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.

In case that an operator suspects that the positive results were falsely obtained in the first official sampling, they may, after the submission of a request to the competent official authority, ask for the temporary suspension of the measures of the programme, together with a confirmatory test carried out by the competent authority. This request must be accompanied by a detailed report and a copy of the holding's files (records), showing the own-checks conducted and their results, the vaccines for salmonella and the biosecurity measures implemented (pesticides, insecticides, disinfection, ...). The operator shall present the reasons for suspecting that the results are "false-positive".

The official authority:

After confirming that the particular flock does not constitute the source of food-borne infection and after studying the request and the attached farm report and having decided that the operator had justified grounds for carrying out a confirmatory test (epidemiology of the holding with regard to salmonella, previous positive results -history of the holding, information that a new sampler is performing the sampling etc.) is obliged to:

- temporarily suspend the measures set out in paragraph 8 of the programme,
- issue a decision on the suspected case and
- immediately repeat the sampling, at the latest within three working days from the date of the request, using one of the sampling protocols set out in Annex 1(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1237/2007 (5 faecal samples and 2 dust samples plus the collection of 1-5 birds for detection of bacterial inhibitors).

During the period starting from the date of the request, until the response of the competent official authority or until the notification of the results of the confirmatory test, the flock in question shall be placed under official supervision, the eggs produced shall be kept separate from the rest under the responsibility of the operator and under the supervision of the competent authority and restrictive measures shall apply to the flock.

In case of positive FBO samples, official confirmation is carried out when a false positive result is suspected due to errors in the sampling procedure or due to suspected cross-contamination of samples. The epidemiology of the holding with regard to salmonella will be also taken into consideration. The eggs produced are kept separate from the rest until the notification of the results of the confirmatory

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

sampling, under the responsibility of the operator of the holding and under the supervision of the competent authority.

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 ³ were taken	Out of the cases in column 3, No of cases where confirmatory samples were negative
FBO samples ¹	0	0	0
Official samples ²	2	1	1

¹ Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.1 of the Annex

² Reg 517/2011, point 2.2.2 of the Annex

³ 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):

When confirmatory samples were collected, samples were also collected for the presence of antimicrobials with negative results. Confirmatory samples were also negative for the targeted Salmonella serovars.

- 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) :

No treatment scheme is applied to contaminated flocks, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

The use of antimicrobials is prohibited in the framework of NSCP, except from the cases foreseen in Reg. (EC) No 1177/2006. The treatment of laying hens Gallus gallus with antimicrobial agents during the rearing or production phase to control Salmonella spp. is prohibited.

In order to control the use of antimicrobials, the following controls are taking place:

Official sampling is always part of an official control in order to verify if the FBO complies with the requirements of the NSCP. One of the duties of the official veterinarian during the official control is to check the flock treatments record. Due to this, documentary checks on the use of antimicrobials are routinely performed during official controls in the framework of NSCP.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

In addition to the above mentioned, in cases of suspicion, the CA collects 1-5 live birds from the shed or a greater number if considers necessary.

Initial testing for the use of antimicrobials is first carried out in a screening test, if necessary, it is followed up by specific tests. Testing for the use of antimicrobials is carried out on a mixed muscle sample from five (5) chickens.

The screening method used is an in-shed method based on the LMV/RMV/BIO/TC/15.AN Version 06/17-10-2006 Guidance of Community Reference Laboratory ANSES for detection of antimicrobial agents (quinolones, cephalosporins, penicillins, macrolides, tetracyclines, aminoglycosides, sulfonamides) in meat. The methods used for confirmation, where necessary, are presented in the attached table 2.

Where the presence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium is not detected, but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effects are detected, the flock shall be considered to be an infected flock of laying hens *Gallus gallus* for the purposes of the Union target referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 517/2011.

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) :

As regards vaccination, in accordance with Commission Regulation No (EC) 1177/2006 and where the prevalence is over 10%, vaccination programmes against *Salmonella* Enteritidis reducing the spread and contamination of eggs, should be applied at least during rearing period to all laying hens. The competent veterinary authority of the Regional Unit may grant derogation from compulsory vaccination against *Salmonella* Enteritidis to a holding upon a request from its operator if:

- a) the interested party attaches a copy of the holding's register showing that biosecurity measures have been properly applied and certified copies of all laboratory tests showing that the holding has been free from *Salmonella* for the 12 months prior to the arrival of the day-old chicks,
- b) confirms, by means of an on-the-spot check at the holding, that the biosecurity measures are adequate and properly applied,
- c) confirms, based on the results of official controls, the absence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis on the laying or rearing hens of the holding during the 12-month period up to the arrival of the new birds.

Laying flocks of *Gallus gallus*

The competent veterinary authorities of the Region ascertain, in the context of official controls, that the dispensed vaccines are approved by the National Organization for Medicines (EOF).

Despite the fact that prevalence of SE was less than 10% in 2021 as well as in the previous years, vaccination against SE is still mandatory in Greece in order to ascertain the achievement of the community target. Vaccination against ST is voluntary but strongly recommended.

Live salmonella vaccines should not be used in the framework of national control programmes when the manufacturer does not provide an appropriate method to distinguish bacteriologically wild-type strains of salmonella from the vaccine strains.

Live salmonella vaccines should not be used in the framework of national control programmes in laying hens during production, unless the safety of use has been demonstrated and they are authorized for that purpose in accordance with Directive in force.

Currently, only flocks of rearing birds are vaccinated against salmonella.

The vaccine used should be authorized by the competent authority (National Organization for Medicines) and administered in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

The vaccine and the vaccination scheme used is determined by the veterinarian of the holding.

However, in most cases no more than three (3) doses of vaccine per bird are administered. Any approved live or inactivated vaccines can be used.

FBO's purchase the prescribed vaccines from retailers of veterinary medicines.

The documentation accompanying the samples sent to the veterinary laboratories must indicate whether or not the samples come from a vaccinated flock and the type of vaccine used.

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) :

Owners of laying hen holdings who are obliged to slaughter or destroy infected flocks or destroy contaminated eggs within the framework of the programme are compensated in accordance with the Joint Ministerial Decision on "Approval of a financial compensation resulting from the imposition of veterinary measures" annually issued (Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Rural Development and Food).

The initial pricing of birds is defined at central level by the Joint Ministerial Decision (JMD) previously mentioned, issued annually. The calculation of the amount of compensation for birds slaughtered/destroyed/heat-treated and for eggs destroyed/heat-treated is based on scaled value tables drawn up by the sector and validated by the Ministry of Finance.

The Joint Ministerial Decision of reference is publicly available on the website of the Government Gazette and on the Ministry's website.

There is a link between compensation and effective biosecurity measures: FBOs that do not comply with the minimum biosecurity requirements as laid down in the national legislation implementing the NSCP, do not receive any compensation in case of a positive flock, even though they are obliged to apply the measures in Part D of Annex II of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

The conditions that must be met by the farmer, the payment procedure and all required supporting documents are described in detail in the aforementioned yearly issued Joint Ministerial Decision (JMD) among the Ministry of Rural Development and Food and the Ministry of Development and Investments approving compensation, aid and reward costs related to the application of veterinary measures for animal disease control, eradication, surveillance and contingency planning.

Regarding time between slaughtering/culling and payment, compensation requests are submitted to the local veterinary authorities anytime within the year when the slaughtering/culling took place and up to the 31st of March of the following year. All necessary documentation is dated from the 1st of January up to the 31st of December of the year when the slaughtering/culling took place; the request is examined by the CA which then submits to the CCA a list of payment requests in the area of their jurisdiction.

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):

Confirmation of the effectiveness of disinfection is conducted by collecting environmental samples from the infected shed after cleaning and disinfection procedures have been completed. The verification of the effectiveness of disinfection can be conducted either by the FBO or by the Regional Veterinary Authority.

The sample is obtained after disinfection from the drying surfaces of the shed.

Sampling is performed in such a way that a representative sample is obtained.

The parts to be sampled are walls, floors, drinkers, feeders, nests, vent piping, beams, partitions, the conveyor belts, and other surfaces and devices.

Large surfaces

Minimum sampling area is 1m²

- Sampling is performed with sterile swabs, as gauze or cellulose sponges, using disposable gloves or the technique of "overturned bag" (The plastic bag containing the swab is held from the outside so that the swab is exposed when the bag is overturned and then covering the swab when the bag is inverted again). The surface is swabbed until it looks dirty.
- To monitor the effectiveness of floor disinfection, bootswabs can be used like in the case of fecal material.

When samples are taken from dry surfaces, the swabs must be moistened.

After sampling the containers shall be sealed and appropriately marked.

Small surfaces

The sampling can be done with sterile cotton-rods or any wooden or plastic stick with a cotton tip, or synthetic, insisting where cracks, corners, uneven surfaces. Before use, they must be moistened. The rod is removed from the sterile container and the end of it, is immersed into a tube containing a suitable

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

liquid.

A new flock is placed in the previously infected shed only in case of negative results for salmonella.

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) :

The authorities responsible for implementing the salmonella control programme in laying hens Gallus gallus are:

1. the Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate / General Veterinary Directorate (Ministry of Rural Development and Food),
2. the regional veterinary authorities,
3. the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (Ministry of Rural Development and Food) and the Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory (Ministry of Rural Development and Food)
4. the Chalkida Veterinary Laboratory, which is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three (3) above mentioned accredited laboratories.

Other bodies involved in the implementation of NSCP are:

5. the operators of Gallus gallus laying hen holdings and laying hen rearing units, as part of the National Salmonella Control Programmes,
6. private veterinary laboratories carrying out analyses on own-checks samples in accordance with the details set out in Annex I to Decision No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 on the "Control programme for salmonella in laying hens Gallus gallus".
7. The egg-packing centres, which must receive eggs only from laying hen holdings which carry out own-checks regularly, as set out in Annex I to the above mentioned Decision and which come from flocks that have been confirmed as negative for S. Enteritidis and S. Typhimurium.

Responsibilities:

1. The Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate constitutes the central veterinary authority responsible for control and coordination of all the bodies involved in the implementation of the programme throughout the country.

It is responsible for the preparation of the programme, the collection and evaluation of data, the statistical processing of the data, the evaluation of the programme's progress and the supply of any necessary information to the European Commission. It is also responsible, together with the NRL, for the designation and supervision of the private labs involved in the NSCPs.

2. The regional veterinary authorities are responsible for:

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

- (i) nominating a person responsible for implementing and monitoring the programme,
- (ii) carrying out the official controls. These official controls include the monitoring of the implementation of the programme by the operators, the taking of official samples, the adoption of necessary measures and the information of the central competent authority.
- (iii) evaluating the implementation of the programme at regional level,
- (iv) collecting and dispatching the requested statistics for the programme to the Zoonoses Department of the Animal Health Directorate,
- (v) supervising the training of laying hen farm operators to ensure the proper implementation of the sampling protocol,
- (vi) cooperating with and notifying all the competent authorities and bodies about the implementation of the programme.

3. The Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes receive the samples from the veterinary directorates under their responsibility and carry out the necessary laboratory tests for the detection of salmonella. They must also send the salmonella-positive cultures to the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella in Chalkida.

4. The National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella in Chalkida is responsible for:

- (i) serotyping salmonella-positive cultures sent to it by other state veterinary laboratories and private laboratories and ensuring that the results of serotyping are sent immediately to the senders,
- (ii) receiving the samples from the veterinary directorates under their responsibility and carrying out the necessary laboratory tests to detect and serotype salmonella,
- (iii) submitting the data and results to the Zoonoses Department of the Animal Health Directorate / Ministry of Rural Development and Food,
- (iv) cooperating with the Community Reference Laboratory for Salmonella,
- (v) communicating the information provided by the Community Reference Laboratory for Salmonella to the Department of Zoonoses and the salmonella diagnosis laboratories,
- (vi) providing scientific and technical assistance to the central competent authority responsible for implementing coordinated salmonella control programmes,
- (vii) observing developments in the field of salmonella epidemiology,
- (viii) notifying the Community Reference Laboratory on matters concerning strains of the salmonella vaccine and other special control methods on a case-by-case basis,
- (ix) coordinating the diagnostic standards and methods implemented by each individual salmonella diagnosis laboratory. To this end, it:
 - organizes at least one ring test per year,
 - keeps salmonella isolates for two years and is responsible for optional phagotyping and anti-microbial sensitivity tests on positive samples,
 - cooperates with the other national laboratories in Greece responsible for the isolation of salmonella in humans,
 - organizes, where necessary, training for the staff of the Greek salmonella diagnosis laboratories.

5. Our circular No 920/29816/15-03-2018 which has replaced the previous No 383/11852/29-01-2013, sets out the participation procedure for private laboratories conducting own-check sample analyses under the National Salmonella Control Programmes (NSCPs) and the preconditions to be met by laboratories.

At present, all the private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

Notifications of laboratory results

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

Food Business Operators (FBOs), private laboratories involved in self testing and national laboratories involved in official sample testing, in the framework of NCSPs, immediately notify to the local and the central competent veterinary authorities any suspicion and/or positive result for the detection of:

- a) Salmonella spp or
- b) one or more of the targeted serovars included in the respective NCSP and
- c) antimicrobial agents.

More specifically, the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for Salmonellosis is responsible for the notification of the local and central competent veterinary authorities in case of suspicion of a targeted serovar, as it is the only laboratory which performs full serotyping. Moreover, the official laboratories notify the competent authority (CA) and the NRL regarding a positive sample (Salmonella spp.), immediately, on the day that the detection testing is finalized.

2. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

The national salmonella control programme on laying hens flocks Gallus gallus is implemented pursuant to:

- Article 5 of 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,
- 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
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1237/2007 of 23 October 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Decision 2006/696/EC as regards the placing on the market of eggs from Salmonella infected flocks of laying hens,
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 589/2008 of 23 June 2008 laying down detailed rules for implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 as regards marketing standards for eggs,
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 517/2011 of 25 May 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,
- Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents,
- Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin.
- The National Decision for the implementation of the programme is Ministerial Decision No 1209/30007/13-03-2012 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 930) on the "Control programme for salmonella in flocks of laying hens Gallus gallus".

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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):

Please, follow information of table 2 for the monitoring of zoonotic salmonella in flocks of laying hens *Gallus gallus* since 2008.

In 2021, in Greece there were 787 adult laying flocks in 654 laying hen holdings under the NSCP and 575 of them were tested for zoonotic salmonella in the context of NSCP. 6 out of the 575 adult flocks were positive for the targeted serovars (SE), 4 out of the 575 adult flocks were positive for the targeted serovars (ST) and 36 were positive for other salmonella serovars.

Information on the surveillance of salmonella in several food and feed categories in Greece can be found at Efsa's annual summary reports on zoonoses, zoonotic agents, antimicrobial resistance and food-borne outbreaks, which are published at EFSA's website.

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

(max. 32000 chars):

All holdings of laying hens must be authorized and registered in accordance with Presidential Decree 216/2003 (Government Gazette, Series I, No 181). There is a national database with all the registered holdings of laying hens.

Each shed is identified by a unique code number consisting of the following elements: code number of the holding/number of the house/date of birth or date of flock placement in the house.

5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

(max. 32000 chars):

Each positive *Salmonella* spp. result is notified without delay to the regional veterinary authority in order to take measures in case of suspicion and to the Department of Zoonoses.

In addition, every six (6) months, the state veterinary laboratories report the results of official tests performed in the context of NSCP to the Department of Zoonoses and the approved private laboratories report the results of the own-check received in the context of NSCP to the NRL, which then report them to the Department of Zoonoses.

In addition, all the Regional Veterinary Units report four times per year to the Department of Zoonoses detailed information for every laying flock within their area.

This information includes data on the official and own-check controls (dates, results, type of sampling), vaccination data (number of vaccine doses administered), number of infected birds culled or destroyed,

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

etc.

At regional level the monitoring of the implementation of the programme is achieved in the following way:

The FBO notifies the Regional Veterinary authority each time a new flock is placed in a holding. During official control of a breeding flock, the official veterinarian records all the information regarding the flock (date of placement, own-check results, vaccination data, etc.).

Currently, the Department of Zoonoses in collaboration with the Directorate of E- Government of the Ministry, have developed an on-line system for the on-line submission of all the information related to sampling and laboratory testing. This system is not yet fully operational.

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	850
Serotyping	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	35
Antimicrobial detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	10
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)	175	907
No of flocks in the programme	175	787
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	405
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	425
No of official samples taken	0	1 275
Target serovars (d)	SE + ST	SE + ST
Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars	2	4
Possible No of flocks to be depopulated	2	4
Total No of birds to be slaughtered/culled	57 584	19 932
Total No of eggs to be destroyed	Text	350 000
Total No of eggs to be heat treated	Text	48 640

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	962
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	175
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	6 154 472
Number of doses expected to be administered	12 308 944

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))

The official sampling in the framework of NSCP is performed by the veterinarians of the regional veterinary services and the samples (properly packed and labeled) are sent shortly after collection to the three (3) designated state veterinary laboratories, as already mentioned.

The costs for these procedures (sampling, packing materials, transport costs) are covered by the state budget and co-financed by the EC.

In general, national funding is provided by the country's annual budget. To this end, a relevant request is submitted to the Greek Ministry of Development in order to secure all necessary funds for the purposes of animal disease control, surveillance and eradication and other related expenditure. Following a positive reply as regards the total sum to be allocated for the year in question, an annual Joint Ministerial Decision is issued on supplies and procurements. Once issued this Decision is the base for funding of all official animal disease activities including approved National Veterinary programmes and those co-financed by the EC.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

- 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)

The official veterinarians working in the three (3) designated state veterinary laboratories involved in the NSCPs, in collaboration with the technical staff perform all the analytical tests. The salaries of the staff are paid exclusively by the state budget. The costs related to this testing is covered by the state budget (Ministry of Development, together with the Directorate General of Financial Service of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food, in cooperation with the Animal Health Directorate of the same Ministry, according to the Joint Ministerial Decision on supplies and procurements issued each year) and co-financed by the EC.

- 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)

Culling and heat-treatment or destruction of SE/ST infected layers occur following a decision issued by the competent regional veterinary authority. Then the farmer submits the regional veterinary service, a claim for compensation (along with the necessary supplementary documents). This claim is forwarded to the Animal Health Directorate of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food. The claims from different regional units of the country are further checked and if approved, the relevant amounts are transferred from the account of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food (held in the Bank of Greece) to the bank accounts of each of the Regional Units concerned. From the bank accounts of the Regional Units, the farmers receive the amount corresponding to their claim.

The legislative framework for this procedure is the Joint Ministerial Decision on compensation for the rehabilitation of livestock issued each year by the Ministry of Rural Development and Food, along with the Ministry of Development. In this decision, there is an analytical description of the procedure and the way of calculation of the amounts to be paid after culling/destruction and the level of compensation correlated to the animal species and the animal's age.

The cost for the compensation is covered by the state budget and co-financed by the EC.

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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)

Regarding the vaccination of laying flocks Gallus gallus against zoonotic salmonella, the FBO is responsible to purchase the prescribed vaccines. Administration of vaccines is performed by the private veterinarian of the holding or by the farmer under the supervision of the private veterinarian. The cost of vaccines (cost for their purchase) is partially covered by the state budget (maximum 0.10 per vaccine dose) and co-financed partially by the EC. The procedure followed is similar to this described under point c), except that in this specific case, the regional veterinary unit does not need to issue a decision.

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

N/A

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

Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

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:

N/A

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 :	