



submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

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

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Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : SLOVENIJA

Disease Salmonella

Animal population Breeding 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 12:57:28

Submission Number

1669809440449-18891



Breeding 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 200/2010 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 adult breeding flocks 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. The **aim of the programme** is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce to 1% or less the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* remaining positive for the target *Salmonella* serovars: *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE), Typhimurium (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-), Hadar (SH), Infantis (SI) and Virchow (SV).

For a MS with less than 100 adult breeding flocks of *Galus gallus* the target is to have no more than one such flock remaining positive for the relevant *Salmonella* serovars per year.

yes

no

If no please explain.

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

yes

no

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

If no please explain.

3. Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of breeders in the MS	Number of flocks with at least 250 adult breeders	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling will take place
Rearing flocks	105		105	0
Adult flocks	135	135	135	135
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the hatchery		90	90	90
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the holding		45	45	45
<i>NB : All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available.</i>				

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

SNCP covers all rearing and adult breeding flocks. Currently there are only parent breeding flocks in Slovenia.

In the Republic of Slovenia there are 3 major business operators whose activity comprises the entire production chain: breeding and/or rearing of breeding flocks, hatcheries, rearing of production animals, packaging centres for eggs, and slaughterhouses. Two business operators conduct the rearing of breeding flocks for broiler production line, and in one business operator, breeding flocks for broiler production line and breeding flocks for egg production line are reared.

Breeding flock rearing within a lesser extent is conducted at one (1) higher education and research establishment, whose production is primarily intended for the research activity and for education purposes.

Two business operators conduct sampling on the holding (4 holdings for adult breeding flocks). Two business operators conduct sampling at the hatchery (3 holdings for adult breeding flocks). In the case where hatching eggs are intended for trade the sampling is always conducted at the holding.

Attachment 1: Structure of breeding-flock business operators

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.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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, describe also the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) and attach a copy

For all holdings that breed animals, the general preventive measures defined in the national Rules on animal diseases apply. These preventive measures apply to all poultry establishments, regardless of whether they are involved in EU trade or not.

The general preventive measures that shall be carried out by the holders of animals, include: the provision of hygienically suitable water and animal feed; the provision and maintenance of the hygienic conditions in establishments for the rearing of animals, and in other premises and equipment; the prevention of introduction of agents of contagious diseases into rearing establishments; the carrying out of veterinary measures in the rearing establishments; the handling of dead animal and other waste as prescribed; the provision of preventive disinfection, disinsection and deratisation in the rearing establishments, surroundings and means of transport.

For holdings approved for EU trade business operators shall take into account also requirements defined in the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035. At the moment, only holding within higher education and research institution, whose production is primarily intended for the research activity is not approved for EU trade.

6. Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators :

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, four-week-old birds, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit
- b. Adults breeding flocks: depending if the MS achieved the EU target for more than 2 years

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

Every second week during the laying period (at the holding and at the hatchery)

Every three weeks during the laying period at the holding.
Sampling frequency remains at every 2nd week at the hatchery.
(derogation of point 2.1.1 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010)

Comments - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples

Sampling in adult breeding flocks:

Frequency of sampling at the holding may on the business operator's request be extended by AFSVSPP, provided that Union target has been achieved in the past two consecutive years.

In 2022, AFSVSPP has extended to every three (3) weeks the sampling frequency at three (3) holdings keeping adult breeding flocks. At four (4) holdings, the sampling is conducted every two (2) weeks during the production cycle.

The Main Office (central level), which collects data on the number of flocks sampled, and on positive flocks within the SNCP, every year sends information on the achievement of the Union target in the past two consecutive years to the Regional Offices of AFSVSPP. The Regional offices extend or revert the sampling frequency by issuing official Decision to the business operator.

Sampling of breeding flocks on the initiative of business operators is conducted by private veterinary practitioners or by veterinary technicians employed by private veterinary practitioners.

7. Samples are taken in accordance with provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2010

yes

no

If no please explain.

8. Specific requirements laid down in Annex II.C of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant (i.e. due to the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-), all birds of infected rearing or adult flocks are slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and all eggs are destroyed or heat treated):

yes

no

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

If no please explain. Indicate also if birds are slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and if eggs are destroyed or heat treated.

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 slaughter or killed and destroyed, and if non- incubated eggs will be destroyed or heat treated. Incubated eggs, still present in a hatchery, must be destroyed and disposed in compliance with the regulation governing animal-by products. (Regulation No. 1069/2009).

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).

9. Please describe the measures that shall be implemented in a flock (rearing and adult) where **Salmonella Hadar, Infantis or Virchow is detected**:

(max. 32000 chars) :

In case of detection of Salmonella Infantis, Salmonella Hadar and/or Salmonella Virchow in a positive breeding flock, the business operator shall prepare the flock sanitisation programme and provide for the implementation of all the measures required for sanitising the flock. The contents of the sanitation programme are not laid down by the legislation, as the business operator jointly with the veterinary organisation responsible for animal health prepares the programme. The sanitation programme shall comprise the business operator's measures for eliminating Salmonella from the flock, and measures for the prevention of spread of Salmonella; however, it shall not comprise any treatments using antimicrobials.

The sanitation programme may comprise for instance: admixing probiotics to feed or water, exchanging the bedding in nesting areas, supplying new bedding in the house, segregated collection of hatching eggs on farm, collecting hatched chicks at the end of work process, exchanging the feed, and microbiological investigation of feed, intensified biosafety conditions, including additional deratisation and separate worker responsible for the house, additional flock samplings.

In addition to measures defined by FBO in the sanitation programme, pending the conclusion of the sanitisation, also the following measures shall apply to the breeding flock:

(i) Business operator shall provide for the hatching of eggs in separate hatchers, and for the traceability of eggs and day-old chicks;

(ii) Movements of day-old chicks shall thus be possible only to holdings rearing broilers or layers that are included in the National Salmonella Control Programme, where the flocks are tested for the presence of Salmonella.

On conclusion of flock sanitisation, official veterinarian shall conduct the official sampling by the method referred to in point 2.2.2.1 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010. If Salmonella is not isolated from

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

the official samples, and the presence of antimicrobials is not identified, then the measures referred to in point (i) and (ii) shall be lifted.

10.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 breeding 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 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) is supervised by official veterinarian.

11. 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

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

If no please explain.

Investigations of samples taken by business operators may be conducted by laboratories, which are entered by AFSVSPP 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 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, AFSVSPP 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. 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 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.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

12. 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 yes, please describe the alternative method(s) used.

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. If timelimits are exceeded, please indicate what is done.

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

13. Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 3.1.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2010. In particular, samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 48 hours following receipt and within 96 hours after sampling.

yes

no

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

If no please explain.

According to national legislation, in case of official confirmatory sampling the official laboratory shall start the examination no later than 24 hours from acceptance of 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 notification at the latest.

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

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

15. 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. Official control is conducted on an annual basis at all the holdings rearing the adult and rearing flocks and at all the hatcheries.

At inspection of holdings keeping breeding flocks and hatcheries, the official veterinarians use checklists, which are accessible via AFSVSPP internal portal.

Checklist for holdings keeping breeding flocks and for hatcheries includes, in addition to verification of implementation of Salmonella monitoring, the verification of biosecurity conditions at the holding. Official veterinarians conduct checks at holdings so as to verify their compliance with the animal health and welfare legislation, the use and traceability of veterinary medicinal products, and legislation in the feed sector.

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).

- b. Routine official **sampling scheme when FBO sampling takes place at the hatchery**: EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. :

If the EU target is achieved for more than 2 years, the CA has decided to implement the derogation of point 2.1.2.3 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 and therefore the EU minimum requirement for official sampling are once a year at the hatchery and once a year on the holding during the laying phase.

yes

no

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

If no, the EU minimum requirements for official sampling are implemented as follows:

- every 16 weeks at the hatchery
- twice during the laying phase at the holding (within four weeks at the beginning, within eight weeks before the end), and
- at the holding each time samples taken at the hatchery are positive for target serovars

yes

no

If no please explain. Indicate also : 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, 2) who is taking the official samples.

On holdings where business operator sampling takes place at the hatchery official routine sampling of adult breeding flocks is performed in line with point 2.1.2.1 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010. Only official veterinarians conduct official sampling.

c. Routine official **sampling scheme when FBO sampling takes place at the holding**: EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. :

If the EU target is achieved for more than 2 years, the CA has decided to implement the derogation of point 2.1.2.3 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 and therefore the EU minimum requirement for official sampling are twice during the laying phase at the holding.

yes

no

If no, the EU minimum requirements for official sampling are implemented as follows:

- Three times during the laying phase at the holding (within four weeks at the beginning, within eight weeks before the end and a third one in between)

yes

no

If no, please explain. Indicate also : 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, please describe, 2) who is taking the official samples

On holdings where business operator sampling takes place at the holding official routine sampling is performed in line with point 2.1.2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010. Only official veterinarians conduct official sampling.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

d. If confirmatory samples taken at the holding (after positive results at the hatchery, or suspicion of false positivity on FBO samples taken on the holding) are negative, please describe the measures taken:



Testing for antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors (at least 5 birds per house) and if those substances are detected the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented (annex II.C of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003)



Other official samples are taken on the breeding flock; if positive, the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented, if negative, all restrictive measures are lifted



Other official samples are taken on the progeny; if positive, the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented, if negative, all restrictive measures are lifted



None of these measures

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

In most cases, during the official confirmatory sampling of adult breeding flocks samples for the detection of presence of antimicrobials will be taken. The samples are tested for the presence of antibiotics, quinolones and sulphonamides using the same analytical method as for the testing of samples taken within National residue monitoring programme.

In cases where samples for antimicrobials are not taken during confirmatory sampling and the source of infection is not confirmed, new bacteriological testing for the presence of the relevant Salmonella serotypes is carried out.

The following measures shall apply for the flock until the results of antimicrobial testing or new bacteriological are available: ban on animal movements, unless for slaughter or destruction of the flock; ban on circulation of, trade in and export of eggs from the suspect flock; eggs may be placed on the market for human consumption if handled as defined in point 3 of Part C of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and ban on placing eggs from suspect flock into the hatchers.

e. **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):

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

After positive official samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

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 confirmatory testing is carried out following detection of Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic strains) during official sampling.

If targeted serovars would be identified in samples taken by business operators at the holding the official re-testing of the flock may be conducted in some cases (e.g. suspecting of false positive or false negative results). Criteria based on which re-testing of flocks shall be conducted are not defined in the legislation. Before the decision for possible re-testing of the flock, at least the following information will be taken into account: history of Salmonella results, vaccination policy, cooperation (reliability) of the business operator, possibility of cross contamination of samples during sampling or transportation of samples.

The following measures shall apply for the flock if official re-testing is carried out: ban on animal movements, unless for slaughter or destruction of the flock; ban on circulation of, trade in and export of eggs from the suspect flock; eggs may be placed on the market for human consumption if handled as defined in point 3 of Part C of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and ban on placing eggs from suspect flock into the hatchers.

Measures instituted in breeding flocks shall apply pending the results of official sampling.

The data in the table below referred to 2020 and 2021:

1	2	3	4
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Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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	0	0	0

¹ Reg 200/2010, point 2.2.2.1 of the Annex

² Reg 200/2010, point 2.2.2.2 of the Annex

³ Reg 200/2010, point 2.2.2.2.c of the Annex

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

In most cases, samples for the presence of antimicrobials will be taken during official confirmatory sampling. If antimicrobials will be detected, the breeding flock shall be reported as positive for verification of the Union target. If samples for antimicrobials are not taken during official confirmatory testing and the source of infection is not confirmed, new bacteriological testing for the presence of the relevant Salmonella serotypes will be carried out.

- f. 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 (at the holding and at the hatchery). For samples please describe the samples taken, the analytical method used, the result of the tests.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Official sampling in order to check the use of antimicrobials is carried out on the conclusion of flock sanitisation if *S.Hadar*, *S.Virchow* or *S.Infantis* are detected in the adult breeding flock, and if official confirmatory sampling is carried out. For testing 5 animals per house are taken and tested for the presence of antibiotics, quinolones and sulphonamides. The same analytical method is used as for the testing of samples taken within National residue monitoring programme. Samples are tested in the NRL for residues.

Since SNCP in breeding flocks has started presence of antimicrobials have not been detected.

Breeding 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. During official controls of the holdings official veterinarian carried out documentary control of logbook of veterinary treatments in order to check the reasons for use of antimicrobials. Logbook of veterinary treatments is also checked before the official routine sampling is carried out on the holding. If antimicrobials were used in the flock and withdrawal period has not expire yet, the official sampling shall be postponed.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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

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

16. *Salmonella* vaccination

Voluntary

Compulsory

Forbidden

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

Comments - If performed please describe the vaccination scheme (vaccines used, vaccines providers, target flocks, number of doses administered per bird, etc) (max. 32000 chars) :

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.

Voluntary vaccination against *Salmonella* is conducted in all breeding flocks. Business operators conduct the vaccination exclusively during the rearing period (rearing flocks only are vaccinated). Vaccination of breeding flocks is carried out against *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium*. 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

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

and the wild strain is an integral part of use instructions. Some laboratories has in place procedures for 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.

17. 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 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 breeding 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 8 EUR per breeding animal. If an animal owner receive a payment for the meat of slaughtered animals, compensation is decreased for the value paid.

Business operators are not entitled to compensation for eggs destroyed or eggs submitted to heat treatment.

18. Please describe the official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house (number of samples, number of tests, samples taken, etc...)

(max. 32000 chars) :

Upon removal or dispatch of the flock in which Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic strain) 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

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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 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.

Attachement 2: Organisation of implementation of SCP

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

2. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

1. Veterinary Compliance Criteria Act (UL RS 93/05)
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 200/2010 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 adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*
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. 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

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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 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):

Poultry keepers shall be entered in the Records of Keepers of Farmed Animals, which are managed by AFSVSPP. The Records comprise the following data: data on animal keeper, location of agricultural

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

holding, identification number of agricultural holding, and number of animals per farmed animal species. Animal keepers shall report data annually, indicating the number of animals by species and by category (laying hens, parent hens, pullets, chickens for fattening / broilers, turkeys, ostriches, geese, ducks, guinea fowls, and quails). All establishments with breeding flocks are also approved by AFSVSPP and entered in the List of establishments for poultry (in compliance with the Regulation (EU) 2016/429). The identification system for the registration of individual breeding 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 sample with relevant flock is possible on the basis of data combination: date of accommodation/housing / age of the flock at sampling / number of the poultry house.

For the needs of implementation of official sampling and control within the Salmonella national control programme, the national rules lay down as follows:

- Business operators shall notify the competent AFSVSPP Regional Office of any new housing or culling of the breeding flocks at least 2 weeks prior to the envisaged housing, and of the culling at least 8 weeks prior to the envisaged culling of a flock. The relevant AFSVSPP Regional Office, which is in charge of the official sampling and control, is thus notified of each envisaged housing or culling of a breeding flock.

5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

(max. 32000 chars):

At present, there is no national database (computer application) in place, 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 SNCP (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 breeding/laying hen flocks. An updated Excel table with data on samplings accomplished (by CA and FBO) in breeding flocks and in laying hen 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. 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).

Breeding 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	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	490
Serotyping	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	5
Antimicrobial detection test	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	1
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Breeding 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)	105	135
No of flocks in the programme	105	135
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	135
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	295
No of official samples taken	0	490
Target serovars (d)	SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
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	5 500
Total No of eggs to be destroyed	Text	12 000
Total No of eggs to be heat treated	Text	13 000

Breeding 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

Breeding 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.

Breeding 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) within 30 days from the claim preparation date.

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.

Breeding 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:

Breeding 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 :	