



submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

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

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Member state : ESPANA

Disease Salmonella

Animal population Broiler 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 15:04:04

Submission Number

1669817046699-18929



Broiler 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 200/2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella Typhimurium* in flocks of broilers,
- 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 the maximum annual percentage of flocks of *broilers* remaining positive to *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) and *Salmonella* Typhimurium (ST)(including the serotypes with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-)('Union target') to 1% or less.

yes

no

If no, please explain.

The national aim of this programme is to reduce *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium, including the monophasic strains of *Salmonella* Typhimurium with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-, in broilers will be to reduce the maximum percentage of broiler flocks which test positive for these serotypes to 1% or less.

Definition of positive:

A flock of broilers shall be considered positive for the purpose of verifying the achievement of the Community target where: a) the presence of *Salmonella* enteritidis and/or *Salmonella* Typhimurium (other than vaccine strains) was detected in the flock; or b) antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors have been detected in the flock.

Positive flocks of broilers will be counted only once per round, irrespective of the number of sampling and testing operations and only be reported in the year of the first positive sampling.

Measures where a positive case is detected:

If *Salmonella* spp. is detected, the samples must be serotyped by the National Reference Laboratory or by an authorised Autonomous Community official or own-checks laboratory. If either of the two serotypes (*S. Enteritidis* or *S. Typhimurium*, including the monophasic strains of *Salmonella* Typhimurium with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-) is detected in any of the samples, the competent authorities for animal health or the food operators will take the appropriate measures, involving at least the following, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003:

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1. In all broiler flocks in which a positive result was obtained, an in-depth epidemiological investigation will be carried out to attempt to identify the cause of the positive result and detect the source of infection, in accordance with the epidemiological survey attached in the programme. If it is considered necessary, an official sample may be taken of the feed and/or water being used on the holding or given to that flock.
2. A rigorous check of the biosafety measures applied to all flocks on the holding will be performed in accordance with the guideline protocol for checking biosafety measures on broiler holdings. Checks will also be carried out on the correct performance of the own checks for these flocks.
3. No live birds may be moved into or off this site unless prior authorisation has been obtained for them to leave for the purposes of slaughter or destruction. Any transfer of animals must be accompanied by a health document to be drawn up and completed by the competent authority indicating at least the number of animals and the information necessary to identify the holding and the transporter.
4. Products obtained from these birds may be placed on the market for human consumption only in compliance with Community legislation on food hygiene and with part E of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. If not destined for human consumption, such products must be used or disposed of in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of Wednesday 21 October 2009 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002.
5. Once the birds have been removed, the holding will be cleaned efficiently and thoroughly (including complete removal of the bedding and excrement), followed by disinfection, insect removal and rat extermination. The above tasks will be performed using properly authorised and registered products. A suitable time after disinfection is complete, environmental samples will be taken to check the effectiveness of the cleaning and disinfection and to make sure that *Salmonella* is no longer present in the environment. The competent authorities shall check whether the cleaning and disinfection measures applied following the destocking of the shed have been performed to a satisfactory standard and, if appropriate, shall authorise restocking with new animals. For the cleaning and disinfection procedure to be considered valid, it shall apply the measures described in point 14 of this programme.
6. The premises will not be restocked for 12 days after completion of the cleaning, disinfection, rat extermination and if necessary insect removal processes. Repopulation may take place only if the environmental analyses carried out in accordance with the programme are satisfactory, and if biosafety measures considered inadequate or deficient by the competent authority have been properly corrected. However, in those cases where the results of those tests prove the effectiveness of the cleaning and disinfection undertaken, the waiting period may be reduced to a minimum of 7 days.
7. The competent authorities will be informed of the dates of departure of the birds in the flock, disinfection, taking of environmental samples and restocking, and all of these processes shall be duly recorded for possible consultation by the competent authorities. Preventive depopulation of the shed in which the positive flock was kept (and, where appropriate, slaughter or destruction of the animals), and restocking, must all take place under official supervision.
8. If necessary, results may be requested of laboratory analyses of the worker(s) in charge of the animals, or anybody who can be considered as a risk, in order to determine whether there are any *Salmonella* spp. carriers among them.

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If, however, a serotype not concerned by the control programme is identified, the following measures will be taken:

An in-depth epidemiological investigation will be carried out to attempt to identify the cause of the positive result and detect the source of infection. Where appropriate, official samples may be taken of the feed and/or water used on the holding or given to the positive flock.

Thorough checks on the biosafety measures for all flocks on the holding in accordance with the procedure for checking biosafety measures on broiler holdings.

2. Geographical coverage of the programme

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

yes

no

If no, please explain.

3. Flocks subject to the programme

The programme covers all flocks of broilers. It does not apply to flocks for private domestic use.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

It will be applied to all holdings of broilers of the species Gallus gallus intended for commercial slaughter. On broiler holdings involved in the direct supply, by the producer, of small quantities of primary products to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the primary products to the final consumer; at least one FBO control should be done per year in all the flocks present in the farm at that moment.

The competent authorities of the Autonomous Communities will take the necessary action to guarantee the control and monitoring of salmonellosis which is important in terms of public health. This programme will not be implemented on holdings which produce primary products for own consumption (for private domestic use). Holdings to which the programme applies must be authorised and registered by the competent authorities. For the purposes of the programme, 'epidemiological unit' will mean the flock of birds, defined as all birds reared for meat production with the same health status kept on the same premises or in the same enclosure and constituting a single epidemiological unit. in the case of housed poultry, this includes all birds sharing the same airspace in accordance with Article 2 (3)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. Flocks of broilers will have an individual identification. To identify the flocks on a holding, the REGA code will be used: a capital letter corresponding to the shed (this letter must be written on the shed door) and the date of entry of the birds in the format mm/yyyy. REGA+NAVE (CAPITAL LETTER)+ DATE OF ENTRY OF BIRDS (mm/yyyy)

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	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with broilers in the MS	4 650
Total number of houses in these holdings	40 000
Number of holdings with more than 5,000 broilers	4 500
<i>NB : All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available.</i>	

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 (CA) 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 FBO and the laboratory performing the analyses.

yes

no

If no, please explain.

All legal or natural persons, and particularly veterinarians, must notify the competent authorities of any confirmed or suspected cases of salmonella, regardless or whether or not they are connected to measures under the salmonella national control programmes (SNCP). Therefore, all the confirmed results or suspected cases in samples taken and analysed by operators outside the framework of the SNCPs must also be communicated in the same way as those which come under the SNCPs. When *Salmonella* spp. is isolated in samples taken in controls by the operator, the laboratories must carry out serotyping to be able to distinguish between those serotypes controlled under this programme and other serotypes of *Salmonella* spp. Serotyping may be done by the laboratory itself or another laboratory may be commissioned which is authorised under the SNCP, as described in point 10 of this programme. If the serotyping shows positive for the serotypes subject to control or any other serotype, or if the presence of such serotypes cannot be ruled out and the initial sample was taken in an own check, the competent authority must be informed as soon as possible and at the latest within 24 hours of the analyses results becoming available at least to the laboratory and the owner of the holding. As soon as the operator becomes aware of the existence of a positive result, he must take the appropriate measures provided in the programme for cases in which the *Salmonella* serotypes to which the check relates are detected. All the results of own checks must be recorded using the dedicated computer application used by the authorised laboratories to communicate results, without prejudice to the contents of the previous paragraph. To ensure suitable traceability of the samples taken during own checks and official monitoring and in order to ensure suitable computer processing of the sampling data for this programme, the sampled flocks will be identified as specified in point 3 of this programme: The competent authority of the livestock and public health service will keep both appropriately informed of the positive results.

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5. Biosecurity measures

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

yes

no

If no, please explain. - If yes, describe the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) and attach a copy.

A biosafety survey will be carried out at the same time as the collection of samples as part of the official checks. The biosafety measures will be verified once a year, observing the protocol for checking biosafety measures at least on all holdings of broiler poultry on which the official control is performed in accordance with this programme. Checks on these measures will take place at the same time as the official sampling in the flock. The data gathered in such exercises must be recorded using the computer application in the Biosafety section, whether or not official samples were collected. If, in the course of an inspection, significant shortcomings in the biosafety measures are detected, this will be made known to the holder by means of an official notice, drawn up in at least triplicate and addressed to the holder or his legal representative or the person in charge of the animals, setting out all the shortcomings and the deadlines set for them to be remedied. The veterinary officer must adopt a proportionate and progressive approach in his work to enforce biosafety rules and measures. The competent authority may, if necessary, make use of the measures established in Chapter IV, Title V, of Law 8/2003 on Animal Health. Other measures or sanctions may also be applied to the flock, or to the whole holding: depending on the seriousness of the shortcoming detected, they may range from placing the holding under quarantine to withdrawing the health authorisation for its operation. The guideline protocol attached will be observed in order to check and assess the biosafety measures on broiler holdings.

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

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

All flocks of broilers within three weeks before slaughter.

yes

no

If no, please explain.- Indicate also who takes the FBO samples

All broiler flocks on all the holdings covered by this programme will be sampled as part of a programme of own checks carried out on the producer's initiative. All the results of the sample analyses must be known before the animals leave for the slaughterhouse and suitably notified in accordance with the legislation in force. Samples shall be taken in accordance with the following minimum requirements:

- Zoonoses / Zoonotic agent *Salmonella* with public health significance (ST and SE)
- Broiler flocks intended for human consumption
- Production phases which must cover sampling: Chicks in the 3 weeks prior to slaughter

Sampling of all the flocks on a holding in the course of own checks shall be performed by the holder and

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the veterinarian responsible for the holding, or may be carried out by qualified staff of the laboratory performing the analyses. The veterinarian responsible for the holding shall verify that the sampling protocol is being observed in accordance with the conditions set in this programme.

In those herds in which a thinning or partial depopulation is to be carried out, a self-control must be carried out in the 3 weeks prior to the animals' departure to the slaughterhouse. In the case that a previous self-control has already been carried out in that herd but the time elapsed is longer than 3 weeks, the self-control must be repeated.

Recording of results in the Ministry's own-check computer application The data and information collected on holdings where own checks are performed (Annex OWN CHECK sampling), and the laboratory results will be recorded in the computer application of the Salmonella National Control Programme <https://servicio.mapa.gob.es/>. The results of the own-check samples must be recorded in the own-check application, together with the required accompanying data, within one month of the laboratory analysis result being obtained; the results must be obtained within 15 days of the sampling, on average, except in exceptional circumstances. All the data in the sampling annex must be duly completed because if any information is missing, the samples cannot be entered in the application. All the samples and information relating to sampled flocks which are not entered in the Ministry's applications (official control and own check) will not be valid in the context of the SNCP. However, where there is a positive test result for Salmonella, given its significance for public health, it must be notified as specified in the SNCP.

The CA accepts to derogate from this sampling rule and instead of this the FBOs shall sample at least one flock of broilers per round on holdings with more than one flock where:

- (i) an all in / all out system is used in all flocks of the holding;
- (ii) the same management applies to all flocks;
- (iii) feed and water supply is common to all flocks;
- (iv) during at least the last six rounds, tests for *Salmonella* spp. according to the sampling scheme set out in the first subparagraph in all flocks on the holding and samples of all flocks of at least one round were carried out by the competent authority;
- (v) all results from the testing according to the first subparagraph and point (b) for SE or ST were negative.

yes

no

If yes - Indicate how many holdings and flocks are concerned

Since the introduction of the SNCPs for broiler chickens in Spain, this exception has been applied to only one holding. It may be applied for the years covered by this programme, but until the programme is implemented each year, we do not know whether the sector will request this and therefore whether the CA will authorise it and it will be applied.

The CA accepts to derogate from the general sampling rule and authorises FBO sampling in the last six weeks prior to the date of slaughter in case the broilers are either kept more than 81 days or fall under organic broiler production according to Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

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yes

no

If yes - Indicate how many holdings and flocks are concerned

Even if it is applied, we cannot specify the number of holdings and flocks until the programme has been completed.

7. Samples are taken in accordance with provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2012

yes

no

If no, please explain.

The competent authority or the food business operator will ensure that samples are taken by persons trained for that purpose. At least two pairs of boot swabs will be taken for sampling. Boot swabs are put on the boots and the sample is taken by walking around in the poultry house. Furthermore, measures must be taken to prevent any effects on the inhibition of bacterial growth caused by disinfectants in the footbaths at the entrances to the sheds. All swabs will be grouped together and considered to be one sample. Before putting on the boot swabs, their surface will be moistened by: the application of maximum recovery diluents (MRD: 0.8 % sodium chloride, 0.1 % peptone in sterile deionised water); b) the application of sterile water; c) the application of any other diluents approved by the national reference laboratory referred to in Article 11(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003; or d) being autoclaved in a container together with diluents. The way to moisten boot swabs shall be to pour the liquid inside before putting them on or to shake them in a container of diluent. It shall be ensured that all sections in a house are represented in the sampling in a proportionate way. Each pair of boot swabs must cover about 50 % of the area of the house. On completion of sampling, the swabs shall be carefully removed from the boots so as not to dislodge adherent material. Boot swabs may be inverted to retain material. They shall be placed in a bag or pot and labelled. The competent authority may decide to increase the minimum number of samples in order to ensure representative sampling on a case-by-case evaluation of epidemiological parameters, such as biosafety conditions, the distribution or size of the flock. For free range flocks of broilers, samples will only be collected in the area inside the house. In flocks with less than 100 broilers, where it is not possible to use boot swabs as access to the sheds is not possible, they may be replaced by hand drag swabs, where the boot swabs are worn over gloved hands and rubbed over surfaces contaminated with fresh faeces, or if not feasible, by other sampling techniques for faeces fit for the intended purpose. Where the presence of *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effect are detected, the flock will be considered to be an infected flock of broilers for the purpose of the Union target referred to in Article 1 (2). Sampling performed by the competent authority may replace sampling on the initiative of the food business operator (own check). Methods used in the examination of the samples in the framework of the programme. A. Preparation of the samples in the laboratory a) Absorbent boot swabs - The sample (consisting of two pairs of boot swabs) must be unpacked carefully to avoid dislodging faecal material and placed in 225 ml buffered peptone water (BPW) which has been pre-warmed to room temperature. Where necessary, more peptone water will be added so that free liquid is left around the sample to allow for the migration of *Salmonella*. - The sample will be swirled to fully saturate it and culture shall be

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continued by using the detection method described. To prepare these samples, standard UNE-EN ISO 6887-6 'Specific rules for the preparation of samples taken in the primary production stage' can also be taken as a guide. B. Identification of the samples and results of the analyses The sample must be correctly preserved and identified for dispatch. It will be accompanied by a series of data in accordance with the model sampling annex. There are two sampling annex models: one for the official control and another for own checks, because own checks do not require as much information to be collected as the official control. In both cases, it must be clearly visible that the samples come within the scope of the SNCP, to avoid any confusion with private samples on the holding. These annexes must be fully completed because all the data collected in them are necessary for the assessment of the SNCPs. A copy or duplicate of the sampling annex must stay on the holding, and be kept together with the results sheet sent by the laboratory, so that the farm has all the documentation on samples (sampling annex and results sheet). These documents must be available to the official veterinary services when they perform official controls in the framework of the SNCPs. The required documents may be in paper or electronic format. To ensure suitable traceability of the samples, the reports of the analyses results, at least the following information must be recorded:

1. Date on which the samples were taken.
2. Identification of the flock. As described in point 3 of this programme.
3. Poultry population (breeding, laying, broiler, turkeys for fattening or breeding)
4. Samples (specimen, number and weight or volume) which arrived at the laboratory and manner in which they were combined for analysis.

The following sentence must appear in a clear and visible manner in all the results sheets for the sample analyses under the SNCPs, and also in sampling annexes. "THESE SAMPLES FALL UNDER THE SALMONELLA NATIONAL CONTROL PROGRAMMES"

When a vaccine strain has been detected, the laboratory serotyping report must include the following statement : " The flock shall be considered negative because it has been isolated a vaccine strain"

- 8.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 order to clarify the SNCP of poultry, this text is amended as a part of the Action Plan aproved after the recommendation of report ref DSG(SANTE) 2019-6597 of the EU audit to evaluate SNCP carried out in November 2019, stating that the CA should ensure that only broiler and turkey flocks that have been sampled for Salmonella with a known test result can be sent for slaughter)

In accordance with Royal Decree 361/2009 on food chain information, the operator of the livestock holding must ensure that in all shipments of animals to the slaughterhouse, full information on the results of all analyses of samples taken that have importance for human health, in the framework of the surveillance and control of Salmonella is sent to the slaughterhouse operator; in other words, the slaughterhouse operator must be informed if the result of the last analysis (or last analyses, if the samples have been taken in the near future) has been negative or positive to Salmonella spp. and, in this last case, in addition, if it is negative or positive to S. Enteritidis or S. Typhimurium, and the information of the result/s of such analysis must be included in the FCI (Food Chain Information) to be considered

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complete.

If a flock on the holding tests positive for *S. Enteritidis* or *S. Typhimurium*, the operator of the livestock holding must also ensure that no live birds are moved into or out of this site unless prior authorisation has been obtained for them to leave for the purposes of slaughter or destruction. Any transfer of animals must be accompanied by a health document to be drawn up and completed by the competent authority indicating at least the number of animals and the information necessary to identify the holding and the transporter.

Measures implemented by the FBO (slaughterhouse level)

Slaughter at the slaughterhouse shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No. 853/2004, which lays down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin, and in particular Section II of Annex III thereof.

When a positive herd is received at the slaughterhouse, it is logistically slaughtered, i.e. the herd is slaughtered last in the daily slaughter order to minimize the possibility of cross-contamination, followed by cleaning and disinfection. This is carried out in line with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2019/627 with the aim of reducing contamination of other animals or their meat as much as possible. In addition, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005, slaughterhouses shall include in their sampling plans poultry carcasses from flocks whose *Salmonella* status is unknown or positive for *Salmonella Enteritidis* or *Salmonella Typhimurium*.

There is a "Manual for the broiler sector in Spain for compliance with Regulation (EU) No 1086/2011 amending Regulations (EU) No 2160/2003 and (EC) No 2073/2005", which, although it is voluntary, can provide guidance as to the correct way of handling birds slaughtered in slaughterhouses in relation to *Salmonella*.

As an example of the possible system of action, attached is the management diagram of birds sent to a slaughterhouse, recommended in the "GUIDE FOR THE MEAT POULTRY SECTOR IN SPAIN FOR COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATION (EU) No. 1086/2011 AMENDING REGULATIONS (EU) No. 2160/2003 AND (EC) No. 2073/2005", with some additional issues that are carried out voluntarily by the slaughterhouses that apply the guide, such as the immobilization of the carcasses sampled until the results are available.

Guide available through: https://www.aesan.gob.es/AECOSAN/docs/documentos/seguridad_alimentaria/gestion_riesgos/PROPOLLO.pdf

Measures implemented by the CA (farm and slaughterhouse level)

The official veterinarian is responsible for verifying that the correct food chain information is passed on as required pursuant to RD 361/2009: accordingly, he or she must check that the livestock holdings are passing this information to the slaughterhouses in a consistent and effective, valid and reliable manner and ensure that the relevant animal health and food safety information, including that relating to the results of *Salmonella* testing, is also passed on. Provision is thus made for slaughterhouses to only accept animals for which the relevant information on the holding of origin has been received. As a general rule the information should be received at least 24 hours prior to the arrival of the animals. Slaughter in slaughterhouses must take place in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin, and in particular Section II of Annex III.

Official controls must be carried out in accordance with Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/624 of 8 February 2019 concerning specific rules regarding the performance of official controls on meat production and regarding production and relaying areas for live bivalve molluscs in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627, of 15 March 2019 laying down uniform practical arrangements for the performance of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption in

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accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council and amending Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2074/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2074/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council. No. 2074/2005 of the Commission as regards official controls.

The provisions of Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005, on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs, also apply in relation to the criteria for *Salmonella* in poultry meat. Once positive results for *S. Enteritidis* or *S. Typhimurium* are found in a consignment, the official veterinarian will ensure that targeted sampling and tests using the EN/ISO 6579 methodology or a validated alternative method are carried out, and lastly that the carcasses are withdrawn from the market and destroyed or that the destination previously given for the product is changed.

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

yes

no

If no, please explain.

The Central Veterinary Laboratory in Algete (Madrid) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fish and Food is the National Reference Laboratory for all serotypes of *Salmonella* in animals. Laboratories analysing official samples as part of the programme must be established, recognised or designated by the competent bodies in the Autonomous Communities. These official laboratories must operate and have access to accredited tests for *Salmonella* in all matrices monitored under the PNCS with which they work, and be accredited in accordance with Standard EN/ISO 17025 on general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, or must apply quality assurance systems in accordance with that standard. They must also participate in the ring tests organised or co-ordinated by the National Reference Laboratory. The laboratories participating in the programme for the purposes of carrying out own checks must be recognised by the competent authorities of the Autonomous Communities in which they are established and must operate and have access to accredited tests for *Salmonella* in all matrices monitored under the PNCS with which they work, and be accredited in accordance with Standard EN/ISO 17025 on general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories, or apply quality assurance systems in accordance with that standard. Laboratories must also regularly participate in collaborative testing organised or co-ordinated by the National Reference Laboratory. The list of participating laboratories must be published, for information purposes, at least on the MAPA website. The competent authorities of the Autonomous Communities shall notify the Ministry of Agriculture, Fish and Food of the laboratories referred to in the previous paragraph or of any modifications to them so that the list may be published at least on the departmental website for information purposes. Where a laboratory serves at the same time as an Autonomous Community's official laboratory and participates in the own-check programme, it must notify the relevant competent authority or authorities and ensure that the two activities are managed separately, and is subject to monitoring and periodic inspection by the competent authority to check that these are separate. If it fails to notify the authorities, or cannot guarantee that the activities are kept separate, it cannot operate as an official laboratory. The results obtained by authorised laboratories for both official monitoring and own checks shall be valid and applicable throughout the country. Laboratories must reject samples which do

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not meet the requirements specified in this programme.

10. 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.

Salmonella spp. shall be isolated in accordance with Standard EN/ISO 6579-1 Horizontal method for the detection of Salmonella spp. in animal faeces and in samples at primary production level" which uses a semi-solid culture medium (modified semi-solid Rappaport -Vassiladis - MSR) as a single selective enrichment medium. The semi-solid medium should be incubated at 41.5 ± 1 °C for 2x (24±3) hours. At least one isolate from each sample showing a positive reaction shall be typed, in accordance with the Kaufmann-White-Le Minor scheme. Laboratories may type their own Salmonella isolates or send them other laboratories authorised within the PNCS to be typed. The laboratory where typing takes place must issue a report including its results and send it to the laboratory that sent the isolates to be typed. The recording of results in the application and the notification of results as indicated in this programme are the responsibility of the laboratory that isolated the Salmonella. To prevent any delays in obtaining and notifying the results of typing:

- The isolate must be sent to another laboratory for typing no more than 24 hours following isolation.
- Typing must begin in the laboratory no more than 24 hours following receipt of the isolate in the laboratory.
- The issue and dispatch of the results report from the typing laboratory to the laboratory that sent the isolate, or the notification of the results, as appropriate, must take place no more than 24 hours after the results are obtained in the laboratory.
- The recording in the application and the notification of positive results by the isolating laboratory must take place within the deadlines laid down in this programme.

Alternative methods

Alternative methods may be used instead of the methods referred to above, if validated in accordance with EN ISO 16140-2 (for alternative detection methods).

Storage of strains

At least the strains isolated from samples collected by the competent authority shall be stored for possible further characterization and antimicrobial susceptibility testing, as determined by Implementing Decision (EU) 2020/1729 of 17 November 2020 on antimicrobial resistance surveillance and reporting Decision 2013/652/EU of 12 November 2013 on monitoring and reporting of antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic and commensal bacteria, using normal culture collection methods, which should ensure the integrity of the strains for at least two years.

Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

Pursuant to that Decision, strains isolated from the own-check samples may also be stored to that end if the competent authority so decides.

To that end, the official control laboratories must send all strains of Salmonella isolated in the framework of the PNCS to the National Reference Laboratory (Algete).

Own-check laboratories must also send the National Reference Laboratory (Algete), on request, any strains obtained in the framework of the PNCS.

The frequency of dispatch of such strains shall be as agreed between the National Reference Laboratory and the laboratories.

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

yes

no

If no please explain.

Alternative methods may be used instead of the methods referred to above, if validated in accordance with EN ISO 16140-2 (for alternative detection methods).

11. Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 2.2.4 and 3.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2012. In particular samples examination at the laboratory shall start within 48 hours following receipt and within 4 days after sampling.

yes

no

If no, please explain.

The samples will be transported and stored in accordance with points 2.2.4 and 3.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2012. Samples shall be sent to the laboratories referred to in Articles 11 and 12 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, within 24 hours after collection, preferably by express mail or courier. If not sent within 24 hours, they must be stored refrigerated. They may be transported at ambient temperature as long as excessive heat (over 25°C) and exposure to sunlight are avoided. At the laboratory, samples shall be kept refrigerated until examination, which shall be started within 48 hours of receipt and within 96 hours of sampling

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

Broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

Control measures to prevent the introduction of *Salmonella* spp. in farms through feed are based on the verification of compliance with current feed regulations by the competent authority of the Autonomous Regions.

As described in Article 15 of Regulation (EC) 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety, the feed operator shall not place unsafe feed on the market which has an adverse effect on human or animal health or which renders the feed obtained from food-producing animals unsafe for human consumption. Therefore, the operator shall take necessary, effective, proportionate and specific measures to continuously minimize potential *Salmonella* contamination and protect human and animal health. The producer of the feed material shall establish, implement and maintain a permanent written procedure or procedures based on HACCP principles in accordance with Article 6 of Regulation (EC) 183/2005 laying down requirements for feed hygiene. Procedures based on HACCP or guidelines are aimed at significantly reducing the presence of *Salmonella* and minimizing the re-contamination of the final product or reducing the level of contamination, according to the specific risk assessment of each operator through a strict system of controls throughout the process and the application of various measures aimed at reducing the risk of *Salmonella* spp. presence. The critical points of the manufacturing process will depend on each operator and will have to take into account the evaluation and control of suppliers (microbiological quality of the raw materials supplied or other factors that may compromise it), the application of cleaning programs and the application of good practice guidelines throughout the production chain (storage of raw materials, manufacturing, storage of the finished product, etc.).

The control measures by the competent authority of the Autonomous Regions include different aspects such as the verification of the purchase of feed from registered or authorized operators, in accordance with Regulation (EC) 183/2005 laying down requirements for feed hygiene, including the application of systems and self-monitoring based on HACCP principles and guides to good hygiene practices. The objective is to ensure that no *Salmonella* contamination occurs during the processing of poultry feed, guaranteeing feed safety at all stages that may have an impact on feed and food safety, including the primary production of feed and food. It should also be noted that Regulation (EC) No. 183/2005 on Feed Hygiene, applicable since January 1, 2006, requires the establishment of harmonized microbiological criteria, based on scientific criteria of Risk Analysis, to harmonize intra-Community trade and ensure that imported feed complies with levels at least equivalent to those produced in the national territory. According to this Regulation, feed exporting companies must comply with specific microbiological criteria. The criteria and targets must be adopted by the EU in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 31 of the Regulation. Feed business operators responsible for the primary production of feed must take the necessary measures to prevent, eliminate or reduce feed safety risks during the procurement and storage of raw materials and the subsequent stages of manufacture, preparation, cleaning, packaging, storage and transport of such products (as referred to in Annex I of Regulation 183/2005). They must also keep records detailing the measures taken to control contamination hazards. Other feed business operators must take appropriate measures to ensure the safety of the products they manufacture, transport or use. These measures are more precisely detailed in Annex II of the aforementioned regulation, and they shall apply the principles of the HACCP system, taking corrective measures when the monitoring of a critical point is not controlled and implementing internal procedures to verify that the measures taken are effective. They must also maintain records in order to demonstrate the application of these measures.

Therefore, feed hygiene requirements are verified in all the activities of operators in the animal feed sector, from the primary production of feed to its commercialization, as well as the feeding of food-producing animals and the import and export of feed from and to third countries, with the purpose of

Broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

adopting the appropriate measures to guarantee the safety of feed at each stage.

It should be noted that there is no Community or national regulation establishing microbiological criteria for *Salmonella* (or other microorganisms) in raw materials and feed of vegetable origin, although there are legal criteria established for raw materials and feed of animal origin.

The program of official controls in animal feed, approved within the National Coordination Commission for Animal Feed (CNCAA), indicates that, given that, in the case of vegetable products (whether raw materials or feed), these determinations do not have a maximum limit established in the current national or Community regulations, in the event of a positive result for *Salmonella*, an identification of the serotype must be requested. Only in the case of *S. Enteritidis*, *S. Typhimurium*, *S. Infantis*, *S. Virchow* and *S. Hadar*, notification will be made through the Alert Network.

In case of a positive result for *Salmonella* spp, the approved HACCP system must apply corrective measures that allow the product, in a new analytical control, to demonstrate that it is suitable to be placed on the market. These measures are included in international, community and national sectoral guides. This is the case of the Guide for the development of feed sanitization standards, prepared in 2007 by the Spanish Confederation of Compound Feed Manufacturers (CESFAC), which compiles in a single document the possible sanitization systems that can be applied in a factory to obtain microbiologically safe feed, such as heat treatment or the use of authorized additives. Available at: <https://cesfac.es/media/attachments/2019/08/08/guia-higienizacin.pdf>

The information on the authorization of feed additives, contained in the guides, must be verified with the register of authorized additives which can be accessed through the following link: https://food.ec.europa.eu/safety/animal-feed/feed-additives/eu-register_en

There are no criteria to be followed in the EU zoonosis regulations regarding the potential presence of *Salmonella* and other potential zoonotic agents in feed. The sampling that accompanies the official controls on establishments that destine products for animal feed includes analytical determinations to detect the presence of *Salmonella* in raw materials and feed. In the case of products of plant origin, analytical determinations are carried out taking into account the risk criteria established in public documents approved by the CNCAA in which possible hazards to be controlled in raw materials intended for the manufacture of animal feed and, therefore, in the feed of which they are part (DOC CNCAA 1/2015 vers 1. Main hazards to be controlled in self-control systems). This document has been disseminated to operators in the sector through their associations, the control authority, and is accessible on the SILUM application on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food: <https://www.mapa.gob.es/es/ganaderia/temas/alimentacion-animal/acceso-publico/pruebaotros.aspx> Every year, more than 3,000 official inspections are carried out in national establishments destined for animal feed products, verifying the self-controls performed by operators in the sector and more than 1,000 official samples are taken for the determination of microbiology, including *Salmonella*. These data are included in the PNCOCA annual report, distributing the samples among raw materials, compound feed and other products.

13. Official controls at holding and flock 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) :

Good Hygiene Practice Guides have been developed with a view to encouraging the use of appropriate hygiene practices on farms to control dangers in primary production and related activities, with special

Broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

emphasis on the prevention and control of *Salmonella* of significance to public health. To this end, a model Guide to Good Hygiene Practices for the control and prevention of zoonotic *Salmonella* on broiler holdings has been drawn up with representatives from the broiler sector (PROPOLLO - an inter-professional organisation for poultry farming in Spain) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fish and Food, copies of which have been published for distribution among livestock farmers and the competent authorities. It has also been posted on the MAPA website.

The owners of broiler farms must have an established code of good hygiene practices in order to meet the objective of this *Salmonella* National Control Programme and guarantee that health information is recorded. The following records must also be kept on farms:

- a) A record of the type and source of feed supplied to the animals.
- b) A record of the outbreak of diseases that could affect the safety of animal by-products.
- c) An up-to-date visitors' register listing the people and vehicles that have entered the holding.
- d) A record of treatments with medicinal products, containing the information specified in Article 8 of Royal Decree 1749/1998 setting out the applicable control measures for certain substances and their residues in live animals and their products.
- e) All the results of the *Salmonella* analyses and controls performed on the holding during the production stage. The results of the analyses of any samples taken in the incubator relating to that flock must also be kept. All these records shall be kept by the holder for at least three years. Those relating to the last 12 months shall be kept on the holding itself.
- f) The holding register shall be used to record incoming and outgoing flocks of birds. The flock sheet must be kept for at least three years after depopulation.
- g) There must also be a documentary record of: 1. The protocols and records of cleaning and disinfection work (dates, products used, the person or company responsible for this work). 2. Analyses to check that cleaning and disinfection operations carried out during the depopulation period have been effective in guaranteeing control of *Salmonella* with public health significance. 3. The programmes and records of insect and rat extermination operations (dates, products used, procedure to check the effectiveness of the programme, etc.).
- h) The producer of breeding chickens must provide information on the health status of the flock of origin and on the vaccinations and own checks performed on the rearing of the chickens; this information must accompany the chickens when they are transferred to the producing holdings.

The holder shall have all the mandatory health documentation and record all the necessary details to enable the competent authority to perform ongoing checks on compliance with the holding health programme and the code of good hygiene practice, and in particular the records mentioned above under a), b), c), d), e), f) and g).

All holdings included in the programme shall be placed under the veterinary supervision of both the official veterinary services and of the authorised or competent veterinarians responsible for the holding, as laid down in Law No 8/2003 on animal health.

Without prejudice to Royal Decree 637/2021, the holder must adopt protective livestock rearing measures to control the introduction or prevent the dissemination of *Salmonella* spp on the holding. In particular:

- a) The design and maintenance of the installations must be suitable for preventing the entry of *Salmonella* spp.
- b) Appropriate measures must be taken to control rodents, insects, wild birds and other domestic or wild animals which might introduce the disease. A rodent control programme must be carried out either by the holding itself or by authorised establishments.
- c) Day-old chicks come from breeding holdings and hatcheries that have passed the checks set up to prevent vertical transmission of *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium*, including the monophasic strains of *Salmonella typhimurium* with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-, and are certified by the supplier as

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originating in breeding holdings free of the five serotypes (*S. enteritidis*, *S. typhimurium*, including the monophasic strains of *Salmonella typhimurium* with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-, *S. virchow*, *S. infantis* and *S. hadar*), and documentation including the results and dates of the laboratory analyses (own checks and official sampling) performed since the last official sampling at the source holding must be made available to the purchaser.

d) Appropriate washing, cleaning, disinfection and rat extermination measures are taken in the production sheds and ancillary structures and on the materials and tools used in the production activities.

e) Analyses are performed to check that sufficient cleaning and disinfection has been carried out. To verify cleaning and disinfection one or more moistened fabric swabs of at least 900 cm² per swab, moistened using appropriate diluents (such as 0,8 % sodium chloride, 0,1 % peptone in sterile deionised water, sterile water or any other diluent approved by the competent authority, shall be used to swab as large a surface area in different points in the house (floor, walls, feeding equipments, watering equipments, belts, pillars, water and feeding pipes, scrapers and any other difficult point to clean and disinfect).

Samples can be pooled to perform and single culture, or by enriching the peptone water separately and then taking 1 ml of the incubated peptone water of each sample, mixing them well and then take 0.1 ml of the mixture and inoculate the modified Rappaport-Vassiliadis semisolid medium plates (MSRV). These samples must be analysed in authorised laboratories in the framework of the *Salmonella* National Control Plans.

The detection methods used must be the same as for the other SNCP samples. The results must be entered in the own check computer application of the MAPA.

these samples will be recorded as samples from the outgoing flock.

The own check sampling Annex will be used for dispatch to the laboratory.

The competent authorities will check the suitability of the cleaning, disinfection and depopulation measures adopted in the hen houses and, where appropriate, will authorise installations to be occupied by new animals.

f) Adequate measures are taken to prevent the transmission of *Salmonella* through drinking water.

g) The appropriate measures must be taken to prevent the presence of *Salmonella* spp in raw materials and feedingstuffs. Specifically, the manufacturer or supplier of feed to the holding must guarantee that testing for *Salmonella* has been carried out and make express provision for such tests in the relevant HACCP system. The checks must include analysis of the corresponding samples, which will be made available to the health managers of the holdings receiving the feed. The veterinarian responsible for the holding may assist with the interpretation of the results of the analysis.

h) Suitable training courses for operators and, if necessary, for the owners of the holding will be carried out.

i) Suitable health checks must be carried out to detect the possible source or sources of *Salmonella* contamination where the bacterium has been detected in animals or if this emerges from the epidemiological investigation.

j) Appropriate sampling and analyses are carried out to detect *Salmonella* spp.

k) Adequate measures must be adopted if positive cases of salmonellosis involving either of the two serotypes of *Salmonella* covered by the programme occur.

l) Appropriate measures must be taken to ensure the proper management of by-products of animal origin not intended for human consumption.

Hygiene in transporting animals to and from farms Article 49 of Law 8/2003 on Animal Health establishes that all vehicles or means of transport used to transport production animals must be cleaned of solid residues, washed and disinfected with authorised products after the animals have been unloaded in the

Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

closest cleaning and disinfection centre authorised for such purposes. This centre will send a receipt for the work carried out which must accompany the transport. In the case of transport and unloading at the slaughterhouse, the vehicle must leave the slaughterhouse empty, clean and disinfected. In addition to these requirements, Royal Decree 1559/2005 sets out the basic conditions to be met by the cleaning and disinfection centres for vehicles used for road transport in the livestock sector.

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

■ in one flock of broilers per year on 10% of holding comprising at least 5,000 birds;

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 (*max. 32000 chars*) :

Official samples will be taken by the qualified or authorised official veterinarian, or in some cases under veterinary supervision by sufficiently trained and authorised personnel, and each year on 10% of holdings with more than 5 000 birds at least one flock on each holding will be checked. In the ACs with 10 holdings or fewer, the official control will be carried out on at least one holding. The risk criteria for selecting this 10% of holdings include the following:

- a) Holding characteristics: - type of production - size of holding (population sections) - provincial poultry density (measured here by number of holdings)
- b) Background of the holdings: - changes in the results obtained in previous years on the holdings from which samples were taken. - prioritise holdings on which no information is available
- c) Non-compliances: - prioritise establishing a major risk of those farms where unrectified non-compliances have been detected in the biosafety surveys and in surveys where positive results were obtained.

Sampling shall take place within the last three weeks before the birds are sent for slaughter. Sampling performed by the competent authority may replace sampling on the initiative of the food business operator (own check). Whenever it is considered necessary, official samples of animal feed and drinking water and environmental samples may be taken to confirm the effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection measures. Other types of samples may also be taken as and when the competent authorities deem it necessary. The competent authority can decide to increase the number of samples to ensure the representativeness of sampling, depending on epidemiological parameters such as biosafety conditions, distribution or flock size.

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):

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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.

Confirmatory analyses are not carried out for broilers.

- 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, sample taking) to check the correct implementation of this provision. For samples please describe the samples taken, the analytical method used, the result of the tests.

(max. 32000 chars):

The checks made by the competent authorities (laboratory tests or documentary checks on the records of the holding) must guarantee that no antimicrobial medicinal products that might affect the result of analyses have been used.

In addition to the sampling provided for, when appropriate a random sample of birds may be taken within each shed housing birds on a holding, usually of up to five birds per flock unless the competent authority considers it necessary to include a greater number of birds in the sampling.

The examination shall consist of a test, using accredited techniques to detect the effect of bacterial growth inhibitors or antimicrobials.

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Samples of feed and water may be taken simultaneously with the aim of detecting and quantifying the quantity of antimicrobials if necessary.

Where the presence of the *Salmonella* serotypes covered by the programme is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effects are detected it shall be considered and accounted for as an infected flock for the purpose of the Union target.

These samples, in the framework of the SNCP, shall not take in triplicate notwithstanding that these actions can be combined with other programs in which these samples in triplicate are necessary.

If, from this action, derive measures related to the national plan of investigation of residues of veterinary drugs, it will take the appropriate actions, according to the aforementioned regulations.

14. 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, tests, samples taken, etc.)

(max. 32000 chars) :

Once the birds have been removed, the holding will be cleaned efficiently and thoroughly (including complete removal of the bedding and excrement), followed by disinfection, insect removal and rat extermination. The above tasks will be performed using properly authorised and registered products. A suitable time after disinfection is complete, environmental samples will be taken to check the effectiveness of the cleaning and disinfection and to make sure that *Salmonella* is no longer present in the environment.

The competent authorities will check whether the cleaning and disinfection measures applied following the destocking of the shed have been performed to a satisfactory standard and, where appropriate, will authorise restocking with new animals.

To verify cleaning and disinfection two or more moistened fabric swabs of at least 900 cm² per swab, moistened using appropriate diluents (such as 0,8 % sodium chloride, 0,1 % peptone in sterile deionised water, sterile water or any other diluent approved by the competent authority, shall be used to swab as large a surface area in different points in the house (floor, walls, feeding equipments, watering equipments, belts, pillars, water and feeding pipes, scrapers and any other difficult point to clean and disinfect).

Samples can be pooled to perform and single culture, or by enriching the peptone water separately and then taking 1 ml of the incubated peptone water of each sample, mixing them well and then take 0.1 ml of the mixture and inoculate the modified Rappaport-Vassiliadis semisolid medium plates (MSRV).++ These samples must be analysed in authorised laboratories in the framework of the national *Salmonella* monitoring and control programmes.

The detection methods used must be the same as for the other samples under the PNCS.

The results for the same must be recorded using the MAPA computer application for own checks.

The samples must be recorded alongside the samples for the outgoing flock.

The sampling sheet for own checks must be used when sending such samples to the laboratory.

If there is a positive result (we detect *Salmonella* spp.), cleaning and disinfection should be repeated.

The premises shall not be restocked for 12 days after completion of the cleaning, disinfection, rat extermination and if necessary insect removal processes. Repopulation may take place only if the environmental analyses carried out in accordance with the programme are satisfactory, and if biosecurity measures considered inadequate or deficient by the competent authority have been properly corrected. Notwithstanding the above, in those cases where the results of those tests prove the

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effectiveness of the cleaning and disinfection undertaken, the waiting period may be reduced to a minimum of 7 days.

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) :

For the purposes of this programme, the competent authorities shall be those of the Autonomous Communities and the General State Administration responsible for animal health matters. The Subdirectora-te-General for Animal Health and Hygiene of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fish and Food (MAPA) is responsible for developing and coordinating this monitoring and control programme and for making any necessary amendments, particularly in the light of the data and results obtained; it shall liaise with the Commission, summarising the data and results obtained for communication to the Commission and reporting on the development of the disease. Royal Decree 1440/2001 of 21 December 2001 setting up the veterinary health warning system created the "National Veterinary Health Warning System Committee" (a diagram of the Health Warning System Network (RASVE) is enclosed), which is responsible for studying and proposing measures to prevent, control, combat and eradicate diseases covered by national programmes. Its tasks were reinforced by Law No 8/2003 on animal health. This committee is attached to the Ministry of the Agriculture, Fish and Food (MAPA), and its members represent all the Autonomous Communities and the Ministry of Health. Its tasks include the following:

- Coordinating animal health actions across the different administrations.
- Studying measures for preventing, controlling, combating and eradicating the diseases covered by the national programmes.
- Monitoring the development of the epidemiological situation with regard to animal diseases at national, European and international level.
- Proposing relevant measures.

This national committee could agree to set up a consultative committee on avian salmonellosis, which would be attached to it, and would include members of the most representative organisations and associations in this sector in Spain, and may also include the professional association of veterinary officers. The role of this consultative committee would be to advise the Committee when requested to do so and also to put any relevant issues to it for consideration.

2. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

The measures included in this control programme when *Salmonella* is detected comply with the requirements set out in Section E of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and are implemented in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No

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200/2012, including the requirements for the detection tests (type of samples, sampling frequency, preparation of samples, laboratories, analysis methods and notification of results)

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) :

Monitoring and control of *Salmonella* in Spain has been carried out since 1993 in accordance with Council Directive 92/117/EEC, repealed by Directive 2003/99/EC, concerning measures for protection against specified zoonoses and specified zoonotic agents in animals and products of animal origin in order to prevent outbreaks of food-borne infections and food poisoning. During the period from October 2005 to September 2006, a reference study was carried out on the prevalence of *Salmonella* in flocks of broilers of the *Gallus gallus* species at Community level; the analysis and sampling of the selected chicken flocks was carried out in accordance with the guidelines laid down at Community level by Commission Decision 2005/636/EC. The data obtained in the study showed the prevalence of serotypes enteritidis and typhimurium in broiler flocks to be 28.2% and 41.2% for *Salmonella* spp. The development of prevalence of *Salmonella* subject to controls in flocks of *Gallus gallus* broilers was as shown below, with *S. monophasic Typhimurium*, followed by *S. Typhimurium*, the more prevalent serotypes under control.

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

(max. 32000 chars) :

Measures and applicable legislation as regards the registration of holdings:

Holdings of broiler chickens will be entered in the General Register of Livestock Holdings (REGA, Royal Decree 479/2004) with a code/register number, irrespective of their size, and will be classified as: • meat production farms.

All holdings, except those excluded in Article 1 of Royal Decree 637/2021, must comply with the provisions established in this regulation on the organisation of poultry rearing, concerning the minimum conditions to be met by poultry holdings with regard to buildings and installations, hygiene and health conditions, location, poultry identification, holding register, holding record book, the duties of the holder of the establishment and the minimum welfare conditions to be observed for poultry.

Measures and applicable legislation as regards the registration of flocks For the purposes of the programme, 'epidemiological unit' will mean the flock of birds, defined as all birds reared for meat production with the same health status kept on the same premises or in the same enclosure and constituting a single epidemiological unit. in the case of housed poultry, this includes all birds sharing the same airspace in accordance with Article 2(3)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. To identify flocks within a holding, the REGA code will be used: a capital letter corresponding to the shed and the date of entry of the birds in the format mm/yyyy, as specified in point 3 of this programme.

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5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

(max. 32000 chars):

Taking into account of the structure and organisation of the Spanish State, the General State Administration — represented by the Subdirectorate-General for Animal Health and Hygiene and Traceability of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fish and Food (MAPA) is responsible for developing and coordinating this monitoring and control programme and for making any necessary amendments, particularly in the light of the data and results obtained; it shall liaise with the Commission, summarising the data and results obtained for communication to the Commission; lastly, it is responsible for reporting on the development of the disease. The Autonomous Communities are responsible for the direct implementation and monitoring of the activities to be carried out under the programme. In addition, to facilitate monitoring and follow-up of the data obtained, we have two computer applications for recording information from own checks and official controls. Information from own checks is recorded by the authorised laboratories that analyse own-check samples, and information from official controls is recorded by the official veterinary services of the Autonomous Communities. The information is thus subject to double review: the Autonomous Communities review the information from both applications on their territory, and the Subdirectorate-General for Animal Health and Hygiene and Traceability globally reviews all of the results.

Lastly, we have a monitoring plan for own checks and the inspection of own check laboratories: In order to verify that the own checks are being carried out correctly, the competent authority may carry out the following monitoring plan for own checks and the inspection of own check laboratories (document inserted). The official veterinary services will run a quality control on the own checks on a percentage of holdings, selected annually in accordance with the following hierarchised risk criteria:

- Holdings where own checks show negative results for the serotypes subject to control and official controls show positive results.
- Holdings where own check show negative results for the serotypes subject to control and on which there is a public health communication concerning positive results.
- Holdings where own checks show negative results for the serotypes subject to control and positive results in the analysis of the LOD (limit of detection) effectiveness check.
- On a random basis, between holdings with own checks with negative results for the serotypes subject to control and with no official checks. When this inspection is carried out, the control will involve performing a survey to check compliance with the specifications in the programmes and an in situ inspection of sampling for own checks. In this case, own check sampling will be in the presence of the official veterinarian who will try, in an observer capacity, to identify practices which do not correspond to the procedures detailed for samples in the national programmes which are applicable for both official and own checks. Critical aspects of these checks which may impact the results must be verified (e.g. use of enrichment peptone in stockings, origin, expiry date; representativeness of the sample: no steps and surface area in question; where appropriate, dispersion of the taking of aliquots of faeces to generate sufficient representativeness in the pools, etc.). It must also be checked how and where the sample is kept when it is submitted to the laboratory, as well as compliance with the established deadlines for receipt. In this inspection, the competent authority will also raise the questions it considers appropriate and will request the necessary documentation in relation to the performance of own checks. The official veterinarian will set out in the control results in an inspection report. From this information and from what can be gathered from monitoring the sample until its arrival at the laboratory, an assessment report will be drafted by the competent authority. Any anomalies detected will be communicated as

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soon as possible to the producer for immediate correction for application in successive own checks, irrespective of the administrative effects which can be deduced from that case in particular. The CA will leave a copy of the report for the person responsible for performing the own check sampling. Where considered appropriate by the competent authority, samples will be taken in duplicate. One of the samples will be taken by an official veterinarian using his/her own material, and will remain in his/her possession. This sample will be sent to an official laboratory together with the sampling sheet. The other sample will be taken by the person responsible for own check sampling, using material provided by that person. It will remain in his/her possession, and must be analysed in the same way as any other own check. In cases of significant discrepancies between the official control results and the own checks on the same flock; the competent authority may request, where it considers appropriate, the isolated strains from the flock in question, from the own check laboratory which analysed them, to perform an analysis of them in an official laboratory of its Autonomous Community.

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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	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	525
Serotyping	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	75
Antimicrobial detection test	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	5
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	25

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)	0	40 000
No of flocks in the programme	0	40 000
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	480
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	500
No of official samples taken	0	525
Target serovars (d)	SE + ST	SE + ST
Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars	0	45

(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

Broiler 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 samples are taken by official veterinarians. The cost of sampling is covered by the administrative authorities, in this case the Autonomous Communities.

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 samples are analysed in the official laboratories of the Autonomous Communities. The cost of the analyses is covered by the Autonomous Community. The national reference laboratory (NRL, Algete) also carries out serotyping analysis of official samples. To a lesser extent, it also performs isolation and identification analyses. These analyses are paid for by the NRL.

Broiler 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)

The official veterinary services of the Autonomous Communities (ACs) organise compulsory slaughter and are responsible for providing slaughter compensation. The ACs are responsible for financing this. For broiler chickens, slaughter in the case of positive flocks is not compulsory and therefore is not compensated.

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)

The vaccination of broilers is not compulsory and is not carried out. The administrative authorities therefore do not finance it.

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

Installations are always cleaned and disinfected after the sheds have been emptied. Before repopulating the sheds, cleaning and disinfection must be checked, taking environmental samples. These activities are the responsibility of the food business operators, who pay for them. On some occasions, the competent authority of the ACs also takes samples to check the effectiveness of cleaning and disinfection, in which case the administrative authorities cover the cost.

Broiler 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:

Broiler 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 :	