



submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

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

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

If encountering difficulties:

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

Protection of Your Personal Data:

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

[Privacy Statement](#)

Instructions to complete the form:

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

Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : IRELAND

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

02/12/2022 17:21:24

Submission Number

1670001685900-19021



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	44		44	44
Adult flocks	175	175	175	175
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the hatchery		0	0	0
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the holding		175	175	175

NB : All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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

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

yes

no

If no please explain.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

5. Biosecurity measures

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

yes

no

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

Checks are performed during each official sampling visit. Satisfactory or unsatisfactory biosecurity findings are registered on the salmonella sampling submission form.

Irish National Legislation in the form of S.I. 42 of 2008 outlines the range of biosecurity measures that the owner or person in charge of a poultry premises is expected to put in place. Biosecurity Advice for Flock Owners is outlined in the attached DAFM Booklet. Standardised checklists are used by the competent authority's poultry inspectorate for inspection of Primary Producers for compliance with hygiene requirements, which include checks on the implementation of biosecurity measures. Biosecurity checks include checking for site security to prevent access of other animals/people, foot dips, changing protective clothing, good hygiene practice, recording of and disposal of mortalities etc. Non-compliance is recorded on a spreadsheet. A risk basis is used to help determine the frequency of inspections the following year. In cases of non-compliance, producers are given a definitive timeframe within which they must take remedial action. Follow-up inspections are made by poultry inspectorate to ensure that remedial actions have been undertaken, or the producer risks losing his/her certification as a registered producer.

Legislation, best practice and guidance notes apply to all poultry producers. The following is an extract from the Department's Biosecurity Information for Registered Poultry Flock Owners:

BIOSECURITY ADVICE FOR POULTRY FLOCKOWNERS

1. Commercial poultry farmers should ensure that they have a good perimeter fence around the site, and that there is a single entrance/exit, with a lockable gate. Small flocks should also be fenced in.
2. All poultry houses should be bird and rodent-proof, and always keep the doors closed. Wild birds, especially pigeons and waterfowl, are a particular risk. Bird-proof netting should have apertures no larger than 25mm.
3. Only allow essential visitors to have access to the poultry site, and provide farm or disposable overalls and footwear for visitors and staff. Provide hand-washing facilities, and insist that these are used by staff and visitors.
4. Provide footbaths containing approved disinfectant* outside each poultry house. Ensure that the disinfectant is used at the recommended dilution rate, and change the disinfectant at least twice weekly.
5. Only allow essential vehicles onto the site. Staff, service vehicles etc. should be parked outside the perimeter. Insist that all vehicles that have to enter the site have been cleaned and disinfected beforehand.
6. Keep house surrounds free of vegetation and debris, and disinfect the surrounds regularly.
7. Operate an all-in/all-out policy when stocking houses, and only buy replacement birds from reputable sources.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

8. Only allow equipment that has been cleaned and disinfected into poultry houses. Always store equipment in a bird and rodent-proof location following disinfection.
9. Always store shavings in a bird and rodent-proof location. Do not allow pet animals into stores or poultry houses.
10. Store dead birds in a lidded container. Dispose of carcasses regularly in a safe manner. If the carcasses are due to go for rendering, leave the container at the perimeter of the site for collection.

*A list of approved disinfectants can be found at: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie>

MEASURES TO REDUCE THE RISK OF INTRODUCTION OF DISEASE E.G. AVIAN INFLUENZA

Specific measures are required to reduce the risk of introduction of disease e.g. avian influenza into poultry. The reservoir for the virus is in wild water birds, in particular waterfowl (e.g. ducks and geese). Waterfowl may be infected with the virus, yet show no symptoms.

The virus may be present in:

- Live birds and their products (meat, eggs, feathers)
- Carcasses of birds
- Faeces of birds

Infection most commonly results from:

- Contact with wild birds
- Contact with infected poultry or poultry products
- Contaminated clothing and footwear
- Contaminated vehicles and equipment
- Contaminated feed and water
- Contaminated manure and litter
- Rodents or farm dogs and cats, which may act as mechanical vectors.

1. It is essential to prevent contact between poultry and wild birds. Ensure that houses, feed stores and shaving stores are rodent and bird-proof, including netting of vents. Keep the doors shut and ensure that cats and dogs are kept out.
 2. Separate ducks and geese from other poultry.
 3. Feed and water free range birds indoors where possible. Always clean up feed spills immediately after they have occurred.
 4. Prevent poultry from having access to ponds, lakes or rivers e.g. by fencing off these areas and do not allow free standing water to collect.
 5. Staff and visitors on poultry farms should not have contact with wild birds (e.g. waterfowling). Only essential visitors should be allowed access to the poultry house. A record of all visitors should be maintained.
 6. Use foot dips at the entrance to the poultry house and change your footwear, on entry to the house, to boots that are dedicated to use inside the poultry house.
 7. Always clean and disinfect* equipment prior to using it in a poultry house, and do not leave it outside whilst not in use.
 8. Check the source of the water supplies to your house at regular intervals. If the source is lake water, it must be adequately treated to kill viruses (e.g. by chlorination or UV light).
- *A list of approved disinfectants can be found at: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie>

VEHICLE CLEANING & DISINFECTION PROTOCOL

1. Choose a location that will avoid solutions entering surface water drains or water courses, and preferably with a concrete surface.
2. First remove any equipment (modules, module lifting equipment, crates, pipes, covers etc.) for

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

cleaning.

3. Starting from the top and working down, remove any solid debris from the outside and inside of the vehicle by scraping, then brushing. Pay special attention to the underside of the vehicle, wheels, wheel arches, tyres, mud-guards and exposed chassis. Dung and soiled bedding may contain high levels of infective material, and should be safely disposed of e.g. by composting.
4. Apply detergent using a knapsack sprayer or pressure washer, at low pressure (approx. 500 psi or 35 bars), to avoid dispersal of potentially infective material.
5. Soak all external and internal surfaces of the vehicle, starting from the top and working down. Pay special attention to the wheels, wheel arches, tyres, mud-guards and underside of the vehicle. Allow at least 10 minutes contact time for the detergent to penetrate and loosen the dirt. Rinse at high pressure with clean water.
6. Check that all surfaces are visibly clean, before disinfecting.
7. Use an approved disinfectant*. Ensure that disinfectant has been properly stored, is in date, and is used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
8. Apply the disinfectant with a pressure washer (at low pressure) or knap sack sprayer. Ensure that the recommended contact time for the disinfectant is allowed. If the disinfectant affects untreated metals or damaged galvanised metals, it should be rinsed off after the recommended contact time.
9. Outside of vehicle - start at the top and work down each side. Inside the vehicle - disinfect the walls and floor of the transporter, and then the loading ramp and tail gate lift. Pay special attention to the wheel arches, tyres, mudguards and underside of the vehicle.
10. Take all removable items out of the cab of the vehicle including the floor mats, clothing, wellington boots etc. Use a dustpan and brush to remove any debris from inside the cab and dispose of it into a refuse sack.
11. Use a soft hand brush and a bucket of detergent to clean the cab floor, floor mats and foot pedals. Rinse. Use a clean cloth soaked in a solution of disinfectant at the recommended dilution rate to disinfect the cab floor, floor mats and foot pedals.
12. Ensure that all items packed back into the cab are clean.
13. Park the vehicle on a slope away from the wash area, to drain and dry.
14. Once the vehicle is removed from the wash area, wash down the concrete surface with detergent. (ensure that cleaned and disinfected vehicles do not become re-contaminated when using pressure washers to clean the wash area or other vehicles).
15. Clean and disinfect waterproof overalls and boots and the cleaning equipment.

*A list of approved disinfectants can be found on the Department of Agriculture at: <http://www.agriculture.gov.ie>

DISINFECTION PROGRAMME FOR POULTRY FARMS

The following procedures should be followed for each house to be disinfected after depopulation to prevent the carry over of infection.

Removal of feed, equipment, litter etc.

1. Remove any residual food from the silo and feed equipment.
2. Take out any removable equipment.
3. Remove any dead bird carcasses from the litter, and dispose of with other carcasses.
4. Remove all litter from the house.
5. Load litter to ensure that all outside areas such as concrete pads at doors are cleared of old litter.
6. Ensure loads are covered before transport from the site.

Dry cleaning

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

1. Work from the top of the house and work down.
2. Blow down all surface dust from ceilings, water pipes, fan boxes and inlets.
3. Blow or brush loose debris from walls.
4. Scrape floor using mechanised scrapers.
5. Blow or wash down bulk feed bins.

Water sanitization

Drainable systems

1. Drain the header tank and check that it is free from debris. Clean as required.
2. Fill the tank with that volume of water required to fill the entire drinking system and add sanitizer at recommended dilution.
3. Allow sanitizer solution to fill the drinking system. Leave for one hour.
4. Drain the system and fill with fresh water.

Non-drainable systems

1. Shortly before depopulation, add sanitizer to the header tank.
2. Isolate supply from header tank and allow the water to be consumed until the tank is empty.
3. Remove any debris from the header tank.
4. Fill the tank with water, and add sanitizer at recommended dilution.

Cleaning and disinfection of the buildings and equipment

1. Include any stores in this cleaning procedure.
2. Wash all surfaces with a pressure washer with the detergent sanitizer solution.
3. Externally, spray air inlets, deposits from around fan boxes and the loading area.
4. Internally include air inlets, fan boxes, partitions, feeders and drinkers and all other equipment removed from the house, ensuring that everything is visibly clean.
5. Use a soak tank if available for removable equipment.
6. Soak all surfaces for 20-30 minutes, and then rinse all surfaces with water at high pressure.
7. Also ensure that all dirty areas such as concrete aprons around houses and bulk bin pads are washed clean.

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

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)

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

Comments - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples

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.

FBO sampling is carried out at both the hatchery and holding levels. An FBO staff member takes sample on farm and submits to an approved private laboratory.

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

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

The FBO is immediately advised of the result by DAFM. Restrictions are implemented on farm on both live birds and eggs and the FBO is advised of the implications of salmonella and is also advised with regard to the biosecurity measures to be taken, especially with regard to personnel, premises, transport and suitable disinfection and fumigation procedures. Eggs are stored on farm if possible, until the serotyping results come back. If this is not possible, they are sent to be destroyed at rendering plant. No birds are moved off farm until results become available. All farms are subject to negative environmental swabbing for Salmonella before restocking.

Flocks positive for SE, ST, SH, SI and SV are subjected to slaughter as soon as possible and meat is subject to heat treatment once adequate provisions can be made i.e. at end of weekly kill or at weekend followed by a comprehensive cleaning and disinfection programme at the slaughter premises. Every effort is made to expedite the process so as to minimise cross contamination and enable the producer to return to production as soon as is feasible. Processors may decide for commercial reasons to exclude the

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

birds from human consumption. All eggs are destroyed at rendering plant.

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) :

The flocks will be slaughtered out.

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)

This is not widely applicable. In Ireland, Salmonella positive birds on farms are generally culled and sent for rendering i.e. positive flocks or carcasses rarely enter the slaughterhouse. On the rare occasion that Salmonella positive flocks are exported to the U.K. for slaughter and heat treatment (destined for human consumption), the slaughterhouse is advised of this by the FBO in advance of any birds being exported. All poultry meat placed on market complies with EU bacteriological requirements.

Measures implemented by the FBO (slaughterhouse level)

Increased neck-flap sampling (60 industry and 60 DAFM neck flap samples) must be taken from the positive flock. Meat from the positive flock must be frozen and maintained under control of DAFM with spatial separation from other (Salmonella negative) flocks until both industry and official samples are returned and are all negative for Salmonella enteritidis or Salmonella typhimurium.

Measures implemented by the CA (farm and slaughterhouse level)

This is not widely applicable. In Ireland, Salmonella positive broiler breeders are generally culled and sent for rendering and therefore positive flocks or carcasses rarely enter the slaughterhouse. If Salmonella enteritidis/typhimurium positive flocks are sent for sanitary slaughter, this is only following agreement between DAFM and the slaughterhouse and positive flocks must be slaughtered at the end of the day. A restriction notice on all product from the positive flock is issued by the CA at the slaughterhouse and a restriction withdrawal notice is only issued once the Veterinary Inspector has verified that all FBO and official samples were negative for Salmonella enteritidis or Salmonella typhimurium.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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

If no please explain.

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.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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

If no please explain.

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

There are 14 feed mills supplying over 600,000 tonnes of poultry feed in Ireland. Routine official Salmonella Monitoring of raw materials used in poultry feed has been carried out by DAFM since 1988. Raw material samples are taken at point of import, at compound feed manufacturers premises or at the point of manufacture (e.g. fish meal).

Routine official Salmonella monitoring of compound (finished) poultry feed has been carried out by DAFM since 1988 in all poultry compound feed manufacturers. Compound feed samples are taken at point of dispatch in poultry compound feed manufacturers premises or from bagged product. Official sampling of feeding-stuffs from mills supplying the poultry industry occurs a minimum of 4 times per year in each mill. In poultry offal rendering plants, sampling for salmonella is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption.

In addition, an Official Veterinarian as part of any suspect *S. enteritidis* or *S. typhimurium* investigations may take feed samples.

Detailed results of all Ireland official raw material and poultry compound feed results are presented to the Commission as part of Ireland's zoonosis data report as was required under Council Directive 2003/99/EEC.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

Heat treatment of all poultry feed is compulsory under the Diseases of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 - S.I. No 364 of 1991.

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) :

Checks are performed during each official sampling visit. Satisfactory or unsatisfactory biosecurity findings are registered on the salmonella sampling submission form.

Depending on the seriousness of the biosecurity issue discovered, a written warning may be issued advising on the remedial action required and time frame for resolution or for more serious infractions requirement that the remedy is applied immediately.

Irish National Legislation in the form of S.I. 42 of 2008 outlines the range of biosecurity measures that the owner or person in charge of a poultry premises is expected to put in place. Biosecurity Advice for Flock Owners is outlined in the attached DAFM Booklet. Standardised checklists are used by the competent authority's poultry inspectorate for inspection of Primary Producers for compliance with hygiene requirements, which include checks on the implementation of biosecurity measures. Biosecurity checks include checking for site security to prevent access of other animals/people, foot dips, changing protective clothing, good hygiene practice, recording of and disposal of mortalities etc. Non-compliance is recorded on a spreadsheet. A risk basis is used to help determine the frequency of inspections the following year. In cases of non-compliance, producers are given a definitive timeframe within which they must take remedial action. Follow-up inspections are made by poultry inspectorate to ensure that remedial actions have been undertaken, or the producer risks losing his/her certification as a registered producer.

- 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.

Official sampling does not go beyond EU minimum requirements.
Official samples are taken by full-time salaried official veterinarian or technical staff.

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

Official sampling does not go beyond EU minimum requirements.
Official samples are taken by full-time salaried official veterinarian or technical staff.

Official samples are taken at the holdings and consist boot swabs and dust swab samples. These are representative of the entire house.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

If an official veterinarian is carrying out inspections on farms for reasons such as checks on animal welfare or medicine records or to take samples for residues then, when appropriate, official sampling in the frame of the salmonella control programmes is undertaken at the same visit.

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) :

Documentary checks carried out during official visits includes scrutiny of all prescriptions relating to antimicrobial usage.

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):

After positive official samples at the holding

Always

Sometimes (criteria apply)

Never

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

After positive FBO samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

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

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

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

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):

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

- 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 veterinarians inspect the on-farm animal remedies register of the flock owners and all prescriptions during official visits. Poultry serum samples are taken in line with the National Residue Control Plan as appropriate. Documentary checks carried out during official visits include the scrutiny of all prescriptions relating to antimicrobial usage. All withdrawal periods are implemented according to the manufacturer's guidelines. Where antimicrobials are used for purposes other than the control of *Salmonella*, sampling is delayed until the end of the withdrawal period. There were no residues detected in poultry samples during 2019 or 2020. Samples will be taken occasionally from negative or suspect flocks to test for antimicrobial activity.

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):

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

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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

DAFM operates a non-statutory scheme of compensation whereby the value of poultry and eggs destroyed (less any salvage) and costs of transport to place of destruction may be reimbursed. Other costs arising, such as loss of income, are not compensated.

All poultry samples testing positive for Salmonella are routinely forwarded to the Central Veterinary Research Laboratory (CVRL) for Serotyping. The CA is advised immediately once a target serovar is identified and contact made by officials with the flock owner. As soon as is practicable, valuation is carried out after a flock is confirmed positive by competent staff of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, following an on-site visit. Valuation is based on such factors as the age of birds, costs expended and future production foregone. A scale of compensation is not publicly available and varies from case to case for example, age is a considerable factor in determining value. All payments are limited to the market value of such animals if they had not been affected by the disease.

An application in respect of a premises at which another outbreak of Salmonella occurred within the previous 12 months will not be considered for compensation. In order to be eligible for compensation a flockowner must demonstrate that he/she has taken all reasonable precautions to prevent the introduction of Salmonella into the flock. No compensation is payable in cases where the outbreak can reasonably be assumed to be attributable to the actions or negligence of the owner of the flock. A reduced payment may be made where it is considered that such person is in part responsible for the outbreak. For the purposes of the competent authority's compensation scheme, the owner shall be regarded as responsible for all matters concerning his/her flock.

With regard to prompt slaughter, in cases where the flockowner is unable to secure prompt slaughter of the birds, for example due to severe weather conditions or the refusal of slaughter plants to accept Salmonella positive flocks, the entire compensation packaged offered may be capped, or an element thereof e.g. in respect of additional eggs produced. The Department strives to pay all compensation within 90 days of depopulation in order to avoid any reduction in Community financial support.

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) :

Houses are thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and fumigated before restocking. The official disinfection programme for poultry farms is outlined in the Department's Biosecurity Information for Registered Poultry Flock Owners. This includes the removal of feed, equipment, litter etc, dry cleaning, water sanitisation and the cleaning and disinfection of buildings and equipment.

DAFM also provides advice and best practice guidance to flock owners in relation to effective disinfection of a poultry house. Once the FBO has completed disinfection they contact DAFM and samples are taken to test the efficacy of disinfection before restocking.

Official sampling should be performed of the affected house(s) post cleaning and disinfection. Two x 900cm² dust swabs should be performed ensuring that multiple surfaces and any cracks/ledges are

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

included in the sampling. The sampling submission form should be marked to alert the laboratory that samples are from a positive house post C+D.

B. General information

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

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

The central competent authority (CCA) for this programme is the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM). Officially samples are tested at DAFM's Central Veterinary Research Laboratory and positive results are reported to DAFM headquarters. DAFM has Regional Veterinary Offices (RVO) around the country and staff from these offices undertake the official sampling programme. The evaluation of results and decisions in relation to follow-up action in positive cases are the responsibility of official veterinarians in DAFM headquarters.

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

(max. 32000 chars) :

The programme is carried out in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and No 200/2010 and National legislation SI No. 706/2006 entitled the 'European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Breeding flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2006'.

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) :

The occurrence of Salmonella in broiler breeder flocks has remained low in recent years in Ireland.

2013: No outbreaks.

2014: S. tennessee x 1.

2015: S. Enteritidis x 19 (linked to one breeding company, FBO sampling)

2016: S. unnamed Serovar x 1

2017: No outbreaks

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

2018: No outbreaks
2019: S. Typhimurium x 2
2020: No outbreaks
2021: S Enteritidis x1

The incidence of salmonella in humans has also declined in recent years. In 2021 there were 173 human clinical isolates. The number of human Salmonella isolates is now less than half of that observed in 2000, and has been sustained at this level in recent years.

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

(max. 32000 chars) :

All establishments keeping poultry, regardless of the numbers involved, were in 2015, required to register with the competent authority under regulations made under the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013. This SI is entitled Control on Places where Poultry are Kept Regulations (S.I. 114 of 2014).

Breeding establishments are registered under the Poultry Hatcheries Act 1947 and, if they are engaged in Intra Community Trade, they must be approved under the European Communities (Live Poultry and Hatching Eggs) Regulations 1992 and 1995 which implement Council Directive 90/539/EEC, replaced by Council Directive 2009/158 /EEC. European Communities (Marketing Standards for eggs for hatching and farmyard poultry chicks) Regulations 2008 (617/2008)

Irish Poultry flocks are identified using a unique flock identifier number ("Flock Number"). This is an alpha-numeric code including an area-identifying letter followed by a 7 digit numeric code.

Ireland is in the process of reviewing this legislation and will be publishing new legislation to govern the registration of poultry premises in the next year.

5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Flocks are subject to an ongoing testing programme as per the requirements of the legislation. A risk basis is used to help determine the frequency of inspections.

Results are collated centrally in order to further monitor compliance. When Salmonella results are generated they are forwarded to the CCA Headquarters (Agriculture House, Dublin) where they are inspected by an official veterinarian of the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine (DAFM). Data is monitored on an ongoing basis by the DAFM official veterinarian. Reports are also forwarded to administrative colleagues where data is tabulated allowing the maintenance of databases.

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	700
Serotyping	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	70
Antimicrobial detection test	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	0
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	70

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)	44	175
No of flocks in the programme	44	175
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	44	175
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	44	350
No of official samples taken	0	700
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	30 000
Total No of eggs to be destroyed	Text	225 000
Total No of eggs to be heat treated	Text	225 000

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 sampling is undertaken by official veterinarians employed by the Competent National Authority, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).

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)

Testing of official sampling is undertaken by the Competent National Authority's Central Veterinary Research Laboratory and laboratories approved by DAFM.

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)

DAFM operates a non-statutory scheme of compensation whereby the value of poultry and eggs destroyed (less any salvage) and costs of transport to place of destruction are reimbursed. Other costs arising, such as loss of income, are 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)

N/A

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

N/A

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 :	