



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 : HRVATSKA

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

06/12/2022 15:05:02

Submission Number

1670335502642-19131



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.

n/a

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.

n/a

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	50		50	50
Adult flocks	130	130	130	130
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		130	130	130

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.

n/a

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

General biosecurity measures are obligatory for FBO and are prescribed in Order on measures to protect animals from contagious and parasitic diseases and their financing for th calender year (last one published for 2021 in Official Gazette No 2/21 .

Due to that for the purpose of effective prevention of disease introduction flock holders are obliged to carry out appropriate biosecurity measures. The implementation of biosecurity measures is also mandatory for animals transporters, veterinarians, veterinary inspectors and all other persons who come into contact with animals due to the nature of the work.

In order to prevent the introduction and spread of poultry disease, farms with 1000 birds and more should implement following minimum biosecurity measures:

- disinfection of vehicles and establishments in accordance with technological requirements, using an approved disinfectant in the prescribed concentration and keep records thereof;
 - disinfection barrier for staff and visitors shall be placed at the entrance into the farm;
 - records shall be kept on all vehicles entering the farm, with the date of entrance and exit from the farm and reason for the visit;
 - records shall be kept on all visitors entering the farm, with the date of entrance and exit from the farm and reason for the visit;
 - during each entrance of a worker or a visitor into a poultry farm, biological safety measures to prevent the introduction and spreading of the influenza virus shall be implemented, in particular: use of protective footwear and clothing, hand and footwear disinfection when entering the farm; cleaning, washing and disinfection of footwear when leaving the farm;
 - workers and visitors of the farm shall be provided with protective clothing and footwear for that purpose only, and it is prohibited to leave the farm in the same protective clothing and footwear;
 - farm employees shall not keep poultry in their household;
 - farm employees shall not work in the poultry breeding establishments outside those at the farm.
- Also according to GMP every producer should obey general biosecurity and zoo technical rules. In case where necessary, veterinary inspector have the right to order the establishment of additional biosecurity measures on the holding.

General hygiene measures applied at the farm are (regardless of size and number of animals):

- a) evidence of all entrances on the farm should be kept (including animals, eggs, people, feed)
- b) unauthorized personnel and visitors may enter to the poultry house only when is necessary and under strict hygiene measures that includes use of special protective clothing and use of disinfectants
- c) disbarriers should be used at the entrance on the farm and in the establishments the environment around poultry establishments and farming area should be clean and tidy
- d) facilities should be made of materials that are easy to maintain and clean
- e) use of appropriate protection from wild birds (e.g. nests on the windows)

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

- f) use of appropriate protection from wild animals on the farm (e.g. fenced farms)
- g) no pets, other animal species or (other) poultry are allowed to be kept in the poultry house (in case pets or other animal species are kept on the farm the same should be in separated units)
- h) regular deratisation and desinsection should be done
- i) at least once per year regular control of water quality should be done in case water is not supplied from waterworks and if necessary to use chemicals
- j) Feed and litter should be stored in a way that it stays clean, dry and mould free as well as protected from rodents and wild birds
- k) The feed silo should be placed on a paved underground and easy to 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)

Comments - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples

Within the framework of national control programme (routine active monitoring) all samples are taken by authorized veterinarians. FBO are not allowed to take any samples for the purpose of this programme.

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.

n/a

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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.

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) :

Positive finding to S. Hadar, S. Virchow or S. Infantis.

If the positive finding to S. Hadar, S. Virchow or S. Infantis is confirmed by laboratory examination from the samples taken on the holding, the flock is considered infected and a competent veterinary inspector must order the implementation of the following measures to the bird holder:

A) for day-old chicks, poultry in rearing up to eight weeks old and poultry in production older than 47 weeks:

- Prohibition of use of antimicrobials for the treatment of rearing flocks infected by salmonellosis caused by S. Hadar, S. Virchow or S. Infantis.

- All birds in a positive flock must be destroyed or slaughtered so as to reduce as much as possible the risk of spreading salmonella;

- Day-old chicks must be destroyed;

- Poultry in rearing up to eight weeks old, depending on the age, must be destroyed or slaughtered. If poultry is sent for slaughter or destruction, all measures possible must be taken so as to reduce as much as possible the risk of spreading the disease. Slaughtering of birds must be carried out in compliance with special regulations on food hygiene;

- Meat and products derived from such poultry may only be placed on the market for human consumption if they meet the requirements set out in Annex II, Part E of the Regulation 2160/2003 and Regulation 2073/2005; if not destined for human consumption, such products must be used or disposed of in accordance with the Regulation 1069/2009.

- Non-incubated eggs must be destroyed in accordance with the Regulation 1069/2009. However, such non-incubated eggs may be used for human consumption if they are treated in a manner that

Breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

guarantees the elimination of *S. Hadar*, *S. Virchow* or *S. Infantis* in accordance with the regulations on food hygiene;

- Where eggs for hatching from flocks in which *S. Hadar*, *S. Virchow* or *S. Infantis* is present are still present in a hatchery, they must be destroyed in accordance with the Regulation 1069/2009;
- Appropriate cleaning, washing and disinfection of premises, devices and equipment in the sites for production and storage of poultry feed.
- Cleaning, washing and disinfection of vehicles by appropriate disinfection means;
- Disinfection, disinfestation and deratisation of infected facilities for breeding and keeping of poultry; when disinfection is completed, its efficiency should be bacteriologically controlled. It is prohibited to introduce new poultry into the facility until a negative control result of disinfection efficiency is obtained;
- Removal and sanitary treatment of manure in a prescribed manner.

A competent veterinary inspector must conduct epidemiological investigation to determine a source of infection;

B) for poultry in rearing and production aged from 8 to 47 weeks:

- Breeding flock aged from 8 to 47 weeks is considered valuable genetic material, and in order to establish new salmonella-free flocks, treatment with antimicrobials is permitted in a manner prescribed by the Art. 2.b) of Regulation 1177/2006.
- Antimicrobials must be used on the basis of results of bacteriological examination and antibiograms. A competent veterinary inspector must conduct regular supervision of the use of antimicrobials, and he must submit reports on conducted supervision to the VFSD once a month (until the 15th of a month for the previous month).
- Treatment of an infected flock, in compliance with the Decision issued by a competent veterinary inspector, is conducted by approved veterinary organisations and approved veterinary services. After conducted treatment, it is necessary to conduct a control of efficacy of the conducted therapy in a manner that control samples are taken from poultry twice, on the 7th and 14th day from the beginning of the therapy, and delivered to a laboratory for analysis.
- A control sample must consist of:
 - 5 pairs of boot swabs (1 pair = 1 pooled sample), and
 - Samples of cloacal swabs collected from 50 hens (bacteriological examination). If there are less than 50 hens in a facility, it is necessary to take a sample of cloacal swabs from all hens, and
 - Five hens (sacrificed or dead)/facility, whereby all organs must be laboratory examined.

During the treatment and until the termination of treatment efficacy control:

- It is prohibited to move poultry and eggs from the holding except with a special authorisation issued by a competent veterinary inspector;
- It is prohibited to hatch eggs originating from infected flocks. Eggs hatched during the treatment must be collected and destroyed in accordance with the Regulation 1069/2009. Where eggs for hatching from flocks in which *S. Hadar*, *S. Virchow* or *S. Infantis* is present are still present in a hatchery, they must be destroyed in accordance with the Regulation 1069/2009;
- It is prohibited to move feed from the holding;
- Cleaning and disinfection, disinfestation and deratisation of infected facilities for breeding and keeping of poultry; when disinfection is completed, its efficiency should be bacteriologically controlled;
- Cleaning, washing and disinfection of vehicles by appropriate disinfection means;
- Removal and sanitary treatment of manure in a prescribed manner.

A competent veterinary inspector must conduct epidemiological investigation to determine a source of

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

infection.

Croatia does not have any grandparent flock and all breeding material origins from the EU market.

Given the limited market and the availability of new breeding flocks in the country (producers are limited to specific period of year when they make orders for new flocks), favorable epidemiological situation regarding SI, SH and SV, due to the fact that Croatia has a relatively small production of breeding flocks, in order to meet the minimum needs of the Croatian market, commercial genetics are considered genetically valuable in this case and treatment of flocks can be done only upon official approval issued by direction of VFSD and competent veterinary inspector.

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)

The following measures are ordered to FBO at farm level:

- it is prohibited to use antimicrobials for the treatment of breeding flocks;
- the owner/holder of the flock is bound to conduct relevant bio-safety measures on the holding so as to reduce the possibility of introducing the infection as much as possible.
- It is prohibited to move poultry and eggs from the holding except with a special authorisation issued by a competent veterinary inspector;
- It is prohibited to hatch eggs originating from infected flocks. Eggs hatched during the treatment must be collected and destroyed in accordance with the Regulation 1069/2009. Where eggs for hatching from flocks infected flock are still present in a hatchery, they must be destroyed in accordance with the Regulation 1069/2009;
- It is prohibited to move feed from the holding;
- Cleaning and disinfection, disinfestation and deratisation of infected facilities for breeding and keeping of poultry must be conducted; when disinfection is completed, its efficiency should be bacteriologically controlled;
- Cleaning, washing and disinfection of vehicles must be conducted by appropriate disinfection means;
- Removal and sanitary treatment of manure must be conducted in a prescribed manner.

Measures implemented by the FBO (slaughterhouse level)

1. Slaughter shall be carried out at the end of regular daily slaughter;
2. After the slaughter, washing and enhanced sanitation, disinfection shall be carried out;
3. Next day, prior to the slaughter, swabs shall be taken in order to control disinfection efficiency of the production facility;
4. Washing and enhanced sanitation, disinfection of the vehicles and cages for the transport of birds shall be carried out;
5. Meat of birds shall be deboned and goes solely in processing, including heat treatment;
6. Offal goes solely in processing;
7. Before the processing, samples shall be taken for laboratory analysis;
8. Production process includes processing with heat treatment;
9. After completed production, final products are stored in a separate area and samples for laboratory

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

analysis shall be taken;

10. The product can be placed on the market only upon completion of laboratory analysis and compliant results of analytical report.

Both options (all meat from positive flocks is heat treated or can be put on the market as fresh meat based on results from sampling) are allowed in the Republic of Croatia.

If the flocks infected with SE or ST are slaughtered the procedure is, as follows:

When flocks infected with SE or ST are planned to be slaughtered, the results of such testing are required to be communicated to the slaughterhouse prior to slaughter. Slaughterhouses which decide to slaughter flocks infected with SE or ST shall include in their sampling plans poultry carcasses from such flocks.

Due to fact that FBO are responsible to ensure that food satisfy the requirements of food law at all stages of production, processing and distribution (art. 17. Reg. 178/2002) slaughterhouse should take steps to minimize cross contamination and spread of contamination to other carcasses and this is normally achieved by scheduling the slaughter at the end of a slaughtering session just before a clean down. This slaughterhouse should also assess the risk of slaughtering birds that may result in contaminated carcasses, the details of any additional procedures they may put in place should already be detailed in the HACCP plans.

As Regulation 2073/2005 requires, each slaughterhouse should implement a sampling and testing programme to demonstrate compliance with the PH criteria for salmonella spp and FSC for SE and ST. Taking into account that there is no requirement to target the positive flock for sampling (but it only must be minimum number of samples as Reg. (EC) No 2073/2005 says) the FBO as part of his HACCP plans may decide to take extra samples and target the flock in addition to his normal sampling. The results of sampling the fresh poultry meat should comply with the FSC at all points in the food chain after slaughter.

During the slaughtering process, there is an obligatory presence of state veterinary inspector (employee of the Croatian State Inspectorate) which takes records of the performed slaughtering of birds from flocks infected with SE or ST.

Measures implemented by the CA (farm and slaughterhouse level)

All measures related to eradication of salmonella from positive flock are ordered by competent veterinary inspector.

Additionally, veterinary inspector must conduct epidemiological investigation in order to determine a source of infection focusing on determining the implementation of bio-safety measures;

If fresh meat from infected flocks is put on the market, it must comply with the requirements under Row 1.28 of Chapter I of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005: absence of SE and ST in 5 samples of 25g of fresh poultry meat.

Approved official laboratory shall submit information on the findings positive for Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium to the competent veterinary inspection office which then informs branch office.

The veterinary inspection determines facts on site and issues a decision on further actions and measures. The decision shall be issued to the animal holder and to the control body responsible for inspection in the slaughterhouse.

The control body is present at ante-mortem and post-mortem examination.

FBO shall submit to the control body documents relating to the above mentioned actions and control body shall make a report accordingly.

All of the above mentioned actions and activities are controlled by the veterinary inspection of the competent authority which prepares a report accordingly and results of salmonella testings are included in the FCI.

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.

n/a

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.

Testing is done in accordance to the following iso norm:

Salmonella isolation standard (proof of salmonella presence): HRN EN ISO 6579-1: 2017 / Amd 1: 2020. Microbiology of the food chain - Horizontal method for the detection, enumeration and serotyping of Salmonella - Part 1: Detection of Salmonella spp.

Salmonella serotyping standard HRI CEN ISO / TR 6579-3: 2014. Microbiology of the food chain - Horizontal method for the detection, enumeration and serotyping of Salmonella - Part 3: Guidelines for serotyping of Salmonella spp. - Amendment 1

The norm states that one colony for serotyping - determination of salmonella serotype - is selected and inoculated from selective agar plates (XLD and RAMBACH AGAR). If one colony is not sufficient, 4 more suspected colonies are inoculated and the serotype determined. In the case of epidemiological studies, it is desirable to serotype 5 inoculated colonies.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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.

FBO are not allowed to take samples for the purpose of this programme.

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.

n/a

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

Official controls are carried out regularly according to a risk based determined frequency using appropriate control methods and techniques such as monitoring, surveillance, verification, audit, inspection, sampling and analysis.

State inspectrate prepare, coordinate and monitor the implementation of the annual feed monitoring plan in order to determine compliance with food safety requirements and relevant regulations regarding feed. State Inspectorate implements plan on the field and carry out inspection tasks. Veterinary inspection Annual Plan for official controls includes the official controls of Feed business operators.

Sampling:

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

Annual feed monitoring plan is prepared to determine level of undesirable and prohibited substances in feed, to check microbial feed safety, to determine ingredients of animal origin in feed and determination of genetically modified feed. Samples are exclusively taken from feed intended for food production animals.

Sampling is carried out in approved and registered feed business operators and feed producers facilities at all stages of production, processing and distribution of feed, including farms registered in the Register as feed primary producers.

According to the Annual feed monitoring plan, a monthly feed sampling plan is prepared at a regional veterinary inspection level by the Feed Coordinators. Sampling is carried out by veterinary inspectors within their territorial jurisdiction. The sampling frequency is determined regionally on the basis of results obtained in previous official controls and objects that are classified as higher risk and the facilities in which they were obtained inconsistent results within National Residue Monitoring Program. Sampling is carried out on the premises without prior notice to the feed business operator (producers). Feed samples are sent to the laboratory without delay on the sampling day followed with a Sampling form. Additionally, at least one sample is taken at the same time which properly packaged and labeled remains to the feed operator for the purpose, if necessary, for a further expert opinion (laboratory testing).

15. Official controls at holding, flock and hatchery level

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

(max. 32000 chars) :

Official controls are carried out regularly according to a risk based determined frequency using appropriate control methods and techniques such as monitoring, surveillance, verification, audit, inspection, sampling and analysis.

Veterinary inspection Annual Plan for official controls includes official controls at a level of primary production.

Every official control covers all relevant requirements including animal health, welfare, using of VMP, feed, waste disposal and at the farms with 5000 or more poultry implementation of a prescribed biosecurity measures.

Additionally, official controls at a level of primary production includes control of general hygiene conditions according to the Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004.

In the case of identified non compliances veterinary inspectors must take appropriate measures according to the Regulation (EC) 2017/625 in the shortest possible time frame.

All routine samplings must be done at the holding, and routine sampling at the hatchery is additional cross control of national breeding flocks therefore all official controls are done at the holding.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

- 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

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.

Routine sampling at the hatchery (additional control of national breeding flocks)

- At the hatchery samples are taken every three weeks from breeding flocks the eggs of which are used for production of day-old chicks,

- At least one sample must be taken per breeding flock. Sampling in the hatchery must be carried out on the day of hatching when samples from all breeding flocks are available. If this is not possible, it is necessary to obtain a valid guarantee by the bird holder that samples have been taken from each flock.

- If there are more than 50 000 eggs in the incubator deriving from the same breeding flock, two samples shall be taken.

From rearing flocks samples are taken on the holding. From flocks during laying samples are taken from the holding (in the laying unit every two weeks) and at the hatchery (every three weeks from breeding flocks the eggs of which are used for production of day-old chicks).

Currently 51 hatcheries are registered in Croatia. Most hatcheries in the country are small-scale business and their management is based on service of hatching eggs originating from different producers. In order to avoid the risk of contamination of the hatchery and reduce the possibility of disease spread among different farms, the control is implemented on the holding and at the hatchery.

In case of positive laboratory result from the hatchery veterinary inspector is obliged to visit holding with breeding flocks from which positive result is received and to repeat testing (confirmatory sampling) of the flock as well as holding on which day old chicks were sent.

Sampling is conducted in compliance with the requirements specified in Part B of Annex II to the Regulation 2160/2003 and point 2.2. to the Regulation 200/2010.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

- 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

All flocks, the products of which are intended for public consumption, must be examined by submitting official samples to an official laboratory.

From breeding flocks and flocks for production of hatching eggs of Gallus gallus, routine samples as well as samples for the official controls are taken:

On the holding:

- from day-old chicks - Samples are taken in sites in the building in which the birds are kept at each delivery of chicks. Transport liners and chicks should be taken for testing and submitted to an approved laboratory.

- from four-weeks old chicks- Boot swabs samples or faeces samples are taken in sites in the building in which the birds are kept once when they are four weeks old. The number of single and pooled samples taken depends on the size of the flock.

- Two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit- Boot swabs samples or faeces samples are taken in sites in the building in which the birds are kept once in that period. The number of single and pooled samples taken depends on the size of the flock.

- During the laying phase- Samples are taken in the laying unit every two weeks. The sample type which is submitted for laboratory testing depends on the type of keeping of birds (cage or free range/floor system).

Official controls shall be done according to Regulation 200/2010 point 2.1.2.2 of Annex three times per year at the holding during the rearing and production phase of the flock.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

Holdings keeping breeding flocks with at least 250 birds shall be officially controlled. Additionally all holdings that are/were in previous year under restriction measures due to suspicion/confirmation of relevant Salmonella shall be included in the official controls.

Official samples will be taken by authorized veterinarians under control and supervision of competent veterinary inspector.

Sampling of breeding flocks from which hatching eggs will be put on the EU market must be done on the holding.

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) :

n/a

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

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

After positive official samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

After positive FBO samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

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

- Always
- Sometimes
- Never

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

Confirmatory samples will be taken in following occasions:

1. In case of suspicion on relevant salmonella - a flock suspicious of being infected with *S. Enteritidis*, *S. Typhimurium*, *S. Hadar*, *S. Virchow* or *S. Infantis* is:

- a flock in which the laboratory testing of the samples submitted from the hatchery or transport pods collected on the holding when delivering day old chicks, detects the presence of relevant serotypes salmonella,

- a flock which is epidemiologically connected with cases of human illness in accordance with the provisions of Article 8, paragraph 2 of the Chapters IV of Regulation 2033/99,

- a flock in which a veterinary inspector suspects on the results of testing, or

- in any other case where the competent authority based on the available data considers it appropriate
Confirmatory sampling is ordered by veterinary inspector and confirmatory samples are taken by authorized veterinarians.

2. In case of positive result on *S. hadar*, *S. virchow* ili *S. infantis* in breeding flock aged 8 to 47 weeks, after treatment of the flock. It is necessary to control the effectiveness of the therapy by taking control samples twice – 7th and 14th day form the beginning of the therapy.

Confirmatory sample consists of:

• Five pair of boot swabs samples (each representing about 20% of the establishment area) or faeces samples taken in sites in the building in which the birds are kept once in that period. The number of single and pooled samples taken depends on the size of the flock (according to table scheme in 2.2.2.1. (a) of Regulation 200/2010),

• Blood: 60 samples,

• Cloacal swabs: 300 swabs,

• Birds: 5 randomly selected birds per facility, and

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

• Dust from a building in which poultry is kept: 100 grams per facility (dust should be collected on the surface area not less than 900cm² i.e. 90x10 cm).

Along with testing on presence of Salmonella samples must be tested so to exclude possible use of antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors.

All above mentioned samples must be taken for the purpose of confirmatory sampling.

Laboratory testing of samples taken for the purpose of confirmatory sampling must be tested only in NRL for Salmonella in poultry.

Confirmatory sampling can be carried out only once. All samples mentioned must be taken in case when confirmatory sampling is done. This includes more than prescribed by Annex of breeder's legislation. The flock is considered positive if relevant Salmonella is detected in any of samples taken for the purpose of confirmatory sampling. In case of confirmatory sampling use of antimicrobials must be checked so if no salmonella is confirmed but antimicrobials are detected the flock is also considered positive.

The flock is considered as negative if all samples tested on Salmonella are negative and if testing on antimicrobials is negative.

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):

The flock is considered as negative if all samples tested on Salmonella are negative and if testing on antimicrobials is negative.

- 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.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

(max. 32000 chars):

Official controls of holdings are done according to Annual plan of the State veterinary inspection and are based on supervision of the work done by authorised veterinarians and supervisions of poultry holdings. The use of antimicrobials is done according to Regulation 1177/2006. Antimicrobials are not used routinely; the application of the same is under strict control of authorised veterinarians and veterinary inspectors. Antimicrobials should be used on the basis of results of bacteriological examination and antibiograms whenever possible. Each treatment of a flock must be recorded in the official document called Records on Animal Treatment and Waiting Period. A competent veterinary inspector is carrying out controls on the use of antimicrobials on farms regularly.

Specific sampling is done in case of confirmatory sampling or in case when there is suspicion on the results of testing. In such occasions additional samples will be taken (at least 5 randomly selected birds/ establishment). When presence of relevant Salmonella serotypes is not detected, but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors have been detected in the flock, and at the same time there is no relevant evidence on treatment of other diseases the flock is considered Salmonella positive.

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):

The use of vaccines as the use of any veterinary medicinal product is in line with Regulation (EC) No. 1177/2006.

Live salmonella vaccines shall not be used in the framework of national control programmes where the manufacturer does not provide an appropriate method to distinguish bacteriologically wild-type strains of salmonella from vaccine strains. Only the use of approved vaccines is allowed. The vaccination scheme is chosen by the veterinarian responsible for the farm according to the indications of the producer.

For the purpose of organizing the implementation of the vaccination of poultry, the holders are obliged to timely announce the arrival of poultry on the farm to authorized veterinary organization and submit the information about the vaccine scheme against the salmonellosis that will be carried out in the flock. Vaccination is performed on all birds in the flock according to the vaccination scheme from the manufacturer's instructions.

The vaccination scheme may consist of:

- The use of an inactivated vaccine against *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium* applied no more than twice during the rearing phase,
- administration of attenuated vaccine against *S. Enteritidis* and/or *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium* applied no more than three times during the rearing phase,

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

- Combined administration of attenuated and inactivated vaccine against *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium* applied no more than three times during the rearing phase

After the vaccination authorized veterinarians is obliged to:

- enroll vaccination in the Animal Health Record,
- issue a certificate to the owner about the performed vaccination.

The data on vaccination includes at least the following:

- name, type and batch NO of vaccine,
- number of birds vaccinated by type of poultry and flock age,
- the number of vaccine doses used,
- date of vaccination, and
- Name and surname of the authorized veterinarian responsible for the implementation of the measure.

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

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

In line with Art. 34. of Veterinary Act (OG, no. 82/13, 148/13, 115/18, 52/21, 83/22) for the animal that was killed, slaughtered or died due to the vaccination or the other measure, as well as for destroyed products of animal origin and object damaged or destroyed due to the implementation of the ordered measures (described in Art 33. of the same Act) the owner of the animals, i.e. the owner of products of animal origin and items, has the right to compensation in the amount of market price on the day of implementation of the measure. A committee established by the head of VFSDG, which must include a competent veterinary inspector, determines the assessment of the value of animals, i.e. products of animal origin and items. The administrative decision on the right to compensation for damages and the amount of damages brings the head of VFSDG on the proposal of the committee within 60 days and payment must be made no later than 90 days from the date of the implemented measure.

The positive flock is slaughtered in the approved slaughterhouse under the supervision of the competent veterinary inspector. The meat of the slaughtered animals can be placed in the food chain only if it is subjected to the heat treatment.

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

(max. 32000 chars):

Upon removal or dispatch of the flock in which relevant *Salmonella* serotypes has been identified, business operator is responsible for cleaning and disinfection of the house and for bacteriological control in order to verify the effectiveness of disinfection. Restocking of the poultry is allowed after the negative results of bacteriological tests are submitted to official veterinarian. A sampling protocol for the verification of efficacy of disinfection is not defined in our national legislation. During official inspection at the holding, the veterinary inspector orders the appropriate sampling protocol. The boot swabs for taking of samples for *Salmonella* shall be used, and the walls, the

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

floor, cages, feeding system, ventilation system, egg collection system shall be sampled. Samples may be pooled for testing. Samples must be taken by authorised veterinarian.

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) :

Ministry of Agriculture – Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate General is responsible for:

- development and coordination of the implementation of the program in Croatia
- issuing instructions and interpreting legislation on NSCP
- collecting, analysis and monitoring data as well as evaluation of the results of the programme implementation
- supervision over the work of authorised veterinary organisations in implementing the measures under this programme
- planing and distribution of financial resources within NSCP

State Inspectorate - Veterinary Inspection and Food Safety Sector is responsible for control over programme implementation and official controls

Obligations of keepers of animals:

- 1) To give immediate notification to a veterinarian in an authorised veterinary organization if signs of a disease and/or death occur
- 2) To restrict the movement of an animal suspected of being affected by disease and to prevent contact of other people and animals with the suspected animal or carcass until veterinary checks have been completed.
- 3) To strictly implement all prescribed and ordered veterinary measures in order to control and eradicate the disease.
- 4) To assure regular monitoring of health status of herd and cooperate with authorised veterinarian in way to efficiently implement ordered measures.

Obligations of authorised veterinary organizations:

- 1) To implement the measures determined by this program

Obligations of the official laboratories:

- 1) To perform laboratory tests in accordance with the procedures being laid down in this program.
- 2) To inform the VFSD and State Inspectorate and veterinary organisation about the results of diagnostic tests

2. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

(max. 32000 chars):

Veterinary Act (OG 82/13, 148/13,115/18,52/21)

Food Act (OG 81/13)

Act on VMP (OG 81/13)

Law on official controls and other official activities performed to ensure the application of food and feed law, rules on animal health and welfare, plant health and plant protection products (OG 52/21)

National Salmonellosis Control Program in Breeding flock of Gallus gallus for current calendar year
Regulation 2160/2003

Regulation 200/2010

Regulation 1177/206

Decision 2013/652

Regulation 2017/625

Regulation 1069/2009 and Regulation 142/2011

Ordinance on egg quality (OG 115/06, 69/07, 76/08)

Ordinance on the notification of animal diseases (OG 65/20)

Ordinance on authorization and appointment of official and national referent laboratories (OG 102/10)

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):

In 2021, total 137 flocks were tested within SNCP. No positive adults breeding flocks were detected. One rearing flock was salmonella positive.

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

(max. 32000 chars):

Please describe the system of flock identification.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Article 37 of the Veterinary Act (OG 82/13, 142/13,115/18, 52/21) poultry farms and hatcheries must be registered in the Farms Register, which is an integral part of the Central Register of Domestic Animals, the responsibility for which lies with the Ministry of Agriculture. Detailed instructions on registration of poultry farms are prescribed in Ordinance on contents, form and manner of registration of farms according to which all farms with at least 250 birds and all farms from which poultry and eggs are placed on the market regardless of the number of animals have to be registered. Additionally, poultry farm and hatchery intending to place poultry and hatching eggs on the market of the European Union has to be approved by CA.

The identification system for the registration of individual flocks is not requested in the national legislation. Authorised veterinarian during Salmonella sampling obligatory fills in a sampling form that contains the data defined in the national legislation. In addition to data on the name and address of the holding, poultry species, poultry category (rearing flock or adult flock), the type and number of samples veterinarian shall indicate in each sampling form also:

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

- The identification number of the house, where the holding comprises several poultry houses
- Age of animals at sampling
- The number of poultry at the holding

The identification number of the house is given by FBO (usually consecutive numbers are used as identification numbers e.g. house 1, house 2). FBO shall notify the competent veterinary organisation of any new housing of flocks at the holding upon its arrival latest.

5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

(max. 32000 chars):

State Inspectorate -Veterinary Inspection and Food Safety Sector covers the whole territory of Croatia and is responsible for supervision of poultry farms on the field and for control of the work of authorised veterinary organisations as well as supervision of the work of official laboratories involved in SNCP.

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	520
Serotyping	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	10
Antimicrobial detection test	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	5
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	2

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)	50	130
No of flocks in the programme	50	130
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	50	130
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	260
No of official samples taken	0	260
Target serovars (d)	SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV	SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV
Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars	1	1
Possible No of flocks to be depopulated	1	1
Total No of birds to be slaughtered/culled	5 000	5 000
Total No of eggs to be destroyed	Text	10 000
Total No of eggs to be heat treated	Text	5 000

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	180
Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	30
Number of birds expected to be vaccinated	600 000
Number of doses expected to be administered	1 200 000

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))

Sampling is done by authorized veterinarians. Sampling within official controls is fully financed from the state budget. Sampling for the purpose of routine monitoring is fully financed by the flock owner.

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)

All samples are tested in the official laboratories as well as NRL appointed by the competent authority. Laboratory testing within official controls as well as routine sampling is fully financed from the state budget.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

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

Activities regarding compensation are implemented by the central level of the VFSD and paid from the state budget.

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

Activities regarding compensation are implemented by the central level of the VFSD and paid from the state budget.

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

In Croatia FBO are not allowed to take samples within national monitoring programme (for the purpose of the routine sampling). According to the Veterinary Act veterinary activities are conducted by legal persons through veterinary surgeries, veterinary stations, veterinary hospitals, veterinary clinics, centres for reproduction and artificial insemination, and veterinary pharmacies (veterinary organisations). Veterinary organisations are established as private companies.

In the Veterinary Act it is laid down that certain activities can be performed only by veterinary stations and veterinary surgeries which on the basis of the carried out competition, are authorised by the Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate (competent authority) to perform these activities for the certain period.

Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

Therefore within the framework of all national control programmes all samples are taken by authorized veterinarians from authorised veterinary organisations and are considered as official samples.

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 :	