



submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

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

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Member state : BULGARIA

Disease Salmonella

Animal population Fattening flocks of Turkeys

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

05/12/2022 17:11:37

Submission Number

1670253098644-19055



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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 1190/2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium in flocks of turkeys,
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry.

As a consequence, the following measures will be implemented during the whole period of the programme:

- 1. The aim of the programme** is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce the maximum annual percentage of flocks of *turkeys* remaining positive to *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) and *Salmonella* Typhimurium (ST)(including the serotypes with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-)('Union target') to 1% or less. However, for the MS with less than 100 flocks of adult fattening turkeys, the Union target shall be that annually no more than one flock of adult fattening turkeys may remain positive.

yes

no

If no please explain.

2. Geographical coverage of the programme

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

yes

no

If no please explain.

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3. Flocks subject to the programme

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

yes

no

If no please explain.

	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with fattening turkeys in the MS	1
Total number of houses in these holdings	3
Number of holdings with more than 500 fattening turkeys	1
<i>NB : All cells shall be filled in with the best estimation available.</i>	

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

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

yes

no

If no please explain.

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5. Biosecurity measures

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

yes

no

If no, please explain also the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) and attach a copy (or indicate the URL address)

Bio-security is a combination of practices, which are intended to prevent the spread of disease-causing organisms within the poultry farm. Where these are performed in parallel with the sanitation and disinfection procedures, bio-security measures could eradicate or, at least, reduce the level of pathogens to values, at which no hazard of infection would be likely.

The implementation of effective biosecurity measures at primary production to prevent contamination of the flocks under their care is the responsibility of the producer and his/her private veterinary. The Competent Authority carries out inspections on farms for zoonotic disease control, animal welfare reasons, to take samples for residues, to administer and enforce national legislation and to check medicine records

The bio-security measures in industrial poultry farms, small farms, and private backyards are in accordance to the manual of Biosecurity measures, issued by USAID Bulgaria and with the EC requirements.

Bio-security measures on holdings include:

Health status checks of poultry

On entering to all houses on the farm must be located disinfection barrier

Control of movement of people

Transport hygiene

Feed hygiene

Water hygiene

Rodents, insects and birds control

Cleaning and disinfection of buildings

Recording of all events and operations

For each building own equipment must be designated

In order to implement principles of good farming practice properly, it is necessary to apply "all in/all out" system. Mechanical cleansing of halls and technologies, followed by subsequent efficient disinfection, disinfestation and rat extermination, shall be performed on completion of each production cycle.

The relevant official vets shall perform documentary supervision on efficacy of disinfection carried out by farmers. If necessary official samples of swabs for testing of efficacy of the disinfection shall be taken in each time the official vet considers it necessary.

The frequency of these inspections is based on the annual inspection plan. In case of non-conformities the farmer is requested to take relevant corrective measures.

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

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

All flocks of fattening turkeys within three weeks before slaughter.

yes

no

The competent authority may authorise sampling in the last six weeks prior to the date of slaughter in case the turkeys are either kept more than 100 days or fall under organic turkey production according to Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

yes

no

If no please explain. Indicate also who takes the FBO samples. If the derogation is applied, how many holdings and flocks are concerned.

The derogation is not applied

7. Samples are taken in accordance with provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EU) No 1190/2012

yes

no

If no please explain.

Samples from poultry flocks are taken by the owner of the holding or a person authorized by the owner (in most of cases a private vet who has a contract signed with the owner) and by the official veterinarians which is a part of the official surveillance program. The official veterinarian responsible for the farm shall provide the training on sampling for the person responsible for the own-check samples.

Each year the RFSDs draft a sampling schedule for all poultry farms and hatcheries included in the scope of the programme and located on the territory within its administrative districts. The schedule is drafted for official checks and own-checks.

FBO keeps records of samples taken and made them available for inspection to the Competent Authority. The records shall include data on date when each flock is sampled for *Salmonella*, the identity of the flock sampled, the age of the flock sampled, the laboratory which undertook the analysis and the result of the tests and make these records available to the Competent Authority for inspection where

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required.

8.If birds from flocks infected with SE or ST are slaughtered, please describe the measures that shall be implemented by the FBO and the CA to ensure that fresh poultry meat meet the relevant **EU microbiological criteria** (row 1.28 of Chapter 1 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005): absence of SE/ST in 5 samples of 25g:

Measures implemented by the FBO (farm level)

At farm level:

When a turkey broiler turkey herd is confirmed positive for *S. Enteritidis* or *S. Typhimurium* (including *S. Typhimurium* monophasic serotype with antigenic formula 1,4 / 5 /, 1 2: i) it must be destroyed or allowed to be used for human consumption only if they have been treated in such a way as to ensure the eradication of *S. enteritidis* or *S. typhimurium* (including the monophasic serotype of *S. typhimurium* with antigenic formula 1,4 / 5 /, 1 2: i) and in accordance with Community legislation for food hygiene. (Regulation (EC) N° 2073/2005)

At slaughterhouse level:

In order to provide full information for the slaughterhouses of all test results within the programme the Salmonella control programme for turkey broilers includes the obligation for farmers to provide on FCI information on the results of testing for Salmonella in the case of positive results for all Salmonella serotypes and in the case of a negative result too. Reports of examinations three weeks before slaughtering is be included in the food chain information

Operational rules of slaughterhouse contain mesures taken in the case of slaughtering of flock positive for Salmonella.

Measures taken by FBO when a flock is SE ot ST infected:

FBO is required to submit action plan to the regional CA describing:

- type of the product, assessment of the risk to the public health;
- identification and information of the batch;
- revision of the acting procedures, corrective measures to be implemented;
- name, registration number and information on the food business establishment where the heat treatment is to be done;

Measures implemented by the FBO (slaughterhouse level)

The food establishments where the meat is to be processed is required to provide records of the processing of the infected batch, plan for cross-contamination prevention, plan for disinfection of equipment and premises, sampling plan for verification of the heat treatment and disinfection of premises and equipment in order to guarantee that the heat treated meat is not infected and to prevent further contamination of the fresh meat processed in the FBE.

In the event that in the laboratory test of samples are positive 1) the slaughter of hens from this flock is carried out in the manner specified in Art. 43 sec. 6 of Regulation No. 2019/627. Meat obtained from poultry originating from poultry , in which a positive result of laboratory testing doe SE or ST, or from flocks of unknown epizootic status in terms of Salmonella was obtained, is subjected to industrial heat treatment or other treatment to eliminate Salmonella. Such meat may not be placed on the market fresh, except to be transported to an industrial processing facility, if the facility slaughtering such poultry is

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unable to undergo an on-site industrial heat treatment or other treatment to eliminate Salmonella. The fresh meat can be given for human consumption only if it meets the microbiological criterion: absence of SE and ST in 5 samples of 25g of fresh poultry meat.

FBO has to have written consent from the food business establishment where the heat treatment is to be done before sending the infected poultry. The FBO at slaughterhouse has to provide information and records on the control of the processed products. Hi/she is obliged to manage and ensure that the slaughtering of infected flock is carried out separately from the healthy flocks, the premises and equipment of the slaughterhouse to be cleaned and disinfected after the slaughter of the positive flock. Following the detection of all serotypes of Salmonella spp. in faecal samples the animals to be moved to slaughterhouses must be accompanied by the food chain information referred to in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004. Food chain information for the movement of animals for slaughtering must contain, in addition to other data, the results of the laboratory testing of the flock for monitored Salmonella serotypes performed (negative/positive)- the date of the last sampling and its results. Sampling in slaughterhouses shall be performed in compliance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1086/2011 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Annex I to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 as regards salmonella in fresh poultry meat.

Sampling in slaughterhouses shall be performed in compliance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 1086/2011 amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council and Annex I to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 as regards salmonella in fresh poultry meat. The RFSD performs monitoring on presence of Salmonella at poultry slaughterhouses, according to the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005

- a minimum of 15 carcasses shall be sampled at random during each sampling session and after chilling. A piece of approximately 10 g from neck skin shall be obtained from each carcass. On each occasion the neck skin samples from three carcasses shall be pooled before examination in order to form 5 x 25 g final samples.

The samples are taken by the official vet in the slaughterhouse

Measures implemented by the CA (farm and slaughterhouse level)

In case of suspicion/or detection of Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic serotype S. Typhimurium with antigenic formula 1,4/5/,1 2:i), the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) should immediately notify the HQ of the BFSA. When a turkey broiler flock of the Gallus Gallus species is suspected of being infected with Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium, it is subject to an epidemiological investigation. Any flock from which Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium has been isolated from self-control or self-control samples shall be considered positive without further confirmatory sampling and shall be sent for slaughter. Skins from necks are taken in slaughterhouses, according to Regulation (EU) No. 1441/2007. In most cases it will not be possible to survey the birds in the flock from which Salmonella is isolated because it is expected that the birds will be slaughtered after the results are available. The competent authority shall draw up an order requiring the operator to clean and disinfect the building from which the infected flock originated. After cleaning and disinfecting the building, the official veterinarian should take swabs from multiple places in the building to check the effectiveness of the hygiene measures taken. Samples for official control of the effectiveness of the disinfection are examined at the Center for Environmental Protection, Sofia. When a turkey broiler flock is confirmed to be S. Enteritidis or S. Typhimurium (including monophasic serotype S. Typhimurium with antigenic formula 1,4/5/,1 2:i) it must be destroyed or allowed to be used for human consumption only if they have been processed in a way that guarantees the destruction of S. Enteritidis or S. Typhimurium (including monophasic serotype S. Typhimurium with

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antigenic formula 1,4/5/,1 2:i) and in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene. (Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005 (Rule 1.28 of Chapter I of Annex I).If *Salmonella* spp. are discovered during post-mortem examination of carcasses in a slaughterhouse, all provisions of Regulation No. 854/2004 must be applied.If *Salmonella* spp. are discovered during the inspection of foods offered on the market, the BFSA must implement the implementation of all the requirements provided for in Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No. 2073/2005.

Official sampling should be carried out under the control of the Competent Authority in all replacement /restocked/ herds when the previous herd from the same building was positive for *S. Enteritidis* or *S. Typhimurium* (including monophasic serotype *S. Typhimurium* with antigenic formula 1,4/ 5/,1 2:i). This sampling will be carried out in accordance with the procedure set out in the Annex to Commission Regulation (EC) No. 200/2012.

The above-described measures in case of positive results are also indicated in the "Instructions for taking measures in case of positive results for *Salmonella* in poultry " Annex VI to Order No. RD11-1773/31.08. 2018 of the Executive Director of BFSA.

Official veterinarian responsible for the FBE is required to:

- issue Restriction Act for the infected batch/products;
- to provide instructions on the measures to be implemented;
- to carry out expertise in accordance with art. 240 of the LVA and to issue an Expertise act where the type of processing of the meat/products is described.
- to approve the above described FBO plan;
- to prepare report on the implementation of the above described plan (all the relevant documents are attached), the report is provided to the RFSD and to the Food Control Directorate, HQ BFSA.

The measures are described in details in the BFSA procedure, approved with Ordinance PД 11-1136/20.09.2011.

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

yes

no

If no please explain.

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10. The **analytical methods** used for the detection of the target *Salmonella* serovars is the one defined in Part 3.2 of the Annex of Regulation (EU) No 200/2012 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 Kauffman-White-Le Minor scheme. For samples taken on behalf of the FBO alternative methods may be used if validated in accordance with the most recent version of EN/ISO 16140.

yes

no

If no please explain.

Samples are required to be sent to the laboratory on the day of collection and in the event this is not possible, may be stored refrigerated for a maximum of 24 hours before dispatch. Each sample must be submitted together with a sample submission letter which includes the operator and flock details, but also specifically the date the sample was taken. These requirements are detailed in the published Guide to the National Control Programme for Salmonella in Breeding Flocks

Salmonella NCP samples may only be tested in Competent Authority approved laboratories and these laboratories are required to check the time the sample was taken and ensure that the sample is tested within 4 days of the sampling and within 48 hours of arrival at the laboratory. This is a requirement of accreditation to ISO 17025 which specifies that the sample must be taken and treated according to the purpose for which it was intended (i.e. be 'fit for purpose' which is considered to mean fully in compliance with the legislation requirements). Samples that do not comply with these criteria may not be tested as Salmonella NCP samples and the testing laboratory must request another sample from the food business operator. This requirement is subject to inspection during the laboratory inspection visits for ISO 17025 accreditation

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

yes

no

If no please explain.

Samples sent for laboratory tests taken as part of official controls or FBO sampling must be accompanied by a cover letter (two templates for samples taken by the official control and FBO) approved by means of Order of the Executive Director of the BFSA.

The cover letter shall provide the following information on: 1) data and address of the poultry keeper; 2) registration number of the holding; 3) number of poultry in the flock, age, category of the flock; 4) the number of samples and the type of material collected; 5) dates and times of sampling and sending to the laboratory; 6) the type of vaccine used in the flock of laying hens and the date of its administration; 7)

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the use of antimicrobials;8) data of the person collecting the samples.

Salmonella NCP samples may only be tested in Competent Authority approved laboratories and these laboratories are required to check the time the sample was taken and ensure that the sample is tested within 4 days of the sampling and within 48 hours of arrival at the laboratory. This is a requirement of accreditation to ISO17025 which specifies that the sample must be taken and treated according to the purpose for which it was intended (i.e. be 'fit for purpose' which is considered to mean fully in compliance with the legislation requirements). Samples that do not comply with these criteria may not be tested as Salmonella NCP samples and the testing laboratory must request another sample from the food business operator. This requirement is subject to inspection during the laboratory inspection visits for ISO17025 accreditation.

In case that : 1) the cover letter (both by the official or FBO) did not contain at least the information above or the the information is not completed; 2) the amount or type of test material does not meet the requirements of the testing system specified in the Programme in question; 3) the conditions for transporting the samples to the laboratory do not meet the requirements set out in point 2.2.4 and 3.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2012 : the official laboratory informs the respective sender (official veterinarian or farmer) as well as the headquarter of the BFSA of this when accepting the samples for laboratory testing. Than the protocol from the laboratory test contain the information that the test cannot be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the program for control of Salmonella serotypes in respective poultry category.

The official at Headquarter of the BFSA immediately communicate the issue with the relevant regional food safety department for investigation and further measures to be taken (for example : additional sampling, training .etc)

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

In accordance with the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 and in connection with Art. 3, para. 1, item 4 of the Law on the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency, the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency is designated as the competent authority for the official control of feed in the Republic of Bulgaria.

In connection with the fulfillment of the requirements of Art. 9 and Art. 10 of Regulation (EC) No. 183/2005, on feed hygiene and according to the Feed Act, feed sector operators must be approved or registered by the BFSA and entered in a register in accordance with Art. 19 of the regulation.

The registers of the approved and registered operators in the fodder sector are kept and maintained in the ODBH. BFSA maintains and updates the relevant national registers, which are published on its website. Inspections at the facilities in the feed sector are carried out by inspectors/experts responsible for the official control of feed in the respective regional food safety department.

The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency carries out feed sampling as follows:- feed samples at the level of feed raw material and compound feed producers, as well as from wholesalers who offer feed raw materials and compound feed in packaged and bulk form- feed sampling at farm level. The number of samples is determined on the basis of clearly defined risk assessment criteria and in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) No. 2017/625, as well as on the basis of the data from the studies and analyzes carried out in the previous year. This plan includes also a minimum number of salmonella samples taken from consignments of compound poultry feed received from third countries. No positive results were reported for this parameter.

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If a positive result is obtained, the measures and actions to be taken will be based on and in accordance with the Operational Plan for Action in Emergency Situations Arising from Feed and the Procedure for Taking Action in the Event of Detection of *Salmonella* spp. in feed.

In case of positive findings measures are taken in order to ensure the decontamination of feed such as heat treatment or treatment with organic acids or both of them depending on the specific case (sampling reason, type of feed and type of *Salmonella* serovar, specifically relevant/not relevant). Moreover additional measures have to be put in place by the local veterinary unit: epidemiological investigation, inspection and verification of the good practices, particularly the procedures of cleaning, use of water, storing, pest control program, waste management. If necessary the feed business operator will be requested to increase the checks for *Salmonella*.

13. Official controls at holding and flock level

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

(max. 32000 chars) :

The competent authority carries out official controls, where the biosecurity standards are checked. The official controls at the poultry farms are in accordance with the annual control plan drafted by each Regional Food Safety Authority. The plan of official controls applies to all holdings. The official veterinary inspection for *Salmonella* control (sampling for *Salmonella*, according to the SCNP) includes a biosecurity inspection as well. Additional inspections can be planned based on the risk analysis. The inspections are documented by check list. The official inspections for biosecurity includes also supervision of the disinfection efficacy carried out by farmers. This is carried out by official sampling (swabs for testing the disinfection efficacy) each time the official veterinarian considers it necessary. As mentioned above, the veterinary requirements and biosecurity measures to be implemented by the animal holdings are described in Ordinance 44 concerning the veterinary requirement of animal holdings.

The FBO of poultry holdings are required to draft a bio security plan and contingency plan which are subject of official control.

In case of non-compliances detected during the inspection, official veterinarians gives prescription with corrective measures to be taken by the FBO with a short deadline. Further inspection is carried out by the official to verify the measures taken by the FBO, followed by fines, trade restriction, ban for movemnt of poultry or eggs or registration withdraw of the holding (depending of the severity of the deficiency) if the results from this inspection are not satisfactory.

According to the national legislation (the Law on Veterinary Activity, the Law on Management of the Agro-Food Chain and the Law on Feed) the establishments for production, storage and trade in food or feed must be approved and registered by the BFSa and uploaded in the respective registers. The registers of the approved and registered sites are electronic and are publicly available. The official inspections in the establishments for production, storage and trade in food are carried out by the official veterinarians from the BFSa / or the respective RFSD.

The official control of food production, storage and marketing establishments shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2017/625 of the European Parliament and of the Council, which lays down specific rules for the organization of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption. The number of samples is calculated by the official

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veterinarians on the basis of a risk assessment and on the type and quality of the materials involved in the processing of the food, as well as on the basis of the results of previous inspections. Sampling of food of poultry origin should be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) 2073/2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs. The frequency of sampling may be increased or decreased depending on the results obtained from the examination of the samples. Annually, the Regional Directorates for Food Safety prepare programs for the number of inspections of the establishments controlled by them for production, storage and trade in animal products.

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

■ in one flock of fattening turkeys per year on 10% of holding comprising at least 500 fattening turkeys;

yes

no

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

no additional official sampling is performed beyond the EU minimum requirements . Official veterinarians take the official samples.

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

After positive official samples at the holding

Always

Sometimes (criteria apply)

Never

After positive FBO samples at the holding

Always

Sometimes (criteria apply)

Never

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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.

Use of antimicrobials in accordance with the Council Regulation 1177/2006:

1. Antimicrobials shall not be used as a specific method to control *Salmonella* in turkey broilers.

2. Antimicrobials may be used in the following exceptional circumstances:

- poultry presenting salmonella infection with clinical signs in a way likely to cause undue suffering to the animals;
- the infected flocks treated with antimicrobials shall still be considered infected with salmonella;
- authorisation given by the BFSA on a case-by-case basis for purposes other than salmonella control in a flock suspect of salmonella infection, in particular following the epidemiological investigation of a foodborne outbreak or the detection of salmonella at the holding;

3. The use of antimicrobials shall be subject to supervision of and reporting to the BFSA. This use shall be based wherever possible on the results of bacteriological sampling and of susceptibility testing.

The use of antimicrobials (as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006) will be checked when the official sample is taken. If the flock is under antimicrobial medication for animal health or animal welfare reasons the flock will be sampled again after the period of withdrawal for the product given in its Marketing Authorisation. Flock owners are required to keep records of antimicrobial use and to make these records available.

If unauthorized use of antimicrobials is detected in a flock found negative for *Salmonella*, such flock is considered positive

- d. Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 (**antimicrobials** shall not be used as a specific method to control *Salmonella* in poultry): please describe the official controls implemented (documentary checks, sample taking) to check the correct implementation of this provision. For samples please describe the samples taken, the analytical method used, the result of the tests.

(max. 32000 chars):

The RFSDs performs documentary checks of antimicrobials using or other substances inhibiting the growth of bacteria. The sample for testing the presence of inhibitory substances is taken if there is a suspicion that the results could be affected by the presence of antimicrobials and in any other case considered appropriate. The official veterinary inspection for *Salmonella* control (sampling for *Salmonella*, according to the SCNP) always includes checks of the record kept in the farm including those related to VMP used.

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Antimicrobial samples are taken and tested in a National laboratory for veterinary sanitary expertise and ecology based on the National Residue Plan including number of checks on poultry for antimicrobials (penicillins, sulphonamides and tetracyclines. Samples are taken from a certain number of turkey broiler premises (not 100%) for banned substances .

The sample must be delivered to the laboratory as soon as possible, if necessary the sample can be frozen. From 5 killed birds the samples of breast muscle are taken and tested as a pooled sample. Testing is carried out by microbiological determination of inhibition substances (6 plate method).

Where the presence of Salmonella is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effect is detected, the flock is considered as an infected flock for the purpose of the Community target.

14. Please describe the official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house. (no of samples, of tests, sample taken, etc)

(max. 32000 chars) :

After a flock infected with relevant serovars is depopulated the house where the birds were kept must be clean and disinfected under the supervision of the CA. Environmental samples have to be taken by the CA (at least five of contact surfaces per premise) inside the house in order to verify the efficacy of the procedure. Samples have to be analyzed in an official laboratory and in case of identification of any Salmonella serovar a new cycle of cleaning and disinfection must be performed and repeated if necessary up to a negative finding.

Re-stocking may not take place until the cleaning and disinfection has been carried out. Negative results is required to lift the restriction measures in the holding.

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) :

Bulgarian Food Safety Agency is the competent authorities responsible for implementation of the Programme for control of Salmonellosis and other infectious agents causing zoonoses. Department "Animal health" within Directorate "Animal health and Welfare" at the Headquarters of BFSFA has the following responsibilities:

1. To draft surveillance programme for Salmonellosis and to submit it for approval to the European Commission.
2. To control the implementation of the surveillance programme.
3. To collect and analyse the data on the animals tested for salmonellosis
4. To summarize the data on positive holdings.
5. To keep a register in the database of all holdings with turkeys.
6. To send annual report to the European Commission containing the data referred to in points 3-6

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At regional level the Regional Food Safety Department (RFSD) and the heads of departments "Animal health" have the following responsibilities:

1. To control and to implement the Salmonella surveillance programme at regional level.
2. To collect and analyse the data on the poultry tested for salmonella in the region.
3. To summarize the data on positive animals.
4. To summarize the data on the salmonella surveillance costs incurred at regional level.
5. To keep a register in the database of all holdings with turkeys.
6. To send annual reports containing the data referred to in points 1-6 to Directorate "Animal health and welfare" at BFSA.

The official veterinarian has the following responsibilities:

1. To control and to implement the programme for surveillance of salmonella in the relevant municipality.
2. To control the sampling of laying hens and the sending of samples to the laboratories.
3. To collect and analyse the data on the poultry tested for salmonella in the veterinary units located on the territory of the relevant municipality.
4. To summarize the data on positive animals from the veterinary units located on the territory of the relevant municipality.
5. To summarize the data on the salmonella surveillance costs incurred by the relevant municipality.
6. To keep a register in the database of all holdings with turkeys.
7. To send annual reports containing the data referred to in points 1-6 to Directorate "Animal health" at the relevant RFSD.

Data on the implementation of the NSCPs is presented to the CCA at by the laboratories and RFSDs each 6 months in terms of preparing the annual and intermediate reports for the implementation on programmes. In case of positive Salmonella results (related to all Salmonella spp detected as well as either FBO or official sampling) the labs are requested to inform immediately the CCA. The CCA orders the relevant RFSD to impose the restrictive measures according to the Salmonella spp detected and based on the Salmonella legislation.

2. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

(max. 32000 chars):

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1190/2012
Commission Regulation (EC) No 213/2009
Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003
Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006
Directive 2003/99

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).

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(max. 32000 chars):

No positive results for the targeted Salmonella serovars were recorded.

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

(max. 32000 chars):

The Bulgarian Food Safety Agency is the official competent authority for the registration of animal holdings.

All commercial holdings for breeding flocks are registered in accordance with Article 137 of the law of the Veterinary activity. The register commercial holdings are entered into the national electronic database and maintained by Headquarter at the BFSA.

The owners of animal holdings shall submit an application of registration, conformed to a specimen to the director of RFSD.

Within a time period of up to 7 days from the submission of the application, the director of RFSD by an order shall appoint a commission for carrying out of a check for compliance of the holdings with the veterinary medical requirements on animal breeding and welfare.

The commission shall in a period of 3-days present to the director of the RFSD the opinion with a proposal for a registration or a refusal.

When upon the check it is being found out that the holding does not meet the veterinary medical requirements, the commission shall give a written prescription to the applicant, wherein shall fix a deadline for adjustment of the omissions.

When the applicant has removed the omissions before the expiry of the indicated in the prescription deadline, he shall inform in writing the director of RFSD, who within a period of seven-days shall send the commission for a re-check of the holding. The commission shall draft a protocol of the results of the check and shall submit it to the director of RFSD.

The director of RFSD shall enter the animal-breeding holding in the register and shall issue a certificate of registration or shall justify the refusal of the registration if the holding does not meet the veterinary medical requirements. The register contains the following information:

1. number and date of the certificate issued;
2. the veterinary registration number of the holding;
3. name and permanent address of the owner of the holding;
4. address/location and type of the holding;
5. capacity of the holding;
6. type, category and use of the birds in the holding;
7. technology of breeding of the birds;
8. number and date of the order for delegation of the registration
9. changes in the circumstances entered.

Record- keeping at farms.

Each animal holding shall keep records with the following information.

Total number of birds in the holding

The new entered birds

The birds for slaughtering.

The birds for sale

The number of death birds

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When a farm is inspected by an official veterinarian, the latter has also to perform a thorough check of all the records /logbooks/ that are kept in respective holding.

Each owner is requested to have way of identification of the flocks so that he/ she to provide traceability of the flocks at each time. The way of identification, the type of unique flock number for the purpose of monitoring and traceability of flock is a decision made by the owner. In major cases the flock is identified by number consist: arrival date of the poultry consignment and number of premises.

5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

(max. 32000 chars):

The chain of the competent authority was described in point B 1.

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C. Targets

1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

2023

Type of the test (description)	Target population	Number of planned tests
Bacteriological detection test	Fattening flocks of Turkeys	1
Serotyping	Fattening flocks of Turkeys	1
Antimicrobial detection test	Fattening flocks of Turkeys	1
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Fattening flocks of Turkeys	1

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)		6
No of flocks in the programme		6
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)		1
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)		1
No of official samples taken		1
Target serovars (d)		SE + ST
Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars		1

(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

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E. Financial information

1. Identification of the implementing entities - financial circuits/flows

Identify and describe the entities which will be in charge of implementing the eligible measures planned in this programme which costs will constitute the reimbursement/payment claim to the EU. Describe the financial flows/circuits followed.

Each of the following paragraphs (from a to e) shall be filled out if EU cofinancing is requested for the related measure.

a) Implementing entities - **sampling**: who perform the official sampling? Who pays?
(e.g. authorised private vets perform the sampling and are paid by the regional veterinary services (state budget); sampling equipment is provided by the private laboratory testing the samples which includes the price in the invoice which is paid by the local state veterinary services (state budget))

The official sampling is performed by the official veterinarians within the structure of BFSA. The sampling equipment is provided by the local CA. The costs for sampling are within the state budget.

b) Implementing entities - **testing**: who performs the testing of the official samples? Who pays?
(e.g. regional public laboratories perform the testing of official samples and costs related to this testing are entirely paid by the state budget)

The samples collected within the National Control Programme are analysed by laboratories accredited for that purpose, designated and approved by BFSA to carry out testing official and FBO samples on Salmonella in poultry within SCP . All are accredited to ISO 17025 and designated in accordance with Article 12 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

Scope of Activities includes detection of Salmonella in animal faeces, tissue, environmental samples,

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feed and water, serotyping.

The analytical methods for the Salmonella detection (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.) are within the scope of their accreditation.

The costs for testing are covered by the state budget.

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

The terms and procedures for compensation of owners are described in the national legislation - the Law of Veterinary Activity (LVA) and Ordinance on the terms and procedures applicable to effecting expenditures related to epizootic risks (Adopted by CoM decree No. 181 of 21.07.2006, publicised in the State gazette (SG), Issue No. 62 of 01.08.2006, in effect since the day of publicising).

It is paid by the CA.

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)

There is no vaccination against Salmonella in fattening turkey in Republic of Bulgaria

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

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n/a

2. Source of funding of eligible measures

All eligible measures for which cofinancing is requested and reimbursement will be claimed are financed by public funds.

yes

no

3. Additional measures in exceptional and justified cases

In the "*Guidelines for the Union co-funded veterinary programmes*", it is indicated that in exceptional and duly justified cases, additional necessary measures can be proposed by the Member States in their application.

If you introduced these type of measures in this programme, for each of them, please provide detailed technical justification and also justification of their cost:

n/a

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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 :	