



**Programmes for eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses  
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 of eradication, control and surveillance 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).

Due to the late adoption of the SMP regulation all programmes will be submitted to be approved technically for 2021 and 2022.

Therefore, this document shall also be filled out and submitted after selection of the options:

This programme is multiannual: "YES"

Request for Union cofinancing from beginning 2021 to end of 2022.

If encountering difficulties:

- concerning the information requested, please contact [SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu](mailto:SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu).

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**Instructions to complete the form:**

- 1) You can attach documents (.doc, .xls, .pdf, etc) to complete your report using the button "Add attachments" on the last page of the form.
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- 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.

Doc version: 2021 2.1

Member state : ELLADA

Disease Salmonella

Animal population Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

This program is multi annual : yes

Type of submission : New multiannual programme or Modification of already approved multiannual programme

Request of Union co-financing from beginning :

2021

To end of

2022

*First year of implementation of the programme described in this document:*

2021

**1. Contact data**

Name

██████████

Phone

██████████

Email

██████████

Your job type  
within the CA :

██████████

**Submission Date**

**03/11/2021 14:06:06**

**Submission Number**

**1635944767546-17953**



# Broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

## A. Technical information

By submitting this programme, the Member State (MS) attests that the relevant provisions of the EU legislation will be implemented during its entire period of approval, in particular:

- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of *Salmonella* and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents,
- Regulation (EU) No 200/2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella Typhimurium* in flocks of broilers,
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry.

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

1. The **aim of the programme** is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce the maximum annual percentage of flocks of *broilers* remaining positive to *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE) and *Salmonella* Typhimurium (ST)(including the serotypes with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-)('Union target') to 1% or less.

*yes*

*no*

*If no, please explain.*

comment: The target population consists of all flocks of broiler chickens. According to the most recent available data, there are a total of 1.053 broiler hen holdings in Greece, which account for a total of 8.846 flocks. 1039 out of the 1053 holdings had more than 5000 birds.

The following categories of broiler chickens are reared in Greece:

(d) conventional chickens which enter the establishment as day-old chicks, are reared on the floor for 42-45 days and then slaughtered.

(e) organic chickens which enter the establishment as day-old chicks, are reared on the floor for 81 days and then slaughtered.

(f) free / limited / unlimited range chickens which enter the establishment as day-old chicks, are reared for 81 days and then slaughtered.

## 2. Geographical coverage of the programme

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

*yes*

*no*

*If no, please explain.*

comment: Greece is divided into 13 administrative regions and 74 regional units.

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

The programme for control of salmonellosis in flocks of broiler poultry will be implemented in all of the regional units in which these flocks are located.

### 3. Flocks subject to the programme

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

*Comments (max. 32000 chars) :*

We confirm that the programme covers all flocks of broilers. It does not apply only to flocks for private domestic use.

	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with broilers in the MS	1 053
Total number of houses in these holdings	1 608
Number of holdings with more than 5,000 broilers	1 039
<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.*

### 5. Biosecurity measures

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

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

yes

no

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

Biosecurity is part of the national salmonella control programme (annex attached to the national decision for the implementation of national salmonella control programme).  
Guides are in place. Their implementation is not linked to compensation, because no compensation is granted to FBOs of broiler holdings. In addition they are regularly assessed by the CA. The CA assess the biosecurity measures each time they perform official control in the context of the NSCP. This assessment is followed by a written report which includes also the results from the biosecurity assessment.

In particular:

Official veterinary authorities make a number of inspections for different reasons such as for animal welfare: every year Regional Veterinary Authorities (RVA) inspect 5% of broiler farms using a special checklist. The choice of 5% is based on criteria such as the size of the holding, non-compliances in previous inspections etc.

Moreover, in the context of the implementation of the NSCP, at least 10% of the broiler holdings existing in a region are officially controlled and sampled every year by the official veterinary authorities. Within the framework of the official control, the implementation of biosecurity measures is also checked and verified with the aid of a specific checklist.

The choice of 10% of holdings is based on risk assessment

The national decision No 133362/23.12.2011 on a "Salmonella control programme in broiler poultry of the species Gallus gallus" and some of the relevant guides can be found at: [http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Apofasi\\_salmonelosis\\_kreoparag\\_2012.pdf](http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Apofasi_salmonelosis_kreoparag_2012.pdf)(annex I B "B. METPA BIOΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑΣ") and

[http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Paroysiaseis\\_Seminaria/6\\_salmo\\_bioasfalia.pdf](http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Paroysiaseis_Seminaria/6_salmo_bioasfalia.pdf).

In particular, at least the following biosecurity measures shall apply:

### A. HYGIENE MANAGEMENT AT FARM

1. Facilities must be appropriately constructed and surrounded by a fence, which must have a sign at the entrance forbidding entry.
2. Only one species of poultry should be raised at any one facility and if possible the 'all in all out' system should be applied.
3. In cases where more than one flock exists, each one should be treated as a separate entity.
4. Pens and feed storage spaces should be secured to prevent the entry of any wild or harmful animals.
5. All pen surfaces should be constructed of materials allowing for easy cleaning and disinfecting.
6. The area around the pen should preferably be covered by cement or similar material, and in any case, clear of vegetation or rubble. Trees are the exception (unless fruit-bearing) since they protect the buildings from the heat.
7. Access of pets to the facilities is prohibited.
8. Appropriate protective measures should be taken to prevent diseases spreading within the facility. Changing rooms and other areas (e.g. shower rooms) for personal hygiene of both employees and visitors can contribute to the above.
9. After the removal of poultry, droppings must also be removed, after which the area should be cleaned and disinfected. It is recommended that a bacteriological examination be carried out subsequently in order to check the effectiveness of the decontamination.

## Broiler flocks of *Gallus gallus*

B. Measures to prevent incoming infections carried by animals, feed, drinking water, people working at farms

10. Rodents and insects must be exterminated by implementing appropriate rodent treatment and insecticide programmes.

11. Repopulation of pens should take place with poultry free of salmonella.

12. All feed must be confirmed salmonella free prior to their being given to poultry. Feed in pellet form or feed that has undergone another type of processing is indicated as such, as a means of becoming salmonella-free. The vehicles that transport feedstuffs must be decontaminated at regular intervals and subsequently the feedstuffs must be stored in closed storage areas.

13. The operator's water supply should come from the mains network. If the water comes from a pump, its suitability for use must be ensured and microbiological tests must be carried out from time to time.

14. Diseased and dead birds should be removed as quickly as possible and in the safest and most effective manner.

15. Disinfection baths must be placed at the entries and exits of the pens and holdings for vehicles and the footwear of persons who move about in the plant.

16. Each operator should keep a file in which are recorded the diseases, deaths, treatments and vaccines given. This file is to be made available whenever an official control requires it.

Biosecurity measures as regards the staff and the visitors.

Staff and visitors must:

17. wear clean overalls, a cap and shoe covers;

18. wash their hands with soap and water or disinfectant and dip their shoes in a disinfectant which is regularly changed;

19. They must not come into direct contact with poultry or poultry products.

### C. HYGIENE IN TRANSPORTING ANIMALS TO AND FROM FARMS

Biosecurity measures as regards the operations during capture, loading and transportation of poultry.

1. Staff responsible for the capture and loading of poultry must be trained for these operations, wash their hands with soap and water and change clothes and boots, both before the beginning of the process and between different batches of poultry.

2. The equipment used for the capture and transportation of poultry must be clean and kept away from dirty equipment.

3. The vehicles used for the transportation of poultry must be licensed, in accordance with national and Community law and must be decontaminated at regular intervals (or cleaned and decontaminated before the loading of each poultry batch) and the drivers must be aware of the basic personal hygiene rules and the role that they might have in spreading infections (e.g. through dirty hands).

4. Salmonella-infected flocks must be captured and loaded last.

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

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

All flocks of broilers within three weeks before slaughter.

yes

no

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

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

FBO samples are taken by a trained person who can be the FBO, the private veterinarian or a trained sampler.

Regarding the training of the samplers, the local veterinary services are responsible for supervising the training of the FBOs, in order to ensure the correct implementation of the sampling protocol.

Additionally, when the NSCPs started, the central service had organised many informative seminars and the correct implementation of the sampling protocol was one of the topics presented.

Finally, on the website of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food there is a video on how to collect samples:

<http://www.minagric.gr/index.php/el/for-farmer-2/animal-production/ptina/208-astheneiesptinon-cat/459-salmonelosi>

In case there is a need to treat a broiler flock with antimicrobials then sampling for Salmonella will be either postponed and samples will be taken after the withdrawal period has been completed or in case it is not feasible to postpone the slaughter of the flock, dust will be collected as this type of sample is not affected by the use of antimicrobials.

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

(i) an all in / all out system is used in all flocks of the holding;

(ii) the same management applies to all flocks;

(iii) feed and water supply is common to all flocks;

(iv) during at least the last six rounds, tests for *Salmonella* spp. according to the sampling scheme set out in the first subparagraph in all flocks on the holding and samples of all flocks of at least one round were carried out by the competent authority;

(v) all results from the testing according to the first subparagraph and point (b) for SE or ST were negative.

yes

no

*If yes - Indicate how many holdings and flocks are concerned*

For 2020, no such cases have been notified to the CCA.

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

yes

no

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

*If yes - Indicate how many holdings and flocks are concerned*

For 2020 no such cases have been notified to the CCA.

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

*yes*

*no*

*If no, please explain.*

Comment: Samples for both official and sampling at the initiative of the FBO are taken in accordance with the provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2012.

Samples taken by the competent authority may replace samples taken at the operator's initiative.

Samples must be taken using properly sterilised instruments; they must be wrapped in safe packaging, to which a label must be attached indicating the type of sample, sealed and sent to the competent laboratory, accompanied by the appropriate documents

The competent authority shall satisfy itself by conducting further tests and/or documentary checks as appropriate to verify that results are not altered through the presence of antimicrobials or other substances inhibiting the growth of bacteria

Where the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effect are, it will be accounted for as an infected broiler flock for the purpose of the Community target and the measures mentioned below will be implemented.

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

*Measures implemented by the FBO (farm level)*

In case of detection of SE/ST in a broiler flock, the FBO notifies this result to the CA. Furthermore he enhances biosecurity measures in order to avoid the spread of salmonella infection, conducts epidemiological investigation in order to find the source of infection and makes the necessary arrangements for the logistical slaughter of the infected flock.

*Measures implemented by the FBO (slaughterhouse level)*

The results of the analysis of the samples taken by the FBOs must be known before the birds are sent to the slaughterhouse. These results are part of the FCI, which accompanies the birds to the slaughterhouse Annex II, Section III of Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 (FCI)



## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

### *Measures implemented by the CA (farm and slaughterhouse level)*

In case of detection of SE/ST in a broiler flock the competent veterinary authority of the Region issues a decision for the following measures to be taken:

a) It describes the flock as "salmonella positive" and takes the following measures with regard to the infected birds :

b) It prohibits the movement of:

i. poultry to and from the holding unless the authority gives its permission for it to be slaughtered or destroyed in controlled conditions.

ii. litter and manure from the holding unless it gives permission in order that they may undergo processing in accordance with the legislation in force;

At the slaughterhouse the OV must check the FCI provided for completeness and contents as a part of ante mortem inspection.

The OV is always entitled to request any additional data from the producer. FCI should also be taken into consideration when post mortem inspection is carried out.

The OV is to:

- Check which Salmonella serotype is detailed on the FCI and ensure that the relevant clean-down procedure is followed.
- check that the procedure has been followed in accordance with the FBO's HACCP-based food safety management system.

The FCI information is checked at the slaughterhouse by the official veterinarian of the slaughterhouse and in case of positive SE/ST results, provisions of annex of Reg. (EC) No 1086/2011 are applied ( 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)

The carcasses of the poultry from the positive flock are subjected to sampling for salmonella detection, by the food business operators of slaughterhouses in accordance with Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1086/2011.

If the salmonella test results are positive for *S. Enteritidis*/*S. Typhimurium* or *S. Typhimurium* (1,4,[5],12:i:-), the products from these poultry may be placed on the market for human consumption after heat treatment, in accordance with applicable law on food hygiene. If such products are not intended for human consumption, they must be used or disposed of in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.

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.*

Comment: Testing of the official samples collected within the national salmonella control programme in flocks of broilers is performed at the following state veterinary laboratories of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food:  
Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes, Chalkida Veterinary Laboratory (National Reference



## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

Veterinary Laboratory for Salmonella) and Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory.

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three above mentioned accredited laboratories.

The samples from the own-checks are tested in 27 private laboratories which are designated and supervised by the Department of Zoonoses and the NRL for salmonella and participate in the comparative tests organised by the NRL.

In the case of Salmonella spp. isolates, the above laboratories must, on the basis of Article 5 of Decision No 133362/23.12.2011 on a "Salmonella control programme in broiler poultry of the species Gallus gallus", send the results to the competent veterinary authority of the Region as well as to the Department of Zoonoses.

Our circular No 920/29816/15-3-2017 (which replaced the previous relevant circular) sets out the participation procedure for private laboratories conducting own-check sample analyses under the National Salmonella Control Programmes (EPES) and the preconditions that laboratories must meet.

10. The **analytical methods** used for the detection of the target *Salmonella* serovars is the one defined in Part 3.2 of the Annex of Regulation (EU) No 200/2010 i.e. Amendment 1 of EN/ISO 6579-2002/Amd1:2007. *Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs - Horizontal method for the detection of Salmonella spp. -- Amendment 1: Annex D: Detection of Salmonella spp. in animal faeces and in environmental samples from the primary production stage*<sup>1</sup>.

Serotyping is performed following the Kaufman-White-Le Minor scheme.

*yes*

*no*

*If no please explain.*

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

*yes*

*no*

*If no please explain.*

With regard to samples taken on the initiative of the food business operator, alternative methods may be

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

used instead of the methods for the preparation of samples, detection methods and serotyping provided for above, if validated in accordance with the most recent version of EN/ISO 16140. So far we have no such case.

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.*

Comment: Transportation and storage of samples is carried out in accordance with points 2.2.4 and 3.1 of the annex to Reg. (EU) No 200/2012.

In particular, samples shall preferably be sent by express mail or courier to the state or private laboratories involved in the NSCP's within 24 hours after collection. If not sent within 24 hours, they shall be stored refrigerated. Transportation can be at ambient temperature as long as excessive heat (over 25 °C) and exposure to sunlight are avoided. At the laboratory samples shall be kept refrigerated until examination, which shall be started within 48 hours following receipt and within 96 hours after sampling.

To ensure the above, the lab is contacted by the sampler before each sampling.

Detailed guides have been provided to the samplers with regard to the packaging and transportation of samples.

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

*Comments (max. 32000 chars) :*

The following rules apply as regards official controls of feedstuffs for salmonella:

Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 laying down the requirements for feed hygiene provides for the establishment of microbiological criteria on the basis of scientific risk criteria. Therefore, the relevant legislation on control of feed for salmonella will be issued by the competent department of the Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy, as soon as the Commission-level discussions on microbiological criteria in feed are completed.

All feed must meet the requirements laid down in Regulation (EC) No 183/2005 on feed hygiene, as well as being confirmed as free of salmonella before being given to poultry. Feed in pellet form or feed that has undergone another type of processing should be indicated as such, as a means of ensuring salmonella-free feed. Feed should then be stored in sealed storage spaces.

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

### 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) :*

see also point 5 of this programme.

Official veterinary authorities make a number of inspections for different reasons such as for animal welfare: every year Regional Veterinary Authorities (RVA) inspect 5% of broiler farms using a special checklist. The choice of 5% is based on criteria such as the size of the holding, non-compliances in previous inspections etc.

Moreover, in the context of the implementation of the NSCP, at least 10% of the broiler holdings existing in a region are officially controlled and sampled every year by the official veterinary authorities. Within the framework of the official control, the implementation of biosecurity measures is also checked and verified with the aid of a specific checklist.

The choice of 10% of holdings is based on risk assessment

Where there is not proper implementation of the biosecurity measures, the CA initially make recommendations with a deadline for their satisfaction. The time horizon of the period varies depending on the nature of the infringement. In case of dissatisfaction, sanctions may be submitted.

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

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

**yes**

**no**

*If no, please explain. - Indicate also: 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed give a description of what is done 2) who is taking the official samples (max. 32000 chars) :*

We confirm that official sampling complies with the minimum sampling requirements as set out in point 2.1.b of annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2012. Official samples are collected by the official veterinarians of the regional veterinary authorities, as part of the official control.

Official sampling is also taking place in all flocks of a round, in cases where the FBOs wants to make use of the derogation mentioned under point 6b of this programme.

- Moreover, additional official sampling takes place in all the flocks of a broiler holding in case of detection of a positive flock in this holdings. This information is included in the national decision for the implementation of the programmes in Broilers.

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

**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	<input type="checkbox"/> Always
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes (criteria apply)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Never

After positive FBO samples at the holding	<input type="checkbox"/> Always
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sometimes (criteria apply)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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.*

According to the national decision for the implementation of NSCP in flocks of broiler hens Gallus gallus, official confirmatory sampling does not take place in any case of positive results.

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 use of antimicrobials is prohibited in the framework of NSCP, except from the cases foreseen in Reg. (EC) No 1177/2006. The treatment of broiler hens Gallus gallus with antimicrobial agents to control

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

Salmonella spp. is prohibited.

When an antimicrobial treatment is applied on the birds of a broiler flock, official samples are taken only before the application of the treatment or after the end of the withdrawal period.

In case of FBO's sampling: in general the recommendation is to postpone the sampling until the end of the withdrawal period, if possible. In case this is not possible, then routine sampling is going to be implemented and this information is illustrated in the FCI which accompanies the birds to the slaughterhouse.

In case the CA has a suspicion that the results are altered through the presence of antimicrobials or other substances inhibiting the growth of bacteria, there is always the possibility to take additional samples or to perform official control and sampling at the holding in question.

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

*(max. 32000 chars) :*

Confirmation of the effectiveness of disinfection is conducted by collecting environmental samples from the infected house after cleaning and disinfection procedures have been completed. The verification of the effectiveness of disinfection can be conducted either by the FBO or by the Regional Veterinary Authority.

The sample is obtained after disinfection from drying surfaces in the house.

Sampling should be done in a way to obtain a representative sample.

The parts to be sampled are the walls, the floor, the drinkers, feeders, nests, vent piping, beams, partitions, the conveyor belts, and other surfaces and devices

Large surfaces

Minimum sampling area is 1m<sup>2</sup>

- Sampling may be done with sterile swabs as gauze or cellulose sponges using disposable gloves or the technique of "overturned bag" (The plastic bag containing the swab is held from the outside so that when inverted to expose the swab and then covering the surface of the bag is inverted again). The surface swabbed until it looks dirty the swab.

- To monitor the effectiveness of disinfection of the floor, bootswabs can be used like in the case of fecal material.

When dry surfaces are sampled, the swabs must be moistened.

After sampling the containers are sealed and marked appropriately.

Small surfaces

The sampling can be done with sterile cotton-rods or any wood or plastic stick with a cotton tip, or synthetic, insisting where cracks, corners, uneven surfaces. Before use, they must be moistened. The rod is removed from the sterile container and the end is immersed into a tube containing a suitable liquid.

A new flock is placed in the previously infected house only in case of negative for salmonella results.

# Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

## B. General information

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

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

The authorities responsible for implementing the salmonella control programme in laying hens Gallus gallus are:

1. The Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate / General Veterinary Directorate); (Ministry of Rural Development and Food).
  2. the regional veterinary authorities;
  3. the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (Ministry of Rural Development and Food) and the Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory (Ministry of Rural Development and Food.).
  4. the Chalkida Veterinary Laboratory, which is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.
- All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three above mentioned accredited laboratories.

Other bodies involved in the implementation of NSCP are:

5. The Gallus gallus broiler farms as well as the private veterinary laboratories which must perform the self-checks, in accordance with the details set forth in Annex I to Decision No 133362/23.12.2011 on a "Salmonella control programme in broiler hens of the species Gallus gallus".

1. The central veterinary authority responsible for control and coordination of all the bodies involved in implementing the programme throughout the country is the Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate.

This department is controlling at central level and coordinating other competent bodies involved in implementing the control programme for mobile Salmonella spp bacteria strains in Gallus gallus broilers nationwide;

- (ii) nominating the programme implementation authorities and bodies and laying down their respective responsibilities in accordance with the needs of the programme;
- (iii) providing the appropriate instructions and clarifications to the Programme's implementing bodies with a view to facilitating and bolstering their work;
- (iv) collecting data and results from the programme, evaluating said data/results, and notifying the competent departments of the Commission of the European Union.

It is also responsible together with the NRL for the designation and supervision of the private labs involved in the NSCP's.

2. The regional veterinary authorities are responsible for:

- (i) nominating the person responsible for implementing and monitoring the programme;
- (ii) carrying out the official controls. These official controls include controls of the correct implementation of the programme by the operators, taking official samples, adopting the necessary measures and keeping the competent central authority informed;
- (iii) evaluating implementation of the programme at prefectural/regional level;
- (iv) dispatching the requested statistics for the programme to the Zoonoses Department of the Animal

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

Health Directorate; and

(v) supervising the training of broiler hen farm operators to ensure proper application of the sampling protocol;

(vi) cooperating with and notifying all the competent authorities and bodies about the implementation of the programme.

(v) collaborating with the official veterinarian at the slaughterhouse who is obliged to send the data specified in Article 8(5) of the Decision every month.

According to Art 8(5) of the national decision for the implementation of NSCP in flocks of broiler hens Gallus gallus, the FBO of the slaughterhouse is required to keep records or computerized system, which recorded the information contained in the accompanying documentation accompanying the birds to the slaughterhouse and which contain also the FCI.

Then, the official veterinarian of the slaughterhouse is obliged to report all the relevant information (regarding NSCP information) to the competent regional veterinary authority, in order to enable the official veterinarian, responsible for the implementation of the NSCP to:

- evaluate the program in the area of his responsibility and
- make the selection of holdings where he is going to carry out official controls and official sampling.

3. The Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes receive the samples from the veterinary directorates within their jurisdiction and carry out the necessary laboratory tests to detect salmonella. They must also send the salmonella-positive cultures to the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella in Chalkida.

4. The National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella in Chalkida is responsible for:

(i) serotyping salmonella-positive cultures sent to it by the other state veterinary laboratories and the private laboratories and ensuring immediate dispatch of the serotyping results to the senders;

(ii) receiving the samples from the veterinary directorates within its jurisdiction and carrying out the necessary laboratory tests to detect and serotype salmonella;

(iii) submitting the data and results to the Zoonoses Department of the Animal Health Directorate / Ministry of Rural Development and Food.

It is also responsible for:

(iv) cooperating with the Community Reference Laboratory for Salmonella;

(v) communicating the information provided by the Community Reference Laboratory for Salmonella to the Zoonoses Department and the salmonella diagnosis laboratories;

(vi) providing scientific and technical assistance to the central competent authority with responsibility for implementing coordinated salmonella control programmes;

(vii) observing developments in the field of salmonella epidemiology;

(viii) notifying the Community Reference Laboratory on matters concerning strains of the salmonella vaccine and other special control methods on a case-by-case basis;

(ix) coordinating the diagnosis standards and methods implemented by each individual salmonella diagnosis laboratory. To this end it:

- organises at least one ring test per year;
- keeps salmonella isolates for two years and is responsible for optional phagotyping and anti-microbial sensitivity tests on positive samples;
- cooperates with the other national laboratories in Greece responsible for isolating salmonella in humans;
- organises, where necessary, training for the staff of the Greek salmonella diagnosis laboratories.

5. Our circular No 920/29816-15-03-2017 which has replaced the previous No 383/11852/29.01.2013,



## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

sets out the participation procedure for private laboratories conducting own-check sample analyses under the National Salmonella Control Programmes (EPES) and the preconditions to be met by laboratories.

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

*(max. 32000 chars):*

This salmonella control programme in flocks of laying hens is being implemented in the context of Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003, Commission Regulation (EC) No 200/2012 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 certain Salmonella serotypes in flocks of Broilers Gallus gallus, Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006, Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs, applicable from 1 January 2006, Decision (EC) No 2008/798/EC: restriction on intra-Community trade of live poultry /restriction on import of live poultry from third countries

The National Decision for the implementation of the programme is Decision No 133362/23.12.2011 on a "Salmonella control programme in broiler hens of the species Gallus gallus"

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):*

see attached table 3 for the monitoring of zoonotic salmonella in flocks of broilers Gallus gallus since 2009. In 2020, in Greece there were 8846 broiler flocks in 1053 holdings. Eight thousand eight hundred forty-four of them were tested for zoonotic salmonella in the context of NSCP. The rest were not tested because they were not at the proper age. Twenty out of the 8844 tested flocks were positive for Salmonella spp. and three of them were positive for the targeted salmonella serovars (2 SE and 1 ST) Due to these results, the community target was achieved in 2020.

Information on the surveillance of salmonella in several food and feed categories in Greece can be found at Efsa's annual summary reports on zoonoses, zoonotic agents, antimicrobial resistance and food-borne outbreaks, which are published at EFSA's website.

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

*(max. 32000 chars):*

All broiler farms must be authorised and registered in accordance with Ministry of Health Sanitary Decree 2000/1995.

Broiler farms must keep a register and computerised system in which all the relevant health-related

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

information is entered. The data concerning this programme and possible treatment must be entered in this register.

Each flock is identified with a unique code number consisting of the following elements: code number of the holding/number of the house/date of placement of the flock in the house.

There is no official registration of the broiler flocks but the FBO's are obliged to forward detailed information for every flock of their holding (date of placement, dates of slaughter, own-check results) to the competent regional veterinary authority.

### 5. System to monitor the implementation of the programme.

*(max. 32000 chars):*

Each case of positive salmonella spp result is notified without delay to the regional veterinary competent authority in order to take measures in case of suspicion and to the Department of Zoonoses.

In addition, every 6 months, the state veterinary laboratories report the results of official checks performed in the context of NSCP to the Department of Zoonoses and the approved private laboratories report the results of the own-check received in the context of NSCP to the NRL, which then report them to the Department of Zoonoses.

In addition, all the Regional Veterinary Units report four times per year to the Department of Zoonoses detailed information for every broiler flock of their territory.

This information includes data on the official and own-check controls (dates, results, type of sampling), number of infected birds slaughtered or heat treated, etc

At regional level the monitoring of the implementation of the programme is achieved by the following way:

Each flock is identified with a unique code number consisting of the following elements: code number of the holding/number of the house/date of placement of the flock in the house.

Although there is no official registration of the broiler flocks, the FBO's are obliged to forward detailed information for every flock of their holding (date of placement, dates of slaughter, own-check results) to the competent regional veterinary authority.

In addition, the FBOs of the slaughterhouses are required to keep records or computerized system, which recorded the information contained in the accompanying documentation accompanying the birds to the slaughterhouse and which contain also the FCI.

Then, the official veterinarians of the slaughterhouses are obliged to report all the relevant information (regarding NSCP information) to the competent regional veterinary authority, in order to enable the official veterinarian, responsible for the implementation of the NSCP to:

- evaluate the program in the area of his responsibility and
- make the selection of holdings where he is going to carry out official controls and official sampling.

# Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

## C. Targets

### 1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

#### 1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

**2021**

Type of the test (description)	Target population	Number of planned tests
Bacteriological detection test	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	130
Serotyping	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	19
Antimicrobial detection test	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	0
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	0

#### 1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

**2022**

Type of the test (description)	Target population	Number of planned tests
Bacteriological detection test	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	130
Serotyping	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	18
Antimicrobial detection test	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	0
Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	0

#### 1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year :

**2021**

Type of the test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total No of flocks (a)	8 846	8 846
No of flocks in the programme	8 846	8 846
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	130

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	130
No of official samples taken	0	260
Target serovars (d)	SE + ST	SE + ST
Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars	0	3

(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

### 1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year :

**2022**

Type of the test (description)	Rearing flocks	Adult flocks
Total No of flocks (a)	8 846	8 846
No of flocks in the programme	8 846	8 846
No of flocks planned to be checked (b)	0	130
No of flock visits to take official samples (c)	0	130
No of official samples taken	0	260
Target serovars (d)	SE + ST	SE + ST
Possible No of flocks infected by target serovars	0	3

(a) Including eligible and non eligible flocks

(b) A checked flock is a flock where at least one official sampling visit will take place. A flock shall be counted only once even if it was visited several times.

(c) Each visit for the purpose of taking official samples shall be counted. Several visits on the same flock for taking official samples shall be counted separately.

(d) Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium = SE + ST

Salmonella Enteritidis, Typhimurium, Hadar, Infantis, Virchow = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

# Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

## D.1. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

Costs of the planned activities for year :

2021

1. Testing of official samples								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of tests	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
Testing	Broilers: Bacteriological detection test	130	22.16	2880.8	yes	75	2 160,6	X
Testing	Broilers: Serotyping	19	49.46	939.74	yes	75	704,8	X
Testing	Broilers: Antimicrobial detection test		22.11	0	no	75	0	X
Testing	Broilers: Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection		41.69	0	no	75	0	X
2. Vaccination								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of vaccine dosis	Average cost per dose in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
				0	no		0	X
3. Slaughter and destruction (without any salaries)								
Cost related to	<u>Compensation of</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
4. Cleaning and disinfection								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
Cleaning and disinfection	In case of full flock depopulation			0	no	75	0	X

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

5. Other essential costs									
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
				<b>Add a new row</b>					
6. Cost of official sampling									
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
Sampling	Broilers: Official sampling visit	130	9.53	1238.9	yes	75	929,17	<b>X</b>	
<b>Total with Union funding request (€):</b>				5059.44	including		3794.57		
<b>Total without Union funding request (€):</b>				0			= requested EU contribution in €		

*Costs of the planned activities for year :*

**2022**

1. Testing of official samples								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of tests	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	
Testing	Broilers: Bacteriological detection test	130	22.16	2880.8	yes	75	2 160,6	<b>X</b>
Testing	Broilers: Serotyping	18	49.46	890.28	yes	75	667,71	<b>X</b>
Testing	Broilers: Antimicrobial detection test		22.11	0	no	75	0	<b>X</b>
Testing	Broilers: Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection		41.69	0	no	75	0	<b>X</b>
2. Vaccination								
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of vaccine dosis	Average cost per dose in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR	

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

				0	no		0	X	
<b>3. Slaughter and destruction (without any salaries)</b>									
Cost related to	Compensation of	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
<b>4. Cleaning and disinfection</b>									
Cost related to	Specification	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
Cleaning and disinfection	In case of full flock depopulation			0	no	75	0	X	
<b>5. Other essential costs</b>									
Cost related to	Specification	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
				<b>Add a new row</b>					
<b>6. Cost of official sampling</b>									
Cost related to	Specification	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	Cofinancing rate	Requested Union contribution in EUR		
Sampling	Broilers: Official sampling visit	130	9.53	1238.9	yes	75	929,17	X	
<b>Total with Union funding request (€):</b>				5009.98	including		3757.48		
<b>Total without Union funding request (€):</b>				0			= requested EU contribution in €		



## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

### *E. Financial information*

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

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

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

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

The official sampling in the framework of NSCP is performed by the veterinarians of the regional veterinary services and the samples (properly packed and labeled) are sent shortly after collection to the 3 designated state veterinary laboratories, as has already been stated in this programme. The cost for all these procedures ( sampling, packing materials, transport costs) are covered by the state budget and co-financed by the EU. In general, national funding is provided by the country's annual budget. To this end, relevant request is submitted to the Greek Ministry of Finance in order to secure all necessary funds for the purposes of animal disease control, surveillance and eradication and other related expenditure. Following a positive reply as regard the total sum to be allocated for the year in question an annual joint Ministerial Decision is drafted containing all modalities procurement of materials/consumables, compensations to farmers etc. Once issued this Decision is the base for funding of all official animal disease activities included all programmes approved and co-financed by the EU.

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)

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

The permanent and seasonal official veterinarians working in the 3 designated state veterinary laboratories involved in NSCP, in collaboration with the technical staff (permanent or seasonal) perform all the analytical tests. The salaries of the permanent and seasonal staff are paid by the state budget and are not co-financed by the EU. Finally, the cost of laboratory consumables required for samples' testing is covered by the state budget (Ministry of Finance, Financial Service of the Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment & Energy in collaboration to the Animal Health Directorate of the same Ministry, according to the joint Ministerial Decision issued each year) and co-financed by the EU.

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)

NA

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)

NA

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

NA

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

### 2 Co-financing rate (see provisions of applicable Work Programme)

*The maximum co-financing rate is in general fixed at 50%. However based on provisions of Article 5.2 and 5.3 of the Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, we request that the co-financing rate for the reimbursement of the eligible costs would be increased:*

Up to 75% for the measures detailed below

Up to 100% for the measures detailed below

*Please explain for which measures and why co-financing rate should be increased to 75%*

We kindly ask for an increased co-financing rate for the measures described in the Table under point D. The reason is that this programme is very important for Public Health and due to the economical crisis that Greece is currently facing, this increase would be a relief for the economy of the country. Please, take into account that Greece belongs to the group of Member States with a GNI per inhabitant below 90% of the Union average, for which there is the possibility of an increase up to 75% of the co-financing rates for 2021-2022.

### 3. Source of funding of eligible measures

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

*yes*

*no*

## Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

### 4. 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:*

NA

# Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

## Attachments

**IMPORTANT :**

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here : [jpg](#), [jpeg](#), [tiff](#), [tif](#), [xls](#), [xlsx](#), [doc](#), [docx](#), [ppt](#), [pptx](#), [bmp](#), [pna](#), [pdf](#).
- 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE **SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD** ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!
- 5) Only use letters from a-z and numbers from 1-10 in the attachment names, otherwise the submission of the data will not work.

## List of all attachments

		Attachment name	File will be saved as (only a-z and 0-9 and -_):	File size
			Total size of attachments :	