



Annex II : Control programme submitted for obtaining EU cofinancing - Reduction of prevalence of Salmonella serotypes

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- 7) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit **multi-annual programmes**.
- 8) As mentioned during the Plenary Task Force of 28/2/2014, you are invited to submit your programmes in **English**.

Submission Date

Tuesday, May 26, 2015 17:04:00

Submission Number

1432649195919-4406

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Identification of the programme

Member state : ELLADA

Disease Salmonella

This program is multi annual : yes

Type of submission : Funding request for subsequent year of already approved multiannual programme

Request of Union co-financing
from beginning of :

2015

To end of

Contact

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Animal population

Animal population Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

A. Technical information

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

- Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 on the control of *Salmonella* and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents,
- Regulation (EU) No 200/2010 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*,
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry.

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

1. The **aim of the programme** is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce to 1% or less the maximum percentage of adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* remaining positive for the target *Salmonella* serovars: *Salmonella* Enteritidis (SE), Typhimurium (ST)(including the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-), Hadar (SH), Infantis (SI) and Virchow (SV).

For a MS with less than 100 adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* the target is to have no more than one such flock remaining positive for the relevant *Salmonella* serovars per year.

Comments(max. 32000 chars) :

The salmonella control programme on breeding flocks is submitted pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003, Commission Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 of 10 March 2010, Regulation (EC) No 1177/2005 of 1 August 2006 and Commission Decision No 2006/759/EC approving certain national programmes for the control of salmonella in breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*.

We confirm that the aim of the programme is to reduce the prevalence of the following salmonella serotypes: *Salmonella* Enteritidis, *Salmonella* Typhimurium, *Salmonella* Hadar, *Salmonella* Infantis, *Salmonella* Virchow in adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*, to a level of 1% or lower by 31 December every year.

All references to *S. Typhimurium* include the monophasic *S. Typhimurium* (1,4,[5],12:i:-).

In 2014, the number of breeding holdings *Gallus gallus* was 85. These holdings had 356 breeding flocks *Gallus gallus* with 2.194.669 birds. These above mentioned holdings send eggs for hatching to 24 hatcheries.

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- The programme will be implemented on the **whole territory** of the Member State.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

Greece has 13 regions and 74 regional units. The salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding hens will be implemented throughout Greece wherever there are farms with breeding hens.

3. Flocks subject to the programme

	Total number of flocks of breeders in the MS	Number of flocks with at least 250 adult breeders	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling will take place
Rearing flocks	200		200	0
Adult flocks	250	250	250	250
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the hatchery		250	250	250
Number of adult flocks where FBO sampling is done at the holding		0	0	250

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

The best estimation available is based on the animal population figures of 2014.

For a better understanding of the figures, a description of the sampling scheme follows.

The national decision on implementing measures, No 349699/24.12.2009 (GG II/2599), lays down the sampling framework which governs the checks carried out on the operator's initiative and any official controls carried out by the official veterinary authorities of the region. The sampling framework is as follows:

A. Number and type of samples to be taken during sampling on the operator's initiative.

The operator must take samples during the following production phases:

A1. In rearing flocks, sampling must be as follows:

(1) in day-old chicks: samples are taken from the hatcher basket liners in which chicks are supplied to the farm and from the carcasses of chicks which are dead on arrival (more than 10 day-old chicks and at least 20 for a flock consisting of more than 500 chicks);

(2) in four-week poultry, in the holding;

(3) two weeks before transfer to the hatching phase or the hatching unit in the holding.

In cases (2) and (3), composite faecal samples are taken at different points in the hatcheries; the manner of collecting these samples is laid down in point 2.2.2 of the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 (use of swabs or pooled faeces).

In adult breeding flocks, sampling must be performed in the hatchery every two weeks during the hatching period in accordance with 2.2.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010.

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In cases where the breeding hen undertaking does not have its own hatchery and eggs are hatched in a hatchery owned by another undertaking, the check on the flock – subject to agreement between both parties – may be carried out:

- either in the hatchery every 15 days, and the undertaking where the flock is located is informed of the laboratory results, which the latter must keep on file for inspection by the official veterinarian at the official check,
- or on the holding where the breeding flock is kept, every 15 days, by collecting faecal material or dust. If the hatching eggs produced by the breeding hen undertaking are subject to intra-Community trade, the check on the flock must be carried out on the holding where the breeding flock is kept, every 15 days, by collecting faecal material or dust.

These cases are rare.

B. Number and type of samples taken by the official veterinarian

Official controls of the flocks (as well as official sampling which is an integral part of official controls) are carried out on all flocks at breeding poultry holdings of 250 and more birds and at least during the following production phases:

1. Regular official control and regular sampling in the holdings (using swabs or pooled faeces) at two stages during the production cycle:

(a) within four weeks of transition to the egg-laying phase;

(b) at the end of the egg-laying period, but no more than 8 weeks before the end of the production cycle;

2. Regular official control and regular sampling in the hatchery every 16 weeks

3. Confirmatory sampling in the holding if one of the five salmonella serotypes is detected in the samples collected in the hatchery.

4. In exceptional cases where the competent veterinary authority of the Regional Unit has reason to call the result into question (false positive or false negative results), it may decide to repeat the testing.

5. When the competent authority deems it necessary.

I. The sampling protocol for each of the above cases is the same as the one also used by the operator. As regards official routine sampling on the holding or in the hatchery, the sampling protocol is laid down in points 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010.

If the own-check is carried out at the holding, then the regular official check should be carried out as follows:

(i) within four weeks of transfer to the hatching phase or the hatching unit;

(ii) towards the end of the laying phase, not earlier than eight weeks before the end of the production cycle;

(iii) any time during the production cycle which is sufficiently distant in time from the sampling mentioned in points (i) and (ii).

II. In the event of a confirmatory sampling, samples are taken using the sampling techniques set out in points 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010.

In the above case, additional samples can be collected for the possible testing of antimicrobials or

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bacterial growth inhibitors as follows: birds are taken at random from within each house of birds on the farm, normally up to five birds per house, unless the authority deems it necessary to sample a higher number of birds. If the source of infection is not confirmed, antimicrobial testing is carried out or new bacteriological testing for the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes is performed on the flock or their progeny before trade restrictions are lifted. If antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors are detected, the *Salmonella* infection is considered to be confirmed.

III. In exceptional cases where the competent veterinary authority of the region has reason to call the result into question (false positive or false negative results), it may decide to repeat the testing as per point II.

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

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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

In particular, Article 5 of Decision 349699/24/12/2009 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 2599), which is the national decision for the implementation of salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding hens *Gallus gallus*, states that notification of salmonella is to be given in the following way:

1. In the event of sampling on the operator's initiative, if salmonella is isolated from samples of manure in the breeding or rearing holding or from samples in the hatcheries, both the operator himself and the head of the laboratory must notify the competent regional veterinary authority of the positive result.
2. In the case of official inspections, if the laboratory test proves positive for salmonella, the head of the laboratory must inform the local competent veterinary authority of the region.

5. Biosecurity measures

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

Comments - Describe also the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) and attach a copy (max. 32000 chars) :

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 and

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their implementation is linked to compensation. In addition they are regularly assessed by the CA. The CA assess the biosecurity measures each time they perform official control for the NSCP. This assessment is followed by a written report which includes also the results from the biosecurity assessment.

The national decision No 349699/24/12/2009 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 2599) and some of the relevant guides can be found at: http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/apofasi_elenxoy_salmon_orinthes_anaparagogis.pdf (annex I B "B. ΜΕΤΡΑ ΒΙΟΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑΣ") and http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Paroyiaseis_Seminaria/6_salmo_bioasfalia.pdf.

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

I) Hygiene management at farms

A1) ON THE HOLDINGS, the following provisions apply:

1. In order to obtain authorisation, undertakings must meet the requirements set out in Presidential Decree 224/1998 (Government Gazette, Series I, No 175), namely: the holding must be at a distance of at least 300 m from other poultry farms, productive poultry establishments, hatcheries and compound feed plants, at least 1 000 m from slaughterhouses and processing plants for manure and low- or high-risk waste, and at least 5 000 m from pedigree breeding establishments. Hatcheries, compound feed plants and manure processing plants belonging to the same establishment are exempted, provided the establishment carries out all its activities within the same enclosure and does not accept hatching eggs from other establishments.
2. Facilities must be appropriately constructed and surrounded by a fence, which must have a sign at the entrance forbidding entry.
3. At each facility only one species of poultry should be reared and, if possible, the "all in, all out" system should be applied.
4. In cases where more than one flock exists, each one should be treated as a separate entity.
5. The pen and the feedstuff storage areas must be protected against wild or harmful animals.
6. All pen surfaces must be constructed of materials allowing for easy cleaning and disinfecting.
7. The area surrounding the pens should be covered by cement or similar material, and free from vegetation or rubble. Trees are the exception (unless fruit-bearing) since they protect the buildings from the heat.
8. Access of pets to the facilities is prohibited.
9. Suitable protective measures must be taken to prevent the spread of disease at the holding. Changing rooms and other areas (e.g. shower rooms) for personal hygiene of both employees and visitors can contribute to the above.
10. After the removal of poultry, the manure must also be removed and the area cleaned and disinfected. It is recommended that a bacteriological examination be carried out to check the effectiveness of the disinfection.

A2) Biosecurity for handling and transportation of hatched eggs.

- a. Litter in the egg incubators should be kept dry and in good condition. Also, nest litter should be clean and of adequate quantity.
- b. Egg collection should take place regularly, at least twice a day. These eggs should then be placed in clean, disinfected containers.
- c. Soiled, broken, cracked and bruised eggs should be collected in different containers and should not be used for hatching.
- d. Once collected, clean eggs must be disinfected as soon as possible using the appropriate methods.
- e. The disinfected eggs should be kept in a clean, dust-free place, used exclusively for that purpose, at a temperature of 13-15 C and relative humidity of 70-80%.
- f. The eggs should be transported to the hatchery in clean, disinfected crates, the surface of which has been disinfected either by fumigation or using a suitable disinfecting fluid.

B. BIOSECURITY MEASURES AT HATCHERIES

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1. Biosecurity measures at hatchery facilities.

1. Hatchery facilities should be isolated, so as to facilitate the control of diseases, and remote from other livestock, especially poultry holdings. They should also have an establishment and operational licence.
2. The design of the hatchery must meet workflow needs and comply with air circulation principles. It must therefore be constructed in a way which fulfils the principles of one-directional flow, in terms of the eggs' and chicks' movement and that of the air.
3. The various working areas in the hatchery facilities must be physically separate from one another and, where possible, must have their own separate air supply. These areas are as follows:
 - place for reception and storage of eggs;
 - egg trays;
 - fumigation area;
 - incubator;
 - hatchery;
 - room for sorting, sexing and placing of chicks in transportation crates;
 - storage area for various used materials (transportation crates for eggs and chicks, packaging materials etc.);
 - equipment cleaning and waste disposal facilities;
 - staff canteen;
 - administrative office.
4. All windows and air vents must be covered by mesh netting to prevent insects and other harmful animals from entering.

2. Biosecurity measures relating to hygiene at the hatchery facilities

1. The hatching facilities must be protected by perimeter fencing, which must have an entrance for controlling the persons and vehicles entering and exiting the area.
2. Wild birds and wild and domestic animals must be prevented from entering the area, and a suitable insect and rodent control programme should be implemented.
3. All waste, rubbish of all types and old and redundant equipment should be removed.
4. A suitable sewerage system must be in place.
5. All equipment and the hatchery surfaces should be emptied (only flat surfaces), cleaned, washed and disinfected effectively with an approved disinfectant.

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

1. Rodents and insects must be exterminated by implementing appropriate rodent treatment and insecticide programmes.
2. Restocking of the pens must be done with salmonella-free poultry.
3. All feed must meet the requirements laid down in Regulation (EC) No 1831/2003 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.
4. 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.
5. Sick and dead poultry must be removed as soon as possible in a safe and effective way.
6. Each operator must keep a file recording the diseases, deaths, treatments and vaccines given. This file is to be made available whenever required by an official control.

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Hygiene measures for the handling of eggs and egg products.

1. Egg handlers should wash their hands with soap and water and then put on new, clean outer clothing before handling the hatched eggs.
2. Those handling chicks and sexing chicks should wash their hands and change clothing and footwear, both before beginning their work and between different batches of chicks.

Biosecurity measures for staff and visitors.

Staff and visitors must:

1. wear clean overalls, a cap and shoe covers;
2. wash their hands with soap and water or disinfectant and dip their shoes in a disinfectant which is regularly changed;
3. avoid coming into direct contact with poultry or poultry products.

III) Hygiene transporting animals to and from farm

1. Day-old chicks and all other poultry should be sent in new carrier boxes, or if old ones are used, they must be made of a material which can be cleaned or disinfected or fumigated well.
2. The placing of chicks in carrier boxes must be done by staff wearing clean, sterilised clothing, which should be changed between successive batches.
3. The transportation vehicle should be cleaned and disinfected prior to loading of each batch of chicks

6. Minimum sampling requirements for food business operators :

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

- a. Rearing flocks: day-old chicks, four-week-old birds, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit
- b. Adults breeding flocks: depending if the MS achieved the EU target for more than 2 years

Every second week during the laying period

Every three weeks during the laying period (derogation of point 2.1.2.3 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010)

Comments - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples

The decision on implementing measures, No 349699/24.12.2009 (GG II/2599), lays down the sampling framework which governs the checks carried out on the operator's initiative and any official controls carried out by the official veterinary authorities of the region. The sampling framework on the food business operator initiative is as follows:

The operator must take samples during the following production phases:

A1. In rearing flocks, sampling must be as follows:

(1) in day-old chicks: samples are taken from the hatcher basket liners in which chicks are supplied to the farm and from the carcasses of chicks which are dead on arrival (more than 10 day-old chicks and at least 20 for a flock consisting of more than 500 chicks);

(2) in four-week poultry, in the holding;

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(3) two weeks before transfer to the hatching phase or the hatching unit in the holding.

In cases (2) and (3), composite faecal samples are taken at different points in the house; the manner of collecting these samples is laid down in point 2.2.2 of the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 (use of swabs or pooled faeces).

The samples are appropriately labelled and registered (date, type of sample, flock code number).

A2. In adult breeding flocks, sampling must be performed in the hatchery every two weeks during the hatching period in accordance with 2.2.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010.

In cases where the breeding hen undertaking does not have its own hatchery and eggs are hatched in a hatchery owned by another undertaking, the check on the flock – subject to agreement between both parties – may be carried out:

- either in the hatchery every 15 days, and the undertaking where the flock is located is informed of the laboratory results, which the latter must keep on file for inspection by the official veterinarian at the official check,

- or on the holding where the breeding flock is kept, every 15 days, by collecting faecal material or dust. If the hatching eggs produced by the breeding hen undertaking are subject to intra-Community trade, the check on the flock must be carried out on the holding where the breeding flock is kept, every 15 days.

In these cases sampling must be performed in accordance with point 2.2.2 of the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010.

Sampling on the initiative of the Food Business Operator is performed either by the farmer himself or by trained samplers.

7. Samples are taken in accordance with provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2010

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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 (EU) No 200/2010.

Sampling at the initiative of the FBO has already been described under point 6 of the submitted programme.

With regard to official sampling the number and type of samples taken by the official veterinarian are as follows:

Official controls of the flocks (as well as official sampling which is an integral part of official controls) are carried out on all flocks at breeding poultry holdings of 250 and more birds and at least during the following production phases:

1. Regular official control and regular sampling in the holdings (using swabs or pooled faeces) at two stages during the production cycle:

(a) within four weeks of transition to the egg-laying phase;

(b) at the end of the egg-laying period, but no more than 8 weeks before the end of the production cycle;

2. Regular official control and regular sampling in the hatchery every 16 weeks

3. Confirmatory sampling in the holding if one of the targeted salmonella serotypes is detected in the samples collected in the hatchery.

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4. In exceptional cases where the competent veterinary authority of the Regional Unit has reason to call the result into question (false positive or false negative results), it may decide to repeat the testing.

5. When the competent authority deems it necessary.

I. The sampling protocol for each of the above cases is the same as the one also used by the operator. As regards official routine sampling on the holding or in the hatchery, the sampling protocol is laid down in points 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010.

If the own-check is carried out at the holding (see above point 6 of the submitted programme), then the regular official check should be carried out as follows:

- (i) within four weeks of transfer to the hatching phase or the hatching unit;
- (ii) towards the end of the laying phase, not earlier than eight weeks before the end of the production cycle;
- (iii) any time during the production cycle which is sufficiently distant in time from the sampling mentioned in points (i) and (ii).

II. In the event of a confirmatory sampling, samples are taken using the sampling techniques set out in points 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010.

In the above case, additional samples can be collected for the possible testing of antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors as follows: birds are taken at random from within each house of birds on the farm, normally up to five birds per house, unless the authority deems it necessary to sample a higher number of birds. If the source of infection is not confirmed, antimicrobial testing is carried out or new bacteriological testing for the relevant Salmonella serotypes is performed on the flock or their progeny before trade restrictions are lifted. If antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors are detected, the Salmonella infection is considered to be confirmed.

III. In exceptional cases where the competent veterinary authority of the region has reason to call the result into question (false positive or false negative results), it may decide to repeat the testing as per point II.

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

8. Specific requirements laid down in Annex II.C of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant (i.e. due to the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-), all birds of infected rearing or adult flocks are slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and all eggs are destroyed or heat treated):

Comments - Indicate also if birds are slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and if eggs are destroyed or heat treated (max. 32000 chars) :

The submitted programme is in compliance with Part II.C of Annex of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. In particular, pursuant to Article 7(4) of Greek Decision No 349699/24.12.2009 (Government Gazette,

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Series II, No 2599) on a "Control programme for salmonella in flocks of breeding hens of Gallus gallus" and amending Decision No 314922/29.12.2010 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 2178), through which the control programme for salmonella in flocks of breeding hens is being implemented in Greece, when positive results for *S. Enteritidis* or *S. Typhimurium* (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-), are communicated or positive results for *S. Hadar* are communicated for two consecutive samplings by the same operator, the competent veterinary authority of the region must issue a decision for the following measures to be taken:

(a) Qualifying the flock as "salmonella positive".

(b) Prohibiting the movement of:

- i. birds and hatching eggs to and from the holding, unless it gives permission for the birds/eggs to be killed or destroyed under safe conditions or for them to be slaughtered at a designated slaughterhouse in accordance with the legislation in force (Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Annex III, Section II) on food hygiene and safety;
- ii. litter and manure from the holding unless it gives permission for them to undergo processing in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force.

(c) Requiring the slaughter or destruction of all birds in the flock (including day-old chicks), taking appropriate measures to minimise the risk of spread of salmonella. Slaughter is carried out in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force. Products originating from the birds in question may be placed on the market for human consumption, provided they have undergone heat treatment as set out in food hygiene legislation. If such products are not intended for human consumption, they must be used or disposed of in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.

(d) Requiring the destruction of non-hatching eggs from salmonella-positive flocks, or, provided they have been clearly marked, permitting their removal to an approved egg-processing plant, where they will undergo heat treatment which guarantees the elimination of salmonella, in accordance with Community food hygiene legislation.

(e) Carrying out an epizootic investigation and control with the aim of establishing the source of the contamination at the affected holding or hatchery. A detailed report of the findings compliance with biosecurity measures must be drawn up.

(f) Recommending the cleaning and effective disinfection of the premises following the removal of the infected flocks. The removal of contaminated litter and manure must be carried out in accordance with the national and Community legislation in force (Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009). To confirm the effectiveness of disinfection a test for the efficacy of disinfection is carried out either by the FBO or the official regional veterinary authority.

(g) Permitting the restocking of holdings with birds that have tested negative for five (5) salmonella serotypes in the programme. Restocking takes place after 21 days have elapsed since the removal of infected flocks, eggs, litter and anything else that might transmit the disease, as well as the completion of the preliminary cleaning and disinfecting procedures.

(h) Where hatching eggs from a flock testing positive either for *Salmonella* serotypes *S. Enteritidis* or *S. Typhimurium* (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-) are found in a hatchery, these eggs should be destroyed or treated as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009. Further to this, the incubators and hatching units in the hatcheries must be meticulously disinfected, as well as the premises in general.

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(i) No treatment regime whatsoever is permitted for contaminated flocks, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

9. Please describe the measures that shall be implemented in a flock (rearing and adult) where ***Salmonella* Hadar, Infantis or Virchow is detected**:

(max. 32000 chars) :

If, after the examination carried out during the controls on the operator's initiative or in the course of official controls, the presence of *S. Hadar* is confirmed in a flock of breeding hens *Gallus gallus* for two consecutive samplings, the same measures as for SE/ST should be taken (see above point 8)
In case of isolation of *S. Infantis* or *S. Virchow*, then the competent regional veterinary authority shall control traceability and make recommendations to the FBO to improve biosecurity measures

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

Measures implemented by the FBO (max. 32000 chars) :

The above EU microbiological criteria is not applicable for infected breeding hens *Gallus gallus* because pursuant to Article 7(4) of Greek Decision No 349699/24.12.2009 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 2599) on a "Control programme for salmonella in flocks of breeding hens of *Gallus gallus*" the birds originating from infected with SE/ST flocks are slaughtered or destructed taking appropriate measures to minimise the risk of spread of salmonella. Slaughter is carried out in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force. Products originating from the birds in question may be placed on the market for human consumption, provided they have undergone heat treatment as set out in food hygiene legislation. If such products are not intended for human consumption, they must be used or disposed of in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.

Measures implemented by the CA (max. 32000 chars) :

see above

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

All the labs involved in the NSCP'S (both state and private) are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the

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analytical methods for salmonella detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

Testing of the official samples collected within the national salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding hens is performed at the following state veterinary laboratories of the Ministry for Rural Development and Food:

Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes, Halkida Veterinary Laboratory and Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory.

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Avian Pathology Section of the Institute of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases at the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme) of the Ministry for Rural Development and Food. State Veterinary lab of Halkida is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

The samples from the own-checks are tested in 29 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 349699/24.12.2009 of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food (Government Gazette, Series II, No 2599) on the "Salmonella control programme in breeding hens of the species Gallus gallus", send the results to the competent veterinary authority of the Region as well as the Department of Zoonoses of the Veterinary Directorate-General.

Our circular No 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the 29 designated private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

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

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

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.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

The method used for the detection of salmonella is the one defined in part 3.2. of the Annex of Reg. (EU) No 200/2010 and that recommended by the Community Reference Laboratory for salmonella at Bilthoven (Netherlands). 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*'.

The serotyping is performed in accordance with the Kaufmann-White -Le Minor scheme and at least one

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isolate from each positive sample is serotyped.

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

13. Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 3.1.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 200/2010. In particular, samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 48 hours following receipt and within 96 hours after sampling.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

Transportation of samples is carried out in accordance with point 3.1.1 of the annex to Reg. (EU) No 200/2010.

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.

14. 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 1831/2003 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 Rural Development and Food 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 1831/2003 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.

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15. Official controls at holding, flock and hatchery level

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

(max. 32000 chars) :

see above point 5 of this programme

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 linked to compensation. 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. Necessary advice on any corrective actions required are provided to the FBO. In the event of significant deficiencies in the application of biosecurity measures, written recommendations with a deadline for their satisfaction are issued. 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 when FBO sampling takes place at the hatchery**: EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. official sampling are performed:
- every 16 weeks at the hatchery
 - twice during the laying phase at the holding (within four weeks at the beginning, within eight weeks before the end), and
 - at the holding each time samples taken at the hatchery are positive for target serovars

If the CA has decided to implement the derogation of point 2.1.2.3 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 (when EU target achieved for more than two years), the EU minimum requirement for official sampling is: once a year at the hatchery, once at the holding during the laying phase.

Comments - Indicate also : 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, 2) who is taking the official samples, 3) if the derogation quoted above is applied (max. 32000 chars) :

The vast majority of FBO's perform the own check sampling of the adult breeding flocks at the hatchery, as has already been described under point 7 of this programme.

Greece has not applied for the derogation of point 2.1.2.3 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 because the EU target was not achieved in 2014.

Official samples are collected by the official veterinarians of the regional veterinary authorities, as part of the official control.

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In the vast majority of the breeding flocks *Gallus gallus*, routine official sampling complies with the requirements of point 2.1.2.1 of annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 and has already been described under point 7 of the submitted programme.

As regards official routine sampling in the hatchery, the sampling protocol is laid down in points 2.2.1 in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010.

- c. Routine official **sampling scheme when FBO sampling takes place at the holding**: EU minimum requirements are implemented i.e. official sampling are performed:

- Three times during the laying phase at the holding (within four weeks at the beginning, within eight weeks before the end and a third one in between)

If the CA has decided to implement the derogation of point 2.1.2.3 of Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 (EU target achieved for more than two years), the EU minimum requirement for official sampling is: twice at the holding during the laying phase.

Comments - Indicate also : 1) if additional official sampling going beyond EU minimum requirements is performed, please describe, 2) who is taking the official samples, 3) if the derogation quoted above is applied (max. 32000 chars) :

FBO sampling takes place at the holding only in exceptional cases, already mentioned under point 7 of this programme.

In these exceptional cases, where the own-check is carried out at the holding (see above point 6 of the submitted programme), then the regular official check should be carried out as follows:

- (i) within four weeks of transfer to the hatching phase or the hatching unit;
- (ii) towards the end of the laying phase, not earlier than eight weeks before the end of the production cycle;
- (iii) any time during the production cycle which is sufficiently distant in time from the sampling mentioned in points (i) and (ii).

As regards official routine sampling on the holding, the sampling protocol is laid down in points 2.2.2 in the Annex to Regulation (EC) No 200/2010.

- d. When **samples (FBO or official) taken at the hatchery** are positive for a target *Salmonella* serovar, describe the measures taken if the confirmatory samples taken at the holding are negative:



Testing for antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors (at least 5 birds per house) and if those substances are detected the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented (annex II.C of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003)

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Other official samples are taken on the breeding flock; if positive, the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented, if negative, all restrictive measures are lifted

Other official samples are taken on the progeny; if positive, the flock is considered infected and eradication measures are implemented, if negative, all restrictive measures are lifted

Comments - Describe also if any other measures are implemented (max. 32000 chars) :

If the source of infection is not confirmed, antimicrobial testing shall be carried out or new bacteriological testing for the presence of the relevant Salmonella serotypes shall be carried out on the breeding flock or their progeny before trade restrictions are lifted.

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

After positive official samples at the holding

Always

Sometimes (criteria apply)

Never

After positive FBO samples at the holding

Always

Sometimes (criteria apply)

Never

Comments - Describe also the criteria (if any) quoted above (max. 32000 chars) :

In general, confirmatory sampling is not routinely applied in Greece. Confirmatory sampling is carried out in the following cases:

1. Confirmatory sampling following the detection of the relevant Salmonella serotypes from sampling at the hatchery.
2. In exceptional cases where the competent authority has reason to question the results of the testing (such as false positive or false negative results), it may decide to repeat the testing .

In both cases the sampling protocol used is in accordance with point 2.2.2.1 of annex of Reg. (EC) No 200/2010.

Additional samples can be collected for the possible testing of antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors as follows: birds shall be taken at random from within each poultry house of birds on the

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holding, normally up to five birds per house, unless the competent authority deems it necessary to sample a higher number of birds.

Where the presence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effects are detected, the flock shall be considered to be an infected flock of turkeys for the purpose of the Union target referred to in Article 1 of Reg. (EC) No 1190/2012.

In any case, the CA 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.

In particular:

Confirmatory sampling, following a positive official result is performed only in exceptional cases where there is a strong suspicion of cross-contamination of the samples (for example in case of a damaged packaging). This case is very rare.

In case of positive FBO samples, official confirmation is taking place where there is a suspicion of false positive result due to mistakes in the sampling procedure or due to suspicion for cross-contamination of the samples. An official confirmation will also follow in all cases where the FBO is going to claim compensation for the positive flock.

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

(max. 32000 chars):

No treatment scheme may be applied to contaminated flocks, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

Where it is necessary to apply antibiotic treatment for any microbial agent other than salmonella, the local competent veterinary authority must be informed in writing before treatment about the grounds for treatment of the flock in question and the duration of the treatment schedule, so that after approval on the part of the competent veterinary authority, the operator may be allowed to use the antimicrobials in question.

Official sampling is always part of an official control in order to verify if the FBO complies with the requirements of the NSCP. One of the duties of the official vet during official control is to check the record with the flock treatments. Due to this, documentary checks on the use of antimicrobials are routinely performed during official controls in the framework of NSCP.

In addition to the above mentioned and in cases of suspicion, the CA collects 1-5 live birds from the house or a greater number if considers necessary.

Initial testing for the use of antimicrobials is first carried out in a screening test; where necessary, it is continued in specific tests. testing for the use of antimicrobials is carried out on a mixed muscle sample from 5 chickens.

The screening method used is an in house method based on the LMV/RMV/BIO/TC/15.AN Version 06/17-10-2006 Guidance of Community Reference Laboratory ANSES for detection of antimicrobial agents (quinolones, cephalosporins, penicillins, macrolides, tetracyclines, aminoglycosides, sulfonamides) in meat. The methods used for the confirmation, where necessary, are presented in the attached table 1.

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Where the presence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effects are detected, the flock shall be considered to be an infected flock of breeding hens *Gallus gallus* for the purpose of the Union target referred to in Article 1 of Reg. (EC) No 200/2010.

16. *Salmonella* vaccination

- Voluntary
- Compulsory
- Forbidden

Use of *Salmonella* vaccines is in compliance with provisions of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

Comments - If performed please describe the vaccination scheme (vaccines used, vaccines providers, target flocks, number of doses administered per bird, etc) (max. 32000 chars) :

Vaccination is permitted as a supplementary measure with a view to raising the tolerance of breeding hens to exposure to salmonellosis, reducing its dissemination and ensuring more rapid achievement of the programme's objectives, provided the vaccine used meets the requirements of art. 3 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

The vaccine must have been approved by the competent authority (EOF – National Organisation for Medicines).

The vaccine and the vaccine scheme used is determined by the veterinarian of the holding. However, no more than 3 vaccine doses per bird are administered most of the time. Approved vaccines live or inactivated can be used.

For the time being, only flocks of rearing birds are vaccinated against salmonella

Documents accompanying the samples sent to the veterinary laboratories must indicate whether or not the samples come from a vaccinated flock and the type of vaccine used.

When carrying out their official controls, the competent veterinary authorities of the region ascertain whether the dispensed vaccines are approved by the National Organisation for Medicines (EOF).

FBO's procure prescribed vaccines from retailers of veterinary medicines.

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

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

Owners of breeding hen holdings who are obliged to slaughter or destroy contaminated flocks or destroy contaminated eggs within the framework of this programme are compensated in accordance with the relevant joint ministerial decision on financial aid.

The amount of the compensation is calculated on the basis of value tables drawn up by the sector and

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validated by the Ministry of Finance.

The valuation/valorisation of birds is defined at central level annually by the issue of an annual Joint Ministerial Decision (Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Rural Development and Food), which is publicly available at official Gazette's web site and Ministry's web site. In the above mentioned Joint Ministerial Decision there is a scale of compensation of birds.

There is a link between compensation and effective biosecurity measures :FBO's that do not comply with the minimum requirements on biosecurity, as set out in the national legislation for the implementation of NSCP , do not take any compensation in case of a positive flock although they are obliged to implement the measures of part C of Annex II of Reg. (EC) No 2160/2003.

The conditions that must be met by the farmer, the procedure of payment and all required supporting documents are described in details in the above JMD.

18. Official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house.

(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 1m²

- 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.

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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 breeding hens Gallus gallus are:

1. The Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General); (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy.
 2. the regional veterinary authorities;
 3. the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy.) and the Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy.).
- All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme).
4. the Halkida Veterinary Laboratory, which is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.
 5. the operators of the Gallus gallus poultry breeder farms;
 6. private laboratories carrying out analyses on own-check samples as part of the National Salmonella Control Programmes.

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 / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General); (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy.

This department is responsible for preparing the programme, collecting the data, statistical processing of the data, evaluating the progress of the programme, and for keeping the European Commission informed. 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 prefecture level;
- (iv) dispatching the requested statistics for the programme to the Zoonoses Department of the Animal Health Directorate; and
- (v) supervising the training of broiler farm operators to ensure proper application of the sampling

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protocol;

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

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 Halkida.

4. The National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella in Halkida 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. The part of the programme which concerns sampling on the operator's initiative is carried out by the Gallus gallus breeder farm operators, who carry out sampling and laboratory controls in private laboratories, keep the necessary records (which are at the disposal of the competent authorities), immediately inform the competent veterinary authority of the region of any positive salmonella findings, and send the corresponding isolates to the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella in Halkida.

6. Our circular No 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

2. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

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(max. 32000 chars):

The salmonella control programme on breeding flocks Gallus gallus is submitted pursuant to Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003, Commission Regulation (EC) No 200/2010 of 10 March 2010, Regulation (EC) No 1177/2005 of 1 August 2006, Commission Decision No 2006/759/EC approving certain national programmes for the control of salmonella in breeding flocks of Gallus gallus, Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, 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 Ministerial Decision No 349699/24.12.2009 of the Ministry of Rural Development and Food (Government Gazette, Series II, No 2599) on the "Salmonella control programme in breeding 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 2 for the monitoring of zoonotic salmonella in flocks of breedings hens Gallus gallus since 2007. In 2014, in Greece there were 234 adult breeding flocks with more of 250 birds in 85 breeding holdings. All of them were tested for zoonotic salmonella in the context of NSCP. 4 out of the 234 adult flocks were positive for the targeted serovars (2 SE, 1 ST and 1 SI) and 11 were positive for other salmonella serovars (S. Livingstone, S. Bredney, S. Havana, S. Munster, S. Seftenberg and S. Umbilo). Due to these results, the community target was not achieved in 2014.

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 breeding holdings must be authorised and registered in accordance with Presidential Decree 224/1998 (Government Gazette, Series I, No 175) and Ministerial Decision 356391/1999 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 1457).

Pursuant to Decision No 326853/21.03.1995 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 267) and Decision No 258685/07/06/2007 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 1011), as replaced by Decision No 349699/24.12.2009 (Government Gazette, Series II, No 2599), all holdings with breeding flocks should keep a register in which all information on hygiene is recorded. A detailed record of this programme and all vaccinations and treatments must be entered into 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 breeding flocks.

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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 2 times per year to the Department of Zoonoses detailed information for every breeding flock of their territory.

This information includes data on the official and own-check controls (dates, results, type of sampling), data on vaccination (number of vaccine doses administered), number of infected birds culled or destroyed, 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. The FBO notifies the Regional Veterinary authority each time he places a new flock in a house.

During official control of a breeding flock, the official veterinarian records all the information regarding the flock (date of placement, own-check results, data on vaccination etc).

Currently, Department of Zoonoses in collaboration with the Directorate of E- Government of the Ministry, are in the procedure of developing an on-line system for the on-line submission of all the information related to sampling and laboratory testing.

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C. Targets

1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

2016

Region	Type of the test (description)	Target population (categories and species targeted)	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests	
The whole country	Bacteriological detection test	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	environmental sample	routine sampling	1 750	X
The whole country	Bacteriological detection test	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	environmental sample	confirmatory sampling	250	X
The whole country	Serotyping	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	-	-	30	X
The whole country	Antimicrobial detection test	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	animals	with repeated/confirmatory sampling	20	X
The whole country	Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	-	-	2	X
				Add a new row		

1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year :

2016

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Region	Type of flock	Total number of flocks (a)	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks checked (b)	Number of flock visits to take official samples (d)	Number of official samples taken	Targeted serotypes (c)	Possible number of positive flocks	Number of flocks to be depopulated	Total number of animals to be slaughtered or destroyed	Quantity of eggs to be destroyed (number)	Quantity of eggs to be channelled to egg product (number)	
The whole country	Adult Breeding f	250	250	250	1 375	2 000	SE+ST+SH+SI+SV	2	2	12 016	204 272	0	X
										Add a new row			

(a) Including eligible and non eligible flocks for the programme

(b) Check means to perform a flock level test under the programme for the presence of Salmonella. In this column a flock must not be counted twice even if it has been checked more than once.

(c) Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium = SE + ST Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium + Salmonella Hadar + Salmonella Infantis + Salmonella Virchow = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

(d) 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.

2 Targets on vaccination

2.1 Targets on vaccination for year :

2016

NUTS Region	Number of flocks in the programme	Targets on vaccination			
		Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	
The whole country	350	200	1 380 000	4 140 000	X

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

NUTS Region	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	
			Add a new row		

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

D. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

1 Costs of the planned activities for year :

2016

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	
Cost of analysis	Antimicrobial detection test	20	3.43	68.6	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Bacteriological detection test	2 000	18.19	36380	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Serotyping	30	38.38	1151.4	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	2	16.72	33.44	yes	X
2. Vaccination (if you ask cofinancing for purchase of vaccins, you should also fill in A.16 and E.2)						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of vaccine dosis	Average cost per dose in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Vaccination	Purchase of vaccine doses	4 140 000	0.1	414,000	yes	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	
Slaughter and destruction	Animals culled or slaughtered	12 016	4	48064	yes	X
Slaughter and destruction	Table eggs/hatching eggs destroyed	204 272	0.4	81708.8	yes	X

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4.Cleaning and disinfection						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
				Add a new row		
5.Other essential costs (Art. 8.1.h of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014)						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Official sampling of poultry flocks	Cost of official sampling	2 000	5.97	11940	yes	X
				Add a new row		
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	
Total				593,346.24		

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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.

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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 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)

Culling and heat-treatment or destruction of infected with SE/ST breeding flocks occur following a decision issued by the competent regional veterinary authority. Then the farmer submit a request for compensation to the regional veterinary service (along with the necessary supplementary documents) and this request is forwarded to the Animal Health Directorate of the Ministry. Then, all these requests derived from different regional units of the country are checked and further approved and amounts are transferred from the Animal Health Directorate to a bank in Greece. Then, the beneficiaries (farmers) take the amount corresponding to them.

The legislative frame for this procedure is the joint Ministerial Decision issued each year by the Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment & Energy along with the Ministry of Finance. In these decision, there is analytical report on the amounts to be paid after culling/destruction and the level of compensation is correlated to the animal species and the animal's age.

The cost for the compensation is covered by the state budget and co-financed by the EU.

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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)

Regarding the vaccination of breeding flocks Gallus gallus against zoonotic salmonella, the FBO is responsible to purchase the prescribed vaccines. Administration of vaccines is performed by the private veterinarian of the holding or by the farmer under the supervision of the private veterinarian. The cost of vaccines (cost for their purchase) is partially covered by the state budget (maximum 0.10/ per vaccine dose) and co-financed partially by the EU. The procedure followed is similar to this described under point c), except from the fact that in this case the regional veterinary unit doesn't need to issue a decision.

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

.....

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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

3. 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

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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
	4406_3586.doc	4406_3586.doc	43 kb
	4406_3587.doc	4406_3587.doc	37 kb
		Total size of attachments :	80 kb



Annex II : Control programme submitted for obtaining EU cofinancing - Reduction of prevalence of Salmonella serotypes

Member States seeking a financial contribution from the European Union for national programmes of eradication, control and surveillance shall submit online this application completely filled out.

In case of difficulty, please contact SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu, describe the issue and mention the version of this document 2015 1.00

Your current version of Acrobat is: 11.015

Instructions to complete the form:

- 1) You need to have at least the **Adobe Reader version 8.1.3** or higher to fill and submit this form.
- 2) To verify your data entry while filling your form, you can use the "**verify form**" button at the top of each page.
- 3) When you have finished filling the form, verify that your internet connection is active, save a copy on your computer and then click on the "**submit notification**" button below. If the form is properly filled, the notification will be submitted to the EU server and a submission number will appear in the corresponding field. If you don't succeed to submit your programme following this procedure, check with your IT service that the security settings of your computer are compatible with this online submission procedure.
- 4) All programmes submitted online are kept in a central database. However only the information in the last submission is used when processing the data.
- 5) **IMPORTANT:** Once you have received the submission number, **save the form on your computer** for your records.
- 6) If the form is not properly filled in, an alert box will appear indicating the number of incorrect fields. Please check your form again, complete it and re-submit it according to steps 3). Should you still have difficulties, please contact SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu.
- 7) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit **multi-annual programmes**.
- 8) As mentioned during the Plenary Task Force of 28/2/2014, you are invited to submit your programmes in **English**.

Submission Date

Tuesday, May 26, 2015 16:54:12

Submission Number

1432648605841-4402

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Identification of the programme

Member state : ELLADA

Disease Salmonella

This program is multi annual : yes

Type of submission : Funding request for subsequent year of already approved multiannual programme

Request of Union co-financing
from beginning of :

2015

To end of

Contact

Name : Myrsini Tzani

Your job type within the CA : Head of the Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate

Phone : +302102125727

Email : ka6u058@minagric.gr

Animal population

Animal population Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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 517/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of *Salmonella* serotypes in laying hens of *Gallus gallus*,
- Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 as regards requirements for the use of specific control methods in the framework of the national programmes for the control of *Salmonella* in poultry.

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

1. Aim of the programme

It is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce the prevalence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium (including the serotypes with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-) in adult laying hens of *Gallus gallus* ('Union target') as follows:

An annual minimum percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 10% where the prevalence in the preceding year was less than 10%.

An annual minimum percentage of reduction of positive flocks of adult laying hens equal to at least 20% where the prevalence in the preceding year was more than or equal to 10% and less than 20%.

A reduction of the maximum percentage equal to 2% or less of positive flocks of adult laying hens.

The Member States has less than 50 flocks of adult laying hens:
 the target is to have not more than one adult flock remaining positive.

The Union target shall be achieved every year based on the monitoring of the previous year.

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Comments(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 517/2011 of 25 May 2011 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 laying hens of Gallus gallus, Commission Regulation (EC) No 1237/2007 of 23 October 2007 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006.

The aim of the programme is to reduce the prevalence of the following salmonella serotypes: Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium in adult laying flocks of Gallus gallus to 2% or less by 31 December each year.

All references to S. Typhimurium include the monophasic S. Typhimurium (1,4,[5],12:i:-).

A flock is deemed salmonella-positive if the presence of any of the above salmonella serotypes is ascertained in laboratory tests in at least one of the samples.

With a view to achieving its objective, the programme has a duration of one year. The programme will be adapted in line with Community requirements.

In 2014, the number of laying hen holdings Gallus gallus was 435. These holdings had 693 laying flocks Gallus gallus with 7.062.582 birds. The number of laying hen holdings with less than 1000 birds were 53 with 53 flocks.

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

Greece is divided into 13 administrative regions and 74 regional units. The salmonella control programme in flocks of laying hens will be implemented in laying hen flocks throughout Greece.

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

3. Flocks subject to the programme

The programme covers all flocks of adult laying hens of *Gallus gallus* but does not apply to flocks for private domestic use or leading to the direct supply, by the producer, of small quantities of table eggs to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the eggs to the final consumer. For the latter case (direct supply), national rules are adopted ensuring *Salmonella* control in these flocks. The programme covers also all rearing flocks of future laying hens.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

Derogation laid down in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 under Article 1.3, i.e. eggs produced for private domestic consumption, or where there is direct supply of small quantities of products to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the primary products to the final consumer." has been used and national rules have been adopted.

in particular the above derogation is granted to farmers with laying hen holding that their production is a) either used for private domestic use or b) their production does not exceed 100,000 eggs / year or have fewer than 350 laying hens, provided that they sell their products either directly to the final consumer at the producer's premises or at local public markets of the region or county where the farm is located (local kiosks, markets, bazaars, open-markets) or carry out home delivery (bydoor-to-door) or in small local shops retail outlets, which directly supply the final consumer. The above exemption does not apply when placing their products outside the boundaries of the prefecture, where the farm is located.

Poultry farmers who make use of the derogation, subject to the following conditions and restrictions:

a. The eggs should be sold to the above mentioned outlets, within a maximum 28 days from the production.

b. they must keep a record supply of small quantities of eggs setting out the weekly number of produced eggs, the total weekly amount of eggs sold directly to end consumers (in a plant in local public market or residence) and the total weekly number of eggs sold in local small retailers as well as the name and addresses of the above mentioned retailers.

c. To accept the official control (and possibly the official sampling) by the competent veterinary authorities.

The possibility of using the derogations is provided at the request of the person concerned to the competent Regional Veterinary Authority, which, after carrying out official control, issue a written confirmation called "Granting a derogation".

In the above statement it should be clearly identified:

a) the place of production / sale and

b) the number of laying hens

The certificate is valid for one year and shall be withdrawn in the event of any failure to observe the above mentioned provisions.

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

	Total number of flocks of layers in the MS	Number of flocks covered by the programme	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling will take place
Rearing flocks	200		200	0
Adult flocks	600	550	550	382
Number of holdings with more than 1,000 laying hens				382
Number of flocks in these holdings				640

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

The best estimation available is based on the animal population figures of 2014. In 2014, the total number of laying hen holdings was 435. From these 435 holdings, 53 laying hen holdings had less than 1000 birds. The above gives 382 laying hen holdings with more than 1000 birds. In addition, 30 out of the 53 laying holdings with less than 1000 birds made use of the derogation mentioned under point 3 of this programme. The total number of laying hen flocks in 2014 was 693. About 53 out of the 693 laying hen flocks belonged to the holdings with less than 1000 birds. This means that the 382 holdings with more than 1000 birds had 640 flocks.

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

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

We confirm that there is a procedure in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses and that timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses. In particular, pursuant to Article 5 of national Decision No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 (national decision for the implementation of NSCP in flocks of laying hens *Gallus gallus*), the following points apply regarding notification of the disease:

1. In the case of sampling at the operator's initiative, if salmonella is identified in samples of faeces in the laying hen holding, the operator himself and the head of laboratory must notify the positive result to the competent veterinary authority of the Region.
2. In the case of official inspections, if the laboratory test proves positive for salmonella, the head of the

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

laboratory must inform the local competent veterinary authority of the Region.
If one or both of the serotypes covered by the programme are isolated, the measures referred to in paragraph 4.4.4 must be taken.

Both the competent veterinary authorities of the Regional Units and the Halkida Reference Laboratory must notify positive cases to the Department of Zoonoses.

When positive cases of *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium* (All references to *S. Typhimurium* include the monophasic *S. Typhimurium* (1,4,[5],12:i:-).are detected in laboratory tests, egg-packing centres, egg-processing plants and the food industry must be notified.

5. Biosecurity measures

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

Comments - Describe also the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) (max. 32000 chars) :

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 and their implementation is linked to compensation. 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.

The national decision No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 on the "Salmonella control programme in laying hens 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_ornithes_ooparagogis2012.pdf (annex I B "B. METPA BIOΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑΣ") and

http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Paroyiaseis_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 should 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 holdings containing more than one flock, 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 building from heat.
7. Suitable protective measures must be taken to prevent the spread of disease at the holding. Changing rooms, and other areas for personal hygiene of both employees and visitors (e.g. shower room) can contribute to the above.
8. 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 disinfection.

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Biosecurity concerning handling and transportation of eggs

1. Litter in the egg incubators should be kept dry and in good condition. Also nest litter should be clean and of adequate amount.
2. Egg collection should take place regularly, at least twice a day. These eggs should then be placed in clean, disinfected containers.
3. Soiled, broken, cracked and bruised eggs should be collected in different containers.
4. Eggs should be kept in a clean, dust-free place used exclusively for that purpose at a temperature of 13-15°C and 70-80% humidity.
5. Eggs should be moved to hatcheries in clean crates which are either disposable or have been disinfected either by fumigation or using a suitable disinfectant fluid.

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

1. Access by pets to the facilities is prohibited.
2. Rodents and insects must also be dealt with using appropriate programmes for their destruction.
3. Repopulation of pens should take place with salmonella-free poultry.
4. All feed must be confirmed salmonella-free prior to being given to poultry. Feed in pellet form or feed that has undergone another type of processing is recommended as a means of becoming salmonella-free. Feed should then be stored in closed storage spaces.
5. 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 regularly.
6. Diseased and dead birds should be removed as quickly as possible and in the safest and most effective manner.
7. Each operator should keep a file which records the diseases, deaths, treatments and vaccines given. This file should be made available whenever an official control requires it.

Biosecurity concerning staff and visitors. Staff and visitors must:

1. Wear clean aprons, caps and shoe-covers.
2. Wash their hands with soap and water or disinfectant and dip their shoes in some kind of disinfectant, which will be regularly changed.
3. They must not come into direct contact with poultry or poultry products.

C. HYGIENE IN TRANSPORTING ANIMALS TO AND FROM FARMS

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

The vehicles used for the transportation of poultry must be licensed, in accordance with national and Community law and must be disinfected at regular intervals (or cleaned and disinfected 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, etc.).

Salmonella-infected flocks must be captured and loaded last.

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

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

- a. Rearing flocks: day-old chicks, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit
- b. Adults laying flocks: every 15 weeks during the laying period

Comments - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples, and, if additional FBO sampling, going beyond the minimum sampling requirements, is performed, please describe what is done.

Sampling at the initiative of the FBO complies with the minimum sampling requirements laid down in part B of annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and in point 2 of annex to Reg. (EC) No 517/2011. The decision on implementing measures, No 1209/30007/13.03.2012, lays down the sampling framework which governs the checks carried out on the operator's initiative and any official controls carried out by the official veterinary authorities of the region. The sampling framework on the food business operator initiative is as follows:

The operator must take samples during the following production phases:

A1. During the rearing phase:

1) in day-old chicks: samples are taken from the hatcher basket liners within which chicks are supplied to the farm and from the carcasses of chicks which are dead on arrival (more than 10 day-old chicks and at least 20 for a flock consisting of more than 500 chicks).

2) two weeks before transfer to the laying phase or the laying unit.

In case (2), two pairs of boot swabs or socks are taken, without changing over boots between boot swabs. For each pair 100 steps will be taken at different points in the house in a manner which will representatively sample all parts of the house. On completion of sampling in the chosen house, the boot swabs must be removed carefully so as not to dislodge adherent material.

The samples must be appropriately labelled and recorded (date, type of sample, flock code number).

A2. In adult laying hens sampling should take place every fifteen weeks during the laying period in the holding. The first sampling should be taken at the age of 24 ± 2 weeks and the sampling protocol should be the same as that of the official authority.

Derogation should be granted only to those laying hen holdings which, pursuant to Article 1(3) of Regulation No (EC) 2160/2003:

a. produce products for private domestic use;

b. whose products lead to the direct supply, by the producer, of small quantities of primary products to the final consumer or to local retail establishments directly supplying the primary products to the final consumer.

Sampling protocol used by the FBO complies with the requirements laid down in point 2.2.1. of annex to Regulation (EC) No 517/2011.

7. Samples are taken in accordance with provisions of point 2.2 of Annex to Regulation (EU) No 517/2011

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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 517/2011.

Sampling at the initiative of the FBO has already been described under point 6 of the submitted programme.

With regard to official sampling the number and type of samples taken by the official veterinarian are as follows:

Official controls should be carried out at least:

- a. in one flock per year per holding comprising at least 1000 birds;
- b. At 24 ± 2 weeks in laying flocks which are in facilities where salmonella was detected in the previous flock;
- c. in any case of suspicion of Salmonella infection when investigating food-borne outbreaks in accordance with Article 8 of Directive 2003/99/EC or any cases where the competent authority considers it appropriate, using the sampling protocol laid down in point 4(b) of Part D to Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003;
- d. In all laying flocks on a holding where Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium has been detected in one of the flocks on that holding;
- e. Whenever the competent authority deems it necessary.

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

SAMPLING PROTOCOL

i) SAMPLING PROTOCOL USED BY THE FBO

(a) In cage flocks, 2×150 grams of naturally pooled faeces shall be taken from all belts or scrapers in the house after running the manure removal system; however, in the case of step cage houses without scrapers or belts 2×150 grams of mixed fresh faeces must be collected from 60 different places beneath the cages in the dropping pits.

(b) In barn or free-range houses, two pairs of boot swabs or socks shall be taken.

Boot swabs used must be sufficiently absorptive to soak up moisture. The surface of the boot swab must be moistened using appropriate diluents.

The samples must be taken while walking through the house using a route that produces representative samples for all parts of the house or the respective sector. This shall include littered and slatted areas provided that slats are safe to walk on. All separate pens within a house must be included in the sampling. On completion of the sampling in the chosen sector, boot swabs must be removed carefully so as not to dislodge adherent material.

ii) SAMPLING BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY

At least one sample must be collected using the sampling protocol in addition to samples referred to under point 2.2.1 of annex to Reg. (EC) No 517/2011. Further samples shall be taken in order to ensure representative sampling if required by the distribution or the size of the flock.

In particular, In the case of sampling by the competent veterinary authority, 250 ml containing at least 100 g of dust should be collected from prolific sources of dust throughout the house. If there is not sufficient dust, an additional sample of 150 g of naturally pooled faeces or an additional pair of boot swabs or socks should be taken.

In the case of sampling referred to in points (b), (c) and (d), the competent authority should satisfy itself by conducting further tests as appropriate that the results of examinations for salmonella in birds are not affected by the use of antimicrobials in the flocks.

Where the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium is not detected but

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effect are it should be accounted for as an infected laying flock for the purpose of the Community target and the measures referred to in paragraph ????? should be implemented.

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

8. Specific requirements laid down in Annex II.D of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant. In particular:

- due to the presence or the suspicion of the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-) in the flock, eggs cannot be used for human consumption unless heat treated;
- eggs from these flocks shall be marked and considered as class B eggs.

Comments - Indicate also if prompt depopulation of the infected flocks is compulsory (max. 32000 chars) :

The programme complies with the specific requirements laid down in Annex II (D) to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

Pursuant to Article 8(5) of our Decision No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 on the "Salmonella control programme in laying hens of the species Gallus gallus," through which the salmonella control programme in flocks of laying hens is being implemented in Greece, when positive results for S. Enteritidis or S. Typhimurium/S. Typhimurium serotypes with antigen type 1,4 [5], 12:i:- are communicated, 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 and the eggs originating from these 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 or to be slaughtered for human or animal consumption after heat treatment, in accordance with the legislation in force (Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Annex III, Section II) on food hygiene and safety;
 - 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;
- c) It requires either the slaughter and destruction of all the poultry in the flock provided that the poultry farmer expressly requests the destruction of the flock in writing pursuant to Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and No 142/2011. That request must be submitted to the competent authority no later than 24 hours after the positive result was notified to the operator of the holding;
- d) or the slaughter and heat treatment of all poultry in the flock provided that the poultry farmer sends the authorities a written request for such an action. That request must be submitted to the competent

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authority no later than 24 hours after the positive result was notified to the operator of the holding.

Slaughter is undertaken according to the food hygiene legislation in force. Produce from those birds can be sold on the market for human consumption following heat treatment in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force.

e) Eggs produced from a positive flock:

i) shall be marked and considered as B Class eggs, in accordance with the relevant EU legislation regarding marketing standards for eggs;

ii) shall carry the B indication as set out in the relevant EU legislation, which should be a circle of at least 12mm in diameter around the letter 'B' at least 5mm high, or an easily visible colour spot of at least 5mm in diameter, prior to their being made available on the market for further processing;

iii) are prohibited from entering packing centres unless the competent authority is satisfied with the preventive measures against possible cross-contamination from eggs from other flocks.

iv) - are sent, under controlled conditions, to an authorised egg-product processing facility for heat treatment ensuring the elimination of salmonella, in accordance with Regulations (EC) No 1069/2009 and No 142/2011 and Greek legislation,

- or are sent, under controlled conditions, pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, to an authorised egg-product processing facility for heat treatment ensuring the elimination of salmonella, in accordance with Community food-health legislation.

In addition, according to art. 8 of the above mentioned national decision, in every case of isolation of Salmonella spp from a laying hen flock, the flock is qualified as "suspect" and is placed immediately under official supervision. The eggs produced from this suspect flock are stored separately and are not placed on the market as table eggs for the period pending the results of serotyping.

9. 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 (max. 32000 chars) :

The above mentioned EU microbiological criteria is not applicable for infected laying hens Gallus gallus because pursuant to Article 8(5) of Greek Decision No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 on the "Salmonella control programme in laying hens of the species Gallus gallus," the birds originating from infected with SE/ST flocks are either slaughtered and destroyed or slaughtered and heat-treated taking appropriate measures to minimise the risk of spread of salmonella. Slaughter is carried out in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force. Products originating from the birds in question may be placed on the market for human consumption, provided they have undergone heat treatment as set out in food hygiene legislation. If such products are not intended for human consumption, they must be used or disposed of in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.

Measures implemented by the CA (max. 32000 chars) :

see above

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

All the labs involved in the NSCP'S (both state and private) are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for salmonella detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

Testing of the official samples collected within the national salmonella control programme in flocks of laying hens is performed at the following state veterinary laboratories of the Ministry for Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy:

Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes, Halkida Veterinary Laboratory and Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory.

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme) of the Ministry. State Veterinary lab of Halkida is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

The samples from the own-checks are tested in 29 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 1209/30007/13.03.2012 on the "Salmonella control programme in laying hens 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 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the 29 designated private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

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11. 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 517/2011 i.e. Amendment 1 of EN/ISO 6579-2002/Amd1:2007. '*Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs - Horizontal method for the detection of Salmonella spp. -- Amendment 1: Annex D: Detection of Salmonella spp. in animal faeces and in environmental samples from the primary production stage*'.

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

The method used for the detection of salmonella is the one defined in part 3.2. of the Annex of Reg. (EU) No 517/2011 and that recommended by the Community Reference Laboratory for salmonella at Bilthoven (Netherlands). 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*'.

The serotyping is performed in accordance with the Kaufmann-White -Le Minor scheme and at least one isolate from each positive sample is serotyped.

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

12. Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 3.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 517/2011. In particular, samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 4 days after sampling.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

Transportation of samples is carried out in accordance with point 3.1 of the annex to Reg. (EU) No 517/2011.

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.

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13. 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

14. Official controls at holding, flock and hatchery level

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

(max. 32000 chars) :

see above point 5 of this programme

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 linked to compensation. 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. Necessary advice on any corrective actions required are provided to the FBO. In the event of significant deficiencies in the application of biosecurity measures, written recommendations with a deadline for their satisfaction are issued. The time horizon of the period varies depending on the nature of the infringement. In case of dissatisfaction, sanctions may be submitted.

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

- in one flock per year per holding comprising at least 1,000 birds;
- at the age of 24 +/- 2 weeks in laying flocks housed in buildings where the relevant Salmonella was detected in the preceding flock;
- in any case of suspicion of Salmonella infection when investigating food-borne outbreaks in accordance with Article 8 of Directive 2003/99/EC or any cases where the competent authority considers it appropriate, using the sampling protocol laid down in point 4(b) of Part D to Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003;
- in all other laying flocks on the holding in case Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium is detected in one laying flock on the holding;
- in cases where the competent authority considers it appropriate.

Comments - 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

We confirm that official sampling complies with the minimum sampling requirements as set out in point 2.1 of annex to Regulation (EC) No 517/2011. Official samples are collected by the official veterinarians of the regional veterinary authorities, as part of the official control.

c. Official confirmatory sampling:

After positive official samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

After positive FBO samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

Comments - Describe also the criteria (if any) quoted above (max. 32000 chars) :

Where an operator suspects that the positive results were falsely arrived at in the first official sampling,

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he/she may, following the lodging of an appeal to the competent official authority, request temporary suspension of the measures of paragraph 8 of this programme together with a confirmatory test carried out by the competent authority. Such an appeal should be accompanied by a detailed report and copy of the holding's file (record), showing the own-checks conducted and their results, vaccines for salmonella and the biosecurity measures implemented (pesticides, insecticides, disinfection, ...). The operator should present the reasons for suspecting that the results are "false-positive".

The official authority:

Firstly, having confirmed that the particular flock does not constitute the source of food-borne infection and

Secondly, having studied the appeal and the holding's attached substantiated report and decided that the operator had justified grounds for the conducting of a confirmatory test, is obliged:

- a) to temporarily suspend the measures set out in paragraph 8;
- b) to issue a decision on the suspected case and
- c) to immediately repeat the sampling at the latest within three working days of the date the appeal was lodged, using one of the sampling protocols set out in Annex 1(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1237/2007 (5 faecal samples and 2 dust samples plus the collection of 1-5 birds for detection of bacterial inhibitors).

During the period from the date of lodging the appeal until the response of the competent official authority or until the notification of the results of the confirmatory test, the flock in question is placed under official supervision, the eggs produced are kept separate from the others, under the responsibility of the operator of the holding and the supervision of the competent authority and restrictive measures are applied to the flock.

In case of positive FBO samples, official confirmation is taking place where there is a suspicion of false positive result due to mistakes in the sampling procedure or due to suspicion for cross-contamination of the samples. An official confirmation will also follow in all cases where the FBO is going to claim compensation for the positive flock. The same strict sampling protocol as mentioned above is followed and the eggs produced are kept separate from the others until the notification of the results of the confirmatory sampling, under the responsibility of the operator of the holding and the supervision of the competent authority.

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

Comments - Describe also if any other measures are implemented (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 laying hens *Gallus gallus* with antimicrobial agents during the rearing or production phase to control *Salmonella* spp. is prohibited.

In order to control the use of antimicrobials the following controls are taking place:

Official sampling is always part of an official control in order to verify if the FBO complies with the requirements of the NSCP. One of the duties of the official vet during official control is to perform documentary checks on the farm (check the record with the flock treatments) , in order to control the

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use of antimicrobials. Due to this, documentary checks on the use of antimicrobials are routinely performed during official controls in the framework of NSCP.

In addition to the above mentioned, in cases where there is a suspicion that the use of antimicrobials will cover the presence of salmonella, additional official samples are collected, comprising of at least 1-5 birds from the flock (or a greater number if the CA considers it necessary).

Testing for the use of antimicrobials is carried out on a mixed muscle sample from these birds (muscles from the chest of the birds).

Initial testing for the use of antimicrobials is first carried out in a screening test. The screening method used is an in house method based on the LMV/RMV/BIO/TC/15.AN Version 06/17-10-2006 Guidance of Community Reference Laboratory ANSES for detection of antimicrobial agents (quinolones, cephalosporins, penicillins, macrolides, tetracyclines, aminoglycosides, sulfonamides) in meat.

Where necessary, the results are confirmed by the specific tests presented in the attached table 2.

Where the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effects are detected, the flock shall be considered to be an infected flock of laying hens Gallus gallus for the purpose of the Union target referred to in Article 1 of Reg. (EC) No 517/2011.

15. Salmonella vaccination

Voluntary

Compulsory

Forbidden

Use of *Salmonella* vaccines is in compliance with provisions of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

Comments - If performed please describe the vaccination scheme (vaccines used, vaccines providers, target flocks, number of doses administered per bird, etc) (max. 32000 chars) :

As regards vaccination, pursuant to Commission Regulation No (EC) 1177/2006 and provided prevalence is over 10%, vaccination programmes against Salmonella Enteritidis reducing the spread and contamination of eggs, should be applied at least during rearing to all laying hens. The competent veterinary authority of the Regional Unit may grant derogation from compulsory vaccination for Salmonella Enteritidis to a holding subsequent to a request from the holding operator if:

a) the interested party attaches a copy of the holding's register which shows that biosecurity measures have been properly applied as well as certified copies of all laboratory tests showing that the holding has been salmonella-free for the 12 months prior to the arrival of the day-old chicks;

b) confirms, through an on-site check at the holding, the sufficient and proper implementation of biosecurity measures on the holding;

c) confirms, based on the results of official controls, the absence of Salmonella Enteritidis on the laying or rearing holding in the 12-month period up to the arrival of the birds.

The competent veterinary authorities of the Region ascertain, in the context of official controls carried

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out, if the dispensed vaccines are approved by the National Organisation for Medicines (EOF). Despite the fact that prevalence of SE was less than 10% in 2014, vaccination against SE is still mandatory in Greece in order to ascertain the achievement of the community target. Vaccination against ST is voluntary but strongly recommended.

Live salmonella vaccines should not be used in the context of national control programmes where the manufacturer does not provide an appropriate method to distinguish bacteriologically wild-type strains of salmonella from vaccine strains.

Live salmonella vaccines should not be used in the framework of national control programmes in laying hens during production unless the safety of use has been demonstrated and they are authorised for such purpose in accordance with Directive 2001/82/EC.

For the time being, only flocks of rearing birds are vaccinated against salmonella

The vaccine used should be authorised by the competent authority (National Organisation for Medicines) and should be administered in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for use.

The vaccine and the vaccine scheme used is determined by the veterinarian of the holding. However, no more than 3 vaccine doses per bird are administered most of the time. Approved vaccines live or inactivated can be used.

FBO's procure prescribed vaccines from retailers of veterinary medicines.

Documents accompanying the sample sent to the veterinary laboratories must indicate whether or not the samples come from a vaccinated flock and the type of vaccine used.

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

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

Owners of laying hen holdings who are obliged to slaughter or destroy contaminated flocks or destroy contaminated eggs within the framework of this programme are compensated in accordance with the relevant joint ministerial decision on financial aid.

The amount of the compensation is calculated on the basis of value tables drawn up by the sector and validated by the Ministry of Finance.

The valuation/valorisation of birds is defined at central level annually by the issue of an annual Joint Ministerial Decision (Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Rural Development and Food), which is publicly available at official Gazette's web site and Ministry's web site. In the above mentioned Joint Ministerial Decision there is a scale of compensation of birds.

There is a link between compensation and effective biosecurity measures :FBO's that do not comply with the minimum requirements on biosecurity, as set out in the national legislation for the implementation of NSCP , do not take any compensation in case of a positive flock although they are obliged to implement the measures of part D of Annex II of Reg. (EC) No 2160/2003.

The conditions that must be met by the farmer, the procedure of payment and all required supporting documents are described in details in the above JMD.

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17. Official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house.

(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 1m²

- 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.

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 / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General); (Ministry of Recunstruction of Production, Enviroment and Energy.

2. the regional veterinary authorities;

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3. the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy) and the Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy).

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme).

4. the Halkida Veterinary Laboratory, which is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

Other bodies involved in the implementation of NSCP are:

5. Operators of Laying hen holdings and laying hen rearing units as well as private veterinary laboratories required to carry out own-checks, in accordance with the details set out in Annex I to Decision No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 on the "Salmonella control programme in laying hens of the species Gallus gallus."

6) The egg-packing centres, which must receive eggs only from laying hen producer holdings which carry out own-checks as set out in Annex I to the above Decision and which originate from flocks that are confirmed as negative for *S. Enteritidis* and *S. Typhimurium*.

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 / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General); (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy).

This department is responsible for preparing the programme, collecting the data, statistical processing of the data, evaluating the progress of the programme, and for keeping the European Commission informed. 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 prefecture level;

(iv) dispatching the requested statistics for the programme to the Zoonoses Department of the Animal Health Directorate; and

(v) supervising the training of laying 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.

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 Halkida.

4. The National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella in Halkida 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

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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 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

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 517/2011 of 25 May 2011 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 laying hens of Gallus gallus, Commission Regulation (EC) No 1237/2007 of 23 October 2007 : trade restrictions on table eggs (amending Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, 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, 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 1209/30007/13.03.2012 "Salmonella control programme in laying hens of the species Gallus gallus."

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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 2 for the monitoring of zoonotic salmonella in flocks of laying hens *Gallus gallus* since 2008. In 2014, in Greece there were 603 adult laying flocks in 435 laying hen holdings. 401 of them were tested for zoonotic salmonella in the context of NSCP. 8 out of the 401 adult flocks were positive for the targeted serovars (7 SE, 1 ST) and 30 were positive for other salmonella serovars.

Due to these results, the community target was achieved in 2014.

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 laying hen holdings must be approved and registered in accordance with Presidential Decree 216/2003 (Government Gazette, Series I, No 181). There is a national data base with all the registered laying hen holdings.

The decision on the implementing measures No 1209/30007/13.03.2012 stipulates that a file and computerised system must be kept in the laying hen holdings, which should include all information of public health relevance. This file should include a detailed record of the programme data, vaccinations and treatment.

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 laying hen flocks.

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 2 times per year to the Department of Zoonoses detailed information for every laying flock of their territory.

This information includes data on the official and own-check controls (dates, results, type of sampling),

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data on vaccination (number of vaccine doses administered), number of infected birds culled or destroyed, 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 laying flocks Gallus gallus, the FBO's are obliged to forward detailed information for every flock of their holding (date of placement, own-check results, data on vaccination etc) to the competent regional veterinary authority.

Currently, Department of Zoonoses in collaboration with the Directorate of E- Government of the Ministry, are in the procedure of developing an on-line system for the on-line submission of all the information related to sampling and laboratory testing.

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C. Targets

1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

2016

Region	Type of the test (description)	Target population (categories and species targeted)	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests	
The whole country	Bacteriological detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	environmental sample	routine sampling	764	X
The whole country	Bacteriological detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	environmental sample	confirmatory sampling	56	X
The whole country	Serotyping	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	-	-	74	X
The whole country	Antimicrobial detection test	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	animals	with repeated/confirmatory sampling	8	X
The whole country	Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	-	-	8	X
				Add a new row		

1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year :

2016

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Region	Type of flock	Total number of flocks (a)	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks checked (b)	Number of flock visits to take official samples (d)	Number of official samples taken	Targeted serotypes (c)	Possible number of positive flocks	Number of flocks to be depopulated	Total number of animals to be slaughtered or destroyed	Quantity of eggs to be destroyed (number)	Quantity of eggs to be channelled to egg product (number)	
The whole country	Laying flocks of	693	610	610	390	910	SE+ST	8	8	81 458	651 660	0	X
										Add a new row			

(a) Including eligible and non eligible flocks for the programme

(b) Check means to perform a flock level test under the programme for the presence of Salmonella. In this column a flock must not be counted twice even if it has been checked more than once.

(c) Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium = SE + ST Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium + Salmonella Hadar + Salmonella Infantis + Salmonella Virchow = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

(d) 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.

2 *Targets on vaccination*

2.1 *Targets on vaccination for year :*

2016

NUTS Region	Number of flocks in the programme	Targets on vaccination			
		Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	
The whole country	693	200	3 893 000	11 679 000	X

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

NUTS Region	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	
			Add a new row		

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

D. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

1 Costs of the planned activities for year :

2016

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	
Cost of analysis	Antimicrobial detection test	8	3.43	27.44	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Bacteriological detection test	820	18.19	14915.8	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Serotyping	74	38.38	2840.12	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	8	16.72	133.76	yes	X
2. Vaccination (if you ask cofinancing for purchase of vaccins, you should also fill in A.16 and E.2)						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of vaccine dosis	Average cost per dose in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Vaccination	Purchase of vaccine doses	11 679 000	0.1	1,167,900	yes	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	
Slaughter and destruction	Animals culled or slaughtered	81 458	2.2	179,207.6	yes	X
Slaughter and destruction	Table eggs/hatching eggs destroyed	651 660	0.04	26066.4	yes	X

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

4.Cleaning and disinfection						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
				Add a new row		
5.Other essential costs (Art. 8.1.h of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014)						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Official sampling of poultry flocks	Cost of official sampling	910	5.97	5432.7	yes	X
				Add a new row		
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	
Total				1,396,523.82		

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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.

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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 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)

Culling and heat-treatment or destruction of infected with SE/ST laying hen flocks occur following a decision issued by the competent regional veterinary authority. Then the farmer submit a request for compensation to the regional veterinary service (along with the necessary supplementary documents) and this request is forwarded to the Animal Health Directorate of the Ministry. Then, all these requests derived from different regional units of the country are checked and further approved and amounts are transferred from the Animal Health Directorate to a bank in Greece. Then, the beneficiaries (farmers) take the amount corresponding to them.

The legislative frame for this procedure is the joint Ministerial Decision issued each year by the Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment & Energy along with the Ministry of Finance. In these decision, there is analytical report on the amounts to be paid after culling/destruction and the level of compensation is correlated to the animal species and the animal's age.

The cost for the compensation is covered by the state budget and co-financed by the EU.

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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)

Regarding the vaccination of laying flocks Gallus gallus against zoonotic salmonella, the FBO is responsible to purchase the prescribed vaccines. Administration of vaccines is performed by the private veterinarian of the holding or by the farmer under the supervision of the private veterinarian. The cost of vaccines (cost for their purchase) is partially covered by the state budget (maximum 0.10/ per vaccine dose) and co-financed partially by the EU. The procedure followed is similar to this described under point c), except from the fact that in this case the regional veterinary unit doesn't need to issue a decision.

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

.....

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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

3. 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

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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
	4402_3583.doc	4402_3583.doc	37 kb
	4402_3584.doc	4402_3584.doc	43 kb
		Total size of attachments :	80 kb



Annex II : Control programme submitted for obtaining EU cofinancing - Reduction of prevalence of Salmonella serotypes

Member States seeking a financial contribution from the European Union for national programmes of eradication, control and surveillance shall submit online this application completely filled out.

In case of difficulty, please contact SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu, describe the issue and mention the version of this document 2015 1.00

Your current version of Acrobat is: 11.015

Instructions to complete the form:

- 1) You need to have at least the **Adobe Reader version 8.1.3** or higher to fill and submit this form.
- 2) To verify your data entry while filling your form, you can use the "**verify form**" button at the top of each page.
- 3) When you have finished filling the form, verify that your internet connection is active, save a copy on your computer and then click on the "**submit notification**" button below. If the form is properly filled, the notification will be submitted to the EU server and a submission number will appear in the corresponding field. If you don't succeed to submit your programme following this procedure, check with your IT service that the security settings of your computer are compatible with this online submission procedure.
- 4) All programmes submitted online are kept in a central database. However only the information in the last submission is used when processing the data.
- 5) **IMPORTANT:** Once you have received the submission number, **save the form on your computer** for your records.
- 6) If the form is not properly filled in, an alert box will appear indicating the number of incorrect fields. Please check your form again, complete it and re-submit it according to steps 3). Should you still have difficulties, please contact SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu.
- 7) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit **multi-annual programmes**.
- 8) As mentioned during the Plenary Task Force of 28/2/2014, you are invited to submit your programmes in **English**.

Submission Date

Wednesday, May 27, 2015 13:01:57

Submission Number

1432720941885-4468

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Identification of the programme

Member state : ELLADA

Disease Salmonella

This program is multi annual : yes

Type of submission : Funding request for subsequent year of already approved multiannual programme

Request of Union co-financing
from beginning of :

2015

To end of

Contact

Name : MYRSINI TZANI

Your job type within the CA : Head of the Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate

Phone : +302102125727

Email : ka6u058@minagric.gr

Animal population

Animal population Breeding flocks of Turkeys

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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 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. Aim of the programme

It is to implement all relevant measures in order to reduce the maximum annual percentage of flocks of breeding 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 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.

Comments(max. 32000 chars) :

This salmonella control programme for fattening flocks of Turkeys 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 1190/2012 of 12 December 2012 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006.

We confirm that the aim of the programme is to reduce the maximum percentage of breeding turkey flocks continuing to test positive for *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium to 1% or less by 31 December each year.

All references to *S. Typhimurium* include the monophasic *S. Typhimurium* (1,4,[5],12:i:-).

This reduction is important in view of the strict measures applied from 12 December 2010 to fresh meat from infected flocks of fattening turkeys pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. In particular, fresh poultry meat may be placed on the market for human consumption only if there is no *Salmonella* Enteritidis/Typhimurium in 5 X25 grams of meat.

A flock is deemed salmonella-positive if the presence of any of the above salmonella serotypes is

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

confirmed in laboratory tests in at least one of the samples.

In order to achieve its objective, the programme is annual. The programme will be adapted in line with Community requirements.

The target population consists of all flocks of breeding turkeys. At present in Greece according to the most recent count there are 3 breeding turkey holdings with a total of 3 flocks.

2. Geographical coverage of the programme

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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

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

	Total number of flocks of breeding turkeys in the MS	Number of flocks with at least 250 adult breeding turkeys	Number of flocks where FBO sampling shall take place	Number of flocks where official sampling will take place
Rearing flocks	2		2	0
Adult flocks	3	3	3	3

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

The best estimation available is based on the animal population figures of 2014.

For a better understanding of the figures, a description of the sampling scheme follows.

The national decision on implementing measures, No 1751/51882/13-05-2013, lays down the sampling framework which governs the checks carried out on the operator's initiative and any official controls carried out by the official veterinary authorities of the region. The sampling framework is as follows:

A. Number and type of samples to be taken during sampling on the operator's initiative.

The holding operator must take samples:

A1.1 at the rearing phase

A1.1.1 in day-old chicks

A1.1.2 in four-week old pullets

A1.1.3 in pullets which are two weeks old before moving to laying phase or laying unit

A1.2 at the production phase

A1.2.1 at least every third week during the laying period at the hatchery

A1.2.2 within three weeks before birds are taken for slaughter on all flocks in the holding. The competent authority may authorise sampling in the last six weeks prior to the date of slaughter if the turkeys are either kept for more than 100 days or fall under organic turkey production pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008.

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

The results of the analysis of the samples must be known before the birds are sent to the slaughterhouse.

B. Number and type of samples taken by the official authority

B1. Number and sample type taken during official control at breeding turkey holdings

Sampling is carried out by the competent authority:

B1.1 Once a year on all breeding turkey flocks on holdings with more than 250 adult breeding turkeys of between 30 and 45 weeks old and on all holdings with elite, great grandparent and grandparent breeding turkeys. This sampling can also be carried out at the hatchery.

B1.2 On all flocks of breeding turkey holdings where *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium was detected from samples taken from hatcheries by unit operators or within the framework of official controls in order to investigate the origin of the infection.

B1.3 whenever the competent authority deems it necessary.

Sampling carried out by the competent authority may replace sampling on the initiative of the FBOs.

C1. breeding turkeys

C1A. Sampling at the hatchery

The same sampling protocol should be followed by the operator and the official veterinarian.

For each flock of breeding turkeys, there should be at least one composite sample of visibly soiled hatcher basket liners, taken at random from five different hatcher baskets or locations in the hatcher, to obtain a total sampling surface of at least 1m². If the hatching eggs from the breeding flock occupy more than one hatcher, a composite sample shall be taken from each hatcher.

Where hatcher basket liners are not used, 10 g broken eggshells should be taken from 25 separate hatcher baskets, crushed, mixed and a 25 g sub-sample taken.

C1B. Sampling at the holding

The same sampling protocol should be followed by the operator and the official veterinarian.

a. boot swab method

Five pairs of 'boot' or 'sock' swabs must be taken from each flock to be sampled at the holding.

Boot swabs used should be sufficiently absorptive to soak up moisture. Tubegauze 'socks' are also acceptable.

The samplers should be equipped with sterilised disposable overalls, a dust mask, gloves, rubber boots, plastic footwear, special absorbent boot swabs and suitable specimen receptacles.

Swabs must be moistened before use or be ready-to-use damp swabs.

Samplers must ensure boot swabs are not contaminated before use or are in contact with disinfectant.

For example plastic boot covers (shoe covers) must be worn after the sampler has walked over the disinfectant and not before.

When the samplers enter the houses where sampling takes place and before they put on the boot or 'sock' swabs, they must put on a new pair of plastic covers. Usually it is easier to wear one extra pair of covers on top of another. Samplers must use a new pair of covers for each sample to avoid cross-contamination of bootswabs via the hands when changing covers or swabs. Preferably disposable gloves should be worn each time boot covers or boot swabs are changed. Before putting on the boot/sock swabs, their surface should be moistened with maximum recovery diluents (0.8 % sodium chloride, 0.1 % peptone in sterile deionised water), or sterile water or any other diluent approved by the national reference laboratory referred to in Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. The use of farm water

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

containing antimicrobials or additional disinfectants shall be prohibited. The recommended way to moisten boot swabs should be to pour the liquid inside before putting them on. Walking around shall be done in a manner which will representatively sample all parts of the establishment. All separate pens within an establishment shall be included in the sampling. Each pair shall be used for only 100 paces. On completion of sampling in the chosen sector, boot swabs must be removed carefully so as not to dislodge adherent faecal material. Each pair shall be carefully placed in its container which shall be labelled with the sample data (type of sample, the flock code, date of sampling).

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

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

We confirm that there is a procedure in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses and that timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses. In particular, pursuant to Article 5 National Decision No 1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in breeding and fattening flocks of turkeys", the following points apply regarding notification of the disease:

1. In the case of sampling at the operator's initiative, if salmonella is identified in samples of faeces at the holding, the operator himself and the head of the laboratory must communicate the positive result to the competent veterinary authority of the region.

2. In the case of official inspections, if the laboratory test proves positive for salmonella, the head of the laboratory must inform the local competent veterinary authority.

If one or both of the serotypes covered by the programme are isolated, the measures foreseen to be taken in cases of positive salmonella result must be taken.

Both the competent veterinary authorities of the regions and the Halkida Reference Laboratory must notify the Department of Zoonoses of the positive cases.

5. Biosecurity measures

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

Comments - Describe also the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) and attach a copy (max. 32000 chars) :

Biosecurity is part of the national salmonella control programme (annex attached to the national decision for the implementation of national salmonella control programme).

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Guides are in place. Their implementation is linked to compensation. 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.

Moreover, in the context of the implementation of the NSCP, at least 10% of the holdings with fattening turkeys 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 No1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys" and some of the relevant guides can be found at: http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/progr_elenxou_salmonelosis210513.pdf(annex I B "B. METPA BIOΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑΣ") and

[http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/](http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Paroyiaseis_Seminaria/6_salmo_bioasfalia.pdf)

[Paroyiaseis_Seminaria/6_salmo_bioasfalia.pdf](http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/Paroyiaseis_Seminaria/6_salmo_bioasfalia.pdf).

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

A. HYGIENE MANAGEMENT AT FARM

Annex I of the above mentioned national Decision "Salmonella control programme in breeding and fattening turkeys" through which the national salmonella control programme in breeding and fattening turkeys is being implemented, includes instructions concerning basic biosecurity measures which the owners of the said turkey holdings, including hatcheries, must apply. These measures relate to health management, prevention of infections being carried into the holdings and hatcheries (by other animals/agents, contaminated feed, drinking water and employees) as well as to compliance with health regulations during transport of animals and eggs to and from the holdings. In particular:

Facilities must be appropriately constructed and surrounded by a fence, which should have a sign at the entrance forbidding entry.

Only one species of poultry should be raised at any one facility and if possible the 'all in all out system' should be applied.

In holdings containing more than one flock, each one must be treated as a separate entity.

Pens and feed storage spaces should be secured to prevent the entry of any wild or harmful animals.

All pen surfaces should be constructed of materials allowing for easy cleaning and disinfecting.

Domestic pets are prohibited from entering the premises.

After the removal of poultry, droppings must also be removed, after which the area must be cleaned and disinfected. It is recommended that a bacteriological examination be carried out to check the effectiveness of the disinfection.

Rodents and insects must be dealt with using appropriate programmes for their destruction.

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

All feed must be confirmed salmonella-free prior to being given to poultry. Feed in pellet form or feed that has undergone other processing is recommended to keep it salmonella-free. Vehicles transporting feed must be disinfected regularly and feed must be kept in closed storage areas.

The holding's water supply must come from the mains network. In the case of pumped water, its suitability for use must be ensured via regular microbiological controls.

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

Disinfection baths are to be placed at the entrances and exits of the pens and of the holding for vehicles and the footwear of persons moving about on the premises.

Every holding must keep records of the diseases, deaths, treatment regimes and vaccines administered;

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

these records must be made available whenever an official control requires it.

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.

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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:

- Rearing flocks: at day-old, at four weeks of age, two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit
- Adult flocks: Every third week during the laying period at the holding or at the hatchery (only at the holding for flocks producing hatching eggs intended for trade within the union). The last sampling session takes place within three weeks before slaughter.

By way of derogation, if the Union target has been achieved for at least two consecutive calendar years in the whole Member State, sampling at the holding may be extended to take place every four weeks. However, the competent authority may decide to keep or revert to a three-week testing interval in the case of detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes in a breeding flock on the holding and/or in any other case deemed appropriate by the competent authority.

Comments - Indicate also 1)if who takes the FBO samples 2) if the derogation is applied 3)if additional FBO sampling (going beyond minimum sampling requirements) is performed, please describe what is done. (max. 32000 chars) :

We confirm that sampling carried out at the initiative of the FBO complies with the minimum sampling requirements laid down in part B of annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and in point 2 of annex to Reg. (EC) No 1190/2012.

Sampling on the initiative of the Food Business Operator is performed either by the farmer himself or by trained samplers.

Despite the fact that Greece has achieved the community target for at least two consecutive calendar years, we do not apply the above mentioned derogation.

Additional sampling may be applied by the FBO without following a predefined sampling protocol.

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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 1190/2012.

Sampling at the initiative of the FBO, as well as sampling performed by the official veterinarian has already been described under points 3 and 6 of this programme.

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8. Specific requirements laid down in Annex II.C of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 will be complied with where relevant (due to the presence of SE or ST (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-), all birds of infected reading or adult flocks are slaughtered or killed and destroyed, and all eggs are destroyed or heat treated):

Comments - Indicate also if birds are slaughtered or killed and destroyed and if eggs are destroyed or heat treated (max. 32000 chars) :

The submitted programme is in compliance with Part II.C of Annex of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. In particular, pursuant to Article 7(3) of Greek Decision No1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys", through which the control programme for salmonella in flocks of breeding turkeys is being implemented in Greece, when positive results for *S. Enteritidis* or *S. Typhimurium* (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-), are communicated or positive results for *S. Hadar* are communicated for two consecutive samplings by the same operator, the competent veterinary authority of the region must issue a decision for the following measures to be taken:

(a) Qualifying the flock as "salmonella positive".

(b) Prohibiting the movement of:

- i. birds and hatching eggs to and from the holding, unless it gives permission for the birds/eggs to be killed or destroyed under safe conditions or for them to be slaughtered at a designated slaughterhouse in accordance with the legislation in force (Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, Annex III, Section II) on food hygiene and safety;
- ii. litter and manure from the holding unless it gives permission for them to undergo processing in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force.

(c) Requiring the slaughter or destruction of all birds in the flock (including day-old chicks), taking appropriate measures to minimise the risk of spread of salmonella. Slaughter is carried out in accordance with the food hygiene legislation in force. Products derived from such birds may be placed on the market for human consumption in accordance with part E of annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. If such products are not intended for human consumption, they must be used or disposed of in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009.

(d) Requiring the destruction of non-hatching eggs from salmonella-positive flocks, or, provided they have been clearly marked, permitting their removal to an approved egg-processing plant, where they will undergo heat treatment which guarantees the elimination of salmonella, in accordance with Community food hygiene legislation.

(e) Carrying out an epizootic investigation and control with the aim of establishing the source of the contamination at the affected holding or hatchery. A detailed report of the findings compliance with biosecurity measures must be drawn up.

(f) Recommending the cleaning and effective disinfection of the premises following the removal of the infected flocks. The removal of contaminated litter and manure must be carried out in accordance with the national and Community legislation in force (Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009). To confirm the effectiveness of disinfection a test for the efficacy of disinfection is carried out either by the FBO or the

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official regional veterinary authority.

(g) Permitting the restocking of holdings with birds that have tested negative for five (5) salmonella serotypes in the programme. Restocking takes place after 21 days have elapsed since the removal of infected flocks, eggs, litter and anything else that might transmit the disease, as well as the completion of the preliminary cleaning and disinfecting procedures.

(h) Where hatching eggs from a flock testing positive either for Salmonella serotypes S. Enteritidis or S. Typhimurium (including monophasic ST 1,4,[5],12:i:-) are found in a hatchery, these eggs should be destroyed or treated as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009. Further to this, the incubators and hatching units in the hatcheries must be meticulously disinfected, as well as the premises in general.

(i) No treatment regime whatsoever is permitted for contaminated flocks, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

9. 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 (max. 32000 chars) :

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)

Measures implemented by the CA (max. 32000 chars) :

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.

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

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Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

All the labs involved in the NSCP'S (both state and private) are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for salmonella detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

Testing of the official samples collected within the national salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys is performed at the following state veterinary laboratories of the Ministry for Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy:

Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes, Halkida Veterinary Laboratory and Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory.

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme) of the Ministry. State Veterinary lab of Halkida is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

The samples from the own-checks are tested in 29 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 1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys", send the results to the competent veterinary authority of the Region as well as to the Department of Zoonoses.

Our circular No 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the 29 designated private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

11. 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 1190/2012 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 Kaufman-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/ISO16140.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

The method used for the detection of salmonella is the one defined in part 3.2. of the Annex of Reg. (EU) No 1190/2012 and that recommended by the Community Reference Laboratory for salmonella at Bilthoven (Netherlands). 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*'.

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The serotyping is performed in accordance with the Kaufmann-White -Le Minor scheme and at least one isolate from each positive sample is serotyped.

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

12. Samples are transported and stored in accordance with point 2.2.4 and 3.1 of the Annex to Regulation (EU) No 1190/2012. In particular, samples examination shall start in the laboratory within 48 hours following receipt and within 96 hours after sampling.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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 1190/2012.

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.

13. 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 1831/2003 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 1831/2003 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

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14. 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 above point 5 of this programme

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 linked to compensation. 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. Necessary advice on any corrective actions required are provided to the FBO. In the event of significant deficiencies in the application of biosecurity measures, written recommendations with a deadline for their satisfaction are issued. 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:

■ once a year, all flocks with at least 250 adult breeding turkeys between 30 and 45 weeks of age and in all holdings with elite, great grand parents and grand parent breeding turkeys; the competent authority may decide that this sampling may also take place at the hatchery; and

■ all flocks on holdings in case of detection of Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium from samples taken at the hatchery (FBO or official samples), to investigate the origin of infection;

Comments - 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 at least with the minimum sampling requirements as set out in point 2.1.b of annex to Regulation (EC) No 1190/2012. Official samples are collected by the official veterinarians of the regional veterinary authorities, as part of the official control.

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

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After positive official samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

After positive FBO samples at the holding

- Always
- Sometimes (criteria apply)
- Never

Comments - Describe also the criteria (if any) quoted above (max. 32000 chars) :

In general, confirmatory sampling is not routinely applied in Greece.

Confirmatory sampling is carried out in the following cases:

1. Confirmatory sampling following the detection of the relevant Salmonella serotypes from sampling at the hatchery.
2. In exceptional cases where the competent authority has reason to question the results of the testing (such as false positive or false negative results), it may decide to repeat the testing .
3. An official confirmation will also follow in all cases where the FBO is going to claim compensation for the positive flock.

In both cases the sampling protocol used is in accordance with point 2.2.2.1 of annex of Reg. (EC) No 200/2010.

Additional samples can be collected for the possible testing of antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitors as follows: birds shall be taken at random from within each poultry house of birds on the holding, normally up to five birds per house, unless the competent authority deems it necessary to sample a higher number of birds.

Where the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effects are detected, the flock shall be considered to be an infected flock of turkeys for the purpose of the Union target referred to in Article 1 of Reg. (EC) No 1190/2012.

In any case, the CA 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.

- 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, sampletaking) to check the correct implementation of this provision (at the holding and at the hatchery). For samples please describe the samples taken, the analytical method used, the result of the tests.

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(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 breeding turkeys with antimicrobial agents to control Salmonella spp. is prohibited.

When an antimicrobial treatment is applied on birds of breeding turkeys before slaughter, 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.

In order to control the use of antimicrobials the following controls are taking place:

Official sampling is always part of an official control in order to verify if the FBO complies with the requirements of the NSCP. One of the duties of the official vet during official control is to perform documentary checks on the farm (check the record with the flock treatments), in order to control the use of antimicrobials. Due to this, documentary checks on the use of antimicrobials are routinely performed during official controls in the framework of NSCP.

In addition to the above mentioned, in cases where there is a suspicion that the use of antimicrobials will cover the presence of salmonella, additional official samples are collected, comprising of at least 1-5 birds from the flock (or a greater number if the CA considers it necessary).

Testing for the use of antimicrobials is carried out on a mixed muscle sample from these birds (muscles from the chest of the birds).

Initial testing for the use of antimicrobials is first carried out in a screening test. The screening method used is an in house method based on the LMV/RMV/BIO/TC/15.AN Version 06/17-10-2006 Guidance of Community Reference Laboratory ANSES for detection of antimicrobial agents (quinolones, cephalosporins, penicillins, macrolides, tetracyclines, aminoglycosides, sulfonamides) in meat.

Where necessary, the results are confirmed by the specific tests presented in the attached table 1.

Where the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effects are detected, the flock shall be considered to be an infected flock of fattening turkeys for the purpose of the Union target referred to in Article 1 of Reg. (EC) No1190/2012.

15. Salmonella vaccination



Voluntary



Compulsory



Forbidden

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Use of *Salmonella* vaccines is in compliance with provisions of Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006.

Comments - If performed please describe the vaccination scheme (vaccines used, vaccines providers, target flocks, number of doses administered per bird, etc) (max. 32000 chars) :

Although vaccination is permitted in flocks of breeding turkeys, for the time being there are no authorised vaccines against SE/ST for breeding turkeys.

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

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

Owners of breeding turkeys holdings who are obliged to slaughter or destroy contaminated flocks or destroy contaminated eggs within the framework of this programme are compensated in accordance with the relevant joint ministerial decision on financial aid.

The amount of the compensation is calculated on the basis of value tables drawn up by the sector and validated by the Ministry of Finance.

The valuation/valorisation of birds is defined at central level annually by the issue of an annual Joint Ministerial Decision (Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Rural Development and Food), which is publicly available at official Gazette's web site and Ministry's web site. In the above mentioned Joint Ministerial Decision there is a scale of compensation of birds.

There is a link between compensation and effective biosecurity measures :FBO's that do not comply with the minimum requirements on biosecurity, as set out in the national legislation for the implementation of NSCP , do not take any compensation in case of a positive flock although they are obliged to implement the measures of part C of Annex II of Reg. (EC) No 2160/2003.

The conditions that must be met by the farmer, the procedure of payment and all required supporting documents are described in details in the above JMD.

17. Official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house.

(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.

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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 1m²

- 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.

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 breeding turkeys are:
1. The Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General); (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy.

2. the regional veterinary authorities;

3. the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy) and the Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy.).

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme).

4. the Halkida Veterinary Laboratory, which is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

Other bodies involved in the implementation of NSCP are:

5. The breeding turkey 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 1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys".

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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 / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General); (Ministry of Recunstruction of Production, Enviroment and Energy.

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 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 Halkida.

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

(i) serotyping salmonella-positive cultures sent to it by the other state veterinary laboratories and the

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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 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

2. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

(max. 32000 chars):

This salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding turkeys 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 1190/2012 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 breeding and fattening turkeys, 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 1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys".

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3. Give a short summary of the outcome of the **monitoring of the target *Salmonella* serovars** (SE, ST) implemented in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC (evolution of the prevalence values based on the monitoring of animal populations or subpopulations or of the food chain).

(max. 32000 chars):

In 2014, 3 flocks of breeding turkeys existed in 3 breeding turkey holdings. None was positive for *Salmonella* spp.

Due to this result, the EU target was achieved in 2014,

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 breeding turkey holdings must be approved and registered in accordance with Presidential Decree 224/1998 (Government Gazette, Series I, No 175) and Ministerial Decision No 356391/1999 (Government Gazette, Series I, No 1457). Pursuant to Presidential Decree 224/1998 all holdings with breeding flocks should keep a register in which all health-related data is recorded. The operator is obliged to record in detail the data concerning this programme and all vaccines and treatment administered.

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 flocks of breeding turkeys.

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 2 times per year to the Department of Zoonoses detailed information for every turkey breeding flock of their territory.

This information includes data on the official and own-check controls (dates, results, type of sampling), data on vaccination (number of vaccine doses administered), number of infected birds culled or destroyed, etc

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

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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. The FBO notifies the Regional Veterinary authority each time he places a new flock in a house.

During official control of a breeding flock, the official veterinarian records all the information regarding the flock (date of placement, own-check results, data on vaccination etc).

Currently, Department of Zoonoses in collaboration with the Directorate of E- Government of the Ministry, are in the procedure of developing an on-line system for the on-line submission of all the information related to sampling and laboratory testing.

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

C. Targets

1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year:

2016

Region	Type of the test (description)	Target population (categories and species targeted)	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests
The whole country	Bacteriological detection test	Breeding flocks of Turkeys	environmental sample	routine sampling	6 X
The whole country	Serotyping	Breeding flocks of Turkeys	-	-	1 X
Add a new row					

1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year:

2016

Region	Type of flock	Total number of flocks (e)	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks checked (b)	Number of flock visits to take official samples (d)	Number of official samples taken	Targeted serotypes (c)	Possible number of positive flocks	Number of flocks to be depopulated	Total number of animals to be slaughtered or destroyed	Quantity of eggs to be destroyed (number)	Quantity of eggs to be channelled to egg product (number)
The whole country	Breeding flocks	3	3	3	3	6	SE+ST	1	1	2 000	30 000	0
Add a new row												

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

(a) Including eligible and non eligible flocks for the programme

(b) Check means to perform a flock level test under the programme for the presence of Salmonella. In this column a flock must not be counted twice even if it has been checked more than once.

(c) Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium = SE + ST Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium + Salmonella Hadar + Salmonella Infantis + Salmonella Virchow = SE+ST + SH +SI + SV

(d) 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.

2 Targets on vaccination

2.1 Targets on vaccination for year :

2016

	Number of flocks in the programme	Targets on vaccination		
		Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered
NA	0	0	0	0
NUTS Region				
				X
				Add a new row

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

D. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

1 Costs of the planned activities for year:

2016

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	
Cost of analysis	Bacteriological detection test	6	18.19	109.14	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Serotyping	1	38.38	38.38	yes	X
2. Vaccination (if you ask cofinancing for purchase of vaccins, you should also fill in A.16 and E.2)						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of vaccine dosis	Average cost per dose in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
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	
Slaughter and destruction	Animals culled or slaughtered	2 000	8	16000	yes	X
Slaughter and destruction	Table eggs/hatching eggs destroyed	30 000	0.4	12000	yes	X
4. Cleaning and disinfection						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Add a new row					
5. Other essential costs (Art. 8.1.h of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014)					
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested
Official sampling of poultry flocks	Cost of official sampling	3	5.97	17.91	yes
Add a new row					
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
	Total			28165.43	

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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)

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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)

Culling and heat-treatment or destruction of infected with SE/ST breeding flocks occur following a decision issued by the competent regional veterinary authority. Then the farmer submit a request for compensation to the regional veterinary service (along with the necessary supplementary documents) and this request is forwarded to the Animal Health Directorate of the Ministry. Then, all these requests derived from different regional units of the country are checked and further approved and amounts are transferred from the Animal Health Directorate to a bank in Greece. Then, the beneficiaries (farmers) take the amount corresponding to them.
The legislative frame for this procedure is the joint Ministerial Decision issued each year by the Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment & Energy along with the Ministry of Finance. In these decision, there is analytical report on the amounts to be paid after culling/destruction and the level of compensation is correlated to the animal species and the animal's age.
The cost for the compensation is covered by the state budget and co-financed by the EU.

- 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

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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

NA

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

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

3. 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

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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 :	No attachment



Annex II : Control programme submitted for obtaining EU cofinancing - Reduction of prevalence of Salmonella serotypes

Member States seeking a financial contribution from the European Union for national programmes of eradication, control and surveillance shall submit online this application completely filled out.

In case of difficulty, please contact SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu, describe the issue and mention the version of this document 2015 1.06

Your current version of Acrobat is: 11.015

Instructions to complete the form:

- 1) You need to have at least the **Adobe Reader version 8.1.3** or higher to fill and submit this form.
- 2) To verify your data entry while filling your form, you can use the "**verify form**" button at the top of each page.
- 3) When you have finished filling the form, verify that your internet connection is active, save a copy on your computer and then click on the "**submit notification**" button below. If the form is properly filled, the notification will be submitted to the EU server and a submission number will appear in the corresponding field. If you don't succeed to submit your programme following this procedure, check with your IT service that the security settings of your computer are compatible with this online submission procedure.
- 4) All programmes submitted online are kept in a central database. However only the information in the last submission is used when processing the data.
- 5) **IMPORTANT:** Once you have received the submission number, **save the form on your computer** for your records.
- 6) If the form is not properly filled in, an alert box will appear indicating the number of incorrect fields. Please check your form again, complete it and re-submit it according to steps 3). Should you still have difficulties, please contact SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu.
- 7) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit **multi-annual programmes**.
- 8) As mentioned during the Plenary Task Force of 28/2/2014, you are invited to submit your programmes in **English**.

Submission Date

Tuesday, October 13, 2015 16:54:43

Submission Number

1444748084333-6907

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Identification of the programme

Member state : ELLADA

Disease Salmonella

This program is multi annual : yes

Type of submission : Funding request for subsequent year of already approved multiannual programme

Request of Union co-financing
from beginning of :

2015

To end of

Contact

Name : MYRSINI TZANI

Your job type within the CA : Head of the Department of Zoonoses of the Aniamal Health Director

Phone : +302102125727

Email : ka6u058@minagric.gr

Animal population

Animal population Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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.

Comments(max. 32000 chars) :

This salmonella control programme for broiler flocks 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 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006.

We confirm that the aim of the programme is to reduce the maximum percentage of broiler flocks continuing to test positive for *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium to 1% or less by 31 December of each year.

All references to *S. Typhimurium* include the monophasic *S. Typhimurium* (1,4,[5],12:i:-).

That reduction is important given the strict measures which have applied from 12.12.2010 to fresh meat from contaminated broiler flocks in line with Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. Specifically, fresh poultry meat, including that from broiler chickens, is placed on the market for human consumption only if there is no *S. Enteritidis* or *S. Typhimurium* in 5X 25 grams of meat.

A flock is deemed salmonella-positive if the presence of any of the above salmonella serotypes is ascertained in laboratory tests in at least one of the samples.

With a view to achieving its objective, the programme has a duration of one year. The programme will be adapted in line with Community requirements.

The target population consists of all flocks of broiler chickens. There are a total of 1041 broiler hen holdings in Greece, which account for a total of 7551 flocks and 88413782.1034 out of the 1041 holdings had more than 5000 birds.

The following categories of broiler chickens are reared in Greece:

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

(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.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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

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	1 041
Total number of houses in these holdings	2 400
Number of holdings with more than 5,000 broilers	1034

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

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.

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

We confirm that there is a procedure in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant Salmonella serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses and that timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant Salmonella serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses
In particular, pursuant to Article 5 National Decision No 133362/23.12.2011 on a "Salmonella control programme in broiler poultry of the species Gallus gallus", the following points apply regarding notification of the disease:

1. In the case of sampling at the operator's initiative, if salmonella is identified in samples of faeces at the holding, the operator himself and the head of the laboratory must communicate the positive result to the competent veterinary authority of the region.

2. In the case of official inspections, if the laboratory test proves positive for salmonella, the head of the laboratory must inform the local competent veterinary authority.

If one or both of the serotypes covered by the programme are isolated, the measures foreseen in cases of positive salmonella results must be taken.

Both the competent veterinary authorities of the regions and the Halkida Reference Laboratory must notify the Department of Zoonoses of the positive cases.

5. Biosecurity measures

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

Comments - Describe also the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) and attach a copy

Comments - Describe also the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) (max. 32000 chars) :

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/>

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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.

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.

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

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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.

Comments - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples

Sampling at the initiative of the FBO complies with the minimum sampling requirements laid down in part B of annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and in point 2 of annex to Reg. (EC) No 200/2012. The decision on implementing measures, No 133362/23.12.2011 on a "Salmonella control programme in broiler poultry of the species *Gallus gallus*", lays down the sampling framework which governs the checks carried out on the operator's initiative and any official controls carried out by the official veterinary authorities of the region. The sampling framework on the food business operator initiative is as follows:

The holding operator must take samples:

- A1. Within 3 weeks before the birds are moved to the slaughterhouse, for all flocks at the holding. The results of the analysis of the samples must be known before the birds are sent to the slaughterhouse

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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.

Comments - Indicate if the derogation is applied and in this case how many holdings and flocks are concerned

According to the same (above mentioned) national decision, the CA accepts to derogate from this sampling rule and instead of this the FBOs :

A2. may sample at least one broiler flock per round on holdings with more than one flock where:

1. an 'all in, all out' system is used;
2. the same management applies to all flocks;
3. feed and water supply is common to all flocks;
4. during one year and in at least six rounds, *Salmonella* spp tests were carried out according to the sampling scheme set out in the first paragraph in all flocks on the holding and samples of all flocks of at least one round were carried out by the CA ; and
5. all results from tests for *S. Enteritidis* /*Typhimurium* are negative.

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.

Comments - Indicate if the derogation is applied and in this case how many holdings and flocks are concerned

According to the same (above mentioned) national decision, the holding operator:

A3. By way of derogation from the sampling obligations set out in the above mentioned point , the competent authority may authorise 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.

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

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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.

Sampling at the initiative of the FBO has already been described under point 6 of the submitted programme.

With regard to official sampling the number and type of samples taken by the official veterinarian are as follows:

Sampling is carried out by the competent authority:

A. in at least one flock of broiler poultry at 10% of holdings with more than 5 000 birds each year.

This sampling is carried out on a Risk evaluation basis:

A1. in any case of suspicion of Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium infection as a result of the epidemiological investigation of food-borne outbreaks in accordance with Article 8 of Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council;

A2. in the event of positive results for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium in sampling carried out by the slaughterhouse operator in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005;

A3. in the event of positive results for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium during the official control at the slaughterhouse in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 854/2004;

A4. in the event of detection of antimicrobials under the residue examination programme during the official controls at the slaughterhouse.

B. Where the holding operator wants to use the derogation provided for in point 6b of this programme.

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. When 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 (max. 32000 chars) :

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)

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Measures implemented by the CA (max. 32000 chars) :

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.

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

All the labs involved in the NSCP'S (both state and private) are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for salmonella detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

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 for Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy:

Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes, Halkida Veterinary Laboratory and Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory.

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme) of the Ministry . State Veterinary lab of Halkida is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

The samples from the own-checks are tested in 29 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 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the 29 designated private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

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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.

Comments

The method used for the detection of salmonella is the one defined in part 3.2. of the Annex of Reg. (EU) No 200/2012 and that recommended by the Community Reference Laboratory for salmonella at Bilthoven (Netherlands). 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'.

The serotyping is performed in accordance with the Kaufmann-White -Le Minor scheme and at least one isolate from each positive sample is serotyped.

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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).

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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

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;

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Comments - 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.

c. Official confirmatory sampling:

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

Comments - Justify the confirmatory sampling strategy - Describe also the criteria (if any) quoted above (max. 32000 chars) :

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 Salmonella spp. is prohibited. When an antimicrobial treatment is applied on the birds of a broiler flock, official samples are taken only

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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.

In order to control the use of antimicrobials the following controls are taking place:

Official sampling is always part of an official control in order to verify if the FBO complies with the requirements of the NSCP. One of the duties of the official vet during official control is to perform documentary checks on the farm (check the record with the flock treatments) , in order to control the use of antimicrobials. Due to this, documentary checks on the use of antimicrobials are routinely performed during official controls in the framework of NSCP.

In addition to the above mentioned, in cases where there is a suspicion that the use of antimicrobials will cover the presence of salmonella, additional official samples are collected, comprising of at least 1-5 birds from the flock (or a greater number if the CA considers it necessary).

Testing for the use of antimicrobials is carried out on a mixed muscle sample from these birds (muscles from the chest of the birds).

Initial testing for the use of antimicrobials is first carried out in a screening test. The screening method used is an in house method based on the LMV/RMV/BIO/TC/15.AN Version 06/17-10-2006 Guidance of Community Reference Laboratory ANSES for detection of antimicrobial agents (quinolones, cephalosporins, penicillins, macrolides, tetracyclines, aminoglycosides, sulfonamides) in meat.

Where necessary, the results are confirmed by the specific tests presented in the attached table 1.

Where the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effects are detected, the flock shall be considered to be an infected flock of broiler hens Gallus gallus for the purpose of the Union target referred to in Article 1 of Reg. (EC) No 200/2012.

14. Official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house.

(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 1m²

• Sampling may be done with sterile swabs as gauze or cellulose sponges using disposable gloves or the

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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.

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 broiler hens *Gallus gallus* are:

1. The Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General); (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy.

2. the regional veterinary authorities;

3. the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy) and the Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy.).

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme).

4. the Halkida Veterinary Laboratory, which is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

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 / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General); (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy.

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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 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 Halkida.

4. The National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella in Halkida 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.

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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 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

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).

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(max. 32000 chars):

see attached table 2 for the monitoring of zoonotic salmonella in flocks of broilers Gallus gallus since 2009. In 2014, in Greece there were 7551 broiler flocks in 1041 holdings. 7504 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. 19 out of the 7504 tested flocks were positive for Salmonella spp. None of them was positive for the targeted salmonella serovars (SE/ST)

Due to these results, the community target was achieved in 2014.

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 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 2 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

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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.

Currently, Department of Zoonoses in collaboration with the Directorate of E- Government of the Ministry, are in the procedure of developing an on-line system for the on- line submission of all the information related to sampling and laboratory testing.

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C. Targets

1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

2016

Region	Type of the test (description)	Target population (categories and species targeted)	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests	
The whole country	Bacteriological detection test	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	environmental sample	routine sampling	104	X
The whole country	Serotyping	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	-	-	20	X
The whole country	Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	-	-	2	X
The whole country	Bacteriological detection test	Broiler flocks of Gallus gallus	environmental sample	official sampling in case of suspicion or in	20	X
				Add a new row		
Total					146	
Total Antimicrobial detection test					0	
Total Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection					2	
Total Bacteriological detection test					124	
Total Serotyping					20	

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1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year :

2016

Region	Type of flock	Total number of flocks (a)	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks checked (b)	Number of flock visits to take official samples (d)	Number of official samples taken	Targeted serotypes (c)	Possible number of positive flocks	Number of flocks to be depopulated	Total number of animals to be slaughtered or destroyed	Quantity of eggs to be destroyed (number)	Quantity of eggs to be channelled to egg product (number)	
The whole country	Broiler flocks of 1	7 550	7 550	7 550	124	124	SE+ST	2	0	0	0	0	X
Total		7 550	7 550	7 550	124	124		2	0	0	0	0	
										Add a new row			

(a) Including eligible and non eligible flocks for the programme

(b) Check means to perform a flock level test under the programme for the presence of Salmonella. In this column a flock must not be counted twice even if it has been checked more than once.

(c) Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium = SE + ST Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium + Salmonella Hadar + Salmonella Infantis + Salmonella Virchow = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

(d) 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.

2 Targets on vaccination

2.1 Targets on vaccination for year :

2016

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NUTS Region	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	
		Targets on vaccination			
NUTS Region	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	
			Add a new row		

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D. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

1 Costs of the planned activities for year :

2016

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	
Cost of analysis	Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection	2	16.72	33.44	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Bacteriological detection test	124	18.19	2255.56	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Serotyping	20	38.38	767.6	yes	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	
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	
4. Cleaning and disinfection						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
				Add a new row		
5. Other essential costs (Art. 8.1.h of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014)						

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Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Other costs	dd	0	0	0	no	X
				Add a new row		
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	
Official sampling of poultry flocks	Cost of official sampling	124	5.97	740.28	yes	X
				Grand Total		
				3796.88		

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))

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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)

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

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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

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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

3. 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

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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
	6907_4318.doc	6907_4318.doc	43 kb
	6907_4319.doc	6907_4319.doc	30 kb
		Total size of attachments :	73 kb



Annex II : Control programme submitted for obtaining EU cofinancing - Reduction of prevalence of Salmonella serotypes

Member States seeking a financial contribution from the European Union for national programmes of eradication, control and surveillance shall submit online this application completely filled out.

In case of difficulty, please contact SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu, describe the issue and mention the version of this document 2015 1.06

Your current version of Acrobat is: 11.015

Instructions to complete the form:

- 1) You need to have at least the **Adobe Reader version 8.1.3** or higher to fill and submit this form.
- 2) To verify your data entry while filling your form, you can use the "**verify form**" button at the top of each page.
- 3) When you have finished filling the form, verify that your internet connection is active, save a copy on your computer and then click on the "**submit notification**" button below. If the form is properly filled, the notification will be submitted to the EU server and a submission number will appear in the corresponding field. If you don't succeed to submit your programme following this procedure, check with your IT service that the security settings of your computer are compatible with this online submission procedure.
- 4) All programmes submitted online are kept in a central database. However only the information in the last submission is used when processing the data.
- 5) **IMPORTANT:** Once you have received the submission number, **save the form on your computer** for your records.
- 6) If the form is not properly filled in, an alert box will appear indicating the number of incorrect fields. Please check your form again, complete it and re-submit it according to steps 3). Should you still have difficulties, please contact SANTE-VET-PROG@ec.europa.eu.
- 7) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit **multi-annual programmes**.
- 8) As mentioned during the Plenary Task Force of 28/2/2014, you are invited to submit your programmes in **English**.

Submission Date

Tuesday, October 13, 2015 16:58:14

Submission Number

1444748295314-6909

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

Identification of the programme

Member state : ELLADA

Disease Salmonella

This program is multi annual : yes

Type of submission : Funding request for subsequent year of already approved multiannual programme

Request of Union co-financing
from beginning of :

2015

To end of

Contact

Name : MYRSINI TZANI

Your job type within the CA : Head of the Department of Zoonoses of the Aniamal Health Director

Phone : +302102125727

Email : ka6u058@minagric.gr

Animal population

Animal population Fattening flocks of Turkeys

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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.

Comments if statement above is not entirely correct or needs further explanation (max. 32000 chars) :

This salmonella control programme for fattening flocks of Turkeys 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 1190/2012 of 12 December 2012 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006.

We confirm that the aim of the programme is to reduce the maximum percentage of fattening turkey flocks continuing to test positive for *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium to 1% or less by 31 December each year.

All references to *S. Typhimurium* include the monophasic *S. Typhimurium* (1,4,[5],12:i:-).

This reduction is important in view of the strict measures applied from 12 December 2010 to fresh meat from infected flocks of fattening turkeys pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. In particular, fresh poultry meat may be placed on the market for human consumption only if there is no *Salmonella* Enteritidis/Typhimurium in 5 X25 grams of meat.

A flock is deemed salmonella-positive if the presence of any of the above salmonella serotypes is confirmed in laboratory tests in at least one of the samples.

In order to achieve its objective, the programme is annual. The programme will be adapted in line with Community requirements.

The target population consists of all flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys. At present in Greece according to the most recent count there are 39 fattening turkey holdings with a total of 65 flocks and 3 breeding turkey holdings with a total of 3 flocks. There are 2 types of farmed fattening turkeys:

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

A) Classical commercial hybrids.

This breed comes as day-old chicks at the end of August/beginning of September and is slaughtered at four months, just prior to Christmas when its live weight is ideal for Christmas turkeys, at around 5.5 kg. The day-old chicks of the above breed originate from other Member States.

B) The traditional turkey.

This breed comes as one-day old chicks in May-June and is slaughtered at six-seven months, just prior to Christmas when its live weight is ideal for Christmas turkeys, at around 5.5 kg.

The day-old chicks of the above breed originate either from other Member States or from Greek hatcheries.

It should be pointed out that since the Christmas turkey market is unpredictable, the number of turkey flocks each year is liable to wide fluctuations.

2. Geographical coverage of the programme

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

Comments if statement above is not entirely correct or needs further explanation (max. 32000 chars) :

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

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 fattening turkeys. It does not apply to flocks for private domestic use.

Comments if statement above is not entirely correct or needs further explanation (max. 32000 chars) :

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

	Number of holdings
Total number of holdings with fattening turkeys in the MS	39
Total number of houses in these holdings	65
Number of holdings with more than 500 fattening turkeys	39

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

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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.

Comments if statement above is not entirely correct or needs further explanation (max. 32000 chars) :

We confirm that there is a procedure in place which guarantees that the detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes during sampling at the initiative of the food business operator (FBO) is notified without delay to the competent authority by the laboratory performing the analyses and that timely notification of the detection of the presence of any of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes remains the responsibility of the food business operator and the laboratory performing the analyses. In particular, pursuant to Article 5 National Decision No 1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in breeding and fattening flocks of turkeys", the following points apply regarding notification of the disease:

1. In the case of sampling at the operator's initiative, if salmonella is identified in samples of faeces at the holding, the operator himself and the head of the laboratory must communicate the positive result to the competent veterinary authority of the region.

2. In the case of official inspections, if the laboratory test proves positive for salmonella, the head of the laboratory must inform the local competent veterinary authority.

If one or both of the serotypes covered by the programme are isolated, the measures foreseen to be taken in cases of positive salmonella result must be taken.

Both the competent veterinary authorities of the regions and the Halkida Reference Laboratory must notify the Department of Zoonoses of the positive cases.

5. Biosecurity measures

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

Comments - Describe also the biosecurity measures that shall be applied, quote the document describing them (if any) (max. 32000 chars) :

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 fattening turkeys 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.

Moreover, in the context of the implementation of the NSCP, at least 10% of the holdings with fattening turkeys existing in a region, are officially controlled and sampled every year by the official veterinary

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

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 No1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys" and some of the relevant guides can be found at: http://www.minagric.gr/images/stories/docs/agrotis/poulerika/progr_elenxou_salmonelosis210513.pdf(annex I B "B. METPA BIOΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑΣ") and

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

[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

Annex I of the above mentioned national Decision "Salmonella control programme in breeding and fattening turkeys" through which the national salmonella control programme in breeding and fattening turkeys is being implemented, includes instructions concerning basic biosecurity measures which the owners of the said turkey holdings, including hatcheries, must apply. These measures relate to health management, prevention of infections being carried into the holdings and hatcheries (by other animals/agents, contaminated feed, drinking water and employees) as well as to compliance with health regulations during transport of animals and eggs to and from the holdings. In particular:

Facilities must be appropriately constructed and surrounded by a fence, which should have a sign at the entrance forbidding entry.

Only one species of poultry should be raised at any one facility and if possible the 'all in all out system' should be applied.

In holdings containing more than one flock, each one must be treated as a separate entity.

Pens and feed storage spaces should be secured to prevent the entry of any wild or harmful animals.

All pen surfaces should be constructed of materials allowing for easy cleaning and disinfecting.

Domestic pets are prohibited from entering the premises.

After the removal of poultry, droppings must also be removed, after which the area must be cleaned and disinfected. It is recommended that a bacteriological examination be carried out to check the effectiveness of the disinfection.

Rodents and insects must be dealt with using appropriate programmes for their destruction.

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

All feed must be confirmed salmonella-free prior to being given to poultry. Feed in pellet form or feed that has undergone other processing is recommended to keep it salmonella-free. Vehicles transporting feed must be disinfected regularly and feed must be kept in closed storage areas.

The holding's water supply must come from the mains network. In the case of pumped water, its suitability for use must be ensured via regular microbiological controls.

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

Disinfection baths are to be placed at the entrances and exits of the pens and of the holding for vehicles and the footwear of persons moving about on the premises.

Every holding must keep records of the diseases, deaths, treatment regimes and vaccines administered; these records must be made available whenever an official control requires it.

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

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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 fattening turkeys within three weeks before slaughter.

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.

Comments - Indicate also who takes the FBO samples and if this derogation is applied and in this case how many how many holdings and flocks are concerned.

Sampling at the initiative of the FBO complies with the minimum sampling requirements laid down in part B of annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and in point 2 of annex to Reg. (EC) No 1190/2012. The national decision on implementing measures, lays down the sampling framework which governs the

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checks carried out on the operator's initiative and any official controls carried out by the official veterinary authorities of the region. The sampling framework on the food business operator initiative is as follows:

The holding operator must take samples:

A1. Within 3 weeks before the birds are moved to the slaughterhouse, for all flocks at the holding.

The results of the analysis of the samples must be known before the birds are sent to the slaughterhouse

A2. 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.

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

Comments if statement above is not entirely correct or needs further explanation (max. 32000 chars) :

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 1190/2012.

Sampling at the initiative of the FBO has already been described under point 6 of the submitted programme.

With regard to official sampling the number and type of samples taken by the official veterinarian are as follows:

Sampling is carried out by the competent authority:

A.1 once a year, on at least one flock, on 10 % of the holdings with at least 500 fattening turkeys.

A.2 on all flocks on fattening turkey holdings where one flock tested positive for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium in samples taken by the operator of the holding, unless the meat of the turkeys in the flocks is destined for industrial heat treatment or another treatment to eliminate salmonella.

A.3 on all flocks on the holding where one flock tested positive for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium during the previous round in samples taken by the operator of the holding.

B, Based on risk assessment:

B.1 if there is a suspicion of Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium infection resulting from an epidemiological investigation of food-borne outbreaks pursuant to Article 8 of Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council;

B.2. in the event of positive results for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium in sampling carried out by the slaughterhouse operator in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005;

B.3 in the event of positive results for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium during the official control at the slaughterhouse in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 854/2004;

B.4 where antimicrobials are detected under the residue examination programme during the official controls in the slaughterhouse.

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

Both the business operator and the official veterinarian follow the same sampling protocol, which is the following:

At least two pairs of boot/sock swabs or one pair of swabs and one sample of dust should be taken. For free range flocks of fattening turkeys, samples should only be collected in the area inside the pens. All boot/sock swabs must be pooled into one sample.

In flocks with fewer than 100 fattening turkeys, where it is not possible to use boot/sock swabs as access to the pens is not possible, they may be replaced by hand drag swabs, where the boot swabs or socks

Programme of eradication of Salmonella serotypes

are worn over gloved hands and rubbed over surfaces contaminated with fresh faeces, or, if not feasible, by other sampling techniques for faeces fit for the intended purpose.

Before putting on the boot/sock swabs, their surface should be moistened with maximum recovery diluents (0.8 % sodium chloride, 0.1 % peptone in sterile deionised water), or sterile water or any other diluent approved by the national reference laboratory referred to in Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003. The use of farm water containing antimicrobials or additional disinfectants shall be prohibited. The recommended way to moisten boot swabs should be to pour the liquid inside before putting them on. Alternatively, boot swabs or socks may be autoclaved with diluents within autoclave bags or jars before use. Diluents may also be applied after boots are put on using a spray or wash bottle. It should be ensured that all sections in the pen are represented in the sampling in a proportionate way. Each pair should cover approximately 50% of the area of the pen.

Alternatively, the competent authority may decide that one pair of boot swabs should be taken, covering 100% of the area of the pen if combined with a dust sample collected from multiple places throughout the pen from surfaces with a visible presence of dust.

On completion of sampling in the chosen pen, the boot swabs must be removed carefully so as not to dislodge adherent material. That can be achieved by turning the boot swabs inside out.

The samples are then placed in a sack or receptacle and labelled with the date, sample type and code number of the flock.

The competent authority supervises training of poultry establishment operators so as to ensure proper implementation of the sampling protocol.

In the case of sampling by the competent authority because of suspicion of salmonella infection and in any other case considered appropriate, the competent authority shall satisfy itself by conducting further mandatory sampling tests in the slaughterhouses for salmonella and for the use of antimicrobials, as appropriate, that the results of examinations for salmonella in fattening flocks are not affected by the use of antimicrobials in those flocks. Where the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effect are, it should be accounted for as an infected fattening flock for the purpose of the Community target and the measures mentioned below should be implemented.

8. When 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 (max. 32000 chars) :

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)

Measures implemented by the CA (max. 32000 chars) :

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

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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.

Comments if statement above is not entirely correct or needs further explanation (max. 32000 chars) :

All the labs involved in the NSCP'S (both state and private) are accredited to ISO 17025 standard and the analytical methods for salmonella detection is within the scope of their accreditation.

Testing of the official samples collected within the national salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys is performed at the following state veterinary laboratories of the Ministry for Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy:

Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes, Halkida Veterinary Laboratory and Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory.

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme) of the Ministry. State Veterinary lab of Halkida is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

The samples from the own-checks are tested in 29 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 1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys", send the results to the competent veterinary authority of the Region as well as to the Department of Zoonoses.

Our circular No 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the 29 designated private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

Programme of eradication of *Salmonella* serotypes

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/Amdl: 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.

Comments

The method used for the detection of salmonella is the one defined in part 3.2. of the Annex of Reg. (EU) No 1190/2012 and that recommended by the Community Reference Laboratory for salmonella at Bilthoven (Netherlands). 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'.

The serotyping is performed in accordance with the Kaufmann-White -Le Minor scheme and at least one isolate from each positive sample is serotyped.

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

Comments (max. 32000 chars) :

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).

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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

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.

Moreover, in the context of the implementation of the NSCP, at least 10% of the holdings with fattening turkeys 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 fattening turkeys per year on 10% of holding comprising at least 500 fattening turkeys;

Comments - 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) :

A1.We confirm that official sampling complies at least with the minimum sampling requirements as set out in point 2.1.b of annex to Regulation (EC) No 1190/2012. Official samples are collected by the official veterinarians of the regional veterinary authorities, as part of the official control.

According to the national decision for the implementation of NSCP in flocks of fattening turkeys,

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additional official sampling is carried out in the following cases:

A.2 on all flocks on fattening turkey holdings where one flock tested positive for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium in samples taken by the operator of the holding, unless the meat of the turkeys in the flocks is destined for industrial heat treatment or another treatment to eliminate salmonella.

A.3 on all flocks on the holding where one flock tested positive for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium during the previous round in samples taken by the operator of the holding.

B, Based on risk assessment:

B.1 if there is a suspicion of Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium infection resulting from an epidemiological investigation of food-borne outbreaks pursuant to Article 8 of Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council;

B.2. in the event of positive results for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium in sampling carried out by the slaughterhouse operator in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005;

B.3 in the event of positive results for Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium during the official control at the slaughterhouse in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 854/2004;

B.4 where antimicrobials are detected under the residue examination programme during the official controls in the slaughterhouse.

c. Official confirmatory sampling:

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

Comments - Justify the confirmatory sampling strategy - Describe also the criteria (if any) quoted above (max. 32000 chars) :

According to the national decision for the implementation of NSCP in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys, official confirmatory sampling does not take place in any case of positive results in flocks of fattening turkeys,.

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- 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 fattening turkeys with antimicrobial agents to control *Salmonella* spp. is prohibited.

When an antimicrobial treatment is applied on birds of fattening turkeys, 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.

In order to control the use of antimicrobials the following controls are taking place:

Official sampling is always part of an official control in order to verify if the FBO complies with the requirements of the NSCP. One of the duties of the official vet during official control is to perform documentary checks on the farm (check the record with the flock treatments) , in order to control the use of antimicrobials. Due to this, documentary checks on the use of antimicrobials are routinely performed during official controls in the framework of NSCP.

In addition to the above mentioned, in cases where there is a suspicion that the use of antimicrobials will cover the presence of salmonella, additional official samples are collected, comprising of at least 1-5 birds from the flock (or a greater number if the CA considers it necessary).

Testing for the use of antimicrobials is carried out on a mixed muscle sample from these birds (muscles from the chest of the birds).

Initial testing for the use of antimicrobials is first carried out in a screening test. The screening method used is an in house method based on the LMV/RMV/BIO/TC/15.AN Version 06/17-10-2006 Guidance of Community Reference Laboratory ANSES for detection of antimicrobial agents (quinolones, cephalosporins, penicillins, macrolides, tetracyclines, aminoglycosides, sulfonamides) in meat.

Where necessary, the results are confirmed by the specific tests presented in the attached table 1.

Where the presence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium is not detected but antimicrobials or bacterial growth inhibitory effects are detected, the flock shall be considered to be an infected flock of fattening turkeys for the purpose of the Union target referred to in Article 1 of Reg. (EC) No1190/2012.

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14. Official procedure to test, after the depopulation of an infected flock, the **efficacy of the disinfection** of a poultry house.

(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 1m²

- 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.

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 fattening turkeys are:

1. The Department of Zoonoses of the Animal Health Directorate / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General); (Ministry of Recunstruction of Production, Enviroment and Energy.

2. the regional veterinary authorities;

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3. the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy) and the Ioannina Veterinary Laboratory (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy).

All official samples collected as part of the national salmonella control programmes are examined at the three accredited laboratories, i.e. the Veterinary Laboratories of Ioannina and Halkida and the Thessaloniki Centre of Veterinary Institutes (which completed its accreditation on 4 February 2013 and is now fully participating in the programme).

4. the Halkida Veterinary Laboratory, which is the National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella.

Other bodies involved in the implementation of NSCP are:

5. The fattening turkey 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 1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys".

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 / Sustainable Animal Production and Veterinary Services Directorate General; (Ministry of Reconstruction of Production, Environment and Energy).

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 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

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(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 Halkida.

4. The National Reference Laboratory for Salmonella in Halkida 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 383/11852/29.01.2013 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.

At present, all the private laboratories carrying out analyses of own-check samples are also accredited.

2. Legal basis for the implementation of the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

This salmonella control programme in flocks of fattening turkeys 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 1190/2012 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the

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European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Union target for the reduction of the prevalence of certain Salmonella serotypes in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys, 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 1751/51822/13-05-2013 on a "Salmonella control programme in flocks of breeding and fattening turkeys".

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 2 for the monitoring of zoonotic salmonella in flocks of fattening turkeys since 2010. In 2014, in Greece there were 65 flocks of fattening turkeys in 39 holdings. 59 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. None of them was positive for Salmonella spp.

Due to these results, the community target was achieved in 2014.

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 fattening turkey holdings must be approved in accordance with Health Regulation No 2000/1995 of the Ministry of Health.

The fattening turkey holdings must keep a record and computerised system to record all health-related data. 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 turkey fattening 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

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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.

Moreover, all the Regional Veterinary Units report 2 times per year to the Department of Zoonoses detailed information for every fattening turkey 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 fattening turkey 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.

Currently, Department of Zoonoses in collaboration with the Directorate of E- Government of the Ministry, are in the procedure of developing an on-line system for the on-line submission of all the information related to sampling and laboratory testing.

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C. Targets

1 Targets related to flocks official monitoring

1.1 Targets on laboratory tests on official samples for year :

2016

Region	Type of the test (description)	Target population (categories and species targeted)	Type of sample	Objective	Number of planned tests	
The whole country	Bacteriological detection test	Fattening flocks of Turkeys	environmental sample	routine sampling	4	X
The whole country	Bacteriological detection test	Fattening flocks of Turkeys	environmental sample	official sampling in case of suspicion	4	X
The whole	Serotyping	Fattening flocks of Turkeys	-	-	1	X
Add a new row						
Total					9	
Total Antimicrobial detection test					0	
Total Test for verification of the efficacy of disinfection					0	
Total Bacteriological detection test					8	
Total Serotyping					1	

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1.2 Targets on official sampling of flocks for year :

2016

Region	Type of flock	Total number of flocks (a)	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks checked (b)	Number of flock visits to take official samples (d)	Number of official samples taken	Targeted serotypes (c)	Possible number of positive flocks	Number of flocks to be depopulated	Total number of animals to be slaughtered or destroyed	Quantity of eggs to be destroyed (number)	Quantity of eggs to be channelled to egg product (number)	
The whole country	Fattening flocks	65	65	65	8	8	SE+ST	0	0	0	0	0	X
Total		65	65	65	8	8		0	0	0	0	0	
										Add a new row			

(a) Including eligible and non eligible flocks for the programme

(b) Check means to perform a flock level test under the programme for the presence of Salmonella. In this column a flock must not be counted twice even if it has been checked more than once.

(c) Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium = SE + ST Salmonella Enteritidis + Salmonella Typhimurium + Salmonella Hadar + Salmonella Infantis + Salmonella Virchow = SE+ ST + SH +SI + SV

(d) 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.

2 Targets on vaccination

2.1 Targets on vaccination for year :

2016

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NUTS Region	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	
		Targets on vaccination			
NUTS Region	Number of flocks in the programme	Number of flocks expected to be vaccinated	Number of animals expected to be vaccinated	Number of doses of vaccine expected to be administered	
			Add a new row		

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D. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme

1 Costs of the planned activities for year : 2016

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	
Cost of analysis	Bacteriological detection test	8	18.19	145.52	yes	X
Cost of analysis	Serotyping	1	38.38	38.38	yes	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	
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	
4. Cleaning and disinfection						
Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
				Add a new row		
5. Other essential costs (Art. 8.1.h of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014)						

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Cost related to	<u>Specification</u>	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Union funding requested	
Other costs	dd	0	0	0	no	X
				Add a new row		
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	
Official sampling of poultry flocks	Cost of official sampling	8	5.97	47.76	yes	X
				Grand Total		
				231.66		

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))

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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)

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.

NB: G5 resubmission on 13.10.2015 as lab test incorrectly added as other costs and not requested for cofinancing in D.1.1.

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

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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

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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

3. 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

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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
	6909_4320.doc	6909_4320.doc	43 kb
	6909_4321.doc	6909_4321.doc	29 kb
		Total size of attachments :	72 kb