

## Eradication: Final report for Salmonella 2018

For each approved annual or multi-annual programme Member States shall submit to the Commission by the 30 April each year an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred (Art 14 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014).

**This form is for information only, no submission possible.**

ID: 20190712-CMK6RKHO

**Country code:** UK

### Reporting period

**From:** 2018

**To:** 2020

**Year of implementation:** 2018

## 1. Technical implementation of the programme

### **1.1 Description and evaluation of the evolution of the epidemiological situation, the technical implementation of the activities foreseen under the programme and the cost-effectiveness of the programme.**

Gallus gallus

During 2018 there has been one broiler breeder chicken flock detected positive for a regulated serovar in the UK.

The flock tested positive for monophasic Salmonella Typhimurium- in total 5,809 birds were slaughtered and a total of £14464.41 (€16,852.48 according to ECB rate at 29 March 2019 of £1 to €1.1651) in compensation was paid to the producer.

The Salmonella National Control Programme (NCP) is implemented in the UK to meet the target for reduction in Salmonella prevalence set out in Regulation (EC) No. 200/2010. The NCP sets out the enhanced monitoring and controls for Salmonella in breeding flocks to reduce the risk to public health. The programme commenced in 2007.

Sampling at the initiative of the operator and at the initiative of the Competent Authority is carried out according to the requirements of the legislation. The requirements of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 Annex IIC apply in the case of detection of certain Salmonella serovars in breeding chicken flocks. When a breeding flock of Gallus gallus is suspected of being infected with Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic strains), the flock is placed under official control by the Competent Authority and the owner is required to have the birds slaughtered in accordance with Community legislation. Hatching eggs present in the hatchery from the time the flock was suspected to be infected are

removed and destroyed, or used for human consumption if they are treated in a manner that guarantees the elimination of the salmonella in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene. There is a requirement for mandatory cleansing and disinfection following depopulation. When a breeding flock is infected with *S. Hadar*, *S. Infantis*, or *S. Virchow*, mandatory slaughter is not required by the Competent Authority, but the operator/owner of the flock is required to draw up a plan in consultation with their veterinarian and the Competent Authority for the monitoring and control of the infection.

The UK Competent Authority considers that the low salmonella spp prevalence seen in the UK breeding chicken sector over the years since the start of the implementation of the programme has most likely been due to multiple factors. As progress is made over time, the amount of residual salmonella infection within the poultry industry as a whole reduces to below the point where significant reservoirs of infection still exist and so the opportunity for dissemination or spread between flocks is reduced. The poultry industry has also recognised the importance of controlling wildlife vectors effectively and using optimal vaccination programmes that are properly administered. This is supplemented by high standards of general biosecurity and farm hygiene procedures that have been implemented on UK farms. However, to note, *Salmonella Typhimurium*, especially the pig-associated monophasic *Salmonella Typhimurium* strains, may be increasing in importance due to a reservoir of infection in other livestock sectors. So the possibility of incursion of *Salmonella Typhimurium* into a breeding poultry flock via environmental contamination from other livestock premises or via wild birds and rodents still remains.

Since the start of the programme in 2007, the UK results for breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* have consistently been well below the target of 1% of flocks remaining positive for *Salmonella Enteritidis/Typhimurium/Hadar/Infantis* and *Virchow*. In previous years of this decade the salmonella prevalence for the regulated serovars was 0% (2017), 0.14% (2016), 0.06% (2015), 0.34% (2014), 0.11% (2013), 0% (2012), 0.08% (2011) and 0.06% (2010). For all salmonella serovars the recent prevalence results were 0.52% (2017), 1.90% (2016), 0.46% (2015), 0.99% (2014), 0.85% (2013), 0.81% (2012), 1.20% (2011) and 1.23% (2010).

The NCP for the control of salmonella in flocks of domestic fowl of breeding chickens, as approved by Commission Decision 2006/759/EC, was implemented in the UK on 1st January 2007. The requirements of the salmonella control programme apply to all breeding chicken flocks of 250 or more birds that produce hatching eggs.

All operators with 50 or more birds and all hatcheries with a capacity of 1,000 eggs must register with the Competent Authority, and in Northern Ireland any poultry owner must register their bird(s). Operators are required to keep records when eggs, chicks or birds are moved onto/off the holding. Samples for the detection of salmonella are taken from *Gallus gallus* day-old chicks to be used for breeding, when the birds are approximately 4 weeks of age, and approximately 2 weeks before the birds come into lay. Samples are taken according to the requirements of the UK National Control Programme by the Competent Authority and by the operator as detailed in with Annex 2.2.2.1 of Regulation (EC) 1003/2005, amended by Regulation (EC) No. 200/2010. The frequency of sample collection is set by the EU legislation, (derogation as the Community target has been reached for at least the last two consecutive calendar years in the UK). Sampling is carried out by the food business operator every two or three weeks during the production stage, depending on the breeding company policy.

Routine official control samples are taken by the Competent Authority on two occasions which are sufficiently distant in time from each other during the production cycle. Samples consist of chick box liners or hatcher tray liners, chick carcasses, boot swabs or composite faeces samples, depending on the stage in the flock's life.

When a breeding flock of *Gallus gallus* is suspected of being infected with *Salmonella Enteritidis* or *Salmonella Typhimurium* (including monophasic strains), the flock is placed under official control by the Competent Authority. Movement of birds, equipment, bedding materials onto or off the premise can only occur under licence issued by the Competent Authority. This applies to breeding flocks from day old through to end of production. The owner is required to have the birds slaughtered in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene. Hatching eggs present in the hatchery from the time the flock was suspected to be infected are removed and destroyed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002. Food business operators must also undertake mandatory cleansing and disinfection following depopulation. Movement restrictions are only lifted after full depopulation of the infected flock and satisfactory cleansing and disinfection procedures have been carried out.

When a chicken breeding flock is infected with *S. Hadar*, *S. Infantis*, or *S. Virchow*, the operator/owner of the flock is required to draw up a plan in consultation with their veterinarian and the Competent Authority for the monitoring and control of the infection.

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The UK NCP for breeding flocks of turkeys, as approved by Commission Decision 2009/771/EC, was implemented on 1 January 2010. The Programme applies to all breeding turkey flocks of 250 or more birds that produce hatching eggs and all fattening flocks of more than 500 birds unless exempted under Regulation (EC) No. 2160/2003.

When a breeding flock of turkeys is suspected of being infected with *Salmonella Enteritidis* or *Salmonella Typhimurium* (including monophasic strains) the flock is placed under official control by the Competent Authority. This applies to breeding flocks from day old through to end of production. Movement of birds, equipment, bedding materials onto or off the premise can only occur under licence issued by the

Competent Authority. When infection with Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic strains) is identified, the owner is required to have the birds slaughtered in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene. Hatching eggs present in the hatchery from the time the flock was suspected to be infected are removed and destroyed. There is the requirement for mandatory cleansing and disinfection following depopulation. Movement restrictions are only lifted after full depopulation of the infected flock and satisfactory cleansing and disinfection procedures have been carried out.

In the UK, for premises where a target serovar has been detected, an inspection and advisory visit is carried out by a Government veterinary salmonella expert. Advice and a written report on disease control, including biosecurity measures, specifically targeted to the situation on the premises, is provided.

#### Turkey breeding flocks

Regulation (EU) 1190/2012 sets out the enhanced monitoring and controls for salmonella in fattening and breeding turkey flocks which includes sampling at the initiative of the operator and the Competent Authority. The programme for breeding turkeys aims to ensure that the start of the food chain is almost completely free of salmonella of public health significance and through this, reduce the risk to public health.

According to the requirements of Regulation 2160/2003/EC, Annex IIC (as amended) when Salmonella Enteritidis or Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic strains) is identified in a breeding flock, the owner is compensated following compulsory slaughter of the flock. Compensation is based on the costs incurred in rearing the bird to a certain age, less any income which has been derived from the bird (e.g. hatching eggs). A scale of compensation is published on a quarterly basis according to the age of the birds and status in the production pyramid. Payment is made directly from the available budget held by the Central Competent Authority.

In 2018 there were four positive laying flocks of breeding turkeys on two adjacent sites operated by the same company and with shared staff. There were also two positive stag flocks identified, one on each site. One stag flock was compensated for and one was not (because it was culled before the producer was officially instructed to do so). The flocks tested positive for monophasic Salmonella Typhimurium. In total 8,956 birds were culled. 8776 were compulsorily culled and 180 were voluntarily culled by the company, and £174,255.53 (€203,025.12 based on the European Central Bank's exchange rate for 29 March 2019 of £1 to €1.1651) was paid out in official compensation to the producer for the birds that were compulsorily culled. This incident means that the breeding turkey target for the UK has been breached. Prior to this incident (affecting multiple closely located breeding turkey flocks in single ownership) the UK had not identified any regulated serovars in breeding turkey flocks since the NCP began in 2010, so the UK prevalence increased from 0% each year between 2010 and 2017 to 2.07% (6 positive turkey breeding flocks/290 UK turkey breeding flocks) in 2018. The breach of target means that the UK can no longer benefit from the derogation allowing four week rather than three weekly sampling on farm and so instigated three weekly sampling from 1 January 2019.

### **1.2 Details on the level of achievement of the targets set in the approved programme and technical difficulties.**

#### Chicken breeding flocks

In the UK, samples are submitted to a laboratory authorised by the Competent Authorities which apply quality assurance systems that conform to the requirements of the current EN/ISO standard. The operator must keep a record of the date when each flock is sampled for salmonella, the identity of the flock sampled, the age of the flock sampled, the laboratory which undertook the analysis and the result of the tests. In addition, the operator is required to make these records available to the Competent Authority for inspection where required.

In 2018 one broiler breeder chicken flock was detected positive for a regulated serovar (monophasic Salmonella Typhimurium). The incidence of regulated serovars in the UK therefore remains well below the target.

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#### Breeding turkey flocks

In the UK, samples are submitted to a laboratory authorised by the Competent Authorities which apply quality assurance systems that conform to the requirements of the current EN/ISO standard. The operator must keep a record of the date when each flock is sampled for salmonella, the identity of the flock sampled, the age of the flock sampled, the laboratory which undertook the analysis and the result of the tests. In addition, the operator is required to make these records available to the Competent Authority for inspection where required.

There are 290 breeding turkey flocks in the UK. Therefore the identification of four positive laying flocks and two positive stag flocks of breeding turkeys identified in the 2018 incident resulted in the UK breaching the target for breeding turkeys for the first time since the programme's inception.

### **1.3 Epidemiological maps for infection and other relevant data on the disease/activities (information on serotypes involved,...) (Please attach files of data using the PDF attachment feature) Use the textbox below to provide clarifications for the maps you attach, if needed.**

The prevalence of Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic strains) identified in poultry flocks in the UK during 2018 may have been higher due to the unusually warm weather and the spread of infected dust

from other contaminated premises, particularly pig farms. In 2018 there were four positive laying flocks of breeding turkeys on two adjacent sites operated by the same company and with shared staff. There were also two positive stag flocks identified, one on each site. One broiler breeder chicken flock was detected positive for a regulated serovar (monophasic Salmonella Typhimurium). The incidence of regulated serovars in the UK therefore remains well below the target.

Overall in 2018 the UK paid £188,719.94 (€211,128.77) compensation for poultry slaughtered under the Salmonella National Control Programmes. The UK percentage of breeding turkey flocks positive for regulated serovars during 2018 breached the reduction target of 1% or less flocks being positive for Salmonella Enteritidis and S. Typhimurium (including monophasic strains).

## 2. Tables for Salmonella monitoring outcome of the year

VERY IMPORTANT: Please fill out the following tables with figures corresponding to measures performed during the implementing period (1/1 to 31/12).

	Number of adults flocks checked	Number of these flocks infected by a target serovar	Incidence
Breeding flocks of Gallus gallus	1,441	1	0.07 %
Laying hen flocks	0	0	%
Broiler flocks	0	0	%
Breeding flocks of turkeys	290	6	2.07 %
Fattening flocks of turkeys	0	0	%

**Table A - BREEDING FLOCKS OF GALLUS GALLUS**

No of flocks with more than 250 adult breeders of Gallus gallus	1,441
No of flocks covered by the programme - Rearing flocks	0
No of flocks covered by the programme - Adults	1,441
No of flocks checked by the Competent Authorities - Rearing flocks	0
No of flocks checked by the Competent Authorities - Adults	1,441
No of flocks checked by the FBO - Rearing flocks	0
No of flocks checked by the FBO - Adults	1,441
No of official visits to take samples - Routine (holding)	2,993
No of official visits to take samples - Routine (hatchery)	0
No of official visits to take samples - Confirmatory sampling	0
No of official visits to take samples - Efficacy of disinfection	1
Positive flocks (SE,ST,SH,SI,SV) - No of positive flocks - Rearing flocks	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST,SH,SI,SV) - No of positive flocks - Adults	1
Positive flocks (SE,ST,SH,SI,SV) - No of positive flocks depopulated - Rearing flocks	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST,SH,SI,SV) - No of positive flocks depopulated - Adults	1
Positive flocks (SE,ST,SH,SI,SV) - No of birds concerned - Rearing flocks	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST,SH,SI,SV) - No of birds concerned - Adults	5,809
Positive flocks (SE,ST,SH,SI,SV) - No of eggs - Heat treated	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST,SH,SI,SV) - No of eggs - Destroyed	119,017

**Table B - FLOCKS OF LAYING HENS**

No of holdings with more than 1,000 adult laying hens	0
No of flocks in these holdings - Rearing flocks	0
No of flocks in these holdings - Adults	0
No of holdings covered by the programme	0
No of holdings covered by the programme - Rearing flocks	0
No of holdings covered by the programme - Adults	0
Official checks - No of holdings with adult flocks checked	0
Official checks - No of adult flocks checked in these holdings	0
Official checks - No of pullet flocks checked in these holdings	0

FBO checks - No of holdings checked	0
FBO checks - No of adult flocks checked in these holdings	0
FBO checks - No of pullet flocks checked in these holdings	0
No of official visits to take samples - Routine	0
No of official visits to take samples - Confirmatory sampling	0
No of official visits to take samples - Specific samples	0
No of official visits to take samples - Competent authority samples	0
No of official visits to take samples - Efficacy of disinfection	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of positive flocks - Rearing flocks	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of positive flocks - Adults	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of positive flocks depopulated - Rearing flocks	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of positive flocks depopulated - Adults	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of birds concerned - Rearing flocks	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of birds concerned - Adults	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of eggs - Destroyed	0

### Table C - BROILER FLOCKS

No of holdings with more than 5,000 broilers	0
No of flocks produced in these holdings	0
No of holdings covered by the programme	0
No of flocks produced in these holdings	0
No of flocks checked (official checks)	0
No of flocks checked (FBO checks)	0
No of official visits to take samples - Routine	0
No of official visits to take samples - Efficacy of disinfection	0
No of positive flocks (SE,ST)	0

### Table D - BREEDING FLOCKS OF TURKEY

No of flocks with more than 250 adult breeding turkeys	290
No of flocks with elite, great grand parent, grand parents	125
No of flocks covered by the programme - Rearing flocks	0
No of flocks covered by the programme - Adults	290
No of flocks checked by the Competent Authorities - Rearing flocks	0
No of flocks checked by the Competent Authorities - Adults	208
No of flocks checked by the FBO - Rearing flocks	0
No of flocks checked by the FBO - Adults	290
No of official visits to take samples - Routine (holding)	30
No of official visits to take samples - Routine (hatchery)	178
No of official visits to take samples - Confirmatory sampling	0
No of official visits to take samples - Efficacy of disinfection	6
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of positive flocks - Rearing flocks	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of positive flocks - Adults	6
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of positive flocks depopulated - Rearing flocks	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of positive flocks depopulated - Adults	6
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of birds concerned - Rearing flocks	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of birds concerned - Adults	8,956
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of eggs - Heat treated	0
Positive flocks (SE,ST) - No of eggs - Destroyed	0

### Table E - FLOCKS OF FATTENING TURKEYS

No of holdings with more than 500 fattening turkeys	0
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No of flocks produced in these holdings	0
No of holdings covered by the programme	0
No of flocks produced in these holdings	0
No of flocks checked (official checks)	0
No of flocks checked (FBO checks)	0
No of official visits to take samples - Routine	0
No of official visits to take samples - Efficacy of disinfection	0
No of positive flocks (SE,ST)	0

**Table F - LABORATORY TESTS**

Laboratory tests on official samples	Nb of tests					
	Breeding flocks	Laying flocks	Broiler flocks	Breeding turkey flocks	Fattening turkey flocks	TOTAL
Microbiological tests	0	0	0	0	0	0
Serotyping tests	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disinfection efficacy tests	0	0	0	0	0	0
Antimicrobial detection tests	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Table G - VACCINATION**

	No of flocks in the vaccination programme	No of flocks vaccinated	No of birds vaccinated	No of doses administered
Breeders	0	0	0	0
Layers	0	0	0	0
Breeding turkeys	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0

## COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION

In table D - Breeding flocks of turkey.

Number of birds concerned - total number of adults is 8956. 8776 were compensated on but 180 were not compensated on because they were voluntarily culled by the company.

We do not have the data for the number of turkey eggs destroyed but we do know that all eggs were destroyed.