



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Unit 04 - Veterinary Control Programmes

SANCO/12906/2010

*Programmes for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain
animal diseases and zoonoses*

Control programme of Salmonella

Approved* for 2011 by Commission Decision 2010/712/EU

Ireland

* in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC

ANNEX II

Standard requirements for the submission of national programmes for the control of Salmonellosis (zoonotic Salmonella) as referred to in Article 1(b)

PART A

General requirements for the national salmonella control programmes

(a) State the aim of the programme:

Control of Zoonosis for Fattening and Breeding Turkeys of *Gallus gallus*

scan0081.pdf

(b) Demonstrate the evidence that it complies with the minimum sampling requirements laid down in part B of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (*) indicating the relevant animal population and phases of production which sampling must cover

(c) demonstrate the evidence that it complies with the specific requirements laid down in Parts C, D and E of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003;

Re (b) and (c) - requirements are being carried out in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 584/2008 implemented by Control of Salmonella in Turkeys Regulations 2010 (S.I. Number 99 of 2010).

and

(d) specify the following

points:

1. General

1.1. A short summary referring to the occurrence of the salmonellosis [zoonotic salmonella] in the Member State with specific reference to the results obtained in the framework of monitoring in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, particularly highlighting the prevalence values of the salmonella serovars targeted in the salmonella control programmes.

The objectives of the control plan are specifically following Article 1 (a) and (b) on the community target of CR 584/2008/EC. This target has been met already under the framework for monitoring in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC which indicates a zero prevalence for SE and ST in breeding flocks of turkeys. The prevalence in fattening turkeys is also zero for SE and ST as was indicated by the prevalence study in fattening and breeding turkeys.

In 2009, 5 samples were taken and no positives were detected.

1.2. The structure and organization of the relevant competent authorities. Please refer to the information flow between bodies involved in the implementation of the programme.

The central competent authority for this programme is the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF). Officially collected samples are tested at DAFF's Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, the Director of which reports to DAFF's Chief Veterinary Officer. DAFF has a District Veterinary Office (DVO) in each county and staff from these offices undertake the official sampling programme. The evaluation of results and decisions in relation to follow-up action in positive cases are the responsibility of official veterinarians in DAFF headquarters.

Please see flow chart attachment submitted with the laying flocks co-financing programme.

1.3. Approved laboratories where samples collected within the programme are analysed.

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, (CVRL) and approved laboratories by DAFF.

1.4. Methods used in the examination of the samples in the framework of the programme.
Bacteriological tests (cultivation - ELISA if positive culture is detected) and sero-typing of relevant isolates tests.

1.5. Official controls (including sampling schemes) at feed, flock and/or herd level.

- Feedmills:

There are 11 feedmills supplying poultry feed in Ireland. Routine official Salmonella Monitoring of raw materials used in poultry feed has been carried out by DAFF since 1988. Raw material samples are taken at point of import, at compound feed manufacturers premises or at the point of manufacture (e.g. fish meal).

Routine official Salmonella monitoring of compound (finished) poultry feed has been carried out by DAF since 1988 in all poultry compound feed manufacturers. Compound feed samples are taken at point of dispatch in poultry compound feed manufacturers premises or from bagged product. Official sampling of feeding-stuffs from mills supplying the poultry industry occurs a minimum of 6 times per year in each mill.

In poultry offal rendering plants, sampling for salmonella is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption.

In addition feed samples may be taken by an Official Veterinarian as part of any suspect *S. enteritidis* or *S. typhimurium* investigations.

Detailed results of all Ireland official raw material and poultry compound feed results are presented to the Commission as part of Ireland's zoonosis data report as was required under Council Directive 2003/99/EEC.

Heat treatment of all poultry feed is compulsory under the Diseases of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 - S.I. No 364 of 1991.

- FATTENING TURKEYS:

Operator Sampling:

Sampling of flocks of fattening and breeding turkeys within 3 weeks before the birds are moved to slaughterhouse in accordance with Article 5(3) of Regulation (EC) 2160/2003. These results only remain valid until maximum of 6 weeks after sampling and therefore repeat sampling of flocks may be required.

Sampling by the Competent Authority, (DAFF):

(i) Sampling to include at least once a year, all flocks on 10% of the holdings with at least 500 fattening birds carried out on a risk assessment basis.

In addition the Competent Authority will sample:

(ii) All flocks on a holding when one flock tested positive for *Salmonella enteritidis* (SE) or *Salmonella typhimurium* (ST) in samples taken by the food business operator, unless the meat of the turkeys in the flocks is destined for industrial heat treatment or another treatment to eliminate salmonella and

(iii) All flocks on the holding when one flock tested positive for *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium* during the previous round in samples taken by the food business operator

(iv) Each time the competent authority considers necessary

All flocks on a holding will be sampled following detection of *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium* in samples taken at hatchery or by a food business operator or as part of official controls to investigate the origin of infection.

- (B) BREEDING FLOCKS OF TURKEYS

Sampling is required as follows:

Operator sampling:

Rearing flocks at: (i) day olds (ii) four weeks of age & (iii) two weeks before moving to the laying unit

Adult flocks: Every third week during the laying period at the holding or at the hatchery

Sampling of flocks of fattening and breeding turkeys within 3 weeks before the birds are moved to slaughterhouse in accordance with Article 5(3) of Regulation (EC) 2160/2003.

These results only remain valid until maximum of 6 weeks after sampling and therefore repeat sampling of flocks may be required.

- 1.6. Measures taken by the competent authorities with regard to animals or products in which the presence of *Salmonella* spp. have been detected, in particular to protect public health, and any preventive measures taken, such as vaccination.

When infection is confirmed, a slaughter policy, subject to co-financing, operates by agreement with the poultry industry. Non-incubated eggs are heat treated or destroyed, and cleaning and disinfection following slaughter is carried out in accordance with the procedures laid down by an Official Veterinarian. Antibiotic treatment of infected flocks is not permitted in Ireland. Vaccination is prohibited in Ireland and antimicrobials are used only for therapeutic reasons and in the event of confirmed Se or St in a domestic fowl breeding flock compensation may not be payable where reasonable bio-security measures to prevent their occurrence have not been taken.

- 1.7. National legislation relevant to the implementation of the programmes, including any national provisions concerning the activities set out in the programme.

The monitoring system described above is the system for ascertaining presence/absence of salmonella. Generally, no official action is taken when serotypes other than Se and St are found

Salmonella enteritidis (St) and *Salmonella typhimurium* (St) are scheduled and notifiable in Ireland under Statutory Instrument entitled Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) Order 2008 - S.I. 101 of 2008. A copy of this Order was submitted with the layer flocks co financing programme.

Flocks positive for SE or ST are subjected to sanitary slaughter, the houses are thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and fumigated before restocking. A risk analysis is carried out and meat from positive flocks may be subjected to heat treatment and subjected to a positive release system

Primary responsibility for the control and monitoring of Salmonella is with the Zoonoses Division of Veterinary Public Health, On farm issues are the responsibility of the Agricultural Inspectorate and Veterinary Animal Health and Welfare Division, Administrative functions are the responsibility of Pigeon and Poultry Division.

In addition the Disease of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 requires that any feed intended to be fed to poultry (other than primary agricultural products grown on the poultry premises) must be heat treated to a minimum of 75°C and must show an absence of salmonella in a 25 gram sample.

- 1.8. Any financial assistance provided to food and feed businesses in the context of the programme.

NIL

2. Concerning food and feed businesses covered by the programme

2.1. The structure of the production of the given species and products thereof

Please see second PDF attachment.

2.2. The structure of the production of feed.

There are 11 mills owned by independent and private companies.

2.3. Relevant guidelines for good animal husbandry practices or other guidelines (mandatory or voluntary) on biosecurity measures defining at least:

- hygiene management at farms,
- measures to prevent incoming infections carried by animals, feed, drinking water, people working at farms, and
- hygiene in transporting animals to and from farms.

a) Documentation must be available that demonstrates that the essential "Pre-requisite" requirements (Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and Good Hygiene Practice (GHP) have been adequately addressed at all appropriate steps, including procurement (Category 1).

The HACCP system must comply with the following:

b) The Processor must have a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan which shows how product / process safety is ensured through control and prevention (Critical);

c) This plan must be supported by senior management;

d) It should be put in place by a multidiscipline team;

e) At least one member of this team should have received formal training in the application of HACCP Principles;

f) At a minimum the Hazard Control Plan must include (all Category 1);

g) The HACCP plan must be verified / tested annually at a minimum to ensure that it is effective;

h) As part of this verification / testing process, microbiological criteria (as set out in the Regulation EC 2073/2005) must be used in accordance with Appendix 4 (Critical);

i) The Processor must establish a schedule for this testing where the frequency is based on the established risks and the microbiological history of the product;

j) The data must be monitored and trends analysed so that appropriate actions or corrective actions can be taken and documented;

k) The HACCP plan must be supported by the GMP and GHP Plans.

Poultry Quality Assurance Standard: Processor Requirements -

i. A detailed description of the products and process steps (e.g. a flow diagram showing all the steps of each process).

ii. A detailed description of the hazards (chemical, microbiological and physical / foreign bodies) that could arise at each process step and the risk that these represent,

iii. Identification of Critical Control Points (CCP) in the plan,

iv. Definition of the limits that must be met to ensure control of each CCP,

v. The monitoring required to ensure that control is maintained at each CCP,

vi. The corrective action to be taken if a non-conformance occurs for each CCP,

vii. Identification of the responsibilities, procedures and records applicable for each CCP.

Please see first PDF attachment

2.4. Routine veterinary supervision of farms.

Under the supervision of the local Veterinary Office and subject to regulatory control.

Veterinary officers are authorised under the relevant legislation to enforce EU and National measures relating to animal health and welfare, including legislation concerning the control of animal disease, veterinary medicines, and the hygienic production of foods of animal origin, by routine inspection and sampling, by investigation and the acquisition of evidence, and by legal process in the courts, often in co-operation with the Gardai (police) and Customs officers.

2.5. Registration of farms.

All farms are registered both under national and EU legislation.

2.6. Record-keeping at farms.

All records must be controlled (e.g. by signing and dating) and must be maintained at a secure and easily accessible location for a minimum period of three years unless otherwise specified (e.g. for SRM).

These records are maintained in accordance with EU and national legislation. In addition farm records must be maintained under the Bord Bia Quality Assurance Scheme.

2.7 Documents to accompany animals when dispatched. Dispatch and Transport

Documents under the Poultry Hatcheries Act 1947 and Poultry Hatcheries Act Regulations 1959.

Note: It is the responsibility of the processor and the transporter to ensure that the cold chain is maintained during loading and transport and is appropriate to the product.

A record of the following checks must be maintained (all Category 1):

- i. All transport vehicles must be inspected prior to loading to ensure that they are clean, waterproof and undamaged; that door seals and air circulation ducts are intact; and that the refrigeration unit is working properly,
- ii. Containers must be checked to ensure that they are pre-cooled prior to loading.
- iii. Product temperature must be checked prior to loading.
- iv. Records must be maintained to demonstrate the effectiveness of temperature control appropriate to the product during transit,
- v. A contingency plan must be in place to deal with refrigerated delivery breakdown.

2.8 Other relevant measures to ensure the traceability of animals.

No Account

Application by Ireland for Community co-financing for the year 2010 programme for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain animal diseases and zoonoses for Community financing

Annex II (Part B)

1. Identification of Programme

Member State: IRELAND

Disease: infection of animals with zoonotic *Salmonella* spp

Animal population covered by the programme: Fattening 2.0 million; and Breeding 0.2 million.

Year of Implementation: 2010.

Reference of this document: Salmonella in Fattening and Breeding turkeys.

Contact: Robert Byrne. Phone Number: 00 353 607 2263, Fax No 00 353 1 607 2823 or e-mail address: robert.byrne@agriculture.gov.ie.

Date sent to Commission: 28 April 2010

2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease:

This National Plan for Monitoring and Control of Salmonella in Breeding and Meat Production Flocks of Turkeys in Ireland, dated December 2008, in order to fulfil the requirements of Article 5 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 2160/2003 on the control of salmonella in breeding and meat production flocks of turkeys. The plan outlines the measures being taken in Ireland including those measures taken to implement in full the requirements of Annexes II and III of Council Regulation (EC) No. 2160/2003 with respect to the breeding and meat production flocks of turkeys.

The Commission approved the National Plan in 2009 and the Plan sets out the monitoring arrangements for breeding and meat production flocks of turkeys.

In addition, a wider Salmonella Monitoring Programme has been in operation in the poultry sector in Ireland since 1989 covering areas such as laying and breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* and broiler flocks. This programme was agreed between the industry and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF) and sets out guidelines for monitoring and general bio-security arrangements.

There is no evidence of significant *Salmonella typhimurium* (St) or *Salmonella enteritidis* (Se) infection in the national poultry flock. During 2009 and to date for 2010, no outbreaks of Se or St were detected in any poultry flocks, so it was not necessary to put scheduled appropriate measures in force. Other *Salmonella* sero-types were found in 2007 and 2008 e.g. *S. mbandaka*, and *S. Indiana* from sampling at Hatcheries.

The position on flock monitoring to date is that there has been no cases confirmed for either St or Se in any fattening or breeding turkey flocks.

During 2009, 0.7 million turkeys were slaughtered at 3 approved slaughter plants.

3. Description of the submitted programme:

Sampling by the Competent Authority, (DAFF) is conducted at all commercial fattening and breeding sites. (including feed mills)

Procedure for sampling:

(i) Sampling to include at least once a year, all flocks on 10% of the holdings with at least 500 fattening birds carried out on a risk assessment basis.

In addition the Competent Authority will sample:

(ii) All flocks on a holding when one flock tested positive for *Salmonella enteritidis* (SE) or *Salmonella typhimurium* (ST) in samples taken by the food business operator, unless the meat of the turkeys in the flocks is destined for industrial heat treatment or another treatment to eliminate salmonella and

- (iii) All flocks on the holding when one flock tested positive for *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium* during the previous round in samples taken by the food business operator
- (iv) Each time the competent authority considers necessary

All fattening and breeding flocks on a holding will be sampled following detection of *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium* in samples taken at hatchery or by a food business operator or as part of official controls to investigate the origin of infection.

All testing on officially collected samples is conducted in the DAFF Central Veterinary Research Laboratory.

4 Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of measures under the programme

Duration of the programme: 2010

Year 2010

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products
- Monitoring

Year 2009 no outbreaks (to date) in fattening or breeding flocks

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products
- Monitoring

Year 2008

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products
- Monitoring

4.2 Designation of the central authority charged with supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme:

The central competent authority for this programme is the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF). Officially collected samples are tested at DAFF's Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, the Director of which reports to DAFF's Chief Veterinary Officer. DAFF has a District Veterinary Office in each county and staff from these offices undertake the official sampling programme. The evaluation of results and decisions in relation to follow-up action in positive cases are the responsibility of official veterinarians in DAFF headquarters.

4.3 Description and delimitation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented:

The entire country.

DAFF undertakes to inform the Commission regularly and fully of developments under the programme and to provide whatever additional information, if any, is required.

4.4 Measures implemented under the programme

4.4.1 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the registration of holdings:

Breeding establishments are registered under the Poultry Hatcheries Act 1947 and, if they are engaged in Intra Community Trade, they must be approved under the European Communities (Live Poultry and Hatching Eggs) Regulations 1992 and 1995 which implement Council Directive 90/539/FCC.

Commission Regulation (EC) No 543/2008 laying down detailed rules for the application of council regulation (Ec) No 1234/2007 as regards the marketing standard for poultrymeat and national legislation under the Marketing Standards for Poultrymeat transposing this Regulation.

Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Registration of poultry Premises) Order 2005.

4.4.2 Measures and terms of legislation as regards identification of animals:

Not applicable

4.4.3 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the notification of the disease:

4.4.4 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the measures in case of a positive result:

Regarding 4.43 and 4.44 -

Salmonellosis caused by or involving Sc or St is a notifiable disease under

- Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) Order 2008.
- National legislation to be implemented this year transposing Commission Regulation (EC) No 584/2008.
- The provisions as stated in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, Annex II.C and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005, Annex 4 refer.
- In the frame of the control programme for turkeys paragraphs 1 and 2 (frequency of sampling) and 4 (results and reporting) (particularly provisions on confirmatory sampling and exceptional cases) of the Annex of Commission Regulation (EC) 584/2008 are implemented.

4.4.5 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the different qualifications of animals and herds:

Not applicable

4.4.6 Control measures and in particular rules on the movement of animals liable to be affected or contaminated by a given disease and the regular inspection of the holdings or areas concerned:

- Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) Order 2008.
- National legislation to be implemented this year transposing Commission Regulation (T.C) No 584/2008.
- The provisions as stated in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, Annex II.C and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005, Annex 4 refer.

Generally, no official action is taken when serotypes other than Se and St are found.

4.4.7 Measures and applicable legislation as regards the control of the disease:

The monitoring system described above is the system for ascertaining presence/absence of salmonella.

In addition the Disease of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 requires that any feed intended to be fed to poultry (other than primary agricultural products grown on the poultry premises) must be heat treated to a minimum of 75°C and must show an absence of salmonella in a 25 grams sample.

National legislation makes it an offence to contravene CR 1177/2006. Regulation 12 (1) (a) of the European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks of Domestic Fow) Regulations 2006 refers and there are similar provisions included in the national legislation for other categories of poultry.

4.4.8 Measures and applicable legislation as regards the compensation for owners of slaughtered and killed animals:

DAFF operates a non-statutory scheme of compensation whereby the value of poultry and eggs destroyed (less any salvage) and costs of transport to place of destruction are reimbursed. Other costs arising, such as loss of income, are not compensated.

4.4.9 information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure in place in the flocks/holdings involved:

Annex 7 part 3.9 attached contains information on bio-security measures in place in the flock/holdings

The Bord Bia QAS has relevant voluntary guides (producers' standards), but these are not shown on the Bord Bia website (www.bordbia.ie)

5. General description of the costs and benefits

The anticipated benefits of the programme are the minimising of human health problems arising from salmonella-based food poisoning and a consequent reduction in suffering, injury, mortality and health service costs.

The taking and testing of samples, and related tasks, are undertaken by personnel of DAFF and have not been separately costed. The costs in respect of which co-financing is sought are the costs of compensating owners of fattening and breeding flocks of turkeys whose flocks have been destroyed under the programme. **In the unlikely event of an outbreak to occur, a Community co-financing provision of €100,000 is required, based in calculations on the number of analytical tests to be carried out throughout the year.**

The objective is to monitor and detect the incidence of salmonella in the national flock, to remove infected poultry and eggs from the system and to minimise the level of salmonella-based food poisoning.

No outbreaks of *Sc*, *St*, *S.hadar*, *S.virchow* or *S.infantis* were detected in any of the fattening and breeding flocks of turkeys in 2008 and so far in the first half of 2009, so no compensation in respect of the destruction of birds and eggs following detection was paid.

Please see link beneath as regards the European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2006-S. I. No 706 of 2006.

<http://ezone.library/DAF/Legal/LEG/2006DAF/AFSIS/SI706-2006.pdf>

6. Data on the epidemiological evolution during the past five years

6.1. Evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

6.1.1. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2008

Situation on date: 28th April 2010

Animal species: Turkeys

Disease/infection^(a): Sc and St

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(e)	Number of positive ^(e) flocks ^(a2)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(a4)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(a)		Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(a1)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(a3)
							(a1)	(a2)		(a4)	(a3)		
IRELAND	Turkey Fattening	80	2,000,000	80	2,000,000	80	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Turkey Breeder	8	200,000	8	200,000	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		88	2,200,000	88	2,200,000	88	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-sps appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, breeder turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

6.1.1.1. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2009 Situation on date: 28th April 2010
 Animal species: Turkeys Disease: Infection^(a): Se and St

Region (a1)	Type of flocks ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(d)	Number of positive ^(e) flocks ^(a)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(a)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(a)		Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(a)		Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(a)	
							(a1)	(a2)		(a3)	(a4)	(a3)	(a4)	(a3)	(a4)
IRELAND	Turkey	80	2,000,000	80	2,000,000	80	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Pattening														
	Turkey	8	200,000	8	200,000	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Breeder														
Total		88	2,200,000	88	2,200,000	88	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, brooding turkeys, brooding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

6.1.1. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2010 Situation on date: 28th April 2010
 Animal species: Turkeys Disease/infection^(a): Se and St

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(d)	Number of positive ^(e) flocks ^(d)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(e)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(e)	Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(e)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(e)
							(a2)	(a3)				
IRELAND	Turkey Fattening	80	2,000,000	80	2,000,000	80	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Turkey Breeder	8	200,000	8	200,000	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		88	2,200,000	88	2,200,000	88	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-spc appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(b) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate. Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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. If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2009 Animal species^(a): Turkeys Category^(b): Turkeys

Description of the used serological tests: St Elisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND						
No outbreaks	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2010 Animal species ^(a): Turkeys Category ^(b): Turkeys

Description of the used serological tests: St Elisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND						
No outbreaks	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc, when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.3. *Data on infection (one table per year and per species)*

Year: 2009	Animal species ^(a) : Turkeys		
Region ^(b)		Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
IRELAND		Nil	Nil
Total		Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

The given information is based on flocks and is in accordance with the final results of the technical programmes implemented in 2009.

6.3. *Data on infection (one table per year and per species)*

Year: 2010	Animal species ^(a) : Turkeys		
Region ^(b)		Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
IRELAND		Nil	Nil
Total		Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

The given information is based on flocks and is in accordance with the final results of the technical programmes implemented in 2009.

6.4 Data on vaccination programmes

Vaccinations are prohibited in Ireland

7. Targets

7.1. Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation)

7.1.1. Targets on diagnostic tests

Animal species: ⁽⁹⁾ ; Turkeys					
Region ⁽⁸⁾	Type of the test ⁽⁶⁾	Target population ⁽⁶⁾	Type of sample ⁽⁶⁾	Objective ⁽⁶⁾	Number of planned tests
IRELAND 2011	ELISA (only if positive culture is detected)	As per table 6.1.2	Boat Swab	Identify positive flocks	400
				Total	400

(a) Species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Description of the test.

(d) Specification of the targeted species and the categories of targeted animals if necessary.

(e) Description of the sample (for instance faeces).

(f) Description of the objective (for instance surveillance, monitoring, control of vaccination).

The number of planned tests remains as above (400).

7.1.2. Targets on testing of flocks¹

Year: 2011

Situation on date: 28th April 2010

Animal species: Turkeys

Infection^(a): Se and SI

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Expected number of flocks to be checked ^(d)	Number of flocks ^(e) expected to be positive ^(b)		Number of flocks expected to be depopulated ^(a)	Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered or destroyed ^(a)	Expected quantity of eggs to be destroyed (number or kg) ^(a)	Expected quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(a)
							(a1)	(a2)				
IRELAND	Turkey Patterning	80	2,000,000	80	2,000,000	80	Nil	Nil	Nil	50,000	Nil	Nil
	Turkey Breeder	8	200,000	8	200,000	8	Nil	Nil	Nil	20,000	Nil	Nil
Total		88	2,200,000	88	2,200,000	88	Nil	Nil	Nil	70,000	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a2) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a3) for other serotypes-specify as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium

(b) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate

(d) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

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

(f) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

7.2.1 Targets on vaccination

Not applicable as vaccinations are prohibited in Ireland

Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme (one table per year of implementation)

Costs related to	Specification	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested (yes/no)
1. Testing					
1.1. Cost of the analysis					
	Test: Number of bacteriological tests (cultivation) planned to be carried out in the framework of official sampling	400	20	8,000	Yes
	Test: Number of serotyping of relevant isolates tests planned to be carried out	Unknown - all relevant isolates will be tested	30	If all require serotyping then total is €15000	Yes
1.2. Cost of sampling	Laboratory Testing	400	20	8,000	Yes
1.3. Other costs	Nil				No
2. Vaccination or treatment of animal products					
2.1. Purchase of vaccine/treatment of animal products	Nil				No
	Number of purchase of vaccine doses planned if a vaccination policy is part of the programme as set out explicitly under point 4 of Annex II				
2.2. Distribution costs	Nil				No
2.3. Administering costs	Nil				No

2.4. Control costs	Nil					No
3. Slaughter and destruction						
3.1. Compensation of animals	Birds Destroyed	70,000	Various	140,000	Yes	
	Eggs Destroyed	70,000	Various	7,000	Yes	
3.2. Transport costs	Nil				No	
3.3. Destruction costs	Nil				No	
3.4. Loss in case of slaughtering	Nil				No	
3.5. Costs from treatment of animal products (milk, eggs, hatching eggs, etc)	Nil				No	
4. Cleaning and disinfection	Nil				No	
5. Salaries (staff contracted for the programme only)	Dedicated staff for programme			45000	Yes	
6. Consumables and specific equipment	Nil				No	
7. Other costs	Nil				No	
TOTAL					175,000	Yes

Under current national rules all measures for which co-financing have been requested are 'fundable'.

ANNEX II

Standard requirements for the submission of national programmes for the control of Salmonellosis (zoonotic Salmonella) as referred to in Article I(b)

PART A

General requirements for the national salmonella control programmes

(a) State the aim of the programme:

Control of Zoonosis for **Laying flocks** of *Gallus gallus*

(b) Demonstrate the evidence that it complies with the minimum sampling requirements laid down in part B of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (*) indicating the relevant animal population and phases of production which sampling must cover

(c) demonstrate the evidence that it complies with the specific requirements laid down in Parts C, D and E of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003;

Re (b) and (c) - requirements were carried out in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1168/2006 and National legislation entitled the 'European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Laying Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2008. Requirements of testing (details on types of samples, sampling frequency, preparation of samples, laboratory, methods of analysis, etc) were outlined to individual laying flocks producers. Please see letter outlining it (PDF Attachment 1) as well as the relevant national legislation (PDF attachment 2).

Reference should also be made to Annex II, Part B, 6.1.2 for year 2008.

and

(d) specify the following

points:

1. General

1.1. A short summary referring to the occurrence of the salmonellosis [zoonotic salmonella] in the Member State with specific reference to the results obtained in the framework of monitoring in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, particularly highlighting the prevalence values of the salmonella serovars targeted in the salmonella control programmes.

2007: S seftenberg x 1 and S derby x 1. This represents 0.61% prevalence value.

2008: S Dublin x 1 and S derby x 1. This represents 0.34% prevalence value.

2009: No outbreaks

2010: No outbreaks to date

- 1.2. The structure and organization of the relevant competent authorities. Please refer to the information flow between bodies involved in the implementation of the programme.

The central competent authority for this programme is the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF). Officially collected samples are tested at DAFF's Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, the Director of which reports to DAFF's Chief Veterinary Officer. DAFF has authorized officers of its Agricultural Inspectorate covering each county and undertake the official sampling programme. The evaluation of results and decisions in relation to follow-up action in positive cases are the responsibility of official veterinarians in DAFF headquarters. Please see flow chart in this connection in the PDF attachment 3.

- 1.3. Approved laboratories where samples collected within the programme are analysed.

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, (CVRL) and approved laboratories by DAFF - see PDF attachment 4.

- 1.4. Methods used in the examination of the samples in the framework of the programme. Bacteriological tests (cultivation - ELISA if positive culture is detected) and sero-typing of relevant isolates tests.

- 1.5. Official controls (including sampling schemes) at feed, flock and/or herd level.

- Feedmills:

There are 11 feedmills supplying poultry feed in Ireland. Routine official Salmonella Monitoring of raw materials used in poultry feed has been carried out by DAFF since 1988. Raw material samples are taken at point of import, at compound feed manufacturers premises or at the point of manufacture (e.g. fish meal).

Routine official Salmonella monitoring of compound (finished) poultry feed has been carried out by DAF since 1988 in all poultry compound feed manufacturers. Compound feed samples are taken at point of dispatch in poultry compound feed manufacturers premises or from bagged product. Official sampling of feeding-stuffs from mills supplying the poultry industry occurs a minimum of 6 times per year in each mill.

In poultry offal rendering plants, sampling for salmonella is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption.

An Official Veterinarian as part of any suspect *S. enteritidis* or *S. typhimurium* investigations may take in addition feed samples.

Detailed results of all Ireland official raw material and poultry compound feed results are presented to the Commission as part of Ireland's zoonosis data report as was required under Council Directive 2003/99/EEC.

Heat treatment of all poultry feed is compulsory under the Diseases of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 - S.I. No 364 of 1991 - please see Word attachment 8.

- Laying flocks:

Please refer to national legislation entitled the 'European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Laying Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2008 (S.I. No 247 of 2008) outlining official controls. *Salmonella enteritidis* (Se) and *Salmonella typhimurium* (St) are scheduled and notifiable in Ireland under Statutory Instrument entitled Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) Order 2008 - S.I. 101 of 2008.

Investigation of parent and grandparent flocks of *Gallus gallus* declared positive after monitoring is carried out in accordance with the requirements of ANNEX II, section (C) of Council Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

- 1.6. Measures taken by the competent authorities with regard to animals or products in which the presence of *Salmonella* spp. have been detected, in particular to protect public health, and any preventive measures taken, such as vaccination.

When infection is confirmed, a slaughter policy, subject to co-financing, operates by agreement with the poultry industry. Hens and eggs are destroyed, and cleaning and disinfection following slaughter is carried out in accordance with the procedures laid down by an Official Veterinarian. Antibiotic treatment of infected flocks is not permitted in Ireland.

Vaccination is prohibited in Ireland and antimicrobials are used only for therapeutic reasons and in the event of confirmed Se or St in a domestic fowl laying flock compensation may not be payable where reasonable bio-security measures to prevent their occurrence have not been taken.

- 1.7. National legislation relevant to the implementation of the programmes, including any national provisions concerning the activities set out in the programme.

The monitoring system described above is the system for ascertaining presence/absence of salmonella. Generally, no official action is taken when serotypes other than Se and St are found.

Salmonella enteritidis (St) and *Salmonella typhimurium* (St) are scheduled and notifiable in Ireland under Statutory Instrument entitled Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) Order 2008 - S.I. 101 of 2008 – please see PDF attachment 5.

Flocks positive for SE or ST are subjected to sanitary slaughter, the houses are thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and fumigated before restocking. A risk analysis is carried out and meat from positive flocks may be subjected to heat treatment and subjected to a positive release system.

Primary responsibility for the control and monitoring of Salmonella is with the Zoonoses Division of Veterinary Public Health, On farm issues are the responsibility of the Agricultural Inspectorate and Veterinary Animal Health and Welfare Division. Administrative functions are the responsibility of Pigmeat and Poultry Division.

The European Communities (Control of Salmonella in laying Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2008 - S.I. 247 of 2008. In addition the Disease of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 requires that any feed intended to be fed to poultry (other than primary agricultural products grown on the poultry premises) must be heat treated to a minimum of 75°C and must show an absence of salmonella in a 25 grams sample.

- 1.8. Any financial assistance provided to food and feed businesses in the context of the programme.

Valuation is carried out after a flock is confirmed positive by competent staff of the Department of Agriculture. Valuation is based on such factors as the age of birds, costs expended and future production foregone. A scale of compensation is not publicly available.

Concerning food and feed businesses covered by the programme

- 2.1. The structure of the production of the given species and products thereof

Please see relevant PDF attachment 6.

- 2.2. The structure of the production of feed.

There are 11 mills owned by independent and private companies.

2.3. Relevant guidelines for good animal husbandry practices or other guidelines (mandatory or voluntary) on biosecurity measures defining at least:

- hygiene management at farms.
- measures to prevent incoming infections carried by animals, feed, drinking water, people working at farms, and hygiene in transporting animals to and from farms.

a) Documentation must be available that demonstrates that the essential "Pre-requisite" requirements of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and Good Hygiene Practice (GHP) have been adequately addressed at all appropriate steps, including procurement (Category 1).

The HACCP system must comply with the following:

b) The Processor must have a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan which shows how product / process safety is ensured through control and prevention (Critical);

c) This plan must be supported by senior management;

d) It should be put in place by a multidiscipline team;

e) At least one member of this team should have received formal training in the application of HACCP Principles;

f) At a minimum the Hazard Control Plan must include (all Category 1):

g) The HACCP plan must be verified / tested annually at a minimum to ensure that it is effective;

h) As part of this verification / testing process, microbiological criteria (as set out in the Regulation EC 2073/2005) must be used in accordance with Appendix 4 (Critical);

i) The Processor must establish a schedule for this testing where the frequency is based on the established risks and the microbiological history of the product;

j) The data must be monitored and trends analysed so that appropriate actions or corrective actions can be taken and documented;

k) The HACCP plan must be supported by the GMP and GHP Plans.

Poultry Quality Assurance Standard: Processor Requirements -

i. A detailed description of the products and process steps (e.g. a flow diagram showing all the steps of each process).

ii. A detailed description of the hazards (chemical, microbiological and physical / foreign bodies) that could arise at each process step and the risk that these represent,

iii. Identification of Critical Control Points (CCP) in the plan,

iv. Definition of the limits that must be met to ensure control of each CCP,

v. The monitoring required to ensure that control is maintained at each CCP,

vi. The corrective action to be taken if a non-conformance occurs for each CCP,

vii. Identification of the responsibilities, procedures and records applicable for each CCP

2.4. Routine veterinary supervision of farms.

Farms are under the supervision of the local Veterinary Office and subject to regulatory control.

Veterinary officers are authorised under the relevant legislation to enforce EU and National measures relating to animal health and welfare, including legislation concerning the control of animal disease, veterinary medicines, and the hygienic production of foods of animal origin, by routine inspection and sampling, by investigation and the acquisition of evidence, and by legal process in the courts, often in co-operation with the Gardai (police) and Customs officers.

If an official veterinarian is carrying out inspections on farms for reasons such as checks on animal welfare or medicine records or to take samples for residues then, when appropriate, official sampling in the frame of the salmonella control programmes is undertaken at the same visit.

2.5. Registration of farms.

Registration of farms takes place under a variety of legislative provisions. All poultry farms should be registered under legislation aimed at controlling avian influenza. Laying hen farms over 350 birds are registered under Council Directive 1990/74/EEC. All breeding farms engaging in intra Community trade are approved under Council Directive 2009/158/EC. All food business operators have to be registered

under the hygiene legislation.

2.6 Record-keeping at farms.

All records must be controlled (e.g. by signing and dating) and must be maintained at a secure and easily accessible location for a minimum period of three years unless otherwise specified (e.g. for SRM).

These records are maintained in accordance with EU and national legislation. In addition farm records must be maintained under the Bord Bia Quality Assurance Scheme.

Please see Word attachment 7.

2.7 Documents to accompany animals when dispatched.

It is the responsibility of the processor and the transporter to ensure that the cold chain is maintained during loading and transport and is appropriate to the product.

A record of the following checks must be maintained (all Category 1):

- i. All transport vehicles must be inspected prior to loading to ensure that they are clean, waterproof and undamaged; that door seals and air circulation ducts are intact; and that the refrigeration unit is working properly,
- ii. Containers must be checked to ensure that they are pre-cooled prior to loading,
- iii. Product temperature must be checked prior to loading,
- iv Records must be maintained to demonstrate the effectiveness of temperature control appropriate to the product during transit,
- v A contingency plan must be in place to deal with refrigerated delivery breakdown.

Operators wishing to export more than 20 birds or hatching eggs to another EU member state (or certain third countries) must comply with Directive 2009/158/EC and ensure that the consignment is accompanied by a completed and signed Intra-trade Animal Health Certificate (ITAHC) for poultry breeding and production. The ITAHC will also require the approval number of the operator's establishment.

The ITAHC will be amended to include the results of the last test for *Salmonella* as required in Commission Regulation (E.C) 2160/2003 Article 9.1 prior to any dispatching of the live animals, or hatching eggs, from the food business of origin. The date and the result of testing shall be included in the relevant health certificates provided for in Community legislation. This certificate must be completed and signed by the Official Veterinarian as well as the operator to confirm compliance with the relevant articles of Directive.

2.8 Other relevant measures to ensure the traceability of animals.

All official veterinary health certificates issued for the export of poultry and hatching eggs are recorded on either the Centaur system or the Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES). Any flock supplying birds to an approved meat production establishment must provide food chain information that accompanies the birds.

Application by Ireland for Community co-financing for the year 2010 programme for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain animal diseases and zoonosis as required by Commission Decision 2008/425/EC

Annex II (Part B)

1. Identification of Programme

Member State: IRELAND

Disease: infection of animals with zoonotic *Salmonella* spp

Animal population covered by the programme: 2.1m

Year of Implementation: 2010.

Reference of this document: Salmonella in Poultry (Laying Hens)

Contact: Martin Freeman, Phone Number: 00 353 607 2263, Fax No 00 353 1 607 2823 or e-mail address: robert.byrne@agriculture.gov.ie.

Date sent to Commission: 28 April 2010

2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease:

This National Plan for Monitoring and control of Salmonella in Table Egg Laying Hens of Gallus Gallus in Ireland dated December 2006, in order to fulfil the requirements of Article 5 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 2160/2003 on the control of salmonella in table egg laying hens of Gallus Gallus. The plan outlines the measures being taken in Ireland including those measures taken to implement in full the requirements of Annexes II and III of Council Regulation (EC) No. 2160/2003 with respect to flocks of table egg laying hens.

The National Plan was submitted in December 2006 and subsequently approved by Commission Decision 2007/848/EC.

The Plan sets out the monitoring arrangements for the control of salmonella in table egg laying flocks, the testing of such flocks and provide for the approval of laboratories to conduct tests.

In addition, a wider Salmonella Monitoring Programme has been in operation in the poultry sector in Ireland since 1989. This programme was agreed between the industry and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF) and sets out guidelines for monitoring and general bio-security arrangements.

There is no evidence of significant Salmonella typhimurium (St) or Salmonella enteritidis (Se) infection in the national egg laying flock. During 2009, no outbreaks of Se or St were detected in any laying flocks, so it was not necessary to put scheduled appropriate measures in force.

One Salmonella sero-type was found, S.dublin. from 668 samples tested in 2009.

Egg Quality Assurance Scheme (EQAS) is a voluntary industry scheme drawn up by table egg producers in association with An Bord Bia (The Irish Food Board). In excess of 95% of table egg production in Ireland is in accordance with this scheme, which is subject to independent audit.

The primary objective of EQAS is food safety. As regards salmonella it requires pre-lay birds to be sourced from approved flocks and compliance with all legislation, codes of practice and programme in place as well as specifying detailed and extensive hygiene provisions.

There are some 91 farms, containing 1.3m hens, producing in excess of 361m table eggs annually under the cage system. In addition there are 156 registered free-range, perchery and organic table egg producers - about 237m eggs are produced annually from 0.8 m hens in these categories.

3. Description of the submitted programme:

Sampling is conducted at all table egg production premises and at feed mills.

All testing on officially collected samples is conducted in the DAFF Central Veterinary Research Laboratory.

The following are the main requirements under National Legislation – The European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Laying Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2008 (SI No. 247/2008) transposes the relevant EU legislation in force.

4 Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of the programme

Duration of the programme: 2010

Year 2010

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products
- Monitoring

Year Testing 2009 – no outbreaks in laying flocks

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products
- Monitoring

Year Testing 2008- no outbreaks in laying flocks

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products

- Monitoring

4.2 Designation of the central authority charged with supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme:

The central competent authority for this programme is the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF). Officially collected samples are tested at DAFF's Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, the Director of which reports to DAFF's Chief Veterinary Officer. DAFF has a District Veterinary Office in each county and staff from these offices undertakes the official sampling programme. The evaluation of results and decisions in relation to follow-up action in positive cases are the responsibility of official veterinarians in DAFF headquarters.

4.3 Description and delimitation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented:

The entire country.

DAFF undertakes to inform the Commission regularly and fully of developments under the programme and to provide whatever additional information, if any, is required.

4.4 Measures implemented under the programme

4.4.1 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the registration of holdings:

All table egg layer producers are registered under the European Communities (Welfare of Farmed Animals) Regulations 2008 (S.I. No 14 of 2008- PDF Attachment 9) which transposes Council Directive No 1999/74/EC and Commission Regulation 2002/4/EC. As referred to in Annex 11 (Part A)

4.4.2 Measures and terms of legislation as regards identification of animals:

Not applicable

4.4.3 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the notification of the disease:

Salmonellosis caused by or involving Se or St is a notifiable disease under the Disease of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) Order 2008.

4.4.4 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the measures in case of a positive result:

- Measures as contained in European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Laying Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2008 (SI No. 247/2008)
- The provisions as stated in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, Annex II.D and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1168/2006 refer.

Whenever a positive flock is found by own-check sampling in the frame of the programmes in breeding flocks and laying hens, than this flock should be considered as a suspect flock and **movement restrictions imposed** on this flock.

In the frame of the Salmonella control programme for laying hens paragraphs 1 and 2 (frequency of sampling) and 4 (results and reporting) (**particularly provisions on confirmatory sampling and exceptional cases**) of the Annex of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1169/2006 are implemented.

4.4.5 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the different qualifications of animals and herds:

Not applicable

4.4.6 Control measures and in particular rules on the movement of animals liable to be affected or contaminated by a given disease and the regular inspection of the holdings or areas concerned:

- Measures as contained in European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Laying Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2008 (SI No. 247/2008)
- The provisions as stated in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, Annex II.D and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1168/2006 refer.

Generally, no official action is taken when serotypes other than Se and St are found.

4.4.7 Measures and applicable legislation as regards the control of the disease:

The monitoring system described above is the system for ascertaining presence/absence of salmonella.

In addition the national Legislation Disease of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 requires that any feed intended to be fed to poultry (other than primary agricultural products grown on the poultry premises) must be heat treated to a minimum of 75°C and must show an absence of salmonella in a 25 grams sample.

National legislation makes it an offence to contravene CR 1177/2006. Regulation 12 (1) (a) of the European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2006 refers and there are similar provisions included in the national legislation for other categories of poultry.

4.4.8 Measures and applicable legislation as regards the compensation for owners of slaughtered and killed animals:

DAFF operates a non-statutory scheme of compensation whereby the value of poultry and eggs destroyed (less any salvage) and costs of transport to place of destruction are reimbursed. Other costs arising, such as loss of income, are not compensated.

This scheme is available to table egg producers as well to breeding establishments.

4.4.9 information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure in place in the flocks/holdings involved:

Annex 7 part 3.9 attached contains information on bio-security in place in the flock/holding.

The Bord Bia QAS has relevant voluntary guides (producers' standards), but these are not shown on the Bord Bia website (www.bordbia.ie)

5. General description of the costs and benefits

The anticipated benefits of the programme are the minimising of human health problems arising from salmonella-based food poisoning and a consequent reduction in suffering, injury, mortality and health service costs.

The taking and testing of samples, and related tasks, are undertaken by personnel of DAF and have not been separately costed. The costs in respect of which co-financing is sought are the costs of compensating owners of laying flocks of Gallus gallus whose flocks have been destroyed under the programme. There has only been one outbreak of St. (2006), and no Se in laying flocks of gallus gallus in the past 3 years. **In the unlikely event of an outbreak to occur, a Community co-financing provision of €100,000 is required, based in calculations on the number of analytical tests to be carried out throughout the year.**

The objective is to monitor and detect the incidence of salmonella in the national laying flock, to remove infected poultry and eggs from the system and to minimise the level of salmonella-based food poisoning.

No outbreaks of Se, St, S.hadar, S.virchow or S.infantis were detected in any laying flocks of domestic fowl in 2009 and so far in the first half of 2010, so no compensation in respect of the destruction of birds and eggs following detection was paid.

There was also no expenditure in 2009 by way of table egg layers compensation.

6. Data on the epidemiological evolution during the past five years

6.1 evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis:

2010 . nil to date

2009 – nil

2008 - nil

2007 - nil

2006 nil 1 outbreak of St only

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2006

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: Laying Hens of Gallus gallus

Disease/infection^(a): Se and St

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of positive ^(c) flocks ^(e)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(a)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(d)	Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(a)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(c)
						(a1)	(a2)				
IRELAND	Table Egg Layers	460	1,900,000	460	1,900,000	Nil	1	Nil	5,000	84,000	84,000
Total		460	1,900,000	460	1,900,000	Nil	1	Nil	5,000	84,000	84,000

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specific as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, breeder turkeys, breeding turkeys, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2007

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: Laying Hens of Gallus gallus

Disease/infection^(a): Se and St

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(c)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(a)	Number of positive ^(a) flocks ^(a)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(a)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(a)	Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(a)		Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(a)
							(a1)	(a2)			(a4)	(a3)	
IRELAND	Table Egg Layers	460	1,900,000	460	1,900,000	460	Nil	*2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		460	1,900,000	460	1,900,000	460	Nil	*2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, other serotypes-specify as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

*S.scitienburg, S.derby

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2008

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(d)	Number of positive ^(e) flocks ^(f)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(g)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(a4)	Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(a3)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(a5)
							(a1)	(a2)				
IRELAND	Table Egg Layers	460	1,900,000	460	1,900,000	460	Nil	*2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		460	1,900,000	460	1,900,000	460	Nil	*2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specify as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

* S. derby, S. dublin

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2009

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: Laying Hens of Gallus gallus

Disease/Infection^(a): Se and St

Region (a)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(c)	Number of positive ^(e) flocks ^(d)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(e)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(e)		Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(e)		Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(e)	
							(a1)	(a2)		(a3)	(a4)	(a5)	(a6)	(a7)	(a8)
IRELAND	Table Egg Layers	435	2,100,000	435	2,100,000	435	Nil	*1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		435	2,100,000	435	2,100,000	435	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specify as appropriate. (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

* S.dublin

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2010

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: Laying Hens of Gallus gallus

Disease/infection^(a): Se abd Sc

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(d)	Number of positive ^(e) flocks ^(b)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(m)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ⁽ⁿ⁾	Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(o)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(p)
							(a1)	(a2)				
IRELAND	Table Egg Layers	435	2,100,000	435	2,100,000	435	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		435	2,100,000	435	2,100,000	435	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specify as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2006 Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus Category^(b): Laying hens

Description of the used serological tests: St Elisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(d)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(b)	Number of positive samples ^(c)	Number of samples tested ^(b)	Number of positive samples ^(c)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND						
1. Outbreak	22	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	22	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, brooding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc., when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2007 Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus Category^(b): Laying hens

Description of the used serological tests: St. Flisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND						
No Outbreaks	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, broiler turkeys, breeding turkeys, slaughter pigs, etc, when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2008 Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus Category^(b): Laying hens

Description of the used serological tests: St Elisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND						
No Outbreaks	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc., when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2009 Animal species^(b): Gallus gallus Category^(b): Laying hens

Description of the used serological tests: St Elisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(a)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(c)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(c)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
No Outbreaks	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc, when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2010 Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus Category^(b): Laying hens

Description of the used serological tests: St Filisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
No Outbreaks to date	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category: further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc, when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2006	Animal species ^(a) : Laying flocks of Gallus gallus		
	Region ^(b)	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
	IRELAND	1	4850
	Total	1	4850

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

The given information is based on flocks and is in accordance with the final results of the technical programmes implemented in 2009.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2007	Animal species ^(a) : Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
Region ^(b)			
IRELAND	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

The given information is based on flocks and is in accordance with the final results of the technical programmes implemented in 2009.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2008 Animal species^(a): Laying flocks of Gallus gallus

Region ^(b)	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
IRELAND	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

The given information is based on flocks and is in accordance with the final results of the technical programmes implemented in 2009.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2009	Animal species ^(a) : Laying flocks of Gallus gallus	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
	Region ^(b)		
	IRELAND	Nil	Nil
	Total	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

The given information is based on flocks and is in accordance with the final results of the technical programmes implemented in 2009.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2010	Animal species ^(a) : Laying flocks of Gallus gallus		
Region ^(b)	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected	
IRL AND	Nil	Nil	
Total	Nil	Nil	

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

The given information is based on flocks and is in accordance with the final results of the technical programmes implemented in 2009.

6.4 Data on vaccination programmes

Vaccinations are prohibited in Ireland

7. Targets

7.1. Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation)

7.1.1. Targets on diagnostic tests

Region ^(b)	Animal species: ^(a) Laying flocks of Gallus gallus		Type of sample ^(d)	Objective ^(f)	Number of planned tests
	Type of the test ^(c)	Target population ^(e)			
IRELAND 2011	ELISA (only if positive culture is detected)	As per table 6.1.2	Boor swab	Identify positive flocks	668
Total					668

(a) Species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Description of the test.

(d) Specification of the targeted species and the categories of targeted animals if necessary.

(e) Description of the sample (for instance faeces).

(f) Description of the objective (for instance surveillance, monitoring, control of vaccination).

The planned number of tests remains as above (668).

7.1.2. Targets on testing of flocks¹

Year: 2011

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: Laying Flocks of Gallus gallus

infection^(a): Se and St

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(a)	Total number of flocks ^(a)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Expected number of flocks to be checked ^(a)	Number of flocks ^(e) expected to be positive ^(a)		Number of flocks expected to be depopulated ^(a)		Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered or destroyed ^(a)	Expected quantity of eggs to be destroyed (number or kg) ^(a)	Expected que of eggs chamm to egg produ (number or k (a4)
							(a1)	(a2)	(a3)	(a4)			
IRELAND	Table Egg Layers	460	1,900,000	460	1,900,000	460	3	Nil	3	Nil	16,000	406,000	406,000
Total		460	1,900,000	460	1,900,000	460	3	Nil	3	Nil	16,000	406,000	406,000

(a) For zoonotic salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specify as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

7.2.1 Targets on vaccination

Not applicable as vaccinations are prohibited in Ireland

¹ Specify types of flocks if appropriate (breeders, layers, broilers).

8. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme (one table per year of implementation)

Costs related to	Specification	Number of units	Unitary cost in EUR	Total amount in EUR	Community funding requested (yes/no)
1. Testing					
1.1. Cost of the analysis					
	Test: Number of bacteriological tests (cultivation) planned to be carried out in the framework of official sampling	668	€20	€13360	Yes
	Test: Number of serotyping of relevant isolates tests planned to be carried out	Unknown—all relevant isolates will be tested	30	If all require serotyping, then total is €20040	Yes
1.2. Cost of sampling	Laboratory Testing	668	€20	€13360	Yes
1.3. Other costs	Nil				No

2. Vaccination or treatment of animal products									
2.1. Purchase of vaccine/treatment of animal products									No
	Nil								
Number of purchase of vaccine doses planned if a vaccination policy is part of the programme as set out explicitly under point 4 of Annex II									
2.2. Distribution costs	Nil								No
2.3. Administering costs	Nil								No
2.4. Control costs	Nil								No
3. Slaughter and destruction									
3.1. Compensation of animals									Yes Yes
	Birds Destroyed Eggs Destroyed	16,000 406,000	Various Various	€154,000 €40,600					
3.2. Transport costs	Nil								No

<i>3.3. Destruction costs</i>	Nil				No
<i>3.4. Loss in case of slaughtering</i>	Nil				No
<i>3.5 Costs from treatment of animal products (milk, eggs, hatching eggs, etc)</i>	Nil				No
<i>4. Cleaning and disinfection</i>	Nil				No
<i>5. Salaries (staff contracted for the programme only)</i>	Nil				No
<i>6. Consumables and specific equipment</i>	Nil				No

ANNEX II

Standard requirements for the submission of national programmes for the control of Salmonellosis (zoonotic Salmonella) as referred to in Article I(b)

PART A

General requirements for the national salmonella control programmes

- (a) State the aim of the programme:

Control of Zoonosis for **Breeding Flocks** of *Gallus gallus*

- (b) Demonstrate the evidence that it complies with the minimum sampling requirements laid down in part B of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (*) indicating the relevant animal population and phases of production which sampling must cover

- (c) demonstrate the evidence that it complies with the specific requirements laid down in Parts C, D and E of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003;

Re (b) and (c) - Requirements were carried out in accordance with Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005 and National legislation entitled the 'European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2006'. Requirements of testing (details on types of samples, sampling frequency, preparation of samples, laboratory, methods of analysis, etc) were outlined to individual breeders. Please see national legislation in PDF Attachment 1, and regarding relevant letters to breeders please see PDF Attachments 2 and 3.

In conjunction please refer to Annex II, Part B, 6.1.2 for 2008.

and

- (d) specify the following points:

1. General

- 1.1. A short summary referring to the occurrence of the salmonellosis [zoonotic salmonella] in the Member State with specific reference to the results obtained in the framework of monitoring in accordance with Article 4 of Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, particularly highlighting the prevalence values of the salmonella serovars targeted in the salmonella control programmes.

2007: Nil. - (testing did not start until late 2007 due to resources and staffing issues and was carried out under the old Directive, Council Directive No. 92/117/EEC).

2008: *S. enteritidis* x 1, *S. kentucky* x 6 and *S. dublin* x 1. This represents 1.98% prevalence value

2009: no outbreaks

2010: *S. typhimurium* x 1 to date

- 1.2. The structure and organization of the relevant competent authorities. Please refer to the information flow between bodies involved in the implementation of the programme.

The central competent authority for this programme is the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF). Officially collected samples are tested at DAFF's Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, the Director of which reports to DAFF's Chief Veterinary Officer. DAFF has a District Veterinary Office (DVO) in each county and staff from these offices undertakes the official sampling programme. The evaluation of results and decisions in relation to follow-up action in positive cases are the responsibility of official veterinarians in DAFF headquarters. Please see flow chart, PDF attachment 4.

- 1.3. Approved laboratories where samples collected within the programme are analysed. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, (CVRL) and approved laboratories by DAFF

Please see PDF attachment 5.

- 1.4. Methods used in the examination of the samples in the framework of the programme. Bacteriological tests (cultivation - ELISA if positive culture is detected) and sero-typing of relevant isolates tests.

- 1.5. Official controls (including sampling schemes) at feed, flock and/or herd level.

- Feedmills:

There are 11 feedmills supplying poultry feed in Ireland. Routine official Salmonella Monitoring of raw materials used in poultry feed has been carried out by DAFF since 1988. Raw material samples are taken at point of import, at compound feed manufacturers premises or at the point of manufacture (e.g. fish meal).

Routine official Salmonella monitoring of compound (finished) poultry feed has been carried out by DAF since 1988 in all poultry compound feed manufacturers. Compound feed samples are taken at point of dispatch in poultry compound feed manufacturers premises or from bagged product. Official sampling of feeding-stuffs from mills supplying the poultry industry occurs a minimum of 6 times per year in each mill.

In poultry offal rendering plants, sampling for salmonella is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption.

In addition, an Official Veterinarian as part of any suspect *S. enteritidis* or *S. typhimurium* investigations may take feed samples.

Detailed results of all Ireland official raw material and poultry compound feed results are presented to the Commission as part of Ireland's zoonosis data report as was required under Council Directive 2003/99/EEC.

Heat treatment of all poultry feed is compulsory under the Diseases of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 - S.I. No 364 of 1991.

- Breeding flocks:

(i) Rearing Flocks as day old chicks' and four week old chicks

two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit

(ii) Adult breeding flocks every second week during the laying period on farm.

Parent flocks of *Gallus gallus* are subject to official sampling three times annually, and in addition are also sampled privately every two weeks. *Salmonella enteritidis* (St) and *Salmonella typhimurium* (St) are scheduled and notifiable in Ireland under Statutory Instrument entitled Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) Order 2008 - S.I. 101 of 2008. Please refer to the submission for co-financing for a copy of this Order.

Investigation of parent and grandparent flocks of *Gallus gallus* declared positive after monitoring is carried out in accordance with the requirements of ANNEX II, section (C) of Council Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

In the event of a positive result for *S. enteritidis* or *S. typhimurium* on dust sampling, infection is confirmed by either -

- (i) Official cloacal swabbing of birds at a rate of 60 swabs per house weekly for three weeks or
- (ii) Cultures obtained from pooling the organs of 60 birds.

- 1.6. Measures taken by the competent authorities with regard to animals or products in which the presence of *Salmonella* spp. have been detected, in particular to protect public health, and any preventive measures taken, such as vaccination.

When infection is confirmed, a slaughter policy, subject to co-financing, operates by agreement with the poultry industry. Non-incubated eggs are heat treated or destroyed, and cleaning and disinfection following slaughter is carried out in accordance with the procedures laid down by an Official Veterinarian. **Antibiotic treatment of infected flocks is not permitted in Ireland.**

Vaccination is prohibited in Ireland and antimicrobials are used only for therapeutic reasons and in the event of confirmed *Se* or *St* in a domestic fowl breeding flock compensation may not be payable where reasonable bio-security measures to prevent their occurrence have not been taken.

- 1.7. National legislation relevant to the implementation of the programmes, including any national provisions concerning the activities set out in the programme.

The monitoring system described above is the system for ascertaining presence/absence of salmonella. Generally, no official action is taken when serotypes other than *Se* and *St* are found

Salmonella enteritidis (*Se*) and *Salmonella typhimurium* (*St*) are scheduled and notifiable in Ireland under Statutory Instrument entitled Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) Order 2008 - S.I. 101 of 2008.

Flocks positive for *SE* or *ST* are subjected to sanitary slaughter, the houses are thoroughly cleaned, disinfected and fumigated before restocking. A risk analysis is carried out and meat from positive flocks may be subjected to heat treatment and subjected to a positive release system

Primary responsibility for the control and monitoring of *Salmonella* is with the Zoonoses Division of Veterinary Public Health; on farm issues are the responsibility of the Agricultural Inspectorate and Veterinary Animal Health and Welfare Division. Administrative functions are the responsibility of Pigmeat and Poultry Division.

The European Communities (Control of *Salmonella* in Breeding Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2006 - S.I. 706 of 2006. In addition the Disease of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 requires that any feed intended to be fed to poultry (other than primary agricultural products grown on the poultry premises) must be heat treated to a minimum of 75°C and must show an absence of salmonella in a 25 grams sample.

- 1.8. Any financial assistance provided to food and feed businesses in the context of the programme.

NIL

2. Concerning food and feed businesses covered by the programme

2.1. The structure of the production of the given species and products thereof

Please see PDF attachment 6.

2.2. The structure of the production of feed.

There are 11 mills owned by independent and private companies.

2.3. Relevant guidelines for good animal husbandry practices or other guidelines (mandatory or voluntary) on biosecurity measures defining at least:

- hygiene management at farms,
- measures to prevent incoming infections carried by animals, feed, drinking water, people working at farms, and
- hygiene in transporting animals to and from farms.

a) Documentation must be available that demonstrates that the essential "Pre-requisite" requirements of Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) and Good Hygiene Practice (GHP) have been adequately addressed at all appropriate steps, including procurement (Category 1).

The HACCP system must comply with the following:

b) The Processor must have a Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan which shows how product / process safety is ensured through control and prevention (Critical);

c) This plan must be supported by senior management;

d) It should be put in place by a multidiscipline team;

e) At least one member of this team should have received formal training in the application of HACCP Principles;

f) At a minimum the Hazard Control Plan must include (all Category 1):

g) The HACCP plan must be verified / tested annually at a minimum to ensure that it is effective;

h) As part of this verification / testing process, microbiological criteria (as set out in the Regulation EC 2073/2005) must be used in accordance with Appendix 4 (Critical);

i) The Processor must establish a schedule for this testing where the frequency is based on the established risks and the microbiological history of the product;

j) The data must be monitored and trends analysed so that appropriate actions or corrective actions can be taken and documented;

k) The HACCP plan must be supported by the GMP and GHP Plans.

Poultry Quality Assurance Standard: Processor Requirements -

i. A detailed description of the products and process steps (e.g. a flow diagram showing all the steps of each process).

ii. A detailed description of the hazards (chemical, microbiological and physical / foreign bodies) that could arise at each process step and the risk that these represent,

iii. Identification of Critical Control Points (CCP) in the plan,

iv. Definition of the limits that must be met to ensure control of each CCP,

v. The monitoring required ensuring that control is maintained at each CCP,

vi. The corrective action to be taken if a non-conformance occurs for each CCP,

vii. Identification of the responsibilities, procedures and records applicable for each CCP.

2.4. Routine veterinary supervision of farms.

Under the supervision of the local Veterinary Office and subject to regulatory control.

Veterinary officers are authorised under the relevant legislation to enforce EU and National measures relating to animal health and welfare, including legislation concerning the control of animal disease, veterinary medicines, and the hygienic production of foods of animal origin, by routine inspection and sampling, by investigation and the acquisition of evidence, and by legal process in the courts, often in co-operation with the Gardai (police) and Customs officers.

2.5. Registration of farms.

All farms are registered both under national and EU legislation.

2.6. Record-keeping at farms.

All records must be controlled (e.g. by signing and dating) and must be maintained at a secure and easily accessible location for a minimum period of three years unless otherwise specified (e.g. for SRM).

These records are maintained in accordance with EU and national legislation. In addition farm records must be maintained under the Bord Bia Quality Assurance Scheme.

Please see PDF attachment 7.

2.7 Documents to accompany animals when dispatched. Dispatch and Transport

Documents under the Poultry Hatcheries Act 1947 and Poultry Hatcheries Act Regulations 1959.

Note: It is the responsibility of the processor and the transporter to ensure that the cold chain is maintained during loading and transport and is appropriate to the product.

A record of the following checks must be maintained (all Category 1):

- i. All transport vehicles must be inspected prior to loading to ensure that they are clean, waterproof and undamaged; that door seals and air circulation ducts are intact; and that the refrigeration unit is working properly.
- ii. Containers must be checked to ensure that they are pre-cooled prior to loading.
- iii. Product temperature must be checked prior to loading.
- iv. Records must be maintained to demonstrate the effectiveness of temperature control appropriate to the product during transit.
- v. A contingency plan must be in place to deal with refrigerated delivery breakdown.

2.8 Other relevant measures to ensure the traceability of animals.

No Account

List of Attachments;

1. National Legislation
2. Letters to flock owners
3. Letters to flock owners
4. Organizational chart
5. Approved labs
6. Structure of production
7. Annex 7 Bord Bia Poultry Producers Requirements

Application by Ireland for Community co-financing for the year 2010 programme for the eradication, control and monitoring of certain animal diseases and zoonoses for Community financing

Annex II (Part B)

1. Identification of Programme

Member State: IRELAND

Disease: infection of animals with zoonotic *Salmonella spp*

Animal population covered by the programme: 0.7m

Year of Implementation: 2010.

Reference of this document: Salmonella in Poultry, (**Breeding Flocks**).

Contact: Robbie Byrne, Phone Number: 00 353 607 2263, Fax No 00 353 1 607 2823 or e-mail address: robert.byrne@agriculture.gov.ie.

Date sent to Commission: 28 April 2010.

2. Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease:

The National Plan for Monitoring Salmonella in Fowl in Ireland, was updated in December 2009, in order to fulfil the requirements of Article 5 of Council Regulation (EC) No. 2160/2003 on the control of salmonella in breeding flocks of Gallus gallus. The plan outlines the measures being taken in Ireland including those measures taken to implement in full the requirements of Annexes II and III of Council Regulation (EC) No. 2160/2003 with respect to the breeding flocks of Gallus gallus.

The National Plan was submitted in December 2005 and subsequently approved by Commission Decision 2006/759/EC.

The Plan sets out the monitoring arrangements for breeding flocks of domestic fowl as well as for breeding flocks of other poultry.

In addition, a wider Salmonella Monitoring Programme has been in operation in the poultry sector in Ireland since 1989. This programme was agreed between the industry and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF) and sets out guidelines for monitoring and general bio-security arrangements.

There is no evidence of significant Salmonella typhimurium (St) or Salmonella enteritidis (Se) infection in the national poultry flock. During 2009, no outbreaks of Se or St were detected in any breeding flocks, so it was not necessary to put scheduled appropriate measures in force.

Other Salmonella sero-types were found, e.g. S. kentucky. The following are details of the level of official testing in 2009.

<u>Sites at which samples taken</u>	<u>Number of samples tested</u>
Broiler breeders	503
Feed-mills	101

The position on flock monitoring to date in 2010 is that there has been 1 case confirmed of St in 1 breeding flock. No cases of Se have been detected to date.

During 2009, 70.2m broilers, 1.9m spent hens and over 2.7m of other poultry species were slaughtered at 10 approved slaughter plants.

3. Description of the submitted programme:

Sampling is conducted at all commercial breeding sites, (including feed mills)

All testing on officially collected samples is conducted in the DAFF Central Veterinary Research Laboratory.

The following are the main requirements of European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2008 (S.I. No 706 of 2006) transposing the relevant EU legislation

4 Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Summary of measures under the programme

Duration of the programme: 2010 : one outbreak of St to date

Year 2010

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products
- Monitoring

Year 2009: no outbreaks in breeding flocks

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products
- Monitoring

Year Testing 2008 - no outbreaks in breeding stocks

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products
- Monitoring

Year Testing 2007 - no outbreaks in breeding stocks

- Testing
- Slaughter of positive animals
- Disposal of Products
- Monitoring

4.2 Designation of the central authority charged with supervising and coordinating the departments responsible for implementing the programme:

The central competent authority for this programme is the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF). Officially collected samples are tested at DAFF's Central Veterinary Research Laboratory, the Director of which reports to DAFF's Chief Veterinary Officer. DAFF has a District Veterinary Office in each county and staff from these offices undertake the official sampling programme. The evaluation of results and decisions in relation to follow-up action in positive cases are the responsibility of official veterinarians in DAFF headquarters.

4.3 Description and delimitation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented:

The entire country.

DAFF undertakes to inform the Commission regularly and fully of developments under the programme and to provide whatever additional information, if any, is required.

4.4 Measures implemented under the programme

4.4.1 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the registration of holdings:

Breeding establishments are registered under the Poultry Hatcheries Act 1947 and, if they are engaged in Intra Community Trade, they must be approved under the European Communities (Live Poultry and Hatching Eggs) Regulations 1992 and 1995 which implement Council Directive 90/539/EEC, replaced by Council Directive 158/2009/EEC. European Communities (Marketing Standards for eggs for hatching and farmyard poultry chicks) Regulations 2008 (617/2008)

4.4.2 Measures and terms of legislation as regards identification of animals:

Not applicable

4.4.3 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the notification of the disease:

Salmonellosis caused by or involving Se or St is a notifiable disease under the Disease of Animals Act 1966 (Notification and Control of Animal Diseases) Order 2008.

4.4.4 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the measures in case of a positive result:

- The European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2006 – S.I. 706 of 2006.
- The provisions as stated in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, Annex II.C and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005, Annex 4 refer.

4.4.5 Measures and terms of legislation as regards the different qualifications of animals and herds:

Not applicable

4.4.6 Control measures and in particular rules on the movement of animals liable to be affected or contaminated by a given disease and the regular inspection of the holdings or areas concerned:

- The European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2006 – S.I. 706 of 2006.
- The provisions as stated in Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, Annex II.C and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005, Annex 4 refer.

Generally, no official action is taken when serotypes other than St and Sc are found.

4.4.7 Measures and applicable legislation as regards the control of the disease:

The monitoring system described above is the system for ascertaining presence/absence of salmonella.

In addition the Disease of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 requires that any feed intended to be fed to poultry (other than primary agricultural products grown on the poultry premises) must be heat treated to a minimum of 75°C and must show an absence of salmonella in a 25 grams sample.

4.4.8 Measures and applicable legislation as regards the compensation for owners of slaughtered and killed animals:

DAFF operates a non-statutory scheme of compensation whereby the value of poultry and eggs destroyed (less any salvage) and costs of transport to place of destruction are reimbursed. Other costs arising, such as loss of income, are not compensated.

4.4.9 information and assessment on bio-security measures management and infrastructure in place in the flocks/holdings involved:

Attachment 7 part 3.9 attached contains information on bio-security in place in the flock/holding.

5. General description of the costs and benefits

The anticipated benefits of the programme are the minimising of human health problems arising from salmonella-based food poisoning and a consequent reduction in suffering, injury, mortality and health service costs.

The taking and testing of samples, and related tasks, are undertaken by personnel of DAFI and have not been separately costed. The costs in respect of which co-financing is sought are the costs of compensating owners of breeding flocks of domestic fowl whose flocks have been destroyed under the programme. **In the unlikely event of an outbreak to occur, a Community co-financing provision of €200,000 is required, based in calculations on the number of analytical tests to be carried out throughout the year.**

The objective is to monitor and detect the incidence of salmonella in the national flock, to remove infected poultry and eggs from the system and to minimise the level of salmonella-based food poisoning.

1 outbreak of Se was detected, this flock had come to the end of production before the result was processed, so therefore was no depopulation or compensation paid for Se. No outbreaks of St, S.hadar, S.virchow or S.infantis were detected in any breeding flocks of domestic fowl in 2009 and so far in the first half of 2010, 1 outbreak of St has been detected in a breeding flock.

Please see link beneath as regards the European Communities (Control of Salmonella in Breeding Flocks of Domestic Fowl) Regulations 2006-S. I. No 706 of 2006.

<http://ezone/library/DAFIlegal/LEG/2006DAFISIs/St706-2006.pdf>

6. Data on the epidemiological evolution during the past five years

6.1 evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis:

2010 – 1 outbreak of St was detected to date; this flock was depopulated

2009 - nil

2008 -- 1 outbreak of Se was detected: this flock had come to the end of production before the result was processed, so therefore was no depopulation or compensation paid for

2007 - nil

2006 - nil

2005 - nil

2004 - 2 outbreaks of St only.

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2006

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: Gallus gallus

Disease/infection^(a): S and ST

Region (a1)	Type of flock (b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(d)	Number of positive ^(e) flocks ^(e)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(a)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed (a)	Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) (a)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) (a)
							(a1)	(a2)				
IRELAND	Broiler Breeder	100	617,000	100	617,000	100	Nil	36	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Broiler Girard Parents	9	60,000	9	60,000	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		109	677,000	109	677,000	109	Nil	36	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specify as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding turkeys, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

* 31=S.mbandaka; 1=S.kentucky; 3=S.kedougour & 1=S.argona

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2007

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: Gallus gallus

Disease/infection^(a): Ss and St

Region (z1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(d)	Number of positive ^(a) flocks ^(a)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(b)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(c)	Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(d)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(e)
							(a1)	(a2)				
IRELAND	Broiler	100	617,000	100	617,000	100	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Breeder						Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Broiler	9	60,000	9	60,000	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Grand Parents											
Total		109	677,000	109	677,000	109	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specify as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2008

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Disease/infection^(a): Sc and St

Animal species: Gallus gallus

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(d)	Number of positive ^(e) flocks ^(a)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(a)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(a)	Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(a)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(a)
							(a1)	(a2)				
IRELAND	Broiler	100	617,000	100	617,000	100	*1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Breeder							**7	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Broiler Grand Parents	9	60,000	9	60,000	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		109	677,000	109	677,000	109	*1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specify as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

** 6=S.kentucky; 1=S.dublin

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2009

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: Gallus gallus

Disease/infection^(a): Se and St

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b1)	Total number of flocks ^(b2)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(c)	Number of positive ^(c) flocks ^(a2)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(a4)		Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(a5)	Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(a6)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(a7)
							(a1)	(a2)	(a3)	(a4)			
IRELAND	Broiler	100	617,000	100	617,000	100	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Breeder												
	Broiler	9	60,000	9	60,000	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Grand Parents												
Total		109	677,000	109	677,000	109	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specific as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example: breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, broiler turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

* J-S, kentucky detected at a feedmill.

6.1.2. Data on evolution of zoonotic salmonellosis

Year: 2010

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: Gallus gallus

Disease/infection^(a): Se and St

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Number of flocks checked ^(d)	Number of positive ^(e) flocks ^(a)		Number of flocks depopulated ^(a)	Total number of animals slaughtered or destroyed ^(a)		Quantity of eggs destroyed (number or kg) ^(a)	Quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(a)
							(a1)	(a2)		(a3)	(a4)		
IRELAND	Broiler	100	617,000	100	617,000	100	Nil	*1	Nil	6800	96,000	Nil	Nil
	Breeder						Nil		1				
	Broiler	9	60,000	9	60,000	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Grand Parents												
Total		109	677,000	109	677,000	109	Nil	*1	Nil	6800	96,000	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic Salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a2) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a3) for other serotypes-specific as appropriate, (a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(a1) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(b) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, brooding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughterer pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(c) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme.

(d) 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.

(e) If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

* 1 = *S. typhimurium*

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2006 **Animal species^(a):** Gallus gallus **Category^(b):** Broiler Breeders

Description of the used serological tests: St Filisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc, when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2007 Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus Category^(b): Broiler Breeders

Description of the used serological tests: St Elisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND						
No outbreaks	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc, when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2008 Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus Category^(b): Broiler Breeders

Description of the used serological tests: St Flisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(b)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND						
No outbreaks	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc, when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2009 Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus Category^(b): Broiler Breeders

Description of the used serological tests: St Elisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests		Microbiological or virological tests		Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRELAND	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
No outbreaks	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc, when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.2. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests

6.2.1. Stratified data on surveillance and laboratory tests (one table per year and per disease/species)

Year: 2010

Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus

Category^(b): Broiler Breeders

Description of the used serological tests: St Elisa when outbreaks occur

Description of the used microbiological or virological tests: Salmonella Culture and Serotyping when outbreaks occur

Description of the other used tests: Nil

Region ^(c)	Serological tests			Microbiological or virological tests			Other tests	
	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)	Number of samples tested ^(d)	Number of positive samples ^(e)
IRL (ANI)	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Category/further specifications such as breeders, laying hens, broilers, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. when appropriate.

(c) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(d) Number of samples tested.

(e) Number of positive samples.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2006	Animal species ^(a) : Gallus gallus	Region ^(b)	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
		IRELAND	Nil	Nil
		Total	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2007 Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus

Region ^(b)	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
IRELAND	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2008	Animal species ^(a) : Gallus gallus	Region ^(b)	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
		IRELAND	Nil	Nil
		Total	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2009

Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus

Region ^(b)	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
IRELAND	Nil	Nil
Total	Nil	Nil

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

6.3. Data on infection (one table per year and per species)

Year: 2010 Animal species^(a): Gallus gallus

Region ^(b)	Number of herds infected ^(c)	Number of animals infected
IRELAND	1	6800
Total	1	6800

(a) Animal species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Herds or flocks or holdings as appropriate.

6.4 Data on vaccination programmes

Vaccinations are prohibited in Ireland

7. Targets

7.1. Targets related to testing (one table for each year of implementation)

7.1.1. Targets on diagnostic tests

Region ^(a)	Animal species: ^(b) Broiler Breeders				Number of planned tests
	Type of the test ^(c)	Target population ^(d)	Type of sample ^(e)	Objective ^(f)	
IRELAND 2011	ELISA (only if positive culture is detected)	As per table 6.1.2	Boot Swab	Identify positive flocks	604
Total					604

(a) Species if necessary.

(b) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) Description of the test.

(d) Specification of the targeted species and the categories of targeted animals if necessary.

(e) Description of the sample (for instance faeces).

(f) Description of the objective (for instance surveillance, monitoring, control of vaccination).

7.1.2. Targets on testing of flocks¹

Year: 2011

Situation on date: 28 April 2010

Animal species: *Gallus gallus* infection^(a): Se and St

Region (a1)	Type of flock ^(b)	Total number of flocks ^(c)	Total number of animals	Total number of flocks under the programme	Total number of animals under the programme	Expected number of flocks to be checked ^(d)	Number of flocks ^(e) expected to be positive		Number of flocks expected to be depopulated ^(a)	Total number of animals expected to be slaughtered or destroyed ^(b)		Expected quantity of eggs to be destroyed (number or kg) ^(a)	Expected quantity of eggs channelled to egg products (number or kg) ^(a)
							(a1)	(a2)		(a4)	(a3)		
IRELAND	Broiler Breeder	100	617,000	100	617,000	100	Nil	2	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Broiler Grand Parents	9	60,000	9	60,000	9	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total		109	677,000	109	677,000	109	Nil	2	Nil	2	630,000	Nil	Nil

(a) For zoonotic salmonellosis indicate the serotypes covered by the control programmes: (a1) for *Salmonella* Typhimurium, (a2) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis, (a3) for other serotypes-specify as appropriate.

(a4) for *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium.

(b) Region as defined in the approved control and eradication programme of the Member State.

(c) For example, breeding flocks (rearing, adult flocks), production flocks, laying hen flocks, breeding turkeys, broiler turkeys, breeding pigs, slaughter pigs, etc. Flocks or herds or as appropriate.

(d) Total number of flocks existing in the region including eligible flocks and non-eligible flocks for the programme

(e) 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.

If a flock has been checked, in accordance with footnote (d), more than once, a positive sample must be taken into account only once.

¹ 31=S,ambakata; 1=S,kentucky; 3=S,kedoujour & 1=S,arizona

7.2.1 Targets on vaccination

Not applicable as vaccinations are prohibited in Ireland

8. Detailed analysis of the cost of the programme (one table per year of implementation) 2009

<i>Costs related to</i>	<i>Specification</i>	<i>Number of units</i>	<i>Unitary cost in EUR</i>	<i>Total amount in EUR</i>	<i>Community funding requested (yes/no)</i>
<i>1. Testing</i>					
<i>1.1. Cost of the analysis</i>	<i>Test: Number of bacteriological tests (cultivation) planned to be carried out in the framework of official sampling</i>	604	20	12080	Yes
	<i>Test: Number of serotyping of relevant isolates planned to be carried out</i>	Unknown—all relevant isolates will be tested	30	<i>If all require serotyping, then total is €12120</i>	Yes
<i>1.2. Cost of sampling</i>	Laboratory Testing	604	€20	€12080	Yes
<i>1.3. Other costs</i>	Nil				No

2. Vaccination or treatment of animal products									
2.1. Purchase of vaccine/treatment of animal products		Nil							No
2.2. Distribution costs		Number of purchase of vaccine doses planned if a vaccination policy is part of the programme as set out explicitly under point 4 of Annex II							No
2.3. Administering costs		Nil							No
2.4. Control costs		Nil							No
3. Slaughter and destruction									
3.1. Compensation of animals		Birds Destroyed	49,000	Various	€413,000	Yes			Yes
		Day old Chick Destroyed	30,000	€0.10	€3000	Yes			Yes
		Eggs Destroyed	630,000	Various	€31,500	Yes			Yes
3.2. Transport costs		Birds/Eggs			€20,000				No

3.3. Destruction costs	Nil				No
3.4. Loss in case of slaughtering	Nil				No
3.5. Costs from treatment of animal products (milk, eggs, hatching eggs, etc)	Nil				No
4. Cleaning and disinfection	Nil				No
5. Salaries (staff contracted for the programme only)	Administrative and Veterinary Inspectorate	Nil	Nil	€150,000	No
6. Consumables and specific equipment	Nil				No

7. Other costs	Nil			No
TOTAL			€483,780	Yes



STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS.

S.I. No. 706 of 2006

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (CONTROL OF
SALMONELLA IN BREEDING FLOCKS OF
DOMESTIC FOWL.) REGULATIONS 2006

(Prm. A6/2329)

S.I. No. 706 of 2006

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (CONTROL OF
SALMONELLA IN BREEDING FLOCKS OF
DOMESTIC FOWL) REGULATIONS 2006

I, MARY COUGHLAN, Minister for Agriculture and Food, in exercise of the powers conferred on me by section 3 of the European Communities Act 1972 (No. 27 of 1972) and for the purpose of giving effect to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005 of 30 June 2005¹ as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1168/2006 of 31 July 2006², and, in so far as they concern breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*, Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003³ and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006⁴, hereby make the following regulations—

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the European Communities (Control of salmonella in breeding flocks of domestic fowl) Regulations 2006 and come into operation on 1 January 2007.

Interpretation

2. (1) In these Regulations—

“authorised officer” means—

(a) an authorised officer within the meaning of section 17A (inserted by the Diseases of Animals (Amendment) Act 2001 (No. 3 of 2001)) of the Diseases of Animals Act 1966 (No. 6 of 1966),

(b) a person who immediately before the making of these Regulations was an authorised officer under the European Communities (Zoonoses) Regulations 1996 (S.I. No. 2 of 1996),

(c) a person appointed under Regulation 9, or

¹O.J. No. L 170 of 1.7.2005, p.12

²O.J. No. L 211 of 1.8.2006, p.4

³O.J. No. L 325 of 12.12.2003, p.1

⁴O.J. No. L 212 of 2.8.2006, p.3

Notice of the making of this Statutory Instrument was published in “Iris Oifigiúil” of 16th January, 2007.

(d) a member of the Garda Síochána;

“Animal By-products Regulation” means Regulation (EC) No. 1774/2002 of the European Parliament and the Council of 3 October 2002 as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No. 808/2003 of 12 May 2003, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 811/2003 of 12 May 2003, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 668/2004 of 10 March 2004, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 878/2004 of 29 April 2004, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 79/2005 of 19 January 2005, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 92/2005 of 19 January 2005, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 93/2005 of 19 January 2005, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 416/2005 of 11 March 2005, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 2067/2005 of 16 December 2005, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 181/2006 of 1 February 2006, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 197/2006 of 3 February 2006, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 208/2006 of 7 February 2006 and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 209/2006 of 7 February 2006;

“breeding flock” means a breeding flock of domestic fowl comprising at least 250 birds;

“domestic fowl” means *Gallus gallus*;

“EC Regulations” means Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005 of 30 June 2005 as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1168/2006 of 31 July 2006, and, in as far as they concern breeding flocks of domestic fowl, Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006;

“holder” in relation to a laboratory approval includes, if the context so requires or admits, a person employed by the holder;

“Minister” means Minister for Agriculture and Food;

“premises” includes land, buildings, structures, vehicles or container.

(2) A word or expression that is used in the EC Regulations and that is also used in these Regulations has in these Regulations the same meaning as in the EC Regulations.

Samples

3. The owner or person in charge of a breeding flock shall ensure that—

- (a) samples are taken at the holding on which the flock is held in accordance with Part 1 of the Schedule, and
- (b) each sample and each record relating to it is dealt with in accordance with Part 2 of the Schedule.

Laboratory approval

4. (1) A person shall not operate a laboratory for the purposes of these Regulations and the EC Regulations other than under and in accordance with an approval granted by the Minister ("laboratory approval").

(2) An application for laboratory approval shall be made in a form and contain any information that the Minister may require.

(3) The Minister shall not consider an application for laboratory approval unless the application contains all the material and particulars sought and is accompanied by the fee (if any) set in accordance with Regulation 5.

(4) The holder of a laboratory approval shall make such returns to the Minister as the Minister may require.

(5) The Minister may revoke or suspend a laboratory approval, attach conditions to an approval or refuse an application.

(6) If the Minister proposes to revoke or suspend a laboratory approval or refuse an application he or she shall—

- (a) notify the holder of a laboratory approval or applicant in writing of the proposal and of the reasons for the proposal, and that he or she may make representations to the Minister in relation to the proposal within 14 days of the notification,
- (b) consider any representations duly made before deciding whether to proceed with, modify or annul the proposal and

- (c) notify the holder of a laboratory approval or applicant of the decision and the reasons for the decision.

(7) If the Minister is of the opinion that it is necessary for the protection of human or animal health he or she may refuse an application or suspend or revoke an approval without allowing the representations referred to in paragraph (6).

(8) If the Minister grants a laboratory approval he or she may specify a date on which that approval will expire.

(9) Until 30 June 2007, any laboratory approved in accordance with Regulation 7 of the European Communities (Zoonoses) Regulations 1996 shall be an approved laboratory under these Regulations.

Fees

5. (1) The Minister may from time to time set and charge fees in respect of an application for a laboratory approval.

(2) Moneys received under this Regulation shall be paid into or disposed of for the benefit of the Exchequer in accordance with the directions of the Minister for Finance.

(3) The Public Offices Fees Act 1878 (42 & 43 Vict. Cap 58) does not apply to a fee charged pursuant to this Regulation.

Obligations of approved laboratories

6. (1) The holder of a laboratory approval in respect of a laboratory to which a sample is submitted shall ensure that—

- (a) the sample is tested as soon as practicable for the presence of salmonella in accordance with a method approved by the Minister.
- (b) the result of the test is reported in writing as soon as practicable to the person who submitted the sample, and
- (c) if *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Salmonella hadar*, *Salmonella infantis*, *Salmonella typhimurium* or *Salmonella virchow* is detected in a sample the Minister is immediately informed of that detection by means of an oral report followed by a written report within 24 hours.

- (2) The holder of a laboratory approval shall—
- (a) apply quality control systems that conform to the current EN/ISO standard,
 - (b) regularly participate in collaborative testing organised or coordinated by the national reference laboratory, and
 - (c) comply with all conditions applicable to the laboratory as notified to the holder of the laboratory approval by the Minister at the time of approval or subsequently.

Control measures if salmonella infection confirmed

7. (1) If a report of the detection of *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium* is made to the Minister pursuant to Regulation 6(1)(c) the owner or person in charge of the flock shall ensure that no eggs, poultry or poultry meat are moved from the premises where the flock is located without the consent in writing of an authorised officer.

(2) If the presence of *Salmonella enteritidis* or *Salmonella typhimurium* is confirmed in a breeding flock—

- (a) the owner or person in charge of the flock shall ensure that—
 - (i) no eggs, poultry or poultry meat are moved from the premises where the flock is located without the consent in writing of an authorised officer,
 - (ii) non-incubated eggs from the flock are destroyed or treated in a manner that guarantees the elimination of *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium* in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene and
 - (iii) all birds, including day-old chicks, in the flock are slaughtered in accordance with Community legislation on food hygiene or destroyed,
- (b) the owner or person in charge of a hatchery where hatching eggs from the breeding flock are

present shall ensure that such eggs are destroyed or treated in accordance with the Animal By-products Regulation.

- (c) a person in charge of a product derived from the birds referred to in subparagraph (a)(iii) which are not destined for human consumption shall ensure that such products are used or disposed of in accordance with the Animal By-products Regulation.

(3) If an authorised officer gives the consent in writing referred to in subparagraphs (1) or (2)(a) the officer may specify the place or manner in which the birds should be slaughtered or destroyed or the manner in which eggs should be destroyed or treated and nobody shall deal with the birds or eggs except in accordance with such specification.

- (4) (a) If a premises that was occupied by a breeding flock in which the presence of salmonella was detected has been emptied of birds and eggs, the owner or person in charge shall ensure that effective cleansing and disinfection is carried out, including safe disposal of manure and litter, in accordance with the procedures laid down by an authorised officer.

- (b) A person shall not restock premises referred to in subparagraph (a) unless an authorised officer is satisfied that all reasonable precautions have been taken to ensure the elimination of salmonella at the premises and consents in writing to the restocking.

Records

8. The owner or person in charge of a breeding flock or of a hatchery shall keep, and retain for a period of at least two years, a record of the movement of birds, chicks and eggs of domestic fowl onto and off the premises including—

- (a) the date of the movement,
- (b) the number of birds, chicks and eggs moved,
- (c) the identity of the building or group of buildings into which or from which the birds, eggs or chicks were moved,

- (d) name and address of the premises from which incoming birds, chicks and eggs were brought, and
- (e) name and address of the premises to which outgoing birds, chicks and eggs were sent.

Appointment of authorised officers

9. (1) The Minister may appoint such and so many persons as the Minister thinks fit to be authorised officers.

(2) An appointment as an authorised officer ceases-

- (a) if it is terminated by the Minister,
- (b) if it is for a fixed period, on the expiry of that period, or
- (c) if the person appointed ceases to be an officer of the Minister.

(3) Nothing in paragraph (2) is to be construed so as to prevent the Minister from reappointing as an authorised officer a person to whom that paragraph relates.

(4) An authorised officer appointed under this Regulation shall be furnished with a warrant of appointment as an authorised officer and when exercising any power conferred by these Regulations such officer shall, if requested by any person affected, produce the warrant to that person.

Powers of an authorised officer

10. (1) An authorised officer or a person employed by or acting on the authority of the Commission of the European Communities accompanied by an authorised officer may, if the authorised officer has reasonable grounds for believing that a breeding flock is being kept on a premises or that a premises is being used as a hatchery or that a document or other thing relating to a breeding flock or hatchery may be present on the premises--

- (a) at any time enter and search such premises or any parts of any other premises or other land, vehicle or container which are material to the operation of such premises.

- (b) search a person, where the authorised officer considers it necessary;
- (c) there or at any other place examine any poultry or eggs or other thing found there;
- (d) inspect, take or take copies of or extracts from any books, documents or other records found there;
- (e) take, without payment, samples of any poultry, eggs, cadavers, faeces, blood, tissue or any other thing, substance or article as he or she may reasonably require and carry out or cause to be carried out on a sample such tests, analyses, examinations or inspections as he or she considers necessary or expedient;
- (f) seize and detain (for so long as is necessary) any poultry, eggs, vehicle, container or other thing, substance or article;
- (g) give directions to or require any person there or the owner or person in charge of the premises or any person employed in connection therewith to give to him or her such information and to produce to him or her such books, certificates, documents, records or thing within the power of procurement of the person as the officer may reasonably require for the purposes of his or her functions under these Regulations;
- (h) retain a document or thing (for so long as is necessary);
- (i) dispose of the poultry, eggs or other thing or require the owner or person in charge of them to deal with or dispose of them in a manner that the authorised officer sees fit;
- (j) require of a person the ownership, identity and origin of any poultry, eggs or other thing;
- (k) mark or otherwise identify poultry, eggs or other thing or any sample taken under subparagraph (e).

(2) The person referred to in paragraph (1)(g) shall carry out all reasonable directions issued by an authorised officer.

(3) An authorised officer shall not enter, except with the consent of the occupier, a private dwelling, unless he or she has obtained a search warrant under Regulation 11 other than if he or she has reasonable cause to suspect that before a search warrant could be sought in relation to the dwelling anything to which paragraph (1) relates is being or is likely to be destroyed or disposed of.

(4) An authorised officer may use reasonable force, if necessary, in exercise of his or her powers under this Regulation.

(5) An authorised officer, when exercising a power under this Regulation may be accompanied by other persons and may take with him or her, or those persons may take with them, any equipment or materials to assist the officer in the exercise of the power.

(6) An authorised officer is not liable in any proceedings for anything done in the purported exercise of his or her powers under these Regulations if the court is satisfied that the act was done in good faith and that there were reasonable grounds for doing it.

(7) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), a direction or requirement of an authorised officer may include conditions prohibiting, restricting or otherwise controlling the movement of poultry, eggs, cadavers or any material or thing as may be specified by the authorised officer.

(8) If a member of the Garda Síochána has reasonable grounds to suspect that a person has committed an offence under these Regulations, the member may without warrant arrest the person.

(9) An authorised officer or an expert from the Commission of the European Communities may at any reasonable time inspect an approved laboratory, or a laboratory in respect of which an application for approval has been made, for the purpose of evaluating its suitability for approval.

Search warrant

11. (1) If a judge of the District Court is satisfied by information on oath of an authorised officer that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting—

- (a) evidence of or relating to the commission of or intended commission of an offence under these Regulations or the EC Regulations is to be found on the premises,
- (b) there is or was poultry, eggs or other material or other thing used in connection with poultry or eggs on the premises,
- (c) a document or other record related to a thing to which subparagraph (a) refers is or may be on the premises,

the judge may issue a search warrant.

(2) A search warrant under this Regulation shall be expressed and operate to authorise a named authorised officer, accompanied by such authorised officers or other persons as the named authorised officer thinks necessary, at any time within one month from the date of issue of the warrant, on production, if so requested, of the warrant, to enter (if necessary by use of reasonable force) the premises or place named in the warrant.

(3) If a premises is entered pursuant to a warrant issued under this Regulation, an authorised officer may exercise all or any of the powers conferred on an authorised officer under these Regulations.

Offences and penalties

12. (1) A person who—

- (a) contravenes Article 2 or 3 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1177/2006 of 1 August 2006,
- (b) contravenes Regulation 3, 4 (1) and (4), 6, 7, 8 or 10 (2) of these Regulations,
- (c) tampers or otherwise interferes with any sample taken under these Regulations,

- (d) tampers or otherwise interferes with any poultry, poultrymeat or eggs so as to procure that any sample of it taken under these Regulations does not correctly represent the poultry, poultrymeat or eggs,
- (e) treats or allows treatment of any bird which causes any sample to be invalid,
- (f) forge, or utter knowing it to be forged, a record referred to in these Regulations,
- (g) fails to give assistance to, or obstructs, impedes or otherwise interferes with, an authorised officer in the performance of his or her functions or gives information to an authorised officer that he or she knows to be false or misleading in a material respect,
- (h) in applying for a laboratory approval wilfully makes a false or misleading statement,
- (i) fails to comply with a request of an authorised officer made under Regulation 10(1)(g), (i) or (j),

commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding €5000 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 6 months or to both.

(2) If an offence under these Regulations has been committed by a body corporate and is proved to be so committed with the consent or connivance of, or be attributable to any neglect on the part of, a person being a director, manager, secretary or other officer of the body corporate or a person who was purporting to act in any such capacity, that person, as well as the body corporate shall be found guilty of an offence and shall be liable to be proceeded against and punished as if he or she were guilty of the first-mentioned offence.

(3) If the affairs of a body corporate are managed by its members, paragraph (2) applies in relation to the acts and defaults of a member in connection with the functions of management as if the member were a director or manager of the body corporate.

(4) An offence under these Regulations may be prosecuted by the Minister.

Revocation

13. The European Communities (Zoonoses) Regulations 1996 (S.I. No. 2 of 1996) are revoked.

SCHEDULE

Part 1

TAKING OF SAMPLES AS REFERRED TO IN REGULATION 3

(1) Adult breeding flocks shall be sampled every two weeks during the laying period in accordance with paragraph 2(2)(2)(1) of the Annex to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1003/2005 of 30 June 2005.

(2) Breeding flocks other than adult flocks shall be sampled at the day-old chick stage, when the birds are four weeks old and two weeks before the birds move to the laying phase or laying unit as follows-

(a) in the case of day-old chicks—

- (i) samples shall be taken, on the day of delivery of the chicks to the holding, from the internal linings of the boxes in which the chicks were delivered to the holding from the hatchery, with a minimum of one box-liner being sampled for every 500 chicks delivered and each sample to consist of at least one centimetre square from each liner,
- (ii) samples shall be taken of the carcasses of all dead chicks, up to a maximum of 60, found dead on arrival on the day of delivery to the holding.

(b) in the case of four-week old birds and birds that will move to the laying phase or laying unit in two weeks-

- (i) pooled faecal samples, made up of separate samples of fresh faeces each weighing not less than one gram taken at random from a

number of sites in the building in which the birds are kept, shall be collected,

- (ii) if the birds have free access to more than one building on the holding, pooled faecal samples shall be collected from each building on the holding in which the birds are kept,
- (iii) the number of sites from which separate faeces samples are to be taken in order to make a pooled samples shall be—

<i>Number of birds kept in a building</i>	<i>Number of faeces samples to be taken in the building or group of buildings</i>
1 to 24	number equal to number of birds up to a maximum of 20
25 to 29	20
30 to 39	25
40 to 49	30
50 to 59	35
60 to 89	40
90 to 199	50
200 to 499	55
500 or more	60

Part 2

MANNER IN WHICH A SAMPLE SHALL BE DEALT WITH

The owner or person in charge of a breeding flock shall ensure that

- (a) each sample is dispatched to an approved laboratory within 48 hours of being taken in a manner that ensures the integrity of the sample,
- (b) each sample is kept in a refrigerator at a temperature of between 1°C and 4°C if not dispatched within 24 hours of being taken,
- (c) each sample is identified in a manner that enables the laboratory to which it is sent to know—

- (i) the name of the owner or person in charge of the breeding farm,
 - (ii) date on which the sample was taken,
 - (iii) description of sample taken,
 - (iv) identity of the flock and
 - (v) identity of the building or group of buildings where the sample was taken,
- (d) such samples are tested, at the expense of the owner or person in charge of the flock, for the presence of salmonella at an approved laboratory.
- (e) a record of samples taken for the purposes of salmonella testing is kept which shall contain at least the following information—
- (i) date on which the sample was taken,
 - (ii) description of sample taken,
 - (iii) identity of the building or group of buildings where the samples were taken and
 - (iv) the result of the test, and
- (f) the record referred to in subparagraph (e) is retained for a period of at least three years from date of taking of the sample and is produced to an authorised officer on request.



GIVEN under my Official Seal
20 December 2006

MARY COUGHLAN
Minister for Agriculture and Food.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the instrument and does not purport to be a legal interpretation)

These Regulations give effect to European Union legislation on the testing of breeding flocks of domestic fowl for salmonella and on control measures if flocks are infected and provide for the approval of laboratories to conduct tests.

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
ARNA FHOILSIÚ AG OIFIG AN ISOLÁTHAIR
Le ceannach díreach ón
OIFIG DHÍOILTA FOILSEACHÁN RIALTAIS,
TEACH SUN ALLIANCE, SRÁID THEACH LAIGHEAN, BAILE ÁTHA
CLIATH 2
nó tríd an bpost ó
FOILSEACHÁN RIALTAIS, AN RANNÓG POST-TRÁCHTA,
51 FAICHE ST. ABHNA, BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH,
(Teil: 01-6476834/35/36/37; Fais: 01-6476843)
nó trí son díoltóir leabhar.

DUBLIN
PUBLISHED BY THE STATIONERY OFFICE
To be purchased directly from the
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALE OFFICE
SUN ALLIANCE HOUSE, MOLLSWORTH STREET, DUBLIN 2,
or by mail order from
GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS, POSTAL TRADE SECTION,
51 ST. STEPHEN'S GREEN, DUBLIN 2
(Tel: 01-6476834/35/36/37; Fax: 01-6476843)
or through any bookseller.

€3.56

ISBN 1-4064-0632-5



Wt. (B25037), 335, 107, Cahil. Gr. 30-15

To all persons in charge of breeding flocks of domestic fowl



Department of
**Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food**
An Roinn
**Talmhaíochta,
Iascaigh agus Bia**

New salmonella testing requirements for breeding flocks

Dear Sir/Madam

The purpose of this letter is to inform you about new controls on salmonella in breeding flocks of domestic fowl (*Gallus gallus*) that will come into place on **1 January 2007**. These are part of a strategy that the European Commission is putting in place throughout the EU to improve the salmonella status of all categories of poultry and pigs. Your active participation in the new control arrangements will be required. The following is a summary of the main points of concern to the operators (ie owners or people in charge) of breeding flocks.

- Sampling of adult breeding flocks must be conducted by the operator every 2 weeks at the egg producing holding. Fluff sampling at hatcheries will be discontinued.
- Samples may consist of pooled faeces or boot swabs. Details of the sampling procedure for adult flocks are set out in attached annex.
- Samples shall be sent to private laboratories on the day of collection for testing at the operator's expense. These laboratories, and the test method they are using, will have to be approved by this Department.
- The requirements for rearing flocks are unchanged i.e. they must also be sampled at the following stages: day-old chicks, four-week old birds and two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit.
- The results of the analysis of all samples, together with the date and place of sampling and identification details of the sampled flock, must be kept at the farm for 3 years for inspection by Department officials.
- There will also be official sampling by this Department.
- Only the following Salmonella types are in question at this stage: enteritidis, hadar, infantis, typhimurium and virchow. All other types with public health significance will be added after 3 years.
- As from 1 January 2007 hatching eggs and birds going from breeding sites to any destination outside the State will have to be tested for salmonella prior to dispatch and the results and date of test will be included in the relevant health certificate.
- Hatching eggs, day-old chicks and other birds from flocks that are positive for Salmonella enteritidis and Salmonella typhimurium must be destroyed. Meat and non-incubated eggs may be used for human consumption subject to certain measures to ensure their safety being complied with.

We will write to you again about this later in the year.

Yours sincerely

Marie Hoban

31 July 2006.



Annex

Details of sampling methods for detection of salmonella in adult breeding flocks of domestic fowl

Samples shall comprise one of the following (a), (b) or (c):

(a) Pooled faeces

Pooled faeces made up of separate samples of fresh faeces each weighing not less than 1 g taken at random from a number of sites in the building in which the birds are kept, or where the birds have free access to more than one building on a particular holding, from each group of buildings on the holding in which the birds are kept. Faeces may be pooled for analysis up to a minimum of two pools.

The number of sites from which separate faeces samples are to be taken in order to make a pooled sample shall be as follows:

Number of birds kept in a building	Number of faeces samples to be taken in the building or group of buildings on the holding
250-349	200
350-449	220
450-799	250
800-999	260
1000 or more	300

(b) Five pairs of boot swabs:

Boot swabs used shall be sufficiently absorptive to soak up moisture. Tubegauze 'socks' are also acceptable. The surface of the boot swab shall be moistened using appropriate diluent (such as 0,8 % sodium chloride, 0,1 % peptone in sterile deionised water, or sterile water). Walking around shall be done in a manner which will sample representatively all parts of the sector, including littered and slatted areas when slats are safe to walk on. All separate pens within a house shall be included in the sampling. On completion of sampling in the chosen sector, boot swabs must be removed carefully so as not to dislodge adherent material. The boot swabs may be pooled for analysis into a minimum of two pools.

(c) Cage flocks

In cage breeding flocks, sampling may consist of naturally mixed faeces from dropping belts, scrapers or deep pits, depending on the type of house. Two samples of at least 150 g shall be collected to be tested individually:

- (i) droppings belts beneath each tier of cages which are run regularly and discharged into an auger or conveyor system;
- (ii) droppings pit system in which deflectors beneath the cages are scraped into a deep pit beneath the house;
- (iii) droppings pit system in a step cage house when cages are offset and faeces fall directly into the pit.

In cases where there are several stacks of cages within a house pooled faeces from each stack shall be represented in the overall pooled sample. Two pooled samples shall be taken from each flock as described below.

In systems where there are belts or scrapers, these shall be run on the day of the sampling before sampling is carried out.

In systems where there are deflectors beneath cages and scrapers, pooled faeces which has lodged on the scraper after it has been run, shall be collected.

In step-cage systems where there is no belt or scraper system it is necessary to collect pooled faeces from the deep pit.

In the case of droppings belt systems pooled faecal material from the discharge ends of the belts shall be collected.



Dear Sir/Madam

We wrote out to you in July 2006 outlining the new controls in place for Salmonella in breeding flocks from 1 January 2007.

The following is a summary of the main points in that communication and what was required to comply with the new requirements, which are contained in the accompanying Annex.

Summary

- Sampling of adult breeding flocks must be conducted by the operator every 2 weeks at the egg producing holding. Fluff sampling at hatcheries will be discontinued
- Samples may consist of pooled faeces or boot swabs. Details of the sampling procedure for adult flocks are set out in attached annex
- Samples shall be sent to private laboratories on the day of collection for testing at the operator's expense. These laboratories, and the test method, (see beneath), they are using, will have to be approved by this Department
- The requirements for rearing flocks are unchanged i.e. they must also be sampled at the following stages: day-old chicks, four-week old birds and two weeks before moving to laying phase or laying unit
- The results of the analysis of all samples, together with the date and place of sampling and identification details of the sampled flock, must be kept at the farm for 3 years for inspection by Department officials
- There will also be official sampling by this Department
- Only the following Salmonella types are in question at this stage: enteritidis, hadar, infantis, typhimurium and virchow. All other types with public health significance will be added after 3 years.
- As from 1 January 2007 hatching eggs and birds going from breeding sites to any destination outside the State will have to be tested for salmonella prior to dispatch and the results and date of test will be included in the relevant health certificate.
- Hatching eggs, day-old chicks and other birds from flocks that are positive for Salmonella enteritidis and Salmonella typhimurium must be destroyed. Meat and non-incubated eggs may be used for human consumption subject to certain measures to ensure their safety being complied with.

Method of sampling by Private Laboratories:

The method to test the samples is prescribed in the current version of draft Annex D of ISO 6579 (2002) under 'Detection of *Salmonella* spp in animal faeces and in samples of the primary production stage'.

In this method, a semi-solid medium (modified semi-solid Rappaport-Vassiladis medium, MSR/V) is used as the single selective enrichment medium.

Department Sampling



Details of sampling methods for detection of salmonella in adult breeding flocks of domestic fowl

Samples shall comprise one of the following (a), (b) or (c):

(a) Pooled faeces

Pooled faeces made up of separate samples of fresh faeces each weighing not less than 1 g taken at random from a number of sites in the building in which the birds are kept, or where the birds have free access to more than one building on a particular holding, from each group of buildings on the holding in which the birds are kept. Faeces may be pooled for analysis up to a minimum of two pools.

The number of sites from which separate faeces samples are to be taken in order to make a pooled sample shall be as follows:

Number of birds kept In a building	Number of faeces samples to be taken in the building or group of buildings on the holding
250-349	200
350-449	220
450-799	250
800-999	260
1000 or more	300

(b) Five pairs of boot swabs:

Boot swabs used shall be sufficiently absorptive to soak up moisture. Tubegauze 'socks' are also acceptable. The surface of the boot swab shall be moistened using appropriate diluent (such as 0,8 % sodium chloride, 0,1 % peptone in sterile deionised water, or sterile water).

Walking around shall be done in a manner which will sample representatively all parts of the sector, including littered and slatted areas when slats are safe to walk on. All separate pens within a house shall be included in the sampling. On completion of sampling in the chosen sector, boot swabs must be removed carefully so as not to dislodge adherent material. The boot swabs may be pooled for analysis into a minimum of two pools.

(c) Cage flocks

In cage breeding flocks, sampling may consist of naturally mixed faeces from dropping belts, scrapers or deep pits, depending on the type of house. Two samples of at least 150 g shall be collected to be tested individually:

- (i) droppings belts beneath each tier of cages which are run regularly and discharged into an auger or conveyor system;
- (ii) droppings pit system in which deflectors beneath the cages are scraped into a deep pit beneath the house;
- (iii) droppings pit system in a step cage house when cages are offset and faeces fall directly into the pit.

In cases where there are several stacks of cages within a house pooled faeces from each stack shall be represented in the overall pooled sample. Two pooled samples shall be taken from each flock as described below.

In systems where there are belts or scrapers, these shall be run on the day of the sampling before sampling is carried out.

In systems where there are deflectors beneath cages and scrapers, pooled faeces which has lodged on the scraper after it has been run, shall be collected.

In step-cage systems where there is no belt or scraper system it is necessary to collect pooled faeces from the deep pit.

In the case of droppings belt systems pooled faecal material from the discharge ends of the belts shall be collected.

The Department will be taking its own samples as part of an official monitor of the private sampling and to be in a position to certify Salmonella freedom in accordance with the changes to the new export certification requirements for

- All categories of hatching eggs
- Day-old chicks intended to be used as breeding poultry
- Breeding poultry intended for the production of hatching eggs
- Slaughter poultry coming from breeding flocks (i.e. end-of-lay breeders).

These have come into effect as from 1 September 2007.

Samples

A member of the local office will be soon be calling out to you to take the official samples three times per-annum. These samples will be taken by yourselves under the supervision of your designated Veterinary Officer or Agricultural Officer in the local office who you will have been dealing with on an on-going basis. It may be that he/she may wish to take this sample himself.

The sample will be forwarded to the Department's laboratory, (CVRL), for analysis and the results will be sent back to you through the local office. This sample will replace the fortnightly sample required by you and there is a cost benefit to you in that you won't have to pay for the analysis of these three samples. You are required however to supply the sampling kit if asked to do so by your local office. You will have been using this kit already to carry out your own fortnightly sampling. Included is a methodology for taking the sample, which details the items you will need to take the official sample if asked to supply it. The Veterinary Inspector will supply the form and the prepaid postage for forwarding to the Department laboratory.

Alma Flack
Suprintending Veterinary Inspector
October 2007

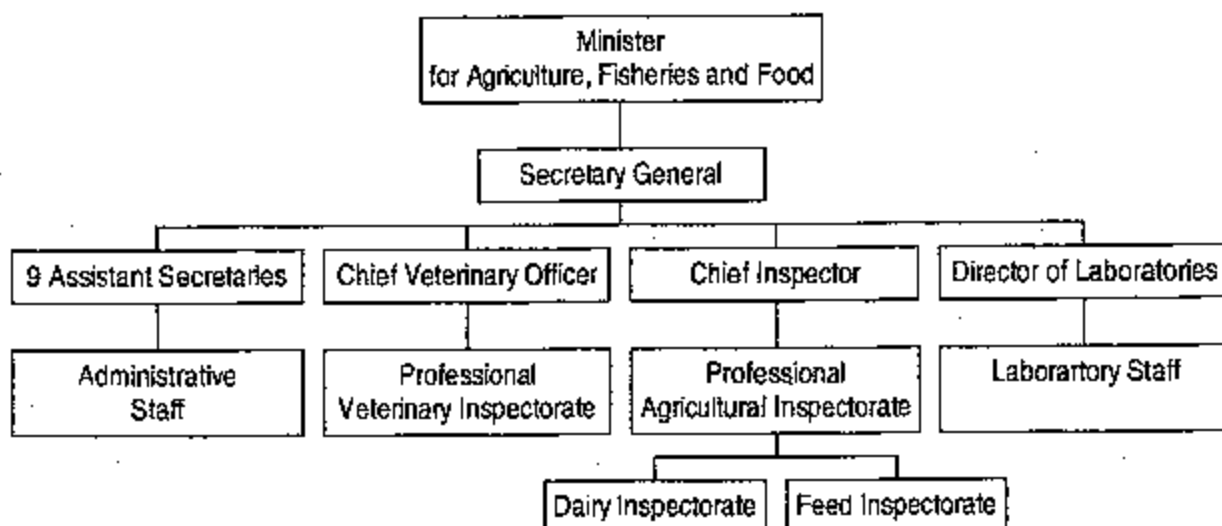
1. National Veterinary Services

1.1 Organizational chart including numbers, positions and numbers of vacancies

Organization and structure of the State Veterinary Service within the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

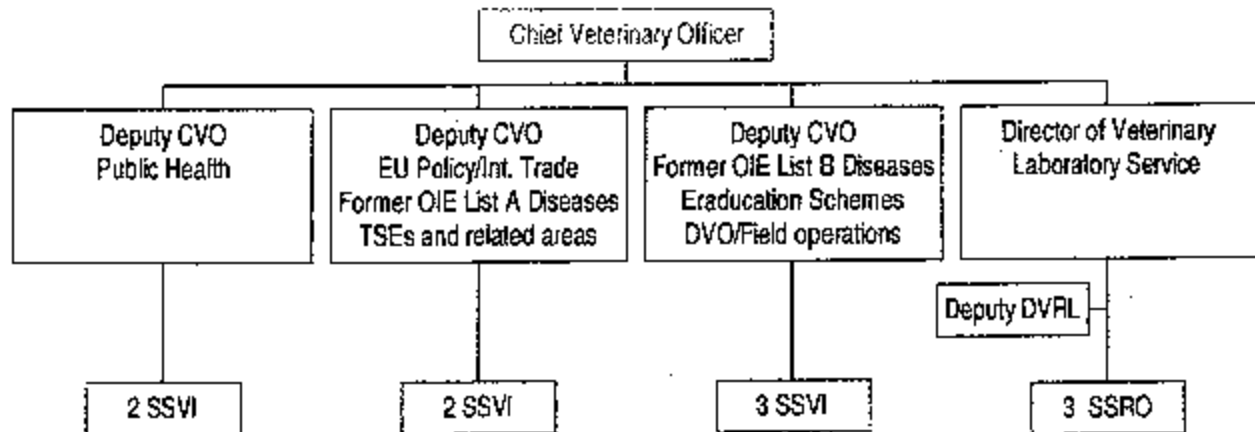
In Ireland the State Veterinary Service operates within the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF). The Management structure of the Department under the Secretary General is comprised of nine Assistant Secretaries, the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO), the Director of Laboratories and the Chief Agricultural Inspector.

Organisation Of The Department Of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food



The Chief Veterinary Officer and a veterinary management team are based in Department headquarters in Agriculture House. Both within headquarters and on a regional level the State Veterinary Service in Ireland is broken into Veterinary Public Health and Animal Health and Welfare, but all are answerable to the Chief Veterinary Officer.

Organization of the State Veterinary Service in Headquarters



SSVI Senior Superintending Veterinary Inspector
SSRO Senior Superintending Research Officer

The State Veterinary Service (SVS) of the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Food (DAFF) advises the Minister on matters of animal health and disease, zoonoses, and public health in so far as it relates to food and products of animal origin. It assists in the preparation, implementation and enforcement of European Union and National legislation, implements control measures to protect the health of the animal and human populations, and provides certification for animals and animal products intended for export.

Veterinary officers are authorised under the relevant legislation to enforce EU and National measures relating to animal health and welfare, including legislation concerning the control of animal disease, veterinary medicines, and the hygienic production of foods of animal origin, by routine inspection and sampling, by investigation and the acquisition of evidence, and by legal process in the courts, often in co-operation with the Gardai (police) and Customs officers.

Certain measures relating to EU veterinary legislation, in particular, controls on compound feeds for livestock, zootechnics, and dairy products, are implemented by the Department's Agricultural Inspectorate, which is headed by the Chief Agriculture Inspector.

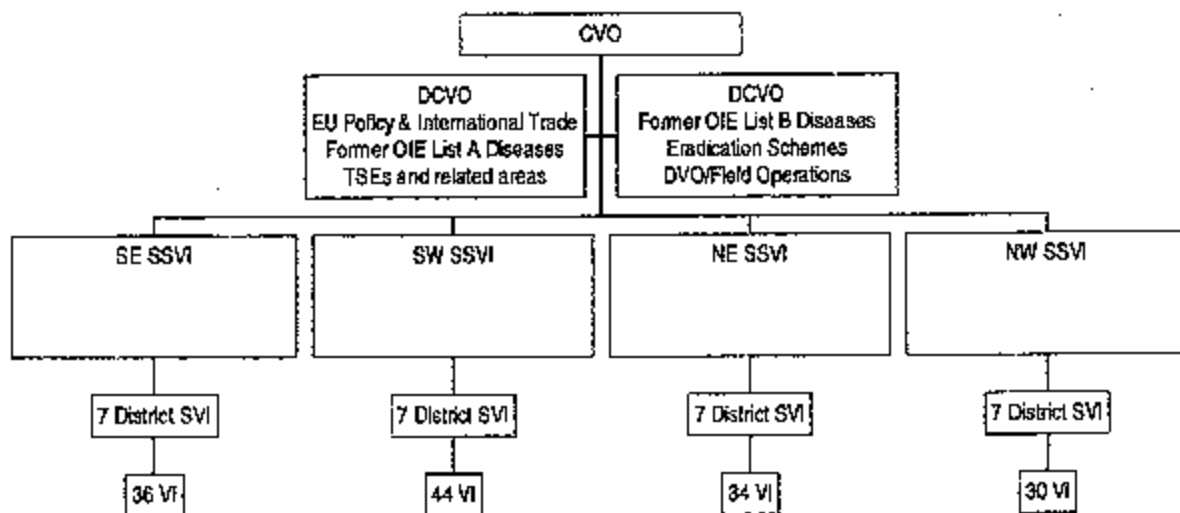
Regional Animal Health and Welfare Inspectorates of the State Veterinary Service

The country is sub-divided as follows:

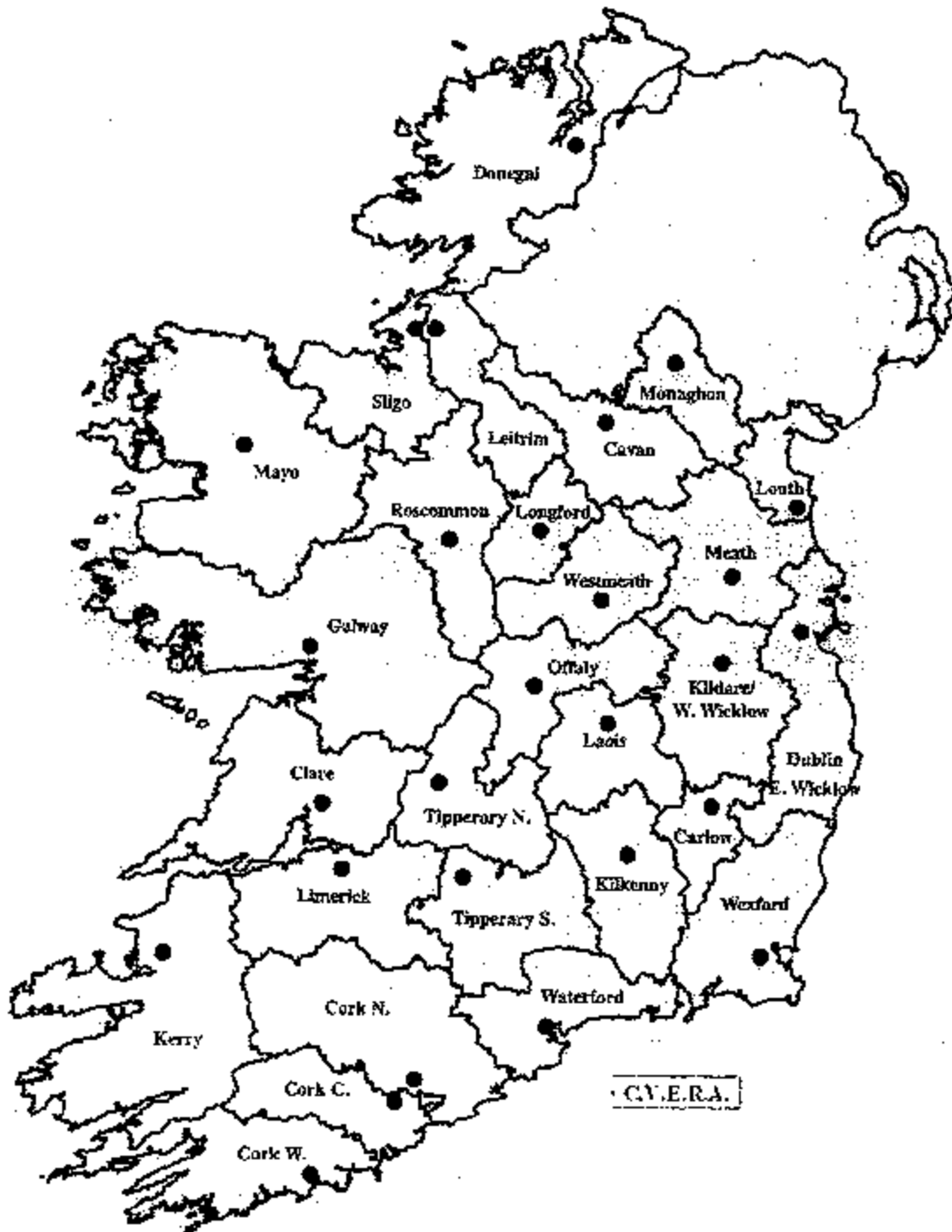
There are four regions, North East, North West, South East and South West, each under the supervision of a Regional Senior Superintending Veterinary Inspector (SSVI).

There are 28 District Veterinary Offices, each of which is under the supervision of a Superintending Veterinary Inspector (SVI) and staffed by Veterinary Inspectors, Agricultural Officers and administrative and clerical staff.

Organisation of Field Operations of State Veterinary Services



DISTRICT VETERINARY OFFICES



European Communities (Control of salmonella in laying flocks of domestic fowl)
Regulations 2008
(S.I. No. 247 of 2008)

Laboratories approved to conduct salmonella testing of flocks

Mid-Antrim Laboratory Service
42A Broughshane Rd.
Ballymena
Co. Antrim

Anser Laboratories Ltd
69A Killyman St
Moy BT71
Co. Tyrone

Complete Laboratory Solutions
Ros Muc
Connemara
Co. Galway

Enva Ireland Ltd
Raheen Industrial Estate
Ringaskiddy Road
Monkstown
Co Cork

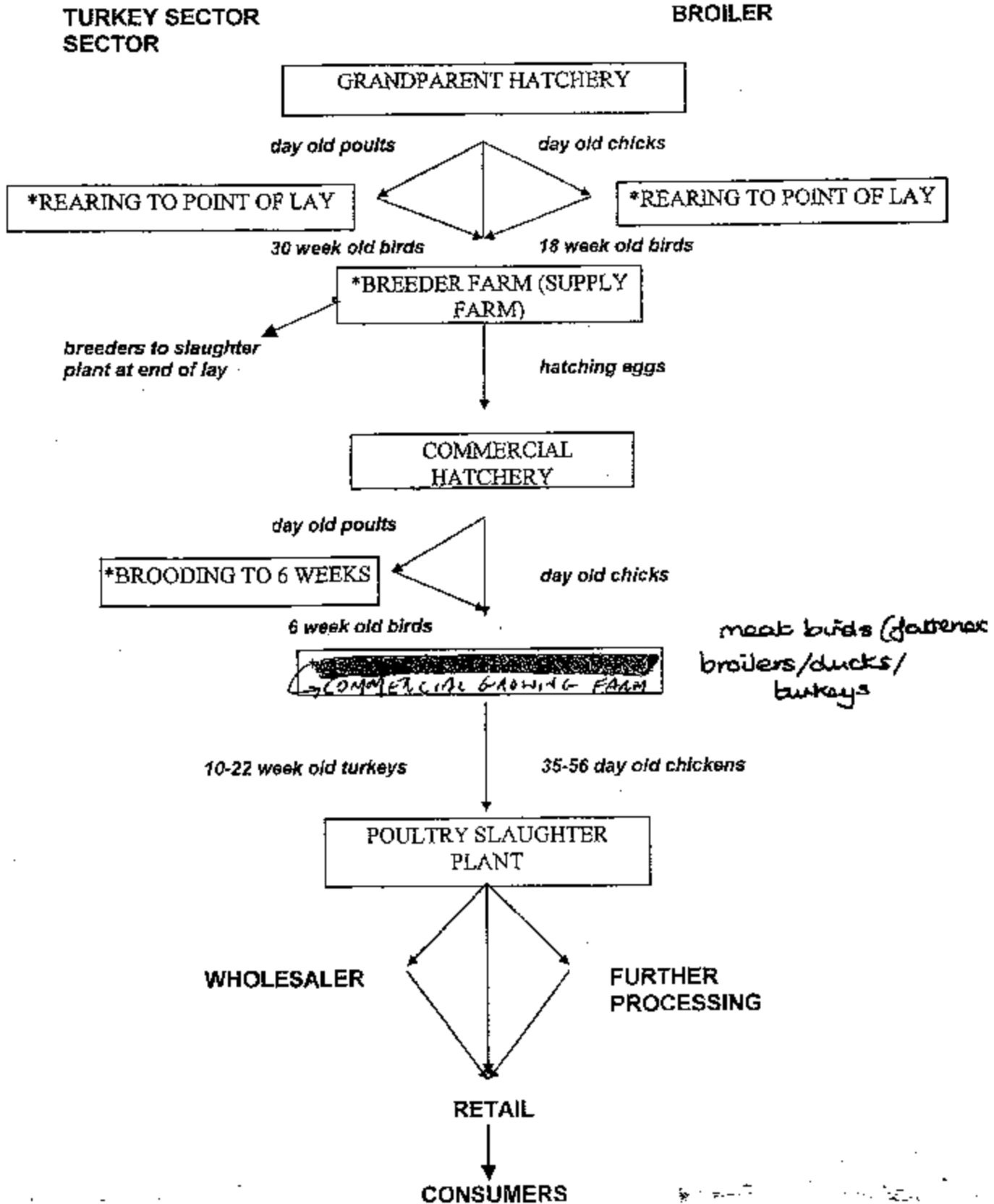
Microlab Ltd
Drumillard Little
Monaghan Road
Castleblaney
Co. Monaghan

Monaghan Veterinary Laboratory
Clones Road
Monaghan

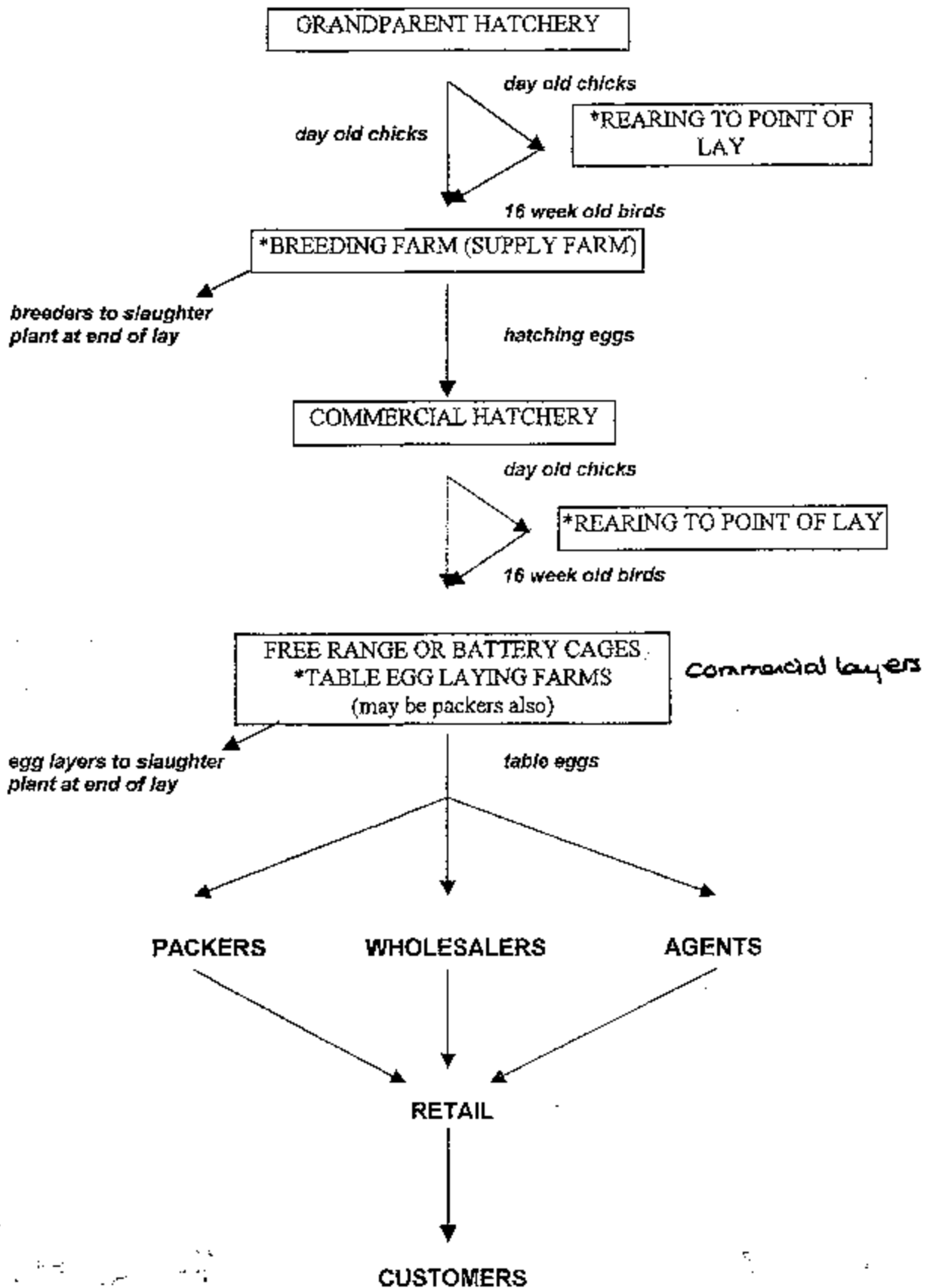
Oldcastle laboratories Ltd
Cogan Street
Oldcastle
Co. Meath

Q-Lab Ltd
P.O. Box 27
kerlogue Industrial Estate
Drinagh
Co Wexford

STRUCTURE OF MEAT SECTOR



STRUCTURE OF TABLE EGG INDUSTRY



Poultry Standard Producer Requirements (Duck, Chicken, Turkey)

Revision 01, June 2008



National Development Plan 2007 - 2013

Bord Bia
Irish Food Board

(blank page)



Contents

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Objectives
- 1.2 Participation
- 1.3 Legislative Requirements
- 1.4 Database Information
- 1.5 Definitions
- 1.6 Cautionary Notes

2.0 Scheme Rules

- 2.1 Membership Requirements
- 2.2 Control and Monitoring
- 2.3 Requirement Categories and Application of Non-Compliances
- 2.4 Recommendations for Best Practice
- 2.5 Certification Decisions
- 2.6 Appeals
- 2.7 Complaints
- 2.8 Revision Updates
- 2.9 Notification of Change

3.0 Producer Requirements

- 3.0 Introduction
- 3.1 General
- 3.2 Production Site
- 3.3 Housing and Environment
- 3.4 House Preparation
- 3.5 Day-Olds Sourcing
- 3.6 Flock Health
- 3.7 Feed and Water
- 3.8 Flock Welfare
- 3.9 Site Hygiene & Biosecurity
- 3.10 Catching and Transport
- 3.11 Health and Safety on the Farm
- 3.12 Air Quality
- 3.13 Environmental Protection
- 3.14 Free Range Poultry

(blank page)

I Introduction



Introduction

1.0

INTRODUCTION

This Code of Practice was developed by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) representing Bord Bia, Teagasc, the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI), poultry producers and processors, industry advisors and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF).

This Standard replaces the previous Code of Practice for Chicken Producers, Revision 01 of January 2003.

1.1

OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of this Standard are:

- To set out the requirements for best practice in poultry production at farm level;
- To provide a uniform mechanism for recording and monitoring poultry production quality assurance criteria on the farm with a view to achieving continual improvement in production standards;
- To provide a means of demonstrating best practice at producer level;
- To underpin the successful marketing of quality assured poultry.

1.2

PARTICIPATION

The Poultry Quality Assurance Scheme is voluntary and application for membership is open to all Producers with a valid flock number or who are registered with DAFF, that wish to participate and that have an established relationship with a nominated Processor.

The nominated Processor is responsible for those aspects of the management of the flock that are defined in the requirements in Section 3.

Certification to the standard will only be granted to Producers who meet the relevant requirements of this Standard.



1.3

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

This Standard has been prepared bearing in mind the key legislative requirements relevant to poultry production and animal welfare and has been based on the following best practices/standards:

- Recognised international quality management standards such as ISO 9001:2000 (Quality Management System – Requirements);
- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) as outlined by Codex Alimentarius (1997);
- Relevant National and EU legislative requirements including EC/178/2002 and EC/852/2004;
- EN 45011 (1998) General Requirements for Bodies Operating Product Certification Systems.

It is also recommended that producers consult with their Agricultural and Veterinary advisors and DAFF.

Note: compliance with this Standard does not guarantee compliance with all relevant legislation.

1.4

DATABASE INFORMATION:

The name of each certified producer will be listed on a published Bord Bia register/database.

1.5

DEFINITIONS

Bord Bia: the Irish Food Board.

Certification Body: the agency/Committee to which the Quality Assurance Board has devolved responsibility and authority for all certification decisions with regard to membership of the Scheme.

Certification Period: this will be 18 months from the date of certification under the Scheme or until the next audit.

PPQAS: the Bord Bia Poultry Products Quality Assurance Scheme.

PPQAS Register/Database: the register/database of the current certified members indicating the membership status.

DAFF: the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

FSAI: the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.

Farm Auditor: the independent auditor carrying out the farm audits.



HACCP: Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point, a system for identifying how food can become unsafe for human consumption and then deciding how it can be prevented.

Member: a Producer or Processor that is certified under the PPQAS and is shown on the PPQAS register/database.

Producer: a DAFIF registered Poultry Producer.

Producer Standard: this consists of the requirements as set out in Sections 1, 2 & 3 of the Bord Bia Poultry Products Quality Assurance Standard: Producer Requirements and the associated Appendices.

Production House: a single building used for the production of poultry for slaughter for meat.

Production Site: a collection of (one or more) houses on one defined area operated as one unit.

Scheme: the Poultry Products Quality Assurance Scheme consists of three elements:

- The Producer Standard;
- The Processor Standard;
- The process for ensuring that the requirements as set out in the Standards are met (through auditing, certification, etc.) and that the relevant details are published.

Quality Assurance Board: an independent subsidiary board within Bord Bia that has overall responsibility for policy, certification and appeals for the Quality Assurance Schemes.

Teagasc: Agriculture and Food Development Authority.

1.6

CAUTIONARY NOTES

Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this Standard, Bord Bia cannot accept any responsibility for errors or omissions.

Bord Bia is not liable for any costs or potential or estimated loss of earnings resulting from having to comply with any requirement of this scheme or in regard to the consequences of being found to be in breach of any requirement.

(blank page)

2 Scheme Rules



Scheme Rules

This section contains important general information for Producers. It is crucial that Producers and Processors take sufficient time to read and fully understand this section of the Standard.

2.1

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

2.1.1

Application Process

Producers seeking membership must initially apply either through the Meat Processor or directly to the Bord Bia using the Application Form provided by Bord Bia.

The application will be evaluated and, if appropriate, a full independent audit of the Producer will be carried out to evaluate the capability of the applicant to meet all the requirements of the standard.

A separate Producer Declaration Form will be completed at the audit (see Appendix 2).

When the Producer is deemed to have complied with the requirements of the Standard as determined by independent audit, the Producer will be considered for certification under the Scheme.

When certified, the Producer will be issued with a membership certificate.

2.1.2

Producer Eligibility

Producers that have been convicted of an offence under the Acts listed below in the previous 3 years will not be eligible for certification to this Standard. In addition, if, during the period of validity of the certificate, the Producer is convicted of an offence under the Acts listed here, the certificate will be revoked and the Producer will be withdrawn from the Scheme:

- Animal Remedies Act 1993;
- Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 and Amended Act 1990;
- Diseases of Animals Act 1966-2001;
- Cruelty to Animals Act 1911.

2.2**CONTROL AND MONITORING**

2.2.1*Control*

Overall control of the Scheme will be exercised by the Bord Bia Quality Assurance Board. This Board is representative of the relevant sectors of the food industry and collaborates with the Technical Advisory Committee, which is responsible for drafting the Standard and formulating required amendments.

The decision of the Quality Assurance Board on any matter relating to the control or operation of the Scheme is final.

2.2.2*Monitoring*

Monitoring of Producer compliance with the requirements of the standard will be carried out by Bord Bia or its nominated agents through audit.

Each Producer will be independently audited at determined intervals. Independent Auditors with relevant sectoral experience will carry out these audits and a full report will be issued directly to the Producer.

Bord Bia reserves the right to carry out audits or spot checks on an unannounced basis for the purpose of verifying compliance with the requirements of the standard or to determine that corrective/preventive actions specified during audit are in place.

Bord Bia (or its appointed agents) reserves the right to remove samples for independent analysis (food, water, dust, birds, etc) to establish compliance with the Standard.

Auditors are entitled to seek access to relevant regulatory reports.

The full onus of responsibility for compliance with the requirements of this Producer Standard is on Producers and Processors participating in the Scheme and not on Bord Bia or its agents or any other third party.

2.3**REQUIREMENT CATEGORIES AND APPLICATION OF NON-COMPLIANCES**

2.3.1*Categories*

For audit purposes, non-compliances against the requirements of this standard (see Section 3, Producer Requirements) are classified as Critical, Category 1 or Category 2.

Critical: A critical non-compliance is raised when, because of a breach of a requirement, a serious food safety hazard exists or is likely to occur. These requirements are printed in **bold, underlined** typeface and are identified in the text as (**Critical**).



Category 1: A category 1 non-compliance is raised when there is evidence that core best practice is not being observed. These requirements are printed in bold typeface and are identified in the text as (**Category 1**).

Category 2: A category 2 non-compliance is raised where best practice has not been fully complied with, but where departure from best practice will not immediately compromise the operation of Poultry Products Quality Assurance Scheme. These requirements are printed in normal typeface.

2.3.2

Application of Non-Compliances

Critical:

Where a Critical non-compliance has been raised, applicant Producers cannot be certified to this standard and existing certified Producers cannot continue to supply poultry under the Quality Assurance Scheme and their certification will be withdrawn.

Note: the producer can re-apply when evidence is available that the problem has been rectified.

Category 1:

Producers (Processors as relevant) against whom a Category 1 non-compliance has been raised must give an immediate commitment in writing to the Bord Bia farm auditor to implementing corrective action within a 1 month period and must subsequently be able to demonstrate that each such non-compliance has been addressed.

In the case of first time applicants, all Category 1 non-compliances must be closed out to be eligible for certification.

Bord Bia reserves the right to carry out independent verification of the implementation of such corrective action.

Category 2:

Producers (Processors as relevant) against whom category 2 non-compliances have been raised must give an immediate undertaking in writing to the Bord Bia auditor to implement corrective action within a 3 month period for all the non-compliances and must submit evidence within this period that demonstrates that each such non-compliance has been addressed.

Where there has been more than 10 category 2 non-compliances, the situation will be treated as a category 1 non-compliance (see above).

Bia reserves the right to carry out independent verification of the implementation of such corrective action.

2.4

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BEST PRACTICE

There are a number of recommendations for best practice included in this standard (see Section 3, Producer Requirements). These are printed in italics on a light green background and are numbered (R1, R2, etc.).

Compliance with these requirements is not mandatory for certification. This may be revised at a future date in consultation with the Technical Advisory Committee.

2.5

CERTIFICATION DECISIONS

The decision to grant, extend or withdraw certification to/from a Producer will be made by the Certification Body.

This decision will be made primarily on the basis of the audit findings, but other factors, which may be recorded by the auditor or may come to light after the audit (such as failure to meet regulatory compliance or other food safety requirements, or previous audit history) may be taken into consideration in arriving at the certification decision.

In the event that certification is withdrawn, the membership certificate must be returned and the Producer will be removed from the register of certified producers.

2.6

APPEALS

The Producer (or Processor as relevant) may appeal decisions of the Certification Body in relation to certification status by writing to the Bord Bia within two weeks of the date of issue of the audit result.

The request to appeal will be acknowledged and followed up by Bord Bia.

2.7

COMPLAINTS

The Producer (or Processor as relevant) may complain with regard to the audits or any other aspect of the operation of the Scheme. All complaints must be in writing and must be addressed to Bord Bia. All such complaints will be acknowledged and followed up by Bord Bia.



2.8

REVISION UPDATES

Users should note that only this latest edition now applies. When future changes occur, updates will be issued in whole or in part and the obsolete sections must be destroyed.

2.9

NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE

In the event that the status of the certified Producer changes (e.g. change of ownership or change of Flock Number) Bord Bia must be immediately informed and will decide the appropriate actions required (e.g. re-audit).

(blank page)

3 Producer Requirements



Producer Requirements

3.0

INTRODUCTION

Background Information:

Consumers are increasingly conscious of animal welfare issues. The Standard therefore sets out the relevant bird welfare requirements for all stages from the hatchery to the processing plant including primary breeding, parent stock farms, hatcheries and finally poultry production farms.

The requirements of this Standard take into account the integrated structure of the poultry production chain and the importance of product quality, safety and traceability at all stages from preparation for the arrival of the young birds to transportation to the processing plant.

This Standard supports the voluntary code operated by the poultry industry and also the existing Salmonella monitoring programme for the control of *Salmonella enteritidis* and *Salmonella typhimurium*. It also incorporates the key recommendations of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) on the control of campylobacter species in the food chain.

Note regarding layout:

The layout of the information is intended to ensure clarity and, to assist the reader, there are three main panels in each sub-section as follows:

- The first panel (blue text on light green background) in all cases sets background information that is relevant to the sub-section;
- The second panel (blue text on white) sets out the specific production related requirements against which the Producers will be audited;
- The third panel (blue italics text on green) sets out the recommendations for best practice.

Note regarding Producer and Processor responsibilities:

The responsibilities outlined in this Standard relate largely to the person who manages the house on the production farm i.e. the Producer. However, the Processor also has responsibilities with regard to specific requirements, e.g. sourcing of the young birds; providing of the feedstuff; making the decision as to when the birds are to be slaughtered.

These responsibilities are highlighted at the start of the requirement as follows (PROCESSOR). For these requirements, the Processor must collaborate with the Producer to ensure compliance.

3.1

GENERAL

-
- a) Each Producer must be registered with the relevant regulatory authority and evidence of this registration must be maintained (Category 1).
 - b) All specified records must be maintained on site for 3 years at a minimum.
 - c) Each Producer must have a HACCP plan that meets the minimum requirements as set out in Appendix 5 and a copy of the farm HACCP plan must be maintained on site.
 - d) The Producer must appoint a designated person with responsibility for the operation of the scheme.
 - e) (PROCESSOR) A minimum 2 Field Officer reports per annum must be conducted, copied to the Producer AND made available at audit. This report must be equivalent to the report outlined in Appendix 7.

3.2

PRODUCTION SITE

Production Site

-
- a) A site map must be maintained and available for inspection.
 - b) At any given time, the site must be dedicated to one species and production system (Category 1).
 - c) Stock on site must be single age (i.e. "all in all out" or a complete inter-crop production break) (Critical).
 - d) The site must be isolated from other farm/poultry enterprises and protected by a physical barrier (i.e. a 2m perimeter fence) that precludes entry of other farm animals.
 - e) The site must be free of all debris, vegetation (grass, weeds) and equipment so that cover is not provided for rodents.
 - f) Where the previous flock was seriously diseased, the manure cannot be stored on site.
 - g) Manure must be stored in a manner that ensures:
 - i) That biosecurity risks are minimised through the implementation of controls;
 - ii) That the site is free from extraneous animal manure;



- iii) The prevention of cross contamination of subsequent flocks;
 - iv) That vermin are controlled effectively.
- h) Farmyard manure or litter must not be spread on flock owners land within 50 metres of the site.
- R1:** *Plan the site so that it is dry, free draining and open (but not exposed) and so that it does not cause significant interference in the locality.*

Production House

Background Information

The production house should be compliant with planning laws and designed with due regard to the visual impact of the building on the local landscape.

- i) The building must be structurally sound and vermin-proof.
 - j) All surfaces within the house must be smooth and easy to clean.
 - k) The roof must be waterproof and in good condition.
 - l) The floor must be leakproof, safe and smooth.
 - m) Walls must be water- and draught-proof.
 - n) Houses must be well maintained with no sharp edges or projections likely to cause injury to the birds or to personnel.
 - o) **(PROCESSOR) Stocking density must not exceed the following limits (chicken and duck 39 kg/m²; turkey 59 kg/m²) (or as shown in Table 3 for Free Range) at any time in the growing cycle (Category 1).**
 - p) A floor plan of the house detailing floor area and equipment layout (feeders, drinkers and fans) with measurements / numbers / capacities must be available.
- R2:** *Insulate the houses so that target air temperatures can be maintained on the desired curve, as determined by processor/group adviser.*
- R3:** *Design new houses so as to be constructed of easily sanitised materials and smooth-finished to limit the areas to which pathogens and their carriers can migrate.*
- R4:** *Design buildings to provide a safe, hygienic and comfortable environment for the birds.*

3.3

HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT

Background Information

Producers will be aware of the need to carefully control the house environment and will have installed ventilation systems that are sensitive, responsive to environmental change and easy to clean.

Producers will also be conscious of the need for good lighting during the initial brooding period, to ensure that the birds can easily find water and feed and to encourage even distribution of the young birds throughout the house.

- a) Temperatures must be monitored and controlled and the maximum and minimum temperatures at bird level inside the house must be recorded daily.
- b) The litter must be kept dry and friable.
- c) The ventilation system must be responsive to environmental change, easy to clean and capable of maintaining air quality (depending on stocking density and bodyweight of birds in the house).
- d) Where ventilation is fan assisted, fans must be able to expel, at a minimum, 3.0 cubic metres of air/kg live weight per hour for chicken and duck production.
- e) Where natural ventilation is provided, the controller must be capable of regulating specific openings to the desired levels and that a minimum ventilation rate can be set.
- f) All production houses must be fitted with:
 - i) An effective alarm (either audible up to 400m or remote) that is triggered by failure in the main power supply and/or by temperature fluctuations, and
 - ii) An operational fail-safe system.
- g) The alarm system(s) must be tested weekly and the results recorded.
- h) All sites must have a stand-by generator, tested at least once each week and the test recorded.
- i) There must be a written procedure for connecting to the stand-by generator.
- j) All electrical controllers, motors, computers and fail-safe systems must be tested annually. Either the service technician from the supplier/installer or an approved registered electrical contractor trained in this field must carry out the test and any alterations or improvements must be documented.



- k) A documented lighting programme (as specified by the Processor or breeding company) must be in place specifying daily duration and intensity.
- l) The duration and intensity must be recorded daily.
- m) Light intensity must be uniform at bird level to encourage even distribution throughout the house and must be capable of being dimmed.
- n) Lights must be clean and burned out bulbs replaced promptly.

R5: Screen air intakes to exclude flies.

3.4

HOUSE PREPARATION

Background Information

Forward planning is essential for successful and efficient production. With good planning, provision can be made to allow adequate inter-crop intervals and to ensure proper cleaning and disinfection of house(s) and site. Producers will be aware that uneven litter will create an uneven floor temperature and chicks may huddle in pockets and be deprived of heat, water and feed.

- a) A house preparation sheet that complies at a minimum with the checklist in Appendix 3 must be completed (dated and signed) before the arrival of each batch of chicks.

3.5

DAY-OLDS SOURCING

In the sourcing of young birds, safety, traceability, bird quality and welfare are the key considerations. The Producer will therefore be aware that time of delivery should be co-ordinated with the hatchery, so that adequate help is available to place the young birds in the house as quickly and efficiently as possible. This can be achieved by tipping them onto the litter gently, quickly and evenly.

Producers will also be aware that full boxes should not be stacked in the brooding area (as this may cause overheating or suffocation). This will prevent dehydration and minimise stress to the young birds.



- a) (PROCESSOR) Documentation must be provided (i.e. PH 5 or equivalent) to demonstrate that the day-olds were sourced from hatcheries complying with the regulatory Salmonella monitoring programme (Critical).
 - b) A documented quality check on the day-old birds must be completed and available for inspection.
 - c) (PROCESSOR) Where imported day-olds are supplied, there must be written documentation¹ available to confirm that they have come from parent flocks that were not Salmonella vaccinated and were proved negative for Salmonella within the previous twenty eight days (Critical).
 - d) (PROCESSOR) The day-olds must arrive with the approved vaccination programme as directed by the group veterinarian; documentation to verify this must be maintained at the hatchery of origin (Critical).
- R6: *Leave the young birds for a short time to familiarise themselves with their new surroundings. Later, check to ensure that all the young birds have access to water and feed.*
- R7: *Make any necessary adjustments to equipment and temperature and re-check to ensure temperature is stabilised.*

3.6

FLOCK HEALTH

Background Information

Producers and Processors will be aware of the need for close collaboration regarding the welfare of birds because of the impact on disease control especially with regards to salmonella and other transmissible diseases (e.g. avian flu).

- a) Each integrated group must have access to the services of a veterinarian who will be available to the growing farms for advice and monitoring.
- b) An animal health plan to safeguard the health and welfare of the flock must be drawn up in consultation with the veterinarian, implemented on the farm and reviewed annually in writing.
- c) (PROCESSOR) All processor groups must submit this animal health plan prior to commencement of audits to Bord Bia for independent verification.

¹ e.g. in the Certificate of Origin.



- d) A record must be maintained of all the flock treatments issued by the group veterinarian. This record must include the following: Producer name, Flock ID, Age of Administration, Quantity, Dose rate, Product Name, Withdrawal Date.
- e) (PROCESSOR) This record must be available at audit for reconciliation with the Producer's record.
- f) All flock mortality must be recorded daily together with the reasons (where known).
- g) (PROCESSOR) Written notification of the group mortality limit (day 1-7) must be provided by the Processor and available during audit for inspection.
- h) Mortality above this limit must be reported to the group adviser/veterinarian and samples submitted for laboratory examination.
- i) After day 7, mortality above 0.3% / day (of initial placement) must be similarly reported.
- j) **Salmonella sampling and analysis must be carried out (through submitting dust samples or other approved methods) in each production house, sufficiently in advance of thinning to ensure that the result is available before thinning commences (Category 1).**

Note: where dust samples are provided, twenty-five (25) grams of dust from 8 - 10 locations, (fan shafts, ledges, air outlets) randomly selected throughout the house must be submitted.
- k) For regulatory purposes, analysis of the test samples must take place in a laboratory approved by DAFF, (or equivalent).
- l) **Where Salmonella enteritidis and typhimurium are identified in a flock, birds from that flock cannot be placed on the market under the Quality Assurance Scheme and the subsequent disposal of these birds must be done in consultation with the regulatory authorities (Critical).**
- m) All remedies administered to flocks must be recorded in the animal remedies record. This record must be in book format and must contain the following information (All Category 1):
 - i) Date of administration;
 - ii) Name and quantity of animal remedy administered;
 - iii) Identification of animal/flock to which animal remedy is administered (PI15 docket or import reference);
 - iv) Date of expiry of withdrawal period (if any);

- v) Name of person who administered the animal remedy;
 - vi) Name of prescribing veterinary surgeon (if applicable);
 - vii) Name of supplier of animal remedy.
- n) Records must demonstrate that birds were not dispatched for slaughter before the expiry of the withdrawal period (Critical).
- o) The Producer or manager must sign this administration record after house depopulation and a new record must be used for each subsequent flock.
- p) Secure storage facilities must be provided for all remedies (ref Appendix 10).

3.7

FEED AND WATER

Background Information

Producers will be aware of the need to supply the birds with easy access to feed and fresh water to satisfy their dietary requirements.

Rate of consumption of water is an excellent indicator of flock health and vigour and accurate measurement of consumption is therefore essential.

Feed

- a) (PROCESSOR) Processors must provide feed for the Producer that has been sourced in a Bord Bia approved feed mill (Critical).
- b) Anti-microbial substances administered through feed/water must only be used where deemed necessary by the veterinarian; administration must occur under veterinary control and be recorded in the Remedies record (Category 1).
- c) Each feed delivery must be accompanied by a declaration of ingredients in descending order of weight and a declaration of nutrient analysis, together with the licence number, batch number, date of manufacture and expiry date.
- d) Samples of each delivery must be labelled, recorded, kept for a four month period after delivery (in a fully integrated system, the samples can be held at the mill) and maintained in a vermin proof container.
- e) All feed must be used before its expiry date.

- f) Where a withdrawal period is required for feed, withdrawal feed must be fed for an appropriate period (depending on medication regime) prior to slaughter and this must be demonstrated through the feed log and records (Critical).
- g) All such withdrawal feeds must be stored in a separate bin/compartment that has been verified as being fully emptied prior to delivery (Category 1).
- h) The bins and the feed lines must be cleaned between crops.
- i) Feeder Spaces must meet the following specifications in Table 1:

Table 1

	Chicken	Duck	Turkey
Pan Feeders	1/100	NA	1/100
Chain Feeders	15mm/bird/side	NA	NA
Hopper Feeders	NA	1/2000	NA

- j) Birds must not have to travel more than 4m to reach feed.

Water

- k) All water supplies must be sampled and tested² at least annually between May 1st and September 30th (or in the event that the source is changed) for E.coli and enterococci. The test results, which must be negative for both these organisms, must be retained. (Category 1).
- l) Where there is a failure (detection of either organism), corrective measures must be taken, the group adviser notified immediately and the supply re-tested within one week. In the event that there are two consecutive failures, the processing plant must be notified and the water treatment process failure addressed.
- m) Birds must have access to water at all times (except for 1 hour prior to thinning/ de-population).
- n) Birds must not have to travel more than 3m for water and drinker height and water pressure must be checked and adjusted daily.
- o) Each house must have a water meter installed and the consumption recorded daily.

2. The Processor must ensure that sampling is done independently. The sample must be tested by a laboratory accredited to ISO 17025 or equivalent for testing against these specific organisms using the following methods: E.coli (ISO method 9308-1), Enterococci (ISO method 7899-2) or equivalent.



- p) The water storage tank must be covered at all times to ensure that contamination is minimised (Category 1)
- q) The primary water supply source must have an alarm (Category 1).
- r) An emergency water supply must be available, adequate for a minimum of 24 hour supply (Category 1).
- s) Drinkers must be provided in numbers as per the manufacturer's recommendation for the species.
- t) A written plan for dealing with emergencies such as feed or water supply failure must be in place.

3.8

FLOCK WELFARE

Background Information

The welfare and health of a flock depends on the implementation of good stock management and the provision of a suitable environment. It is an obligation of the Producer to ensure that the health and welfare of the flock is maintained at all times.

The stock-person is responsible for the welfare of the flock and personnel who care for the birds will have adequate knowledge of poultry and of the husbandry systems used.

Producers will therefore be aware of the need to deal humanely with ill, injured, overtly lame birds or birds finding it difficult to reach feed or water, and will be able to carry out humane slaughter.

- a) The stock-person must be able to demonstrate competence with regard to the welfare of the flock (i.e. have either received formal training in flock welfare, or have a recognised qualification in bird production, or have maintained flock records for 5 years, or have attended a training course in the implementation of the requirements of this Standard).
- b) The stock-person must be able to demonstrate competence in the humane slaughter of birds.
- c) A thorough flock inspection must be carried out at least twice daily as follows:
 - i) Observe the physical condition of the birds;
 - ii) Observe the behavioural patterns that would indicate stress;
 - iii) Verify that the feeders are in good working order and charged with feed;



- iv) Verify that the drinkers are in good working order, with no leakage or spillage;
- v) Verify that the ventilation system is operating correctly.

This record must provide space for the veterinarian to file a site report. Additional checks required by the veterinarian or processor must be recorded.

- d) A written procedure must be in place to deal with heat stress that addresses, at a minimum, the issues identified in Appendix 12 Heat Stress Avoidance.
- e) Catching and handling of birds in the house must be carried out in a manner that minimises stress on the bird, bird panic, bruising, etc.
- f) The Producer must maintain all processor notifications regarding module stocking density, carcass damage and grading and have them available for inspection.
- g) (PROCESSOR) Where there are issues with grading or damage, a corrective action programme to address the relevant issues must be in place.

3.9

SITE HYGIENE & BIOSECURITY

Background Information

Producers will be aware of the need to ensure that best practice in bio-security is central to the prevention of disease in the flock and will have appropriate controls in place. Producers will also be aware of the risks associated with the movement of personnel between farms (e.g. catching teams, advisory staff, veterinarians, electricians).

- a) A documented terminal hygiene programme (equivalent to Appendix 8) that was prepared in consultation with the veterinarian must be in place (Category 1).
- b) A terminal hygiene checklist must be completed, dated and authorised by the designated person between flocks (Category 1).
- c) An effective hygiene control measure must be provided at the entry to each house including (All Category 1):
 - i) House-specific footwear (site specific for duck);
 - ii) Provision of covered foot dips with replenishment as required, but at least on a weekly basis;

- iii) **Use of disinfectants with regulatory approval for the species in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.**
- d) **Hand washing with hot water (ideally premixed to 44°C) or hand sanitising facilities must be available on each site and hands must be washed/sanitised before and after entering the bird area of the house (Category 1).**
- e) **Only site personnel must be allowed access to the site; all others must be regarded as visitors and essential visitors only allowed on the site.**
- f) **These visitors must be provided with full protective clothing (disposable coats/suits, shoes and hairnets) and requested to wash hands on entry to and exit from the site (Category 1).**
- g) **A record of all visitors must be maintained and this must include:**
 - i) **Date of visit;**
 - ii) **Name and organisation/company;**
 - iii) **Name of poultry (production or processing) sites previously visited, with date of visit;**
 - iv) **Vehicle registration.**
- h) **Staff and all those in frequent contact with the flock must not keep or have contact with any other live birds whatever (for food or hobby purposes) and this must be demonstrated through records (e.g. staff declarations) (Category 1).**
- i) **All equipment used at another site must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before entry to this production site -- including trucks, crates, trolleys and fork lifts.**
- j) **Litter must be sourced from a documented source and stored so as to prevent contamination (e.g. from wild birds, rodents, water).**
- k) **An effective rodent control programme, approved by the veterinarian, must be in place for each site (Category 1).**
- l) **A plan of the bait points must be displayed on site (Category 1).**
- m) **Bait points must be checked weekly and replenished where necessary.**



- n) Houses must be screened against wild birds, rodents and other animals.
- o) Domestic pets must be excluded from the production house(s).
- p) **Dead birds must be removed on a daily basis and held in a sealed vermin-proof container outside each house³ (Category 1).**
- q) Dead birds must only be disposed of by a licensed collection contractor for rendering or licenced incineration where applicable.
- r) Bins/containers must be retained on site and washed and disinfected after each collection.
- s) The site must be clearly defined and sign-posted to prevent entry of unauthorised personnel or vehicles.
- t) The loading bay at the entrance to each poultry house must be level (ideally constructed of concrete) for ease of access and to permit effective cleaning.

3.10

CAICHING AND TRANSPORT

Background information

The Processor and Producer will be aware of the need to work in harmony to minimise the risk of disease transmission through vehicles and modules. The Processor will be aware of the need to ensure that these are properly washed and disinfected before entering a farm.

The importance of good catching techniques is also well recognised and Producers will be aware of the need to train all catchers in these procedures.

- a) The Producer or a nominated representative must be on site during catching to ensure that good hygiene practices are adopted and the welfare of the birds is ensured.
- b) A written procedure must be in place for catching teams that complies at a minimum with the guidelines in Appendix 4.
- c) (PROCESSOR) To ensure that the stocking densities are not exceeded (3.2.o), the Processor must advise manage the programme of depopulation.

³ Where there are multiple houses, a central sealed vermin-proof collection facility will be acceptable.



- d) A dispatch docket (i.e. the DAFI docket or equivalent) must be completed for each load of poultry and a copy retained on the farm that records the following:
- i) Site name;
 - ii) Date;
 - iii) Loading times – commencement and finish;
 - iv) Number of birds dispatched;
 - v) Destination;
 - vi) Vehicle/trailer identification (where applicable);
 - vii) Condition/cleanliness of vehicles/modules;
 - viii) Transport time (where applicable), which must not exceed 8 hours.

R8: To assist in the catching process, place light-reducing curtains over the exit door(s).

R9: Stocking densities within the drawers must comply with the recommendations of the manufacturer and be reduced in warm weather.

3.11

HEALTH AND SAFETY ON THE FARM

Background Information

All Producers will be aware of their legal responsibility to have a completed Health and Safety statement on the production site/farm. The Producer will also be aware that it needs to be reviewed on an on-going basis and communicated to all staff.

Health and Safety Statement

- a) A safety statement must be prepared and displayed (Category 1).
- b) All hazard areas on the site must be clearly identified either centrally or at the location of the hazard and appropriate protective measures adopted (Category 1).
- c) A notice must be prominently displayed to the effect that eating, drinking and smoking are prohibited in the store and production house.
- d) Each production site must have a first aid kit.



Emergency Procedures

- c) A detailed floor plan must be available that shows the position of:
 - i) Electrical points;
 - ii) Fan and isolator switches;
 - iii) All motors inside the house and their isolator switches;
 - iv) Space heaters or brooders and their shut-off points;
 - v) Gas/oil tanks and isolator valves.
- f) A plan for dealing with emergencies such as personal injury, fire, flood or power failure must be in place (See Appendix 6).
- g) Relevant contact telephone numbers must be displayed at a central location or at the exit.
- h) During the production cycle, at least one member of staff must always be contactable to enable emergency procedures to be followed.
- i) Fire extinguishers^l must be in place and checked at a minimum every 5 years.

Storage and Handling of Chemical Substances

- j) All chemicals must be stored and handled at a minimum in accordance with Appendix 11.
 - k) The use for which each chemical is intended must be clearly identified and displayed (e.g. on a noticeboard in the store) and a Material Safety Data Sheet must be available for each chemical on site.
- R10: Keep a record of all chemicals purchased, as well as who used them, when and where.*

^l Bord Bia recommends that a minimum 5kg extinguisher suitable for electrical fires should be available, however the Producer should consult with an expert on this issue.



3.12

AIR QUALITY

Background Information

The air contaminants of greatest concern in production houses are ammonia, carbon dioxide and carbon monoxide. These contaminants have implications for human health.

To safeguard human health the following levels of noxious substances should be observed.

Table 2

Name of Gas	Long Term Exposure Limit (8 hours day) p.p.m.	Short Term Exposure Limit (10 minutes) p.p.m.
Ammonia	20	35
Carbon Monoxide	50	400
Carbon Dioxide	3000	5000

RII: Control the ventilation system to maintain gas levels that are compatible with a safe and comfortable environment as set out in Table 2.

3.13

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Background Information

Producers will be aware of the desirability of locating poultry units and conducting operations on-site so as to minimise the impact on the environment and the amenities beyond the site boundary. Producers will therefore have taken advice and sought relevant permissions prior to establishing a new production house including IPFC licencing where relevant.

Producers with existing houses will already have implemented measures to minimise environmental problems through good maintenance procedures as set out in this Standard. All Producers will also be aware that sites exceeding the bird number threshold require an EPA licence.



- a) All producers must have documentary evidence of the appropriate IPPC status (Category 1).
- b) Effective facilities for collecting, storing and disposal of litter/manure must be in place that prevent pollution and the spread of disease (Category 1).
- c) Any effluent that arises within the poultry house (e.g. wash water) must be collected in a leak-proof tank that is safe and secure for storage and disposal.
- d) Maintain a record of manure disposal with details of final destination.

RI2: The rate of application of poultry manure should take into account the nutrient content of the manure, the nutrient requirements of the crop and the nutrient status of the soil based on soil analysis.

RI3: Adhere to Teagasc Recommended Code of Slurry Spreading Practices.

3.14

FREE RANGE POULTRY

Background Information

This Section of the Standard contains additional requirements for free range poultry production farms.

Producers will be aware that a permit is required for the use of the term "free range" in the marketing of poultry meat. This can be obtained from the DAFF (or equivalent).

- a) Evidence of registration (i.e. a permit) as a free range producer must be available.
- b) Free range poultry must be produced under specific conditions, which include the following (specific stocking density details are given in Table 3):
 - i) During at least half their lifetime, birds must have continuous daytime access to open air runs comprising an area mainly covered by vegetation;
 - ii) The poultry house must be provided with pop-holes of a combined length at least equal to 4 metres per 100 m² floor area of the house;
 - iii) Feed formula used in the fattening stage must contain at least 70% cereals.



Table 3

	Chicken	Duck	Turkey
Open Air Run (Min)	1m ² /bird	1m ² /bird	4m ² /bird
Stocking Number (Max)	13/m ²	13/m ²	2500/ha
Stocking Rate (Max)	27.5kg m ²	27.5kg m ²	25kg m ²

Note: compliance with stocking rates is a category 1 requirement under requirement 3.2.6

- c) The land used must be dedicated to the production of free range poultry only and must have a secure boundary fence.
- d) The land must be maintained in good condition and must be adjoining the production house.
- e) Where poaching of the land occurs, it must be re-seeded.
- f) Pot-holes formed in the ground must be filled in, at a minimum between each crop.
- g) When grass is excessively high it must only be topped mechanically.
- h) A domestic septic tank soak-way is not permitted on the dedicated land.
- i) Litter, poultry manure or any other waste materials must not be allowed to accumulate on the land.
- j) Baiting for rodents must also be applied at appropriate points outside the house, thus giving double baiting protection.

Note: For seasonal turkey production, land must be free of all livestock for a minimum four weeks prior to stocking with poults.

R14: Maintain the land well drained with good grass cover.

R15: Avoid placing baits in areas to which birds have access.

4 Appendices



Producer Reference Information

REFERENCE INFORMATION

- Animal Remedies Regulations, 1996, (S.I. No. 179 of 1996)
- European Communities (Live Poultry & Hatching Eggs) Regulations 1992 (Council Directive 90/539/EEC).
- European Communities (Live Poultry & Hatching Eggs) (Amendment) Regulations 1995 (S.I. No. 45 of 1995) and Council Directive 93/120/EEC.
- European Communities (Zoonoses) Regulations 1996 (S.I. No. 2 of 1996) (Council Directive 92/117/EEC).
- Poultry Hatcheries Act 1947 (No.49 of 1947).
- Poultry Hatcheries Regulations 1959 (S.I. No. 122 of 1959).
- Council Directive 93/119/EEC (Protection of Animals at Time of Slaughter).
- Regulations 1995 S.I. No. 114 of 1995.
- Council Directive 92/116/EEC Fresh Poultry meat Regulations 1996 S.I. No.3 of 1996.
- Council Directive 91/628/EEC Diseases of Animals.
- (Protection of Animals during Transport) Order, 1995. S.I. No. 114 of 1995.
- Diseases of Animals (Protection of Animals during Transport) (Amendment) Order 1997 S.I. No. 326 of 1997.
- Council Regulations 1906/90 on Certain Marketing Standards for Poultry.
- Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005.
- Diseases of Animals (Poultry Feed) Order 1991 S.I. No. 364 of 1991.
- List of Approved Disinfectants, June 1993 Disease of Animals (Disinfectants) Order, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF).
- List of Approved Laboratories -- Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (DAFF).



Guidelines for Best Practice:

- Irish Poultry Industry Code of Practice.
- Salmonella Monitoring Programme -- Guidelines for Control of *S. enteritidis* & *S. typhimurium*.
- Code of Good Agriculture Practice to Protect Water from Pollution by Nitrates Departments of Agriculture and Environment July 1996. (S.I. 378 2006)
- ET 101 / 1991 Electrical Installations of Agriculture and Horticulture Premises – Electro Technical Council of Ireland, Dublin 12.



Producer Declaration Form

Producer Declaration Form

*Note: The Bord Bia Poultry Quality Assurance Scheme is a voluntary Scheme.
You will be required to sign this document in the presence of the auditor during the farm audit.*

Please complete in block capitals:

Flock Owner Name: _____
(Person in whose name the flock is registered with DAF / DARD where applicable)

Address: _____

Address for Correspondence: _____
(if different to above)

Tel/Fax/Mob: _____

Processor Supplied: _____

Poultry Type: Chicken: _____, Turkey: _____, Duck: _____

Producer House No. _____, Processor House ID Number _____ No Birds _____

Declaration:

I declare that compound feeds for poultry will not be fed to other species and I undertake to maintain my feedstuff storage facilities in a manner that prevents cross-contamination from feedstuffs intended for other species on the farm.

I agree to allow farm inspectors and auditors access to my farm during normal business hours and to take feed samples for test purposes.

I undertake to abide by the conditions applicable to poultry producers as laid down in the Bord Bia Poultry Quality Assurance Standard: Producer Requirements.

I acknowledge having received a copy of this Standard and the accompanying documentation I agree to provide full and accurate details of my farming practices that relate to the Bord Bia Poultry Quality Assurance Scheme.

I declare I am in compliance with the relevant statutory requirements with regard to the operation of my poultry farm.

I understand that my participation in the Scheme is a demonstration of my commitment to achieving the highest standards in the production of quality poultry production and my responsibilities in the food chain.

I agree to permit my name and PQAS Membership Status to be published on the PQAS Register / Database.

Signature: _____ (Person Responsible for Managing the Farm)

Position: _____ (Flock Owner, Manager, Flock Owner's Nominee)

Processor Representative: _____

Date: _____

House Preparation Checklist

Preparation of the House:

- a) Spread fresh bedding evenly to cover the floor.
- b) Pre-heat the house gradually, at minimum, 24 hours before the birds arrive.
- c) The temperature must be stable.
- d) Set up space heaters or brooders so as to ensure that there are no extremes of temperature in the house.
- e) Place independent thermometers around the house with at least two of them at bird level, to monitor uniformity of temperature.
- f) Provide fresh, clean water to the birds immediately on their arrival at the house. Starter ration must also be available.
- g) Use trays and paper to supplement pan or track feeders, if required.
- h) Feeders and drinkers must not be placed directly under a heat source.
- i) Before the birds arrive, carry out a final house-check to ensure that temperatures are at the correct levels and that there are no water leaks.

A house preparation sheet must be completed before the arrival of each batch of chickens that records the following at a minimum:



House Preparation Checklist

Restocking Date:	
------------------	--

Supplies

Starter Crumb Ordered	
Heating fuel supply checked / ordered	
Shavings supply checked / ordered	
Overalls & Shoe covers supply checked / ordered	
Restocking Date Confirmed	
Foot Dip Disinfectant supply checked / ordered	

Site

Free from debris	
Vegetation controlled	
No rodent cover	
Concrete aprons clean & disinfected	
Clean and Tidy	
Secure	

House

Power washed thoroughly	
Disinfected	
House condition checked and repaired as necessary	
Source of litter	
Quantity and depth of litter/shavings applied	
Brooders / Heaters switched on / lit	
Temperature readings	
Foot dip at entrance doors	
Protective clothing and overshoes available	
Paper towels and soap available	

Equipment

Feeders checked, repaired	
Drinkers – leak free	
Water meter reading	
Lighting – even wattage and number of light points	
Ventilation system & controls operations checked	

Supplementary Equipment

Generator	
Alarm System	
Fire Extinguishers	

Hygiene and Welfare for Catching Teams

Background Information

It is in the interest of the farm to promote co-operation and harmony with the catching team. It is especially important to ensure that these workers operate in a manner that ensures that the welfare of the birds is respected during the catching process.

To ensure efficient loading, good bio-security practices and the maintenance of bird welfare, the grower will observe the following practices:

Vehicles

- All vehicles and loading equipment must be clean and disinfected before being brought on-site.
- All equipment entering the site must have been washed clean and disinfected (lorries, trailers, forklifts and modules).
- Use the farm disinfectant to spray the wheels of all vehicles before entering the site.
- Disinfect the forklift before leaving the site.

Personnel

- Catching teams must undertake a training programme to ensure they are properly trained for the task and understand the requirements.
- All catchers must wear protective clothing and footwear including facemasks & gloves.
- All personnel must wash hands thoroughly.
- Disposable or site-dedicated protective overalls, hairnets and footwear must be worn.
- Used shoe covers and face masks should be placed in a litter bin provided.
- Washable overalls should be hung for laundry.
- Personnel should wash hands thoroughly on arrival and departure.
- Consumption of food within the poultry house is prohibited.
- All personnel must use foot dips before entering poultry houses.



Operational Issues

- Dim the lights in the chicken house and use curtains to reduce natural light at doorways.
- Move quietly to minimise stress on the flock.
- Catch chickens by the shanks or feet to avoid discomfort to the birds.
- Undersized chickens must be avoided.
- Care must be taken to ensure birds are not placed on their backs in crates.
- Modify stocking densities per module or crate according to temperature conditions.
- Reduce the house temperature by approximately 2 degrees Celsius, one hour prior to catching. This reduces bird movement and will lower bruising.
- Raise drinker and feeder lines before catching starts.
- Catching must not commence until the lights are dimmed and the house is darkened sufficiently for catching to proceed without causing undue stress on the flock.
- Care must be taken when first opening doors, in daylight, not to frighten birds.
- After catching, lights should be increased to full intensity. Temperature should be raised to approximately 23 degrees Celsius and the birds moved evenly over the house. This will give a more even temperature through the house. The lights and temperature should then be dropped back to their normal level.
- In warm weather stocking densities in crates must be reduced.
- Use side curtains on modules during the winter months.

Recording

- Record dispatch details as specified in 3.10, and keep a record.
- Record catching team personnel details in site visitor record.

Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Plan

Background Information

HACCP is a support system for the safe production of food. When adequately developed and efficiently implemented it provides systematic control of biological, chemical and physical hazards at key stages of production. It is a strategy for prevention rather than detection of safety problems.

In a properly developed HACCP plan, the following elements are incorporated:

- a) The HACCP Plan shows how product/process safety is ensured through control and prevention.
- b) This plan is supported by senior Management.
- c) It is put in place by a multidisciplinary team.
- d) At least one member of this team has received formal training in the application of HACCP Principles.
- e) At a minimum the Hazard Control Plan includes:
 - i. A detailed description of the products and process steps (e.g. a flow diagram showing all the steps of each process);
 - ii. A detailed description of the hazards (chemical, microbiological and physical/foreign bodies) that could arise at each process step and the risks that these represent;
 - iii. Identification of Critical Control Points (CCP) in the plan;
 - iv. Definition of the limits that must be met to ensure control of each CCP;
 - v. The monitoring required to ensure that control is maintained at each CCP;
 - vi. The corrective action to be taken if a non-conformance occurs for each CCP;
 - vii. Identification of the responsibilities, procedures and records applicable for each CCP.
- f) Annual verification/testing of the HACCP plan to ensure that it is effective.



The implementation of hygiene barriers, biosecurity measures and personnel hygiene practices at all levels of production underpin the HACCP plan. Hazards common to all poultry rearing farms include:

- Sourcing of young birds;
- House status prior to stocking;
- Feed supply, delivery, storage and distribution;
- Water source, storage & distribution;
- Loading & transport.

An illustrative HACCP plan for poultry producers is given below. However, each Producer is advised to seek qualified assistance in creating a HACCP plan for his/her own enterprise.

ILLUSTRATIVE HAZARD ANALYSIS CRITICAL CONTROL POINT (HACCP) PLAN

Step	CCP No	Hazard	Preventive Measure	Limits (Standards)	Monitoring	Action	Doc. Ref.	Audit
Chick Sourcing	CCP 1.0	Disease Carriers	Young birds from certified Hatcheries	As per Section 3.5 Sourcing and regulations	As per Section 3.5 Sourcing	Notify DAFI	Hatchery Record PH5	Internal. Every Flock
House Status	CCP 2.0	Contamination - Pathogens	Clean, Disinfect. Disinfect	As per Approved Hygiene Programme See Appendix 8	Visual, Dust sampling	Review Implementation of Hygiene Programme	Import Cert Record Chart	Internal. Every Flock
Rearing Inputs	CCP 3.0	Product Contamination	Food Produced as per Section 3.7 Feed and Water	As per Regulations Dedicated Transport		Reject Source New Supply	Delivery Dockets	Internal. Every Flock
(a) Feed	CCP 3.1	Due to Pathogens, Medication misuse		Segregation of medicated feed Use of withdrawal ration	As per Section 3.7 Feed and Water			
(b) Water	CCP 3.2	Pathogens	Clean Supply stored in protected tanks	See Section 3.7, Feed and Water		Upgrade supply or treatment system	Notify Group advisor	Internal Annual
Lorry/ Modules	CCP 4.0	Pathogens Contamination	Clean & Disinfected Lorries, modules & crates	As per Section 3.10 Catching and Transport & Appendix 4	As per Section 3.10 Catching and Transport	Improve collection practices	As per Section 3.10 Catching and Transport	Internal Every Flock
Site Staff and other Personnel	CCP 5.0	Disease Transfer	Protective clothing & footwear. Foot dips used.	As per Disease control Programme	Ensure all site staff & visitors conform. All visitors recorded	Refuse access No entry signs	Visitors Book	Internal Every Flock



Emergency Procedure Notice

GUIDELINES

The priorities for site staff are

- Maintenance of human life and the avoidance of situations likely to cause injury or harm to staff are paramount.
- Flock safety, health and welfare.

Each farm should:

- Carry out a risk assessment on the farm
- Have a strategy in place to deal with the identified risks such as:
 - Gas Leak
 - Fire
 - Power Failure
 - Personal Injury
 - Equipment Failure
 - Flock Problem

Post a list of emergency telephone numbers beside a telephone (and near an exit) and a separate list of useful numbers nearby.

Emergency Telephone Numbers

- Fire Brigade _____
- Doctor _____
- Ambulance _____
- Gardai _____

Useful Telephone Numbers

- Safety Officer _____
- Site Manager _____
- Gas Service Centre _____
- Service Engineer _____
- Group Veterinarian _____
- Other 1 _____
- Other 2 _____

Field Officers Report

At each visit Critical and Category one requirements must be inspected and reported.

On an annual basis, the Field Officer inspections must cover all the requirements of the Scheme at least once.

Individual reports must be completed by a competent officer and may also report on the following specific issues:

Name,

House Address,

House identification

Week No		Age of Birds		
Mortality	7d Avg.		Daily Avg.	
Gumboro Vaccinated	Date		Date	
Water Consumption				
House Climate				
Litter Type				
Litter Condition				
Bird Appearance				
General Hygiene				
Records				
Comments				

Signed _____

Date ____

Terminal Hygiene Programme

The following procedure sets out the basic requirements which must be met by any programme after depopulation.

1.1 DRY CLEAN

- a) Remove any residual feed from the feeding system and feed bins (in exceptional circumstances this may not be possible).
- b) Winch up or remove all feeder and drinker systems. Remove all portable equipment from the house for cleaning.
- c) Remove all litter in a covered vehicle and store away from the poultry site.
- d) Blow down all surface dust from ceilings, rafters, ledges, water pipes, inlets, fan shafts and switches.
- e) Sweep the floor thoroughly and remove all remaining debris to a removal vehicle.
- f) Clean out/blow down bulk bins.
- g) Turn off power to all electrical equipment (unless otherwise advised by manufacturer).

1.2 WASH

- a) Wash all surfaces to remove dirt and debris.
- b) Use high pressure power washer.
- c) Wash ceilings, rafters, ledges, inlets, fan shafts and other surfaces, paying particular attention to the underside of all equipment.
- d) Wash down feed bins and platforms.
- e) Drain the header tank and check to ensure it is free from debris.
- f) Clean and disinfect water lines and drinking system by filling the header tank with water containing the required amount of suitable disinfectant. This solution should fill the drinking system and be left to stand for 2 hours and then flushed out thoroughly with clean water.
- g) Have all repairs attended to.
- h) A visual inspection should be carried out after the final wash.

1.3 DISINFECT HOUSE AND EQUIPMENT

- a) Select a suitable broad spectrum disinfectant and dilute with clean water. Follow the recommendations from the manufacturers. (Disinfectants are effective only on clean surfaces).
- b) Set the pressure washer/orchard sprayer at a low pressure (10-20 bar or 140-280 psi) and saturate all surfaces (house and equipment) for the recommended contact time.
- c) Return disinfected equipment to the disinfected house. (Note: Fumigating, misting or fogging is only effective on an airtight house. Wear protective clothing and follow product usage instructions. Fumigation with formaldehyde is potentially damaging to health).
- d) Allow surfaces to dry.
- e) Check that all equipment is in good working order.
- f) Close the house securely to prevent recontamination.
- g) Put a rodent control programme in place, as devised by the veterinarian.

1.4 DISINFEST

- a) Consider spraying the perimeter of the houses with a suitable insecticide.
- b) Treat the wall/floor junctions of the interior of the houses with a suitable insecticide to eliminate beetles and other insects, which can transfer Salmonella from one crop to another.

1.5 FREE RANGE: ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- a) Wash concrete apron/hard core/stone strip outside the pop-holes.
- b) Skim topsoil from area adjacent to hard core to expose soil to air and sunlight.
- c) Re-seed when appropriate.
- d) Refill potholes.
- e) Check and repair perimeter fencing.



Flock Inspection Checklist

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR FLOCK INSPECTION CHECKLIST

House Identification

Date Housed

Number of Birds Housed

DAILY

- Maximum & minimum temperatures
- Water meter reading
- Lighting – functioning as per programme
- Litter quality
- Mortalities & cause e.g. culls, leg weakness, injuries
- Corrective actions where required

TWICE-DAILY RECORDS OF:

- Ventilation – functioning as per settings
- Feed lines – charged with feed
- Drinkers – operational
- General flock appearance

WEEKLY CHECK RECORDS OF:

- Generator
- Alarms
- Fire extinguishers in place
- Foot dips

YEARLY:

- Electrical equipment
- Water test

Medicine Storage

Note: This is a recommendation for the safe storage of animal remedies. It is not intended as a definitive guide to the safe handling and storage of animal remedies and does not replace any applicable statutory requirement.

The medicine store should be of a sufficient size and strength to hold all animal remedies, whether unopened or partially used that may be in stock at any one time.

Only animal remedies recommended to be stored at room temperature should be kept in the medicine store.

The medicine store should be located indoors and should be out of reach of children.

The medicine store should be kept locked at all times. The key should be kept in a safe location. This location should be informed to all relief farm workers.

The medicine store should contain a clear warning label.

The medicine store should not be located in direct sunlight or adjacent to any source of heat or cold.

All spillages should be removed immediately from the medicine store and disposed of in accordance with manufacturers recommendations.



Safe Handling of Chemicals

Note: This is a recommendation for the safe handling of chemicals. It is not intended as a definitive guide to the safe handling of chemicals and does not replace any applicable statutory requirement.

1. Purchase only approved chemicals.
2. Store in designated storage facilities, which are labelled and locked, and well away from food.
3. Do not transfer chemicals to other storage containers, especially soft drinks, bottles or food containers.
4. Maintain only minimum stocks of chemicals (to avoid out of date chemicals).
5. Read the label before opening the chemical and observe all safety precautions. Use chemicals in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.
6. Wear the correct personal protection equipment for the chemical and operation involved.
7. Have a supply of clean water for washing off splashes.
8. Wash hands and exposed skin before eating or drinking and shower down after the job is complete.
9. Thoroughly rinse all equipment used, and store safely.
10. Unused chemicals should be disposed of in a safe manner and so as not to harm the environment.

Heat Stress Avoidance Procedures

Risk times include:

- May to September once the birds are 25 days old or more
- During catching and while crated from May to September
- During first catch all year round

Ensure that:

- Computer maximum temperature alarm settings are at 3°C above house set temperature;
- Fail safe temperature stat alarm settings are at 4°C above house set temperature;
- Confer with processor regarding stocking densities for summer months;
- Ventilation equipment is sufficient and able to operate to full capacity.

During summer months once the birds are 25 days old or more, ensure that:

- The birds are frequently observed for signs of heat stress and any necessary action taken;
- The covers are removed from auxiliary fans and the fan stats are set to 2°C above the house set temperature;
- Weather forecasts are observed for temperature extremes;
- On very hot days the auxiliary fans are brought on in advance of stat settings to get ahead of temperature climb;
- Water supply is adequate and pressures are optimum.

During catching and especially the first catch ensure that:

- Birds are observed throughout the catching and loading process for signs of stress and house temperatures monitored;
- Doors are kept closed so as to ensure even airflow throughout the house;
- Catching is stopped if heat stress is observed and all fans are set to maximum to reduce temperatures.



And also in Hot weather ensure that:

- Bird numbers per crate are reduced;
- Trailers are removed to the processor as soon as they are loaded;
- Catching is avoided at the hottest times of the day.

(blank page)