

## 1994 No. 118

## ANIMALS

**Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Scheme  
Order (Northern Ireland) 1994***Made* . . . . . 28th March 1994*Coming into operation* . . . . . 18th April 1994

The Department of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Articles 8(1) and (2) of the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, having consulted with the bodies which appeared to it to be substantially representative of the interests concerned and with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel(b) hereby makes the following Order:

*Citation and commencement*

1. This Order may be cited as the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Scheme Order (Northern Ireland) 1994 and shall come into operation on 18th April 1994.

*Breeding flocks and hatcheries scheme*

2. For the purposes of keeping poultry, so far as practicable, free from Salmonella and controlling and, so far as practicable, reducing the incidence of Salmonella, the Department hereby makes the Scheme set out in the Schedule.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture on 28th March 1994.

(L.S.)

*P. T. Toal*

Assistant Secretary

The Department of Finance and Personnel hereby approves the foregoing Order.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance and Personnel on 28th March 1994.

(L.S.)

*D. Thomson*

Assistant Secretary

(a) S.I. 1981/1115 (N.I. 22) to which there are amendments not relevant to the subject matter of this Order

(b) Formerly the Department of Finance. See S.I. 1982/338 (N.I. 6) Art. 3

**Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1994***Citation*

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1994.

*Interpretation and application*

2.—(1) In this Scheme—

“breeding flock” means any flock of poultry consisting of at least 250 birds of a single species which are kept or are being reared on a single premises for the production of hatching eggs;

“the Breeding Flocks Register” means the register kept by the Department under paragraph 3(2);

“chicks” means poultry less than 72 hours old which have not been fed;

“chick box liner” means any material used to line a box or other container in which chicks are transported from a hatchery to any rearing premises;

“composite faeces sample” means a sample of faeces consisting of a number of individual samples of faeces calculated in accordance with the appropriate provisions of Part I of Annex 2 each of which weighs not less than 1 gram and is taken from a site selected at random to represent the building or group of buildings on the holding from which it is taken;

“the Hatcheries Register” means the register kept by the Department under paragraph 4(2);

“hatchery” means any premises, with a total incubator capacity of not less than 1,000 eggs, on which the eggs of poultry are incubated or hatched and from which chicks are sold or supplied;

“hatching eggs” means eggs intended for incubation;

“house” means—

(a) a building (including a shed); or

(b) a part of a building separated from other parts of that building by a solid partition and having its own ventilation system;

“inspector” includes a veterinary inspector;

“laboratory” means any laboratory authorised in writing by the Department for the purposes of this Scheme which has the necessary facilities and personnel for carrying out tests on samples mentioned in Parts I and II of Annex 2 in accordance with the provisions of Part III of that Annex;

“poultry” means domestic fowls, turkeys, geese or ducks;

“premises” includes land;

“registered” in relation to any person means the entry in respect of any premises of that person’s name in a register kept under this Scheme.

(2) The provisions of this Scheme shall not apply in the case of a breeding flock or hatchery which is kept solely for the production of hatching eggs for use in the manufacture of vaccines or for research or other scientific purposes.

*Registration of breeding flocks*

3.—(1) Any person who owns a breeding flock kept on any premises shall ensure that his name is registered in respect of those premises in the Breeding Flocks Register.

(2) The Department shall, for the purpose of sub-paragraph (1), keep a register of persons as being persons who own a breeding flock kept on the premises in respect of which they are registered.

(3) Where a person makes an application in writing to the Department to be registered in the Breeding Flocks Register in respect of any premises the Department shall, subject to sub-paragraph (4), so register him and shall issue to him a certificate of such registration.

(4) The Department shall refuse to register any person in the Breeding Flocks Register in respect of any premises unless all the particulars specified in Part I of Annex 1 are notified to it in writing.

(5) A person registered in the Breeding Flocks Register shall, within 28 days after each anniversary of the date of such registration, notify the Department in writing of any change in the particulars previously notified to it under this paragraph.

(6) Where a person registered in the Breeding Flocks Register fails to notify the Department in accordance with sub-paragraph (5) of any change in the particulars previously notified to it, the Department may revoke that registration.

(7) Where a person registered in the Breeding Flocks Register has notified the Department in accordance with sub-paragraph (5) that he no longer owns a breeding flock on the premises in respect of which he is registered and does not intend to do so for the next twelve months the Department shall revoke that registration.

#### *Registration of hatcheries*

4.—(1) Any person using any premises as a hatchery shall ensure that his name is entered in respect of those premises in the Hatcheries Register.

(2) The Department shall, for the purpose of sub-paragraph (1) keep a register of persons as being persons using as a hatchery any premises in respect of which they are registered.

(3) Where a person makes an application in writing to the Department to be registered in the Hatcheries Register in respect of any premises, the Department shall, subject to sub-paragraph (4), so register him and shall issue to him a certificate of such registration.

(4) The Department shall refuse to register any person in the Hatcheries Register in respect of any premises where all the particulars specified in Part II of Annex 1 are not notified to it in writing.

(5) A person registered in the Hatcheries Register in respect of any premises shall, within 28 days after each anniversary of the date of such registration, notify the Department in writing of any change in the particulars previously notified to it under this paragraph.

(6) Where a person registered in the Hatcheries Register fails to notify the Department in accordance with sub-paragraph (5) of any change in the particulars previously notified to it, the Department may revoke that registration.

(7) Where a person registered in the Hatcheries Register has notified the Department in accordance with sub-paragraph (5) that he no longer uses the premises in respect of which he is registered as a hatchery and does not intend to do so for the next twelve months, the Department shall revoke that registration.

#### *Taking of samples from breeding flocks for bacteriological testing for salmonella*

5.—(1) A person who is registered in the Breeding Flocks Register in respect of any premises on which a breeding flock is kept shall ensure that—

(a) in respect of the flock the samples taken in Part I of Annex 2 are taken in such manner and at such times as are so specified;

- (b) those samples are identified in such a manner as to enable the laboratory to which they are submitted, or the inspector to which they are given, to know what type of samples they are, the date on which they were taken, the name of the person registered in the Breeding Flocks Register in respect of the premises from which they were taken, the address of those premises and the house (if any) on those premises from which they were taken;
  - (c) those samples (other than those required to be taken under the supervision of an inspector) are submitted, within 48 hours of being taken, to a laboratory for testing for the presence of salmonella in accordance with an appropriate bacteriological method set out in Part III of Annex 2; and
  - (d) in the case of samples required to be taken under the supervision of an inspector, they are given to him after being so taken for testing by the Department for salmonella in accordance with such a bacteriological method.
- (2) Where samples taken in accordance with sub-paragraph (1)(a) are required to be submitted to a laboratory for testing under sub-paragraph (1)(c), they shall be kept in a refrigerator at between 1°C and 4°C unless they are so submitted within 24 hours of being taken.

*Taking of blood samples from domestic fowl in breeding flocks for serological testing for Salmonella pullorum*

6. Without prejudice to paragraph 5, a person who is registered in the Breeding Flocks Register in respect of any premises on which a breeding flock comprising domestic fowl is kept by him shall ensure that—

- (a) the samples specified in Part I of Annex 3 are taken from the fowl in such manner and at such times as are so specified; and
- (b) those samples are submitted to the Department for testing in accordance with the serological method set out in Part II of Annex 3.

*Taking of samples from hatcheries for bacteriological testing for salmonella*

7.—(1) A person who is registered in the Hatcheries Register in respect of any premises used by him as a hatchery shall ensure that—

- (a) the samples specified in Part II of Annex 2 are taken from the poultry in the hatchery in such manner and at such times as are so specified;
  - (b) those samples are identified in such a manner as to enable the laboratory to which they are submitted, or the inspector to which they are given, to know what type of samples they are, the date on which they were taken, the name of the person registered in the Hatcheries Register in respect of the premises from which they were taken, the address of that hatchery and the address of the premises which supplied the hatching eggs to that hatchery;
  - (c) those samples other than those required to be taken under the supervision of an inspector are submitted, within 48 hours of being taken, to a laboratory for testing for the presence of salmonella in accordance with an appropriate bacteriological method set out in Part III of Annex 2;
  - (d) in the case of samples required to be taken under the supervision of an inspector, they are given to him after being so taken, for testing by the Department for salmonella in accordance with such a bacteriological method.
- (2) Where samples taken in accordance with sub-paragraph (1)(a) are required to be submitted to a laboratory for testing under sub-paragraph (1)(c), they shall be kept in a refrigerator at between 1°C and 4°C unless they are so submitted within 24 hours of being taken.

*Bacteriological testing of samples from breeding flocks and hatcheries and reporting of results of tests*

8.—(1) The person in charge of a laboratory which accepts for testing a sample which has been submitted under paragraph 5(1)(c) or 7(1)(c) shall ensure that—

- (a) the sample is tested for the presence of salmonella in accordance with an appropriate bacteriological method set out in Part III of Annex 2;
- (b) the result of such a test is reported in writing as soon as practicable to the person who submitted the sample; and
- (c) where, as a result of any test carried out in accordance with such a bacteriological method, a culture of salmonella is isolated from the sample, that a sub-culture is sent to the Department's Laboratory at Stoney Road, Stormont, Belfast.

(2) Where a person to whom a report is made under sub-paragraph (1)(b) is not the person registered in the Breeding Flocks Register or the Hatcheries Register, as the case may be, in respect of the premises from which the sample was taken, he shall immediately pass that report to the person so registered.

*Tampering with samples*

9.—(1) Except as provided for in this Scheme, a person, shall not treat or otherwise tamper with any sample which has been taken for the purposes of this Scheme.

(2) For the purposes of this paragraph a person shall be deemed to have treated a sample if he does anything in relation to it which is likely to affect the result of the test which may be carried out in accordance with this Scheme.

*Keeping of records*

10.—(1) A person who is registered in the Breeding Flocks Register in respect of any premises shall—

- (a) in respect of each sample taken under and in accordance with paragraph 5(1)(a), keep a record containing the information specified in Part I of Annex 4 in relation to that sample;
- (b) keep a record of the result of any test carried out which has been reported or passed to him in accordance with paragraph 8(1)(b) or (2);
- (c) keep a record containing the information specified in Part II of Annex 4 of the movement of any poultry, chicks or eggs onto and off the premises.

(2) A person who is registered in the Hatcheries Register in respect of any premises shall—

- (a) in respect of each sample taken under and in accordance with paragraph 7(1)(a) keep a record containing the information specified in Part I of Annex 4 in relation to that sample;
- (b) keep a record of the result of any test which has been reported or passed to him in accordance with paragraph 8(1)(b) or (2); and
- (c) keep a record containing the information specified in Part III of Annex 4 of the movement of any eggs onto and off, and of the movement of any chicks off the premises.

(3) A person shall—

- (a) retain any record he is required to keep under sub-paragraphs (1) and (2) for a period of one year from the date on which the sample was taken or from the date of the test or from the date on which the movement took place, as the case may be; and

- (b) produce any such record to an inspector on demand at any reasonable time during that period and allow him to take a copy of it or an extract from it.

*Prohibition on vaccination*

11. A person shall not vaccinate any poultry with any vaccine which is likely to affect the result of any test carried out under this Scheme on any sample taken from poultry, except under the authority of and in accordance with the conditions of a licence issued by a veterinary inspector.

*Powers of the Department in cases of default*

12. If any person fails to take any action required to be taken by him under any of the provisions of this Scheme, the Department may, without prejudice to any proceedings arising out of such default, take, or cause to be taken, such action.

*Transitional arrangements*

13.—(1) Where any person who keeps a breeding flock on any premises was, immediately before the coming into operation of this Scheme, registered under and in accordance with Article 3(1) of the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries (Registration and Testing etc) Order (Northern Ireland) 1990(a), he shall be deemed to be registered in respect of those premises in the Breeding Flocks Register.

(2) Where any person is deemed to be registered in the Breeding Flocks Register pursuant to sub-paragraph (1), the date of the coming into operation of this Scheme shall, for the purposes of paragraph 3(5), be treated as the date of that registration.

14.—(1) Where any person who uses any premises as a hatchery was, immediately before the coming into operation of this Scheme, registered under and in accordance with Article 4(1) of the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries (Registration and Testing etc) Order (Northern Ireland) 1990, he shall be deemed to be registered in respect of those premises in the Hatcheries Register.

(2) Where any person is deemed to be registered in the Hatcheries Register pursuant to sub-paragraph (1), the date of the coming into operation of this Scheme shall, for the purposes of paragraph 4(5), be treated as the date of that registration.

## PART I

PARTICULARS TO BE NOTIFIED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF  
PARAGRAPH 3(4)

1. The name, address and telephone number (if any) of the applicant, including, if appropriate, the names of any partners or the registered number of the company.
2. The address and telephone number of the premises on which the breeding flock to which the application relates is to be kept.
3. The name of the person in charge of the premises on which that flock is to be kept (if not the applicant).
4. The species of birds in that flock.
5. The approximate number of birds in that flock.

## PART II

## Paragraph 4(4)

PARTICULARS TO BE NOTIFIED TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSES OF  
PARAGRAPH 4(4)

1. The name, address and telephone number (if any) of the applicant, including, if appropriate, the names of any partners or the registered number of the company.
2. The address and telephone number of the premises which are to be used as a hatchery.
3. The name of the person in charge of the premises which are to be used as a hatchery (if not the applicant).
4. The incubator capacity of the premises which are to be used as a hatchery and the species of birds to be hatched there.

## PART I

## SAMPLES TO BE TAKEN FROM BREEDING FLOCKS FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTING

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

<i>Number of birds kept in a house, or on premises on which birds have free access to more than one house, number of birds in each group of houses on such holding</i>	<i>Number of faeces samples to be taken in the house or group of houses on the premises</i>
1- 29	A number equal to the total number of birds up to a maximum of 20 birds
30- 39	25
40- 49	30
50- 59	35
60- 89	40
90-199	50
200-499	55
500 or more	60

2. The samples to be taken shall comprise—

- (a) one chick box liner, up to a maximum of 10, for every 500 chicks delivered from each hatchery to any rearing premises on any day, such samples to be taken on the day of the arrival of the chicks there;
- (b) the carcasses of all chicks, up to a maximum of 60, from each hatchery, which are dead on arrival at any rearing premises, such samples to be taken on the day of the arrival of the chicks there;
- (c) a composite faeces sample taken from birds at 4 weeks of age and either at 2 weeks prior to them entering the laying phase or 2 weeks before moving to laying accommodation, the number of separate samples being taken in accordance with the table in paragraph 1;
- (d) in the case of birds whose eggs are hatched at a hatchery with a total incubator capacity of less than 1,000 eggs a composite faeces sample taken from birds at the time they enter the laying phase and at intervals of 2 weeks thereafter in accordance with the table in paragraph 1.

3. Samples referred to in sub-paragraph 2(d) shall be taken under the supervision of an inspector at 56 day intervals.



## SAMPLES TO BE TAKEN FROM HATCHERIES FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTING

1. The samples to be taken shall comprise—

- (a) a composite sample of meconium taken from 250 chicks, one such sample being taken every 7 days in the case of grandparent flocks and every 14 days in the case of parent flocks, from those chicks hatched from eggs supplied to the hatchery from any particular breeding flock (including flocks of less than 250 birds); or
  - (b) (i) the carcasses of all chicks which are dead in the shells of eggs supplied to the hatchery from any particular breeding flock; and
  - (ii) the carcasses of all chicks hatched from eggs supplied to the hatchery from any particular breeding flock and which have been culled,
- such samples being taken from grandparent flocks every 7 days and from parent flocks every 14 days, up to a maximum of 50 in total.

2. Samples taken for the purposes of paragraph 1 shall be taken under the supervision of an inspector, every 28 days in the case of grandparent flocks and every 56 days in the case of parent flocks.

## PART III

Paragraphs 5(1)(c)  
7(1)(c) and 8(1)(a)

## BACTERIOLOGICAL METHODS FOR TESTING FOR SALMONELLA

1. Bacteriological method (Rappaports) for the detection of salmonella in chick box liners, composite faeces samples, meconium samples and carcasses.

Samples submitted for testing for the presence of salmonella shall be examined in the following prescribed manner on consecutive days and, where a laboratory at which samples have been received for testing on any day is unable to commence such an examination on that day, the samples shall be stored in a refrigerator at between 1°C and 4°C until required for examination.

**Day 1**

- (a) Chick box liners: a one gram portion shall be taken from a soiled area on each liner and the portions from separate liners shall be bulked together and placed in Buffered Peptone Water (BPW)(a), at the rate of 1 gram of liner in 10 ml of BPW up to a maximum of 10 grams in 100 ml of BPW.
- (b) Composite faeces and meconium samples: the samples shall be thoroughly mixed and a sub-sample weighing not more than 10 grams shall be placed in BPW at the rate of 1 gram sample to 10 ml BPW to a maximum of 10 grams in 100 ml BPW.
- (c) Carcasses of chicks: there shall be removed samples of the yolk sac, liver and terminal intestines (to include portions of small intestines, large intestine and caecal tonsil). The samples of organs taken from the carcasses of chicks submitted shall then be bulked together and placed in BPW at the rate of 1 gram of bulked tissue in 10 ml BPW up to a maximum of 10 grams of tissue in 100 ml BPW.

The inoculated BPW shall then be incubated at 37°C for 18-24 hours.

**Day 2**

0.1 ml from the incubated BPW shall be inoculated into 10 ml of Rappaports Vassiliadis (RV) broth or Rappaports Vassiliadis Soya Peptone (RVS)(b) broth and incubated at  $41.5^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 18-24 hours.

**Day 3**

The RV or RVS broth shall be plated out on to 2 plates of Selective Salmonella Agar (SSA) using a 10 microlitres loop. The SSA plates shall be inoculated with a droplet taken from the edge of the surface of the fluid and drawing the loop over the whole of one plate in a zigzag pattern and continuing to the second plate without recharging the loop. The space between the loop streaks shall be 0.5-1.0 cm. The plates shall be incubated at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 18-24 hours, and the RV or RVS broth reincubated at  $41.5^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  for a further 18-24 hours.

**Day 4**

- (i) The plates of SSA shall be examined and a minimum of 3 colonies from the plates showing suspicion of salmonella growth shall be sub-cultured on to a blood agar plate and a MacConkey agar plate and into biochemical composite media or equivalent. These media shall be incubated at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 18-24 hours.
- (ii) The reincubated RV or RVS broth shall be plated out, and the plates incubated, as described in Day 3.

**Day 5**

- (i) The incubated plates and composite media or equivalent shall be examined and the findings recorded, discarding cultures which are obviously not salmonella. Slide serological tests shall be performed using salmonella polyvalent "O" (Groups A-S) and polyvalent "H" (phase 1 and 2) agglutinating sera on selected suspect colonies collected from the blood agar or MacConkey plates. If reactions occur with one or both sera, the colonies shall be typed to Group level by slide serology.
- (ii) The plates of SSA prepared at Day 4 (ii) shall be examined and further action taken as described in Day 4 (i) and Day 5(i).

2. Bacteriological method (Selenite) for the detection of salmonella in chick box liners, composite faeces samples, meconium samples and carcasses.

Samples submitted for testing for the presence of salmonella shall be examined in the following prescribed manner on consecutive days and, where a laboratory at which samples have been received for testing on any day is unable to commence such an examination on that day, the samples shall be stored in a refrigerator at between  $1^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$  until required for examination.

**Day 1**

- (a) Chick box liners: a one gram portion shall be taken from a soiled area on each liner and the portions from separate liners shall be bulked together and placed in Selenite F broth(c) at the rate of 1 gram of liner to 10 ml broth up to a maximum of 10 grams of liner in 100 ml broth.
- (b) Composite faeces and meconium samples: the sample shall be thoroughly mixed and a sub-sample weighing not more than 10 grams shall be placed in Selenite F broth at the rate of 1 gram of faeces to 10 ml broth up to a maximum of 10 grams of faeces in 100 ml broth.
- (c) Carcasses of chicks: there shall be removed samples of the yolk sac, liver and terminal intestines (to include portions of small intestines, large intestine and caecal tonsil).

The samples of organs taken from the carcasses of chicks submitted shall then be bulked together and placed in Selenite F broth at the rate of 1 gram of bulked tissue in 10 ml of broth up to a maximum of 10 grams of tissue in 100 ml broth.

The inoculated Selenite F broth shall then be incubated at 37°C for 18-24 hours.

#### Day 2

- (i) The Selenite F broth shall be plated out on to two plates of Selective Salmonella Agar (SSA) using a 10 microlitres loop. The SSA plates shall be inoculated with a droplet taken from the edge of the surface of the fluid and drawing the loop over the whole of one plate in a zigzag pattern and continuing to the second plate without recharging the loop. The space between the loopstreaks shall be 0.5 cm-1.0 cm. The plates shall be incubated at 37°C for 18-24 hours.
- (ii) The Selenite F broth shall then be reincubated at 37°C for a further 18-24 hours.

#### Day 3

- (i) The plates of SSA shall be examined and a minimum of 3 colonies from the plates showing suspicion of salmonella growth shall be sub-cultured on to a blood agar plate and a MacConkey agar plate and into biochemical composite media or equivalent. These media shall be incubated at 37°C for 18-24 hours.
- (ii) The reincubated Selenite F broth shall be plated out and incubated as described in Day 2(i).

#### Day 4

- (i) The incubated plates and composite media or equivalent shall be examined and the findings recorded, discarding cultures which are obviously not salmonella. Slide serological tests shall be performed using salmonella polyvalent "O" (Groups A-S) and polyvalent "H" (phase 1 and 2) agglutinating sera on selected suspect colonies collected from the blood agar or MacConkey plates. If reactions occur with one or both sera, the colonies shall be typed to Group level by slide serology.
- (ii) The plates of SSA prepared at Day 3(ii) shall be examined and further action taken as described in Day 3(i) and Day 4(i).

3. In this Part "Selectivé Salmonella Agar" means a selective agar approved by the Department for the isolation of salmonella organisms.

- (a) Buffered Peptone Water — Edel and Kampelmacher (1973) (commercially available as Oxoid CM 509, Lab M46 or equivalent).
- (b) Rappaports Vassiliadis (RV) Broth — vassiliadis et al (1976) (commercially available as Oxoid CM 669 or equivalent) or Rappaports Vassiliadis Soya Peptone (RVS) Broth (Oxoid CM 866).
- (c) Selenite F broth — Liefson (1936) (commercially available as Oxoid CM 395 and L121, Lab M44a and 44b or equivalent).

(a), (b), (c) and selective salmonella agars should be reconstituted according to the manufacturer's instructions and in the case of selective salmonella agars poured into 9 cm diameter plates.

## REFERENCES

References for the above substances are found in:

Liefson, E. (1936) *American Journal of Hygiene* 24, 423-432.

Edel, W. & Kampelmacher, E. H. (1973) *Bulletin of the World Health Organisation* 48, 167-174.

Anon (1969) ISO 6579 International Organisation for Standardisation, Geneva, Vassiliadis, P., Pateraki, E., Papaiconomou, N., Papadakis, J. A., and Trichopoulos, D. (1976) *Annales de Microbiologie (Institut Pasteur)* 127B, 195-200.

## PART I

## BLOOD SAMPLES TO BE TAKEN FOR SEROLOGICAL TESTING FOR SALMONELLA PULLORUM

1. Blood samples to be taken, by or under the supervision of an inspector, from domestic fowls between 3 and 5 weeks before they are transferred to laying accommodation or when they are between 16 and 22 weeks of age, whichever occurs later.

2. The number of birds from which blood samples shall be taken shall be a number calculated in accordance with the following table:—

***Number of birds required to be sampled for testing for Salmonella pullorum***

<i>Number of birds kept in a house or, on premises on which birds have free access to more than one house, number of birds in each group of houses on such premises</i>	<i>Number of birds to be sampled in that house or in that group of houses on those premises</i>
1– 29	A number equal to the total number of birds up to a maximum of 20 birds.
30– 39	25
40– 49	30
50– 59	35
60– 89	40
90–199	50
200–499	55
500 or more	60

3. The samples shall each comprise 0.02 ml of blood taken from a wing vein of a bird by pricking with a suitable needle.

## PART II

## Paragraph 7(1)(b)

## SEROLOGICAL METHOD FOR TESTING FOR SALMONELLA PULLORUM

1. The rapid plate whole blood test shall be used for the testing of blood samples for *Salmonella pullorum* and those tests shall be carried out as follows:—

- (1) 0.02 ml of blood taken from a wing vein of a bird, after pricking with a suitable needle, shall be placed on a white ceramic tile using a loop of the appropriate size.
- (2) 0.04 ml of polyvalent crystal violet stained *Salmonella pullorum* antigen(a) shall be added to the blood and mixed with it.
- (3) The tile shall be rocked gently for 2 minutes after which time the test shall be read.

- (a) S pullorum antigen must contain standard and variant strains of S pullorum stained with crystal violet and standardised against international standard sera raised against the standard and variant strains (O.I.E. 1986)

(4) All bleeding needles and loops must be washed in a normal saline solution(a) after each bird has been sampled and tested and that solution must be renewed after every 200 birds have been sampled and tested.

REFERENCE

O.I.E. (1986) International Zoosanitary Code 5th Edition, 362-364 (updated May 1988 as International Animal Health Code, updated pages 45 to 47).

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(a) Normal saline solution is prepared by dissolving saline tablets in water according to the manufacturer's instructions

## PART I

## RECORDS OF SAMPLES TAKEN IN RESPECT OF A BREEDING FLOCK OR A HATCHERY

1. In respect of each sample taken under and in accordance with paragraphs 5(1)(a) and 7(1)(a) the following information shall be kept—

- (a) the date on which the sample was taken;
- (b) a description of the type of sample taken; and
- (c) in the case of samples taken in respect of a breeding flock, the identity of the house or group of houses from which the samples were taken and, in the case of samples taken from a hatchery, the address of the premises which supplied the hatching eggs to the hatchery from which the samples were obtained.

## PART II

Paragraph 10(1)(c)

## RECORDS OF THE MOVEMENT OF POULTRY, CHICKS AND EGGS ONTO AND OFF ANY PREMISES ON WHICH A BREEDING FLOCK IS KEPT

2. In respect of the movement of any poultry, chicks or eggs onto or off the premises on which the breeding flock is kept, the following information shall be kept—

- (a) the date of the movement;
- (b) the number of poultry, chicks or eggs moved;
- (c) the identity of the house or group of houses in which any poultry, chicks or eggs moved onto the premises were placed or from which any poultry, chicks or eggs were moved off the premises;
- (d) in the case of any poultry, chicks or eggs moved onto the premises, the address from which they were brought there; and
- (e) in the case of any poultry, chicks or eggs moved off the premises, the address of the premises to which they were moved.

## PART III

Paragraph 10(2)(c)

## RECORDS OF THE MOVEMENT OF EGGS ONTO AND OFF, AND OF THE MOVEMENT OF CHICKS OFF, ANY PREMISES WHICH ARE USED AS A HATCHERY

3. In respect of the movement of eggs onto or off and the movement of chicks off any premises which are used as a hatchery, the following information shall be kept—

- (a) the date of the movement;
- (b) in the case of the movement of any eggs onto the premises, the address of the premises from which they were moved and the number of eggs moved; and
- (c) in the case of the movement of any eggs or chicks off the premises the address of the premises to which they were moved and the number of eggs or chicks moved.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order.)*

The Scheme set out in the Schedule to this Order ("the Scheme") supersedes the Poultry Breeding Flocks and Hatcheries (Registration and Testing etc) Order (Northern Ireland) 1990 ("the 1990 Order") which is now revoked (see S.R. 1994 No. 120). It continues to require a person keeping a breeding flock on any premises or using any premises as a hatchery—

- (a) to have his name entered in respect of those premises in a register kept by the Department of Agriculture ("the Department"); and
- (b) to carry out regular sampling in respect of that flock or hatchery.

The main changes of substance from the 1990 Order are:—

1. A person is no longer prohibited from keeping a breeding flock on any premises or using any premises as a hatchery unless he is registered by the Department.
2. A breeding flock is now defined as meaning a breeding flock with at least 250 birds.
3. Annual registration of breeding flocks and hatcheries has been replaced by a once and for all registration. Those previously registered under the 1990 Order are deemed to be registered under the Scheme from its date of operation. Registered persons are required to report changes of particulars within 28 days after the anniversary of registration.
4. Registration is no longer dependent on compliance with certain requirements relating to the keeping of a breeding flock on any premises or the use of any premises as a hatchery.
5. There are changes to the requirements for sampling flocks and hatcheries.

Any person who without lawful authority or excuse, proof of which lies on him, contravenes any provisions of the Scheme shall be guilty of offence against the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981. The penalty, on summary conviction, is a fine at Level 5 on the standard scale (currently £2,000) or in the case of an offence committed with respect to more than 5 animals, a fine at Level 3 on the standard scale (currently £400) for each animal; or in the case of an offence committed in relation to carcasses or other inanimate things a fine at Level 5 on the standard scale (currently £2,000) together with a fine at Level 3 on the standard scale (currently £400) in respect of every 508 kilograms in weight of the carcasses or other things after the first 508 kilograms.