

ANNEX

Testing scheme necessary to verify the achievement of the Community target for the reduction of *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Salmonella hadar*, *Salmonella infantis*, *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Salmonella virchow* in adult breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*

2. Monitoring in breeding flocks

2.1. Location, frequency and status of sampling

For the purpose of this Regulation, breeding flocks shall be sampled at the initiative of the operator and as part of official controls.

2.1.1. Sampling at the initiative of the operator

Sampling shall take place every two weeks at the place designated by the competent authority from the following two possible options:

- (a) at the hatchery; or
- (b) at the holding.

The competent authority shall implement one of the above options to the whole testing scheme, and shall set up a procedure so that the detection of salmonella serotypes referred to in Article 1(1) ('relevant salmonella') during the sampling at the initiative of the operator is notified without delay to the competent authority by the operator, the sampler or the laboratory performing the analyses.

2.1.2. Official control sampling

Without prejudice to Annex II, Part C.2 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, official sampling shall consist in:

2.1.2.1. If sampling at the initiative of the operator takes place at the hatchery:

- (a) routine sampling every 16 weeks at the hatchery, which shall on that occasion replace the corresponding sampling at the initiative of the operator;
- (b) routine sampling at the holding on two occasions during the production cycle, the first one being within four weeks following moving to laying phase or laying unit and the second one being towards the end of the laying phase, not earlier than eight weeks before the end of the production cycle;
- (c) confirmatory sampling at the holding, following detection of relevant salmonella from sampling at the hatchery.

2.1.2.2. If sampling at the initiative of the operator takes place at the holding, routine sampling shall be carried out on three occasions during the production cycle:

- (a) within four weeks following moving to laying phase or laying unit;
- (b) towards the end of the laying phase, not earlier than eight weeks before the end of the production cycle;
- (c) during the production, at any time sufficiently distant from the samples referred to in points (a) and (b).