



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 6/17/2005

GAIN Report Number: E35116

EU-25

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

EC SCFCAH approves Regulation to reduce Salmonella in breeding chicken

2005

Approved by:

Norval E. Francis

U.S. Mission to the EU

Prepared by:

Yvan Polet

Report Highlights:

The Standing Committee on the Food Chain & Animal Health (SCFCAH) approved a Regulation, which further strengthens the control of Salmonella in chicken breeding flocks. The proposed Regulation will set strict standards for the maximum presence of Salmonella serotypes in chicken breeding flocks by the start of 2007. Member States will be required to meet these standards by the end of 2009. It is to be expected that these standards will apply on U.S. exports of hatching eggs.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Brussels USEU [BE2]
[E3]

In the June 7-8 meeting of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health (SCFCAH), member state experts approved a proposal¹ for a Commission Regulation implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council, which targets the reduction of the prevalence of certain salmonella serotypes in breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus* and amending Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

Regulation (EC) 2160/2003 requires the establishment of a Community target for the reduction of the prevalence of the five most frequent salmonella serotypes in human salmonellosis in breeding flocks of *Gallus gallus*. The targeted salmonella serotypes are: *Salmonella* Enteritidis, *Salmonella* Typhimurium, *Salmonella* Infantis, *Salmonella* Virchow, *Salmonella* Hadar. The proposal should apply from 1 July 2005, after which Member States should have national control programs implemented by January 1, 2007. The European Community target should be achieved by 31 December 2009. Reportedly, this proposed Regulation would require a maximum of 1 percent of positive flocks with salmonella serotypes of public health significance of 250 birds or more by the end of 2009.

This new Regulation has yet to be published in the Official Journal and it is therefore hard to estimate at this point what impact this will have. The text upon which the SCFCAH reached an agreement does not contain specific requirements for imports from third countries, but we expect that further steps will be taken to address this. When the standards of this Regulation are to apply on imports, it will possibly put extra expenses on U.S. exporters of hatching eggs.

In the U.S., control programs for Salmonella are operated under the [National Poultry Improvement Plan](#) (NPIP)². This plan is a voluntary program and acceptance of the Plan is optional with the States and individual members of the industry within the States. The Plan is administered in each State by an Official State Agency cooperating with the USDA. The NPIP have active control programs for *Salmonella pullorum*, *Salmonella gallinarum*, *Salmonella enteritidis*, *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*, *Mycoplasma synoviae*, and *Mycoplasma meleagridis*. An assessment should be made if the U.S. Salmonella Clean program for meat-type chicken breeding flocks could meet the requirements of this newly proposed Regulation.

Visit our website: our website www.useu.be/agri/usda.html provides a broad range of useful information on EU import rules and food laws and allows easy access to USEU reports, trade information and other practical information. More information on food safety can be found at <http://www.useu.be/agri/foodsafety.html>. E-mail: AgUSEU.Brussels@fas.usda.gov

Related reports from USEU Brussels:

Report Number	Title	Date Released
E35113	WTO rules against EU in salted poultry case	06/16/05
E35108	The EC proposes the legislation for its new Broiler Welfare Directive	06/14/05
E35065	Abolition of battery cages to cost €354 million to EU-25 egg producers	04/01/05
E35017	Poultry Semi-annual	02/04/05

¹ SANCO/936/2005 rev1

² <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/npip/>