

Compensation for Salmonella Enteritidis & Typhimurium to owners in England

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1. Introduction

The current aid scheme for Salmonella National Control Programme compensation payments to breeding poultry producers in the UK, administered by Defra and the Devolved Governments, closes on 31st December 2014. New agriculture state aid regulations were agreed by the Commission at the end of July 2014 (EC 704/2014). Paragraph 735(b) of the guidelines accompanying these regulations confirms that existing schemes need to close and, if continued, be registered in line with the new regulations.

Salmonella is a reportable zoonotic disease and one of the most common causes of food poisoning in the UK. European and national legislation sets out a framework for the reduction and control of Salmonella in specific farm industry sectors through various defined measures. These include the implementation of species-specific National Control Programmes (NCP) in all EU Member States, to manage the risk principally at the level of primary production (the farm) and monitor the progress towards achieving a set agreed reduction target. The overall aim is to reduce the level of Salmonella infection of public health significance at the farm level in the EU and in turn reduce the level of human infection caused by Salmonella across the EU. Breeding poultry are monitored for Salmonella in line with the programme requirements governed by Community and national legislation. The aid schemes form part of the Salmonella NCP in breeding chicken and breeding turkey flocks in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The Salmonella NCPs require that compulsory slaughter of breeding chicken and breeding turkey flocks is carried out in any flock infected with the regulated serovars Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium (including monophasic strains). Breeding chicken and turkey flock operators whose birds are slaughtered as part of these requirements are to be compensated in accordance with section 32A of the Animal Health Act 1981. This Act gives the power for any animal which is affected or suspected of being affected with Salmonella of public health significance to be slaughtered in the interests of human and animal health.

2. Aims and objectives

To compensate owners for losses caused by the slaughter of their breeding flocks as a result of infection with Salmonella of public health significance.

3. Legal basis

- Commission Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, Commission Regulation (EC) No. 200/2010 (breeding chickens) and Commission Regulation (EU) 1190/2012 (breeding turkeys)
- The Control of *Salmonella* in Poultry (England) Order 2007 for breeding chickens and the Control of *Salmonella* in turkeys (England) Order 2010 and equivalent legislation in devolved administrations.
- The Zoonoses Order 1989 and in Northern Ireland, the Zoonoses Order (Northern Ireland) 1991.
- The Animal Health Act, 1981 and the Disease of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981

4. Duration of the scheme

The current scheme expires on 31 December 2014. This is an ongoing requirement so the new scheme will commence on 1 January 2015 and will close on 31 December 2020.

5. Who is eligible?

All breeding chicken and breeding turkey producers in the UK with 250 or more breeding birds are required to comply with the requirements of the NCP. These producers whose breeding flocks are subject to compulsory slaughter for disease control under the requirements of the programme following detection of *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium are eligible to receive compensation

6. What funding is available?

Breeding flock producers in the UK whose animals are slaughtered as part of the requirements of the Salmonella NCP are to be compensated in accordance with The Animal Health Act 1981

When infection with *Salmonella* Enteritidis, *Salmonella* Typhimurium or monophasic strain Typhimurium is confirmed in a breeding flock, the owner is compensated following compulsory slaughter of the flock. Compensation will be paid for all birds culled, except for those birds classed as rejects during ante and post mortem inspection at the slaughter house. Any return received from sale of the processed meat, or from an insurance policy that covers loss as a result of disease will be subtracted from the compensation.

Defra uses poultry valuation tables to calculate compensation for poultry culled to control the spread of diseases. The valuation will take account of several factors including:

- the species, age and sex of the bird
- what it was farmed for (eggs or meat)
- the cost of rearing the bird
- any income derived from the birds (e.g. from production of hatching eggs)

<https://www.gov.uk/compensation-for-animals-culled-to-control-animal-diseases#how-compensation-is-calculated-for-certain-diseases-of-poultry-kept-birds>

7. State aid

The scheme is only open to Small and Medium Enterprises.

This measure is aimed at compensating owners for losses caused by animal disease. In accordance with Article 26.1 of EC regulation 702/2014, it shall be compatible with the internal market within the meaning of Article 107(3)(c) of the Treaty and shall be exempted from the notification requirement of Article 108(3) thereof where it fulfils the conditions laid down in paragraphs 2 to 13 of this Article and in Chapter I. The scheme will abide by Article 26(5) in relation to direct payment.

The aid will not exceed 100%. The aid will be limited to losses caused by infection with the regulated serovars *Salmonella* Enteritidis, *Salmonella* Typhimurium or monophasic *Salmonella* Typhimurium. These *Salmonella* serovars are rarely detected in breeding flocks but is still currently endemic in the UK.

The aid does not relate to measures in respects of which Community legislation provides that the cost of such measures is to be borne by the agricultural holding. The scheme will comply with Article 26.7 through to Article 26.9 of EC Regulation 702/2014.

8. Ineligible costs

Compensation will only be granted to owners whose flock were slaughtered under the *Salmonella* National Control Programme requirements. Owners with flocks that die or are slaughtered for any other reason, even if a regulated *Salmonella* serovar is subsequently identified in the flock, will not be compensated.



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