



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

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Our Ref: ATIC1380

[REDACTED]
{By Email}

24 July 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

PROVISION OF REQUESTED INFORMATION

Thank you for your request for information salmonella outbreaks which we received on 03 July 2018. Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI).

The information you requested and our response is detailed below:

“1, For each year from 2010 - present (July 2018) the number of UK (Eng, wales, Scotland) poultry flocks (breeding + meat) found to be infected with salmonella. Please indicate country concerned if possible.”

“2, For each of these salmonella outbreaks / cases, the type of poultry birds involved, eg broilers, hens, geese etc”

“3, For each of these salmonella outbreaks / cases, the type of salmonella identified”

APHA can confirm for questions 1 to 3 above this information for 2010 – 2016 is available in the public domain. This information has been published by two bodies the National Archives and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). The data provided by the National Archives is GB data and the data published by the EFSA is UK data. The links for this data are listed below:

2010 GB Salmonella data

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140306183432/http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/publication/salm10/>

2011 GB Salmonella data

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140306183350/http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/publication/salm11/>

2012 GB Salmonella data

<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140306183254/http://www.defra.gov.uk/ahvla-en/publication/salm12/>

2013 GB Salmonella data

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/salmonella-in-livestock-production-in-great-britain-2013>

2014 GB Salmonella data

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/salmonella-in-livestock-production-in-great-britain-2014>

2015 GB Salmonella data

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/salmonella-in-livestock-production-in-great-britain-2015>

2016 GB Salmonella data

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/salmonella-in-livestock-production-in-great-britain-2016>

2010 UK Salmonella data

<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2012.2597%4010.1002/%28ISSN%291831-4732.BIOHAZ-DATA>

2011 UK Salmonella data

<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2013.3129>

2012 UK Salmonella data

<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2014.3547>

2013 UK Salmonella data

<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2015.3991%4010.1002/%28ISSN%291831-4732.BIOHAZ-DATA>

2014 UK Salmonella data

<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2015.4329>

2015 UK Salmonella data

<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2016.4634>

2016 UK Salmonella data

<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.2903/j.efsa.2017.5077>

As this information is reasonably accessible to you by other means, it is exempt from disclosure under section 21 FOIA.

The GB and UK data for 2017 is currently being compiled and is due for publication in mid-September 2018 and the 2018 data will be published in mid-September 2019.

As this information is scheduled to be published, the information you have requested is exempt from disclosure under section 22a of the FOIA. Section 22a exemption is subject to a Public Interest test.

[Section 22a – Public Interest Test](#)

APHA recognise that there is a strong interest around the publication of research data. However, we have concluded that the public interest in withholding the information sought outweighs the public interest in its disclosure. Releasing information now before it has been finalised would be misleading to the public on an already complex and sensitive issue and this would contradict the principles behind Freedom of Information. It is in the public interest to wait until the information has been collected and assessed rather than to release the information in a piecemeal fashion.

Given the importance of publishing only appropriately collated and checked figures, it is reasonable to expect that this information should be published in line with accepted practice rather than disclosed before official publication.

“4, For each salmonella outbreak / case, the control actions taken, eg slaughter of whole flock, or partial slaughter of infected birds, treatment etc”

APHA can confirm the control actions following the identification of Salmonella in poultry flocks covered by the National Control Programmes are set out in the following links below in the section entitled “If your samples test positive for salmonella”

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/salmonella-get-your-breeding-chickens-tested>
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/salmonella-get-your-egg-laying-hens-tested>
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/salmonella-get-your-broiler-flock-chickens-tested>
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/salmonella-get-your-breeding-turkeys-tested>
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/salmonella-get-your-fattening-turkeys-tested>

“5, For each salmonella outbreak / case, the number of birds culled / slaughtered (if data held)”

APHA can confirm only breeding flocks of chickens or turkeys identified with regulated Salmonella serovars (Salmonella Enteritidis and S. Typhimurium (including monophasic variants)) are slaughtered. Since the introduction of the National Control Programmes for turkeys in 2010, no regulated serovars have been identified in breeding turkeys.

The number of breeding chickens identified with regulated Salmonella serovars (Salmonella Enteritidis and S. Typhimurium (including monophasic variants)) and slaughtered can be found in the table below:

| Year | Number of flocks | Number of birds |
|------|------------------|-----------------|
| 2010 | 1 | 6000 |
| 2011 | 1 | 250 |
| 2012 | 0 | 0 |
| 2013 | 0 | 0 |
| 2014 | 2 (same site) | 16655 |
| 2015 | 0 | 0 |
| 2016 | 1 | 3745 |
| 2017 | 0 | 0 |

Information disclosed in response to this FOI request is releasable to the public. In keeping with the spirit and effect of the FOI and the government's Transparency Agenda, this letter and the information disclosed to you may be placed on GOV.UK, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context. No information identifying you will be placed on the GOV.UK website.

I attach an Annex which explains the copyright that applies to the information being released to you and contact details should you be unhappy with the service you have received.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact the Access to Information Team at the email address below or postal address at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

ACCESS TO INFORMATION TEAM

Email: enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk

Annex

Copyright

The information supplied to you is Crown copyright, unless otherwise stated, and is protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for the purposes of news reporting. You can find details on the arrangements for re-using Crown copyright information at:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/open-government-licence.htm>

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Complaints

If you are unhappy with the result of your request for information you may request an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this letter.

If you wish to request an internal review, please contact: The Access to Information Team at enquiries@apha.gsi.gov.uk or at the postal address at the top of this letter, who will arrange for an internal review of your case.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Please note that generally the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have first exhausted APHA's own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF