Commission Regulation (EU) No 1190/2012 of 12 December 2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium in flocks of turkeys, as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 1190/2012

of 12 December 2012

concerning a Union target for the reduction of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium in flocks of turkeys, as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of salmonella and other specified food-borne zoonotic agents[(1)] and, in particular the second subparagraph of Article 4(1),

Whereas:

(1) The purpose of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 is to ensure that proper and effective measures are taken to detect and control *Salmonella* and other zoonotic agents at all relevant stages of production, processing and distribution, particularly at the level of primary production, in order to reduce their prevalence and the risk they pose to public health.

(2) Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 provides for a Union target to be established for the reduction of the prevalence of all *Salmonella* serotypes with public health significance in turkeys at the level of primary production. That reduction is key to ensuring that the criteria for *Salmonella* in fresh meat of turkeys set out in Part E of Annex II to that Regulation and in Chapter 1 of Annex I to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 of 15 November 2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs[(2)] can be met.

(3) Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 provides that the Union target is to include a numerical expression of the maximum percentage of epidemiological units remaining positive and/or the minimum percentage of reduction in the number of epidemiological units remaining positive, the maximum time limit within which the target must be achieved and the definition of the testing schemes necessary to verify achievement of the target. It is also to include a definition, where relevant, of serotypes with public health significance.

(4) Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 provides that experience gained under existing national measures and information forwarded to the Commission or to the European Food Safety Authority ('EFSA') under existing Union requirements, in particular in the framework

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of information provided for in Directive 2003/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the monitoring of zoonoses and zoonotic agents, amending Council Decision 90/424/EEC and repealing Council Directive 92/117/EEC[(3)], and in particular Article 5 thereof, is to be taken into account when setting the Union target.

(5) Commission Regulation (EC) No 584/2008 of 20 June 2008 implementing Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards a Community target for the reduction of the prevalence of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium in turkeys[(4)] sets the target for the maximum percentage of flocks of turkeys remaining positive for those two *Salmonella* serotypes to 1 % or less by 31 December 2012, both for fattening and adult breeding flocks of turkeys.

(6) The European Union Summary Report on Trends and Sources of Zoonoses, Zoonotic Agents and Food-borne Outbreaks in 2010[(5)] showed that *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium are the serotypes most frequently associated with human illness. In particular human cases caused by *Salmonella* Enteritidis further decreased markedly in 2010.

(7) In March 2012, EFSA adopted a Scientific Opinion on an estimation of the public health impact of setting a new target for the reduction of *Salmonella* in turkeys[(6)]. It concluded that *Salmonella* Enteritidis is the most successfully transmitted zoonotic *Salmonella* serotype from parent to offspring in poultry. EFSA also observed that Union control measures in turkeys have contributed to a considerable reduction in the number of turkey-associated human salmonellosis cases compared to the situation in 2007. The target should therefore be confirmed.

(8) Monophasic strains of *Salmonella* Typhimurium have developed to be among the most frequently detected *Salmonella* serotypes in several species of animals and in clinical isolates from humans in recent years as pointed out in the European Union Summary Report on Trends and Sources of Zoonoses, Zoonotic Agents and Food-borne Outbreaks in 2010. EFSA's 2010 Scientific Opinion on monitoring and assessment of the public health risk of '*Salmonella* Typhimurium-like strains' adopted on 22 September 2010[(7)] also stated that monophasic *Salmonella* Typhimurium strains with the antigenic formula **[**[X1]1,4,[5],12:i:-, which includes strains with and without the O5 antigen, have to be considered to be variants of *Salmonella* Typhimurium and to pose a public health risk comparable to that of other *Salmonella* Typhimurium strains. *Salmonella* Typhimurium strains with the antigenic formula 1,4,[5],12:i:-**]** should therefore be included in the target.

(9) To verify whether the Union target has been met, it is necessary to sample flocks of turkeys repeatedly. To evaluate and compare the results, it is necessary to describe a common testing scheme.

(10) National control programmes for the achievement of the Union target for 2013 for flocks of turkeys have been submitted for Union co-financing in accordance with Council Decision 2009/470/EC of 25 May 2009 on expenditure in the veterinary field[(8)]. The technical amendments introduced in the Annex to this Regulation are directly applicable. As a result the Commission does not need to re-approve national

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control programmes implementing this Regulation. A transitional period is therefore not needed.

(11) In the interest of clarity, Regulation (EC) No 584/2008 should be repealed.

(12) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health and neither the European Parliament nor the Council has opposed them,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Editorial Information

X1 Substituted by Corrigendum to Commission Regulation (EU) No 1190/2012 of 12 December 2012 concerning a Union target for the reduction of Salmonella Enteritidis and Salmonella Typhimurium in flocks of turkeys, as provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council (Official Journal of the European Union L 340 of 13 December 2012).

Article 1

Union target

1 The Union target, as referred to in Article 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003, for the reduction of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium in turkeys ('Union target') shall be:

a a reduction of the maximum annual percentage of fattening turkey flocks remaining positive of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium to 1 % or less; and

b a reduction of the maximum annual percentage of adult breeding turkey flocks remaining positive of *Salmonella* Enteritidis and *Salmonella* Typhimurium to 1 % or less.

However, for Member States with less than 100 flocks of adult breeding or fattening turkeys, the Union target shall be that annually no more than one flock of adult breeding or fattening turkeys may remain positive.

As regards monophasic *Salmonella* Typhimurium, serotypes with the antigenic formula **[**[X1]1,4,[5],12:i:-**]** shall be included in the Union target.

2 The testing scheme necessary to verify progress in the achievement of the Union target is set out in the Annex ('testing scheme').

Editorial Information

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Article 2

Review of the Union target

The Union target shall be reviewed by the Commission taking into account the information collected in accordance with the testing scheme and the criteria laid down in Article 4(6)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

Article 3

Repeal of Regulation (EC) No 584/2008

Regulation (EC) No 584/2008 is repealed.

References to the repealed Regulation shall be construed as references to this Regulation.

Article 4

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

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ANNEX

Testing scheme necessary to verify the achievement of the Union target as referred to in Article 1(2)

1. SAMPLING FRAME

The sampling frame shall comprise all flocks of fattening and breeding turkeys within the framework of the national control programmes provided for in Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003.

2. MONITORING IN TURKEYS

2.1. **Frequency of sampling**

(a) Food business operators shall sample all flocks of fattening and breeding turkeys in the following way:

(i) sampling of flocks of fattening and breeding turkeys shall take place within three weeks before slaughter. The competent authority may authorise sampling in the last six weeks prior to the date of slaughter in case the turkeys are either kept more than 100 days or fall under organic turkey production according to Commission Regulation (EC) No 889/2008[9];

(ii) sampling of flocks of breeding turkeys shall take place:
- — in rearing flocks: at day-old, at four weeks of age and two weeks before moving to the laying phase or laying unit,
- — in adult flocks: at least every third week during the laying period at the holding or at the hatchery,
- — on the holding in the case of flocks of breeding turkeys laying hatching eggs intended for the trade within the Union.

(iii) The competent authority may decide to implement one of the options referred to in the second indent of point (ii) to the whole testing scheme for all flocks. However, sampling of breeding flocks laying hatching eggs intended for the trade within the Union must take place on the holding.

(iv) By way of derogation from the second indent of point (ii), if the Union target has been achieved for at least two consecutive calendar years in the whole Member State, sampling at the holding may be extended to take place every four weeks, at the discretion of the competent authority. However, the competent authority may decide to keep or revert to a three-week testing interval in the case of detection of the presence of the relevant *Salmonella* serotypes in a breeding flock on the holding and/or in any other case deemed appropriate by the competent authority.

(b) The sampling by the competent authority shall at least provide for:

(i) sampling of flocks of breeding turkeys:
- — once a year, all flocks with at least 250 adult breeding turkeys between 30 and 45 weeks of age and all holdings with elite, great grand parents and grand parent breeding turkeys; the competent authority may decide that this sampling may also take place at the hatchery; and
- — all flocks on holdings in case of detection of *Salmonella* Enteritidis or *Salmonella* Typhimurium from samples taken at the hatchery by food