Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua

How to comply with the
SE Emergency Order

The guidance document has been prepared by MPI as a step-by-step guide to help you as an animal product business operator to develop and operate an SE Plan to manage the risks of SE.

This guidance document has been issued to accompany the Animal Products Order: Emergency Control Scheme – Managing Salmonella Enteritidis in Commercial Chicken Flocks (Order).

Change history

Previous Version Date	Current Version Date	Section Changed	Change(s) Description
09/09/2021	19/04/2022	all	

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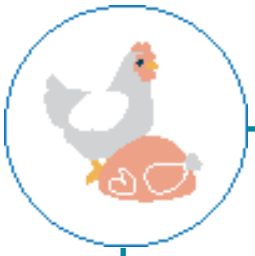


Broilers

This section includes all broilers raised for primary and secondary processing.

Your Integrator may manage identification and traceability systems, sampling, verification, laboratory testing.

How to use this guidance document

Requirements

- These contain a very brief summary of the requirements the **Do boxes** below it refer to

Do

- These contain tasks that must be completed to meet the requirements of the order

Do

If you receive a presumptive of positive SE results refer to the section on What to after a presumptive or confirmed SE result

Guidance

- These contain specific guidance for the **Do box** they are alongside

These contain important information to consider and be aware of when creating your plan

Definitions:

A **legal requirement** is identified by having a citation at the end of the relevant sentence or clause in [square brackets]. "**Must**" is used to note a requirement.

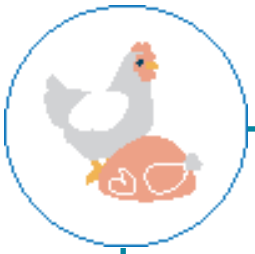
Guidance information, provides explanatory information, examples or options for achieving a particular outcome. "**Should**" is used to note a suggested action that is not a requirement.

What you need to complete:

You need to complete the General Information and the sections specific to your operation(s)

By completing the tick boxes or text in this document and implementing the relevant measure, you will be meeting the requirements of the Order.

This guidance can be used to organise your records as a part of your documented SE Plan. It is designed to help with reporting and verifications.



Day to Day Management Guidance

1. Describe your business
2. Identification and Traceability
3. Biosecurity
4. Sampling and Testing
5. Vaccination

Person with overall responsibility for SE management

Requirements

- The responsible person must have knowledge of:
  - SE: the illness it causes, sources of contamination, places it can hide and survive, routes it takes to infect birds and eggs
  - The specific control measures that eliminate, prevent or reduce the likelihood of SE contamination during chicken breeding, hatching, rearing and laying, as appropriate;
  - How to develop and implement an environmental sampling plan for SE;
  - How to review test results; and
  - The actions to be taken in the event of a presumptive or confirmed SE detection.
- They must be present for the verification visit

Do

- Nominate your **responsible person**
- Train your **responsible person**

Guidance

- Your responsible person may be in charge of multiple sites
- If applicable, your Integrator may be able to assist with training
- Your **responsible person** is needed for the verification visit

Site Diagram

Site Diagram

You must have a site diagram that describes the layout of your premises.

Your site diagram should:

- Clearly identify:
  - The physical boundaries of the site (including available entrances to the site);
  - All buildings and facilities (including entrances and exits);
  - Structures involved in the operation of site such as manure production areas, composting areas, dead bird storage etc.
  - The principal activity to be conducted in each area of the premises;
  - All restricted-access areas;
- Include the name, address and the site plan version (dated);
- Include GPS (if known) and Agribase number;
- Not contain any highlighting. All markings on the diagram should be in black and white ink.
- Consider each farm location accessible by a public road as a separate site, despite common ownership;

> For an example of a site plan and further guidance on how to create a site plan, refer to the MPI website.

Identification and traceability

Requirements

- You must have a system for identifying and tracing all chicken and egg movements

Guidance

- The records will be used for tracing and controlling product if there is SE contamination

Guidance

It is very likely that your hatchery will provide this information to you when they deliver consignments.

Do include:

- Who is purchasing or delivering
- What they are purchasing or delivering
- How many they have purchased or delivered
- Their contact details
- The contact details of the delivery driver's company if different

Biosecurity controls

Requirements

- You must set up your premises to minimise the risk of introduction of SE to your premises
- You must implement your biosecurity plan including procedures for:
  - Premises and facilities
  - Personnel and visitor control
  - Vehicles and equipment
  - Pest control and general management
  - Feed management
  - Flock, product, and/or consignment management

Guidance

- The Order sets out the minimum standard of biosecurity expected.
- The best way to protect your premises from the introduction of SE is to control what comes on to your premises (e.g. People, vehicles, equipment and inputs) and have processes in place to keep your premises clean and free from pests.
- You may have unique biosecurity challenges and operating environments and it is important for you to be able to assess and response to your biosecurity risks.
- Pest management is essential to reduce the risk of introduction of SE to your birds because the disease can survive in their faeces for long periods

Guidance

- Your Integrator may have a standard operating procedure for handling contaminated feed

Premises and facilities & Personnel and Visitors

Do

Premises and facilities

- Post signs similar to: 'this is a high biosecurity area – no unauthorised entry is permitted' at all entrances to the premises and/or all entrances to any production area.
- Provide hand washing or sanitation facilities to personnel and visitors
- Ensure hand washing or sanitation facilities are used before entry to production areas
- Provide clean protective footwear or covers for within production areas

Personnel and visitors

- Have visitors and contractors
  - Sign in prior to entering the production area
  - Confirm that they understand and are in compliance with any stand down periods your operation has
- Confirm that to the best of their knowledge they have no medical condition that is a risk to food safety

Guidance

Premises and facilities

- Signs should be in a place or position that anybody trying to use that entrance can easily see.
- A fence around the perimeter of the farm is considered best practice.
- Staff should practice good hygiene between production areas
- If possible the use of showers on arrival to the farm is best practice
- Clean protective footwear may be boots, boot covers, or appropriate cleaning and sanitising

Personnel and visitors

- Only essential visits should be allowed into the production area
- It is best practice to have a stand-down policy for personnel and visitors that have come into contact with high risk animals

Vehicles and equipment & Pest control and general management

Do

Vehicles and equipment

- Clean and sanitise your equipment
  - At any time it may be a source of contamination
- Keep vehicles entering the premises not associated with essential services away from the production area

Pest control and general management

- Eliminate potential pest breeding sites by keeping production and surrounding areas clean and in good condition.
- Prevent pest access to buildings via holes, drains, and other places by sealing them or covering them. Use of pesticides (e.g. fly sprays, rat baits etc.) and pest control devices includes:
- Record the location and monitoring of rodent bait stations
  - Include notes on any:
    - » Entry sites
    - » Pest breeding sites
    - » Food sources
  - If increased pest activity is observed, monitoring must be increased and corrective actions taken to further minimise pests

Guidance

Vehicles and equipment

- It is best practice to have a defined, separate parking area for personnel and visitors
- It is best practice to disinfect vehicles prior to them entering or exiting the farm

Pest control and general management

- Rodent bait stations should be numbered, located and installed in a manner that makes them inaccessible to birds and cannot contaminate eggs or packaging
- Placing bait stations outside of the production areas, around the property, may be more effective at controlling vermin.
- Pesticides that are not suitable for use in contact with food should not be used in the presence of eggs or birds. Pesticides should be used according to the manufacturer's directions.

Guidance

- Avian and other livestock (e.g. Pigs) are high-risk vectors for spread of SE, it is best practice to have a stand down period before allowing an individual back into the production area
- International travel involving contact with poultry can introduce the risk of transmission of exotic diseases or more pathogenic strains of diseases currently in New Zealand.
- It is best practice to have a health policy in place to protect your staff, visitors, contractors, and animals

Example stand-down period policy:

Contact or location	Suggested stand-down period
Contact with other poultry, poultry waste or poultry processing plants	24 hours
Contact with other avian species (e.g. Aviaries, pet shops, duck shooting)	24 hours
Contact with livestock (e.g. Pigs or calf-rearing operations)	24 hours
International contact with any of the above	4 days

Example Health and sickness policy for SE:

Pathogen/condition	**Requirements for clearance to enter production areas**	
	Freedom from symptoms or illness	**Medical certificate from a medical practitioner**
Illness from non-typhoid Salmonella	Symptom-free for 48 hours	Yes

Routine sampling and testing

Do

- Read and comply with the general sampling section prior to sampling
- You must ensure that boot swabs and dust environmental samples are taken from each broiler production area flock at 14 to 21 days (prior to first cut of chickens for slaughter)

If your farm is independent and not owned by a parent company:

- You must ensure that the following are taken from each consignment of day-old chicks received for rearing.
  - Swabs of chick papers, or
  - The actual chick papers folded and placed into sealable bags
- The sample size is the square root (√) of the number of chick trays delivered to that production area, to a maximum of 10.

Do

If you receive a presumptive of positive SE results refer to Notify and Prepare in the second half of this Guidance

Shed length (row)	Sample type	
	Boot swabs	Dust
Up to 25m	1 pair boot swabs	1 dust swabs or 1 dust sample
25-75m	2 pairs boot swabs	2 dust swabs or 2 dust samples
>75m	4 pairs boot swabs	4 dust swabs or 4 dust samples

General sampling: equipment and materials

Requirements

- You must use commercial environmental swabs or swabs that have been validated for environmental sampling e.g., by the laboratory, in scientific publication, or by a competent authority.

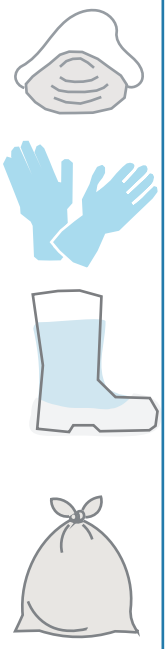
Boot Swabs and Plastic boot covers

Dust swab

Dust sample

Do

- Keep the twist tie or whirlpak bags your sampling materials came with to collect your sample in
- Have your labels and record forms ready



Do

- Provide any additional PPE your staff requires
  - Dust masks
  - Disposable gloves
  - Boots
  - Disposable coveralls
  - etc
- Do properly dispose of your gloves and overalls

General sampling: boot swabs

Do

- Use commercial swabs that are recommended for the collection of poultry environmental samples.
- Prepare your boot swabs in advance and have them pre-moistened within their collection bags
- Use clean disposable gloves when putting on or removing boot swabs
- Wear boot swabs over disposable plastic boot covers or clean disposable gloves
- Where possible, perform dust sampling and boot swab collecting at the same time
- If you are sampling a caged production area or similar, you may wear the boot swab over a clean gloved hand to swab a stationery belt.

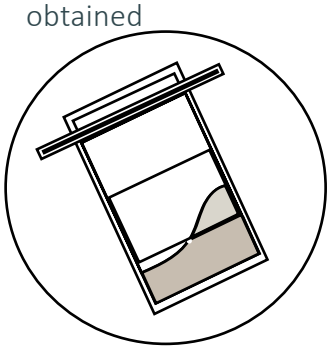
Guidance

- All actions required by the Order should be undertaken with regard to health and safety
- Always consider health and safety. You not expected to sample more than the bottom teir for cage systems.
- Contact us at animal.products@mpi.govt.nz with questions and concerns
- Your laboratory, PIANZ, EPF and/or your Integrator may be able to offer advice if you safety concerns regarding sampling

General sampling: dust

Do

- Dust swab
- Apply steady pressure with swab to pick up a quality sample
- 25g dust sample
    - Use your gloved hand to sweep dust into your sample bag from multiple locations within the production area until 25g is obtained



Guidance

- Consult with your laboratory if you would like further guidance on choosing between dust samples and dust swabs
- Dust swab materials may include boot swabs worn on a gloved hand, drag swabs or foam swabs.
- It is important to sample multiple sites to obtain a representative sample
- You may choose not to combine your samples to increase the information you gain from testing.

General sampling: prepare

Do

- Create a documented plan so sampling occurs over the shortest amount of time possible, is representative of the area sampled, and is repeatable
- Train your samplers so that they are able to
  - Identify the sampling sites
  - Identify what must be sampled
  - Sample safely
  - Carry out sampling
  - Label samples and keep records so that samples can be traced back to sampling sites, flocks, or production areas
  - Package, store and maintain samples until they are accepted by your laboratory
  - Use good biosecurity and PPE to avoid cross contamination
  - How to meet the biosecurity requirements for the production area, premises or place
- If re-sampling is required, do so as soon as possible.

Guidance

- Ideally re-sampling should occur within 48 hours of notification that sample(s) were not fit for purpose.
- Your laboratory may be able to provide you with sampling materials and technical instructions on sampling.
- PIANZ, EPF, and Internet research may be valuable sources when creating your training program for your samplers
- Refer to **Find a laboratory** for more information on recognised laboratories

General sampling: packaging, labeling and keeping records

Requirements

- You must keep sample traceability records
- You must keep a copy of all sample submission/sample forms as part of your records

How to prepare samples for the laboratory

- You may combine your samples into one bag as follows:
  - Boot swabs from a production area may be combined up to a maximum of 8 boots (4 pairs)
  - Dust-swabs from a production area may be combined up to a maximum of 8 swabs
  - A dust sample collected during sampling can not be combined with others for testing
  - Discuss combining with your laboratory prior to sampling
- Check with your laboratory, they may have more information or their own forms. Add their requests to your SE Plan Binder records.

How to label your sample bags

- All sample bags need to be labelled to enable identification of production area and unit, and confirmation that sampling requirements have been met.
- A sample submission form is provided on our webpage or from your lab

How to package and ship your samples for the laboratory

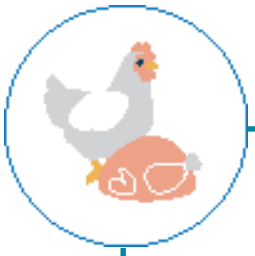
- Your must be kept chilled, such as with a wrapped ice pack
- Ship your samples so that they are at the laboratory no more than 3 days after sampling. Sooner is better.
- Plan your sampling well so that samples are not stuck in shipping over long weekends or you may be required to re-do your sampling.

Vaccination

Do

- If you decide to vaccinate
  - Keep records
  - Use an appropriate vaccine and follow veterinary or label instructions

Check which vaccines are registered, for vaccination of chicken flocks, and their conditions of use, here:
https://eatsafe.nzfsa.govt.nz/web/public/acvm-register



Actions to take after a positive SE test Guidance

1. Notify and Prepare
2. Control and Contain
3. Dispose of the Contaminated
4. Clean and Sanitise
5. Return to Trade Testing

Prepare and Notify after a Presumptive Positive Test

Do - Notify within 24 hours

- Report the result to your verifier

Guidance - Prepare

Get your paperwork together

- A site diagram to show where the sample was taken from and where suspect flocks have been housed
- A summary of flock movements on or off the farm since the date of sampling
- The SE status of each production area
- An inventory of affected chickens produced from the time of sampling and location of the product, including on site and in the wider supply chain
- Details of any investigation findings/root cause analysis
- A summary of any enhanced biosecurity controls and corrective actions implemented since the detection.

Control and contain

- You may place movement restrictions on suspect flocks until confirmation results come back
- Movement restrictions for affected flocks may include:
  - Held under controlled conditions within the premises
  - Held with increased biosecurity measure to ensure the rest of the farm is not contaminated

- Do consider the wider implications on the poultry industry
- You may notify your processors on a presumptive so that any response can be proactive. A warning before a confirmation result would help work to protect the industry.

Important contact information for sampling results

Do

- Use the following template for all correspondence

To:	• food.compliance@mpi.govt.nz • Your verifier
Subject:	Either: “Presumptive Positive” or “Positive SE”

Body:

- Operation Name
- Operator Name
- Operator contact
- Operator address
- Any additional details

Notify - after a Confirmed Positive Test

Do within 24 hours

From your laboratory

- Report the result to your verifier
- Notify your supply linked operators
- Place movement restrictions on the suspect flocks

From a supply linked operator

- Report the result to Director General and your verifier
- Notify any supply linked operators

Guidance

- A supply linked operator is any operator that you have sent or received suspect product to/from

food.compliance@mpi.govt.nz
to report your result to the Director General

Guidance

- Presumptive Salmonella results are from PCR and culture. These two tests will be able to correctly identify the presence of Salmonella species. They cannot isolate Salmonella Enteritidis. PCR testing is the fastest method of obtaining an initial result. However, if a presumptive positive it return, it would then need to go to culture and serology.
- Culture and Serology is a two step process. Culture can return a presumptive positive. Culture can also distinguish a false positive Salmonella growth from vaccination.
- Confirmation is done on serology. Serology is only performed on cultured samples. It may be in your best interest to request culture and serology testing if you vaccinate your flocks as PCR is capable of responding to the vaccine.
- Your lab will send confirmed samples to ESR to be held in case it requires genome sequencing.

Prepare - after a Confirmed SE Positive Test

Do

Get your paperwork together

- If you have a sampling event that returns a confirmed SE result, or you are notified of a confirmed SE from a supply chain linked operator, you must provide a written report within 48 hours from being notified to your verifier with:
  - A site diagram to show where the sample was taken from or where suspect flocks have been housed
  - A summary of flock movements on or off the farm since the date suspect chickens were housed on farm
  - The SE status of all production areas
  - An inventory of suspect chickens produced from when the suspect chickens were housed, and their location now
  - Details of any investigation findings/root cause analysis
  - A summary of any enhanced biosecurity controls and corrective actions implemented since the detection.

Control and Contain

Do

- After you received a confirmed SE detection from **routine sampling or from another operator**:
  - Assess and strengthen your biosecurity measures
  - Categorise the farm into Category A and Category B production areas based on SE status, with appropriate biosecurity controls applied to prevent transmission of SE between Category A and Category B production areas;
  - Place movement restrictions and any other controls on the suspect flock; to minimise transmission of SE to neighbouring flocks and other farms.

Guidance

- **Category A** are the production areas that returned the SE-presumptive or confirmed result.
- Production areas with an unknown status and farms that cannot apply appropriate biosecurity measures between production areas, are all categorised as Category A
- **Category B** are the production areas that returned SE- not detected results. Guidance on biosecurity controls may be required.
- Unknown status production areas can be recategorized after sampling and returned SE- not detected results.
- **Movement restrictions** for affected chickens and eggs may include:
  - Held under controlled conditions within the premises until disposition is determined by you or, in certain cases, by MPI.

What can you do with the controlled and contained?

Do one of the following

1.

- You may choose to pursue the optional, additional **Intensive sampling of flock and environment**

Guidance

- While you are waiting on test results from intensive sampling. You may choose to supply suspect eggs in the manner described in option 2

2.

- You may choose to supply confirmed SE positive flocks and their products to a processor that will reduce SE to an appropriate level during processing

Guidance

- Seek guidance from PIANZ and your verifier on processing options for your birds

3.

- You may choose to destroy the flock and its products

Guidance

- Destruction is a difficult choice with wide consequences. Please reach out to your verifier and/or MPI

Option 1: Confirm that SE is in the Product with intensive sampling

Do

- Do read and comply with the General Sampling section
- If you choose to test your flock rather than proceeding to disposition, you must follow the sampling protocol below:

Bird sampling

- Separate 100 birds from the group for euthanasia and sampling.
- Choose birds at random to ensure that your sample group is representative of the shed
- Follow the intensive sampling packaging and shipping requirements (next page)

Environmental sampling

- Divide production area into quarter lengths
- Follow the General Sampling producers where possible
- Follow the intensive sampling packaging and shipping requirements (next page)

Types of bird sampling

- Cloacal swabs
- Whole tissue sampling
- Reach out to your laboratory to assist you with collecting bird samples or to request training for your staff

Confirmation Samples are Positive for SE - You must choose between Option 2, 3, or 4.

Confirmation Samples do not detect SE - You may process your birds normally and proceed to the Cleaning and Sanitising step

Intensive sampling: packaging and labelling

Requirements

- You must keep sample traceability records
- You must keep a copy of all sample submission/sample forms as part of your records

How to prepare samples for your laboratory

Bird samples

Cloacal swabs

- May be combined with 10 swabs in one bag in sequential order (samples 1-10 in a bag, samples 11-20 in a bag).

Tissue Samples

- **Do not combine tissue samples** from different birds into the same sample bag

Shipping

- Samples must be kept chilled to no more than 10°C

Samples must be received by your lab no more than 2 days after sampling

Environmental samples

Bird waste (Boot Swabs)

- Up to 8 swabs sampling the ground of a production area may be combined in a sample bag
- One swab may be used per **two manure belts in a row**
- **All swabs** from a row may be combined in a sample bag

Dust

- Do not combine samples (swabs or dust) from separate quarters of a production area, **unless**
- You may combine dust from multiple sites within a production area to meet the 25g dust requirement

Shipping

- Samples must be kept **chilled**
- Samples must be received by your lab no more than 3 days after sampling

How to label your sample bags

- Follow the labelling instructions in the General Sampling section

Sampling required:

Shed length			
Sample type	**Boot swabs**	**Dust**	**Other Sample**
Up to 25m	**Single production area** 1 pair boot swab per ¼ production area	**Single production area** 3 dust swab sample or 3 dust sample	Collect from 100 birds following euthanasia: • A cloacal swab, and • The caecum (including caecal tonsils)
	Multi-production area 4 pairs boot swabs to sample all units	**Multi- production area** 12 dust swabs or 12 dust samples to sample all units	
25 to 75m	**Single production area** 2 pair boot swab per ¼ production area	**Single production area** 4 dust swab sample or 4 dust sample	
	Multi-production area 8 pairs boot swabs to sample all units	**Multi- production area** 16 dust swabs or 16 dust samples to sample all units	
Greater than 75m	**Single production area** 2 pairs boot swab per ¼ production area	**Single production area** 5 dust swab sample or 5 dust sample	
	Multi-production area 8 pairs boot swabs to sample all units	**Multi- production area** 20 dust swabs or 20 dust samples to sample all units	

Keep Records for Option 2: Product Processing

Do

- Do keep copies of the communications between you and your processor show that you notified them of the flock's status and any details on how the flock were handled during transfer from your care to theirs

Keep Records for Option 3: Product Destruction

Do

- Do keep records of your procedure for disposition to show that it was done to meet animal welfare standards, workplace health and safety, and to minimise the risk of spreading SE

Cleaning & sanitation of SE positive production areas

Requirements

- You must clean and sanitise each affected production area, and dispose of affected manure and wastewater, in a manner that is appropriate to eliminate SE from the production area and that does not contaminate the surrounding environment.

Do

- Read and comply with the general cleaning and sanitisation of SE positive areas

Return to trade testing

Do

- Sampling protocol is the environmental intensive sampling protocol
- If the environmental tests return any SE positive result, clean and sanitise again
- If the environmental testing of the production area returns a not detected SE result(s)
  - New litter may be moved in and an final sanitation step performed
- Once birds are placed into the production area, you must continue to carry out routine sampling.

Guidance

- Care should be taken to collect samples from areas which are considered high risk or where SE has been previously detected.
- It's only environmental samples, there should not be any birds in the production areas

Intensive sampling for return to trade testing may be very time and labour intensive. **Please reach out** to your verifier or MPI to discuss your concerns and to work towards a successful resolution for your operation.

Broilers: Return to Trade Sampling

Shed length		
Sample type	**Boot swabs**	**Dust**
Up to 25m	**Single production area** 1 pair boot swab per quarter of the production area	**Single production area** 3 dust swab sample or 3 dust sample per quarter of the production area
	Multi-production area (free-range) 4 pairs boot swabs to sample all units	**Multi- production area** 12 dust swabs or 12 dust samples to sample all units
25 to 75m	**Single production area** 2 pair boot swab per quarter of the production area	**Single production area** 4 dust swab sample or 4 dust sample per quarter of the production area
	Multi-production area (free-range) 8 pairs boot swabs to sample all units	**Multi- production area** 16 dust swabs or 16 dust samples to sample all units
Greater than 75m	**Single production area** 2 pairs boot swab per quarter of the production area	**Single production area** 5 dust swab sample or 5 dust sample per quarter of the production area
	Multi-production area (free-range) 8 pairs boot swabs to sample all units	**Multi- production area** 20 dust swabs or 20 dust samples to sample all units

You must begin again the Notify and Prepare step and complete all appropriate requirements before

Confirmation `Samples do not detect SE - You may return to regular trade and Routine sampling