

# Salmonella Sampling Protocol

## Instructions for careful sampling with overshoes

### Prepare yourself well



1 Wash your hands with water and disinfectant soap



2 Complete the submission form and label the sample bags or jars



3 Take the sample supplies with you in a clean bucket

### Start Clean



4 Wear house specific clothing



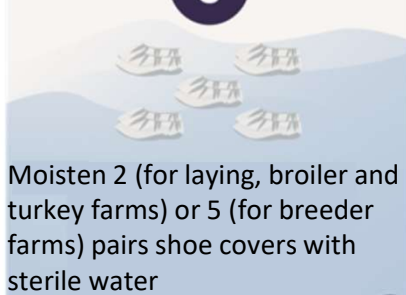
5 Wash your hands again with water and disinfectant soap

### Take samples

Sample the whole house evenly, all pens. Do not be distracted by other work



Put on all overshoe covers



Moisten 2 (for laying, broiler and turkey farms) or 5 (for breeder farms) pairs shoe covers with sterile water



Put on gloves



Put plastic overboots over your footwear



As soon as you enter the house, wear house-specific footwear\*



Sample the house by walking through it. Make sure the shoe covers are well soiled with manure



Remove the outer pair of overshoes and repeat step 11 until all overshoes are soiled with manure



Place the overshoes in a sample bag or jar before leaving the house

### Remove boots

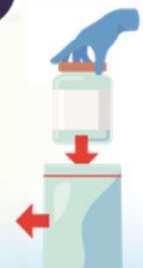


Remove the overboots and house-specific footwear as soon as you leave the house



Remove gloves and house-specific clothing

**Samples must be sent to a government-accredited lab within 24 hours. Avoid exposing the samples to direct light and temperatures above 25 degrees Celsius**



Check the information on the forms and send them to the lab together with the samples (not in the seal bag, the bags/jars may leak!)

All houses sampled? Place the sample bags or jars in a seal bag and close it properly



### Sample multiple houses

Use clean gloves and sample material for each house and start again at step 4 'Start clean'. If possible, wash your hands again at every house.

\*House-specific clothing and footwear: clothing and footwear that are specifically used for a house. Always take samples carefully and according to the established frequency! Contact your industry body or veterinarian for more information about the sampling frequency that applies in your business. Use different clothing and footwear when you enter a different house.

The results of Salmonella testing are important for your business. It is therefore essential that this result accurately reflects the situation in the house. The abolition of the verification investigation increases this importance. Careful and hygienic sampling is of great importance to obtain correct test results.

## What are the causes of an incorrect Salmonella result?

Incorrect Salmonella results can be either false positive or false negative. Both can have serious implications for your business, other businesses linked to you in the poultry chain, and food safety. Various factors can result in incorrect test results.

Below you can see an overview of possible causes.

You can as a poultry farmer take measures to reduce the chance of an incorrect test result. It is possible to prevent cross-contamination by hygiene during and before the procedure to assure that the sampling material does not make contact with possible sources of cross-contamination. Each step of this protocol is described to reduce the chance of cross-contamination in sampling.

False positive result	False negative result
<p><b>The Salmonella found on the sample is not coming from the animals, but from cross-contamination. Examples of possible sources of cross-contamination are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Soiled hands, gloves, clothing, boot</b></li> <li>• <b>The sample material was contaminated, or not kept dry in storage.</b></li> <li>• <b>Sampling material contaminated during storage, or in contact with an area with dirt or pests – e.g. rodent faeces, or dirty surface in non-bird areas of the farm.</b></li> </ul>	<p>The result of the Salmonella test is negative, while the animals are infected.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorrect conditions during the storage or transport of the samples ( e.g. At high temperature or too long in transport).</li> <li>• There is not enough manure collected on the overshoes.</li> </ul> <p>Exposure of samples to disinfectant</p> <p>Insufficient floor space sampled</p>

## Required materials for sampling?

Choice of sampling material may take into account personal preference and costs. You can also consult the testing laboratory. Ask if they have a preference to go with one certain kind sampling equipment. For sampling with overshoes do you have the following?

Materials needed :

- Clean disposable gloves ( one pair per house to )
- Good lockable bags or jars
- Clean within-house protective clothing and footwear
- Clean plastic overboots (one pair per house)
- Sterile water
- Absorbent shoe covers/overshoes
- Clean bucket

It is advised to use sterile material to make sure that your material is free from bacteria. Materials are exposed to heat or radiation treatment to sterilise them/destroy germs. This material stays sterile until packaging is opened. You can obtain sterile sampling equipment at one of the approved laboratories.