

Newbridge Scientific

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Effective Date: 01/08/2023

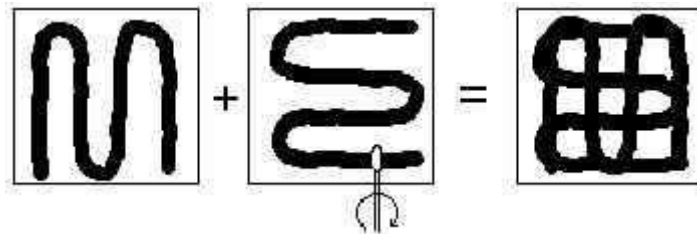
Title: Procedure for Sample Collection: Turnaround/pre-stocking/empty farm swabbing for Salmonella and Hygiene.

Objective: Routine Hygiene and Salmonella testing at turnaround

Materials required: Grip-seal sample bag, sterile gloves, pre-moistened swabs, blue, pre-moistened sponges.

Method:

1. Sampling should be planned at a suitable time during turnaround, wherever possible, allowing time to react to the results prior to placements (this will usually require sampling around 7 days prior to chick placement or transfer of pullets)
2. Obtain the required sampling materials from Poultry Health Services.
3. Wash hands.
4. Put on a pair of sterile gloves.
5. Sanitise gloves and the area template (if using one)
6. Take a pre-moistened sterile, cotton swab from its tube.
7. Select a surface to be sampled (e.g., feeder, drinker, wall, ceiling, floor, post, nest box etc). This surface should appear clean. Swab the surface area to cover approximately 16sq cm (i.e., 4cms x 4cms). A template of this size may be used as a guide. It should be representative of the particular surface to be tested (i.e., do not routinely take from residual organic material) Zigzag the swab across the surface, rolling the stem of the swab between finger and thumb so that all sides of the swab touch the surface. Having covered the 16sq cms, cover the area again with the same swab in the same way but at right angles to the first sampling, as indicated in the diagram below. All samples should be collected from dry surfaces, avoiding any contact with residual disinfectant solution. For each line on the submission form, the hygiene swab should be from the first area (i.e., sample 1 is from the floor)



8. Replace the swab in the tube and label the tube with the farm name, house number and area samples.
9. Sanitise the template (if used) before sampling the next area.
10. Use the blue pads to sample a large area of surface from each area including the areas in brackets (i.e., sample 1 is from floor including cracks and corners)
11. Please label each pad with the house number and the sample area number e.g., H1 area 1. Please pool samples from 1-5 and 6-10 in two separate bags.

It is advisable to retain a copy of the submission form on site as not all of the details shown are included in the report. **Please remember to fill out the submission form to include the test required.**

Samples should be dispatched on the day of sampling. If they need to be held prior to dispatch, this should be at fridge temperature (4-5oc)

Ideally, samples should arrive on a weekday.

Materials appropriate for which tests.

	Salmonella	TVC/Entero	Hygiene Scoring
Sponge Swabs	Yes	Yes	No
Diluent Swabs	Yes	Yes	No
Pre-moistened Swabs	Yes	No	Yes
Cloacal Swabs	Yes	No	No

For all samples:

Plan for samples to arrive on a weekday.

Use appropriate sample numbers and containers – consult the Laboratory or supervising vet if in any doubt.

Package in a secure leakproof manner and submit on the day of sampling. If not possible, please keep samples refrigerated (not frozen)

Complete the submission form and place separately to the samples.