Consultation Document for Proposed Animal Products Notice: Specifications for National Microbiological Database Programme

Closing Date: 5pm 12 January 2018

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Background

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) proposes to amend the Animal Products Notice: Specifications for National Microbiological Database Programme issued 20 September 2016.

This notice sets specifications relating to the National Microbiological Database (NMD) Programme that are necessary to give effect to, and amplify, standards provided in regulation 15 of the Animal Produces Regulations 2000.

The Notice applies to operators who process red meat or poultry intended for human consumption, laboratories that are a recognised agent and authorised to conduct NMD tests and persons who take samples of red meat and/or poultry for an operator.

The proposed changes are intended to clarify some of the procedures and to make some minor corrections to the text.

MPI intends to review other areas in this Notice during 2018 and will consult on any proposed amendments in due course.

Proposed Changes

The amended text associated with the proposed changes is highlighted in yellow.

- In the current 3.2.2 Number and frequency of samples required, sub clause (2) dealing with the frequency of sample taking include in the bottom row of the table a third note, remove the comma in column three, row three, and include three asterix after ‘month’ in column three of rows three, five and seven.

VLT Premises		
Species	**Product type***	**Number of product type to be sampled and frequency of sample taking**
Bobby calf, bovine, caprine, ovine, porcine, ratite	Carcass**	5 on 1 processing day in each calendar month*** during which processing occurs
Cervine	Carcass**	3 on 1 processing day in each calendar month during which processing occurs
Bobby calf, bovine, caprine	Primal cuts	5 on 1 processing day in each calendar month*** during which processing occurs
Cervine	Primal cuts	2 on 1 processing day in each calendar month during which processing occurs
Bobby calf, bovine, caprine	Bulk meat product	5 on 1 processing day in each calendar month*** during which processing occurs
Bobby calf, bovine, caprine	Post-chill carcass** (EU and US listed premises)	5 on 1 processing day once each season
*NOTE: Domestic only operators are only required to sample carcasses **NOTE: For most species that require carcass sampling, several sites must be sampled. See clause 3.9 for specific requirements ***NOTE: Operators listed for EU and/or US must sample bovine product on 1 processing day in each processing week.		

- In the current 3.3.4 Post chill carcasses (for EU and US listed premises) include 'post chill carcass sampling is conducted for cold and warm boning processes' in sub clause (1) (a).

1) The operator must ensure that:
   a) Post chill carcass sampling is conducted for cold and warm boning processes; which provides a microbiological profile of chillers at normal operating capacity for the particular species being tested, is undertaken for bovine, bobby calf, and caprine species; and

- In the current 3.3.4 Post chill carcasses (for EU and US listed premises) add

(g) Post chill carcasses of cold and warm boning premises require wet/dry swab sampling of sites as per 3.9.1, 3.9.3 and 3.9.4 of post chill carcass:

i. When the chilling cycle is completed; or

ii. If the chilling cycle is longer than 24 hours then a sample must be taken 24 hours into the chilling cycle (+/- 2 hours); and in both cases

iii. In the chilling area itself prior to wrapping, transportation, freezing, boning or loadout.

(h) Records must be taken of:

i. Location of the chilled carcass at time of sampling; identifying the refrigerated room, and

ii. Boning process (cold or warm), and

iii. Number of hours chilled (timed from the onset of chilling).

- In the current 3.6.2 Template materials sub clause (2) remove from the last row of the table '*NOTE the tolerance is ±0.05mm' and replace with '** NOTE the tolerance is ±1.1mm for circular templates, or ±1.0mm for square templates', and include a guidance box:

> **Guidance**
>
> - See Swab Sample Template Calibration in MIMM for further information

- The requirement for duplicate plating is not clearly stated in the current Part 3 sections 3.15 or 3.16 as a general requirement for APC test methods and *Escherichia coli* Petrifilm™ test method. It is briefly mentioned in 3.13(2) (a) 'enable inoculation for duplicate agar plate count plates' Include a new heading and general statement under 3.13 Laboratory functions with a guidance box below:

3.13.7 Duplicate plating

(1) Duplicate plating must be carried out for all dilutions prepared for:

a) Aerobic Plate Count (APC) including Spiral Plater method; and

b) APC and *Escherichia coli* Petrifilm™; or

(2) If a laboratory can demonstrate analytical precision, then singlet plating can be undertaken for all dilutions except for the undiluted sample which must be plated in duplicate.

> **Guidance**
>
> - See MIMM for further information on Analytical Precision.

- In the current 3.15.5 Petrifilm™ Aerobic Count Plate method correct the heading, and wording in sub clause (1)(b) to:
  Petrifilm™ Aerobic Plate Count method
  And add the words "in duplicate" in sub clause (1)(c)

3.15.5 APC Petrifilm™ Aerobic Plate Count method

a) place the Petrifilm™ Aerobic Plate Count plate onto a flat surface, label and lift the top film; and
b) dispense 1ml volumes of each dilution onto agar plates in duplicate

- In the current 3.16 *Escherichia coli* Petrifilm™ Test method add the words "volumes" and "in duplicate" and change the word "into" to "onto' in sub clause 3.16.2 (3):

(3) Lift the top film and dispense 1ml volumes of each dilution onto the agar in duplicate.

- In the current 3.17.7 Final confirmation and serological typing change sub clause (4) to read as follows:

  (4) Following overnight incubation, colonies must be submitted to the Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR) Enteric and *Leptospira* Reference Laboratory, Wallaceville directly.

- In the current 4.11.7 Final confirmation and serotyping change the title to match 3.17.7, include a sub clause to emphasise that final confirmation and serological typing applies to detection of *Salmonella* in any duck, EOLs, meat chicken, or turkey carcass samples taken under the NMD poultry sampling programmes:

  4.11.7 Final confirmation and serological typing
  (1) Applies when testing, as required in 4.2.2, for *Salmonella* in any duck, EOLs, meat chicken or turkey carcass returns a positive *Salmonella* as in 4.11.6
  (2) Streak a positive colony from either selective media onto MacConkey agar (without salt and crystal violet).
  (3) Incubate for 24h at 35±1°C or 37±1°C.
  (4) Subculture any typical colourless colonies onto plate count agar and incubate overnight at 35±1°C or 37±1°C
  (5) Following overnight incubation, colonies must be submitted to the Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR) Enteric and *Leptospira* Reference Laboratory, Wallaceville directly.

- In the current 4.12.2 Limits of detection sub clause (4) the first row of the table is incorrectly formatted with merged rows, and the value of 2.47 in row four, column three needs to be corrected to 2.48. Row 1 column two and three need to be merged, and the "Not Detected" title removed to Row 1 last column and the value of 2.47 corrected as follows:

Test	**Lowest Limit of Detection Value**		**"Not Detected"**
Campylobacter direct plating	CFU/carcass	Log_{10} value per carcass	Log_{10} value per carcass
2ml for 400ml	200	2.30	2.00
2ml for 600ml	300	2.48	2.00

- In the current 4.14.3 Required responses to CPT non-compliance the guidance box is a direct copy of the guidance box under 4.13.2 Process responses related to SPS, not the CPT. Replace bullet point two of the guidance box under 4.14.3 with:

  If any of the above sanctions are applied they will remain in place until revoked by an Animal Products Officer after the premises has a compliant 3 processing period moving window of; (1) for standard through put premises 45 samples over 15 processing days, or (2) for VLT premises 9 samples over 3 processing weeks.

Consultation

MPI invites you to comment on the propose amendment to Animal Products Notice: Specifications for National Microbiological Database by 5pm 12 January 2018.

Submitters should include the following information with their submission:

- the section title or clause being commented on where appropriate;
- comment describing the issue with the current clause; and
- the proposed amendment (optional).

A template has been provided to assist you in completing your submission. This will help in the analysis of submissions.

Documents and Links

- Animal Products Notice: Specifications for National Microbiological Database Programme
- Submission template