

Republic of Latvia

Cabinet

Regulation No. 644

Adopted 27 August 2013

## **Procedures for the Control of the Presence of Specific Substances and their Residues in Animals and Animal Products, and for its Financing**

*Issued pursuant to  
Section 42, Clause 7 of the Veterinary Medicine Law*

### **I. General Provisions**

1. This Regulation prescribes the procedures for control of the substances and residues thereof referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation, and for financing thereof.

2. Explanation of the terms used in this Regulation:

2.1. residues – residues of pharmacologically active substances and of substances transferred to foodstuffs of animal origin, which may be harmful to human health, referred to in Article 2(a) of Regulation (EC) No. 470/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 May 2009 laying down Community procedures for the establishment of residue limits of pharmacologically active substances in foodstuffs of animal origin, repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2377/90 and amending Directive 2001/82/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council and Regulation (EC) No. 726/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council;

2.2. animals – animals, from which foodstuffs of animal origin are derived (cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, horses, rabbits, poultry, aquaculture animals, game animals kept in restricted areas for the production of foodstuffs of animal origin, honey bees, game animals of wild species);

2.3. group of animals – a group of animals of the same species and of the same age range which are raised in one establishment under similar farming conditions;

2.4. prohibited substance – a substance which is prohibited to be used in animals in accordance with laws and regulations regarding restrictions for the use of medicinal products in animals and Commission Regulation (EU) No. 37/2010 of 22 December 2009 on pharmacologically active substances and their classification regarding maximum residue limits in foodstuffs of animal origin (hereinafter – Regulation No. 37/2010);

2.5. official sample – a sample taken by the Food and Veterinary Services (hereinafter – the Service) and accompanied by information regarding species, type, sex of an animal, origin of an animal or of a product of animal origin, and sampling method and quantity;

2.6. unauthorised use of medicinal products – use of medicinal products in animals failing to comply with instructions for use of a medicinal product or instructions of a veterinary practitioner;

2.7. use of prohibited substances – use of medicinal products containing prohibited substances in animals.

3. The Service shall carry out the control of the substances and residues thereof (hereinafter – the residues) referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation in animal holdings, establishments

producing, distributing or processing foodstuffs of animal origin (hereinafter – the products), and also at hunting sites of animals of wild species in accordance with the residue control programme.

4. The official samples for determination of residues shall be taken from live animals (including excrements, body fluids and tissues), products, animal feed (hereinafter – the feed), surface water or water where aquaculture animals live, and drinking water.

## **II. Residue Control Programme and Financing Procedure Thereof**

5. The Service shall develop a residue control programme. The programme shall include:

5.1. a list of the laws and regulations which determine requirements for use, restrictions in use, registration, distribution procedures and the maximum residue limits of the substances referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation;

5.2. detailed information regarding structural units of the Service involved in the implementation of the residue control programme;

5.3. a list of the substances to be investigated and referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation, methods of analysis, methods of interpretation of investigation results and number of samples to be investigated by justifying the indicated numbers;

5.4. the number of official samples determined in accordance with the sampling quantity and frequency indicated in Annex 2 to this Regulation in order to detect unauthorised use of medicinal products, ensure compliance with the maximum residue limits, as well as to determine and discover the reasons for presence of the substances in the products;

5.5. the procedures for taking, storing, transporting and delivering official samples to a laboratory, and the information to be indicated regarding samples;

5.6. information regarding action of the Service in case unauthorised use of substances is detected or the maximum residue limits are exceeded in the products;

5.7. distribution of financial resources within the programme on the basis of the planned extent of work and expenditure estimate of the Service, including costs of taking of official samples and investigation.

6. The Service shall implement the programme from the resources allocated for this purpose in accordance with the law on the State budget for the current year.

7. The Service shall take into account the following conditions in development of the residue control programme:

7.1. the control of the substances of Group A referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation shall be carried out in order to detect unauthorised use of substances;

7.2. the control of the substances of Group B referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation shall be carried out in order to monitor the maximum residue limits in the products determined in Annex to Regulation No. 37/2010, compliance thereof with the requirements referred to in Annexes I, II and III to Regulation (EC) No. 396/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 February 2005 on maximum residue levels of pesticides in or on food and feed of plant and animal origin and amending Council Directive 91/414/EEC (hereinafter – Regulation No. 396/2005), as well as to determine levels of contaminants;

7.3. groups of substances and residues thereof to be controlled shall be determined in accordance with Annex 3 to this Regulation;

7.4. the frequency, periodicity of sampling and the number of samples shall be determined in accordance with Annex 2 to this Regulation taking into account the following:

7.4.1. collected information regarding the number of animals slaughtered and sold in Latvia and the quantity of the derived products in the previous calendar year;

7.4.2. the results of the implementation of the residue control programme in the previous calendar year;

7.4.3. the quantity and assortment of the veterinary medicinal products distributed in Latvia in the previous calendar year, possible presence of substances in animals, feed, products and water.

8. The Service shall annually submit assessment of results of the residue control programme in the previous year and monitoring programme of the current year to the European Commission by 31 March.

9. The State scientific institute “Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment “BIOR”” shall:

9.1. carry out functions of a reference laboratory in residue control in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding procedures for granting and accreditation of status of a reference laboratory, the relevant functions and obligations, as well as requirements laid down for devices and equipment in the field of food, feed and veterinary;

9.2. ensure laboratory investigation provided for in the residue control programme.

### **III. Responsibility of Animal Keepers (Keepers), Product or Feed Producers and Veterinary Practitioner for Residue Control**

10. An animal keeper (keeper) (hereinafter – the animal keeper) or a product producer shall ensure compliance with the following requirements:

10.1. a herd, an animal farming, keeping or a fattening holding (hereinafter – the holding) and an animal is registered in the Farming Animal, Herd and Holding Register of the Agricultural Data Centre, and that the product producer is registered in the Register of Supervised Objects of the Service.

10.2. purchases only such animals regarding which the previous animal keeper may certify that:

10.2.1. the animal has not been subject to administration of prohibited substances or unauthorised use of medicinal products;

10.2.2. an appropriate withdrawal period of medicinal product from the organism of the animal, if the medicinal product has been administered to the animal, laid down in the instructions for use of the medicinal product or by a veterinary practitioner complied with;

10.3. ascertains that the received animals or products do not contain prohibited substances or quantity of the residues which exceeds the maximum residue limits determined in Annex to Regulation No. 37/2010 or Annexes I, II and III to Regulation No. 396/2005;

10.4. sells only such animals which:

10.4.1. have not been subject to administration of prohibited substances or unauthorised use of medicinal products;

10.4.2. after the treatment an appropriate withdrawal period of the medicinal product from the organism of the animal laid down in the instructions for use of the medicinal product or by a veterinary practitioner is complied with;

10.5. distributes the products derived from the animals referred to in Sub-paragraph 10.4 of this Regulation.

11. If animals are supplied by a person who is not the animal keeper but purchases and sells animals for commercial purposes, this person shall ensure compliance with the requirements referred to in Sub-paragraphs 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4 of this Regulation.

12. The animal keeper has the following obligations:

12.1. to document use of medicinal products in animals in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding general welfare requirements of farm animals and labelling, distribution and control requirements of veterinary medicinal products;

12.2. to store the information referred to in Sub-paragraphs 12.1 and 13.1 of this Regulation regarding the treatment of animals for at least five years after making of the last entry;

12.3. upon the request of an inspector of the Service to provide information regarding compliance with this Regulation in animal holding;

12.4. if there is a suspicion of presence of prohibited substances or exceeded maximum residue limits in animals or products in accordance with Annex to Regulation No. 37/2010, until the receipt of the results from the laboratory investigation and instructions from the Service regarding any further actions with the animals, it is not allowed for the animals from which samples were taken, to leave the holding.

12.5. where necessary, to assist an inspector of the Service or a veterinary practitioner to conduct an ante-mortem inspection of animals or other activities for residue control.

13. A veterinary practitioner shall:

13.1. indicate and confirm with his or her signature and imprint of a seal of veterinary practice (if the register is not in electronic form) the following information regarding the treated animal in the documentation regarding the use of medicinal products in animals referred to in Sub-paragraph 12.1 of this Regulation:

13.1.1. quantity (dose) of the administered medicinal products and duration of the treatment in days or information regarding the issued prescription (by indicating the date and number of the issued prescription). If medicinal products are dispensed to the animal keeper to complete a course of treatment of an animal, a veterinary practitioner shall indicate the quantity of the dispensed medicinal products, the purpose of use of the medicinal products, diagnosis and instructions for use of the medicinal products in the animal;

13.1.2. the period of use of medicinal products and the withdrawal period of medicinal products;

13.2. upon the request of an inspector of the Service, provide information regarding use of medicinal products in the relevant animal holding.

14. A person involved in product or feed production shall:

14.1. ensure that the products or feed does not contain prohibited substances and the maximum residue limits are not exceeded in the products;

14.2. distribute the products derived from the animals referred to in Sub-paragraph 10.4 of this Regulation;

14.3. upon the request of an inspector of the Service, provide information regarding compliance with this Regulation in an establishment;

14.4. inform an inspector of the Service or a veterinary practitioner if prohibited substances or residues thereof are detected in laboratory investigation of the products or feed with regard to a self-control system, or if the maximum residue limits indicated in Annex to Regulation No. 37/2010 or Annexes I, II or III to Regulation No. 396/2005 are exceeded;

14.5. not remove from the establishment the feed or products from which the relevant samples have been taken until the receipt of results of laboratory investigation and instructions from the Service regarding further action, if there is a suspicion of the presence of prohibited substances or exceeded maximum residue limits in the products or feed.

#### **IV. Procedures for Taking Official Samples**

15. The Service shall take official samples without a prior warning not indicating specific time for sampling.

16. In order to detect unauthorised use of medicinal products and use of prohibited substances, the Service may take official samples and conduct random checks:

16.1. during the stage of production, storage, distribution, transportation, sale and purchase of the substances included in Group A in Annex 1 to this Regulation or of the medicinal products containing these substances;

16.2. during the stage of feed production and distribution;

16.3. during the stage of animal farming and production of the products.

17. When taking official samples in the holding, an inspector of the Service shall consider the available information regarding species, variety, sex and age of the holding animals, as well as type of farming, keeping and feeding thereof, and then select the animals from which to take samples according to the following additional criteria:

17.1. the possible use of medicinal products in animals of the relevant group and characteristics of use of these medicinal products in the holding;

17.2. changes in secondary sexual features and behaviour of animals;

17.3. comparison of the general state of health and degree of fattening of animals with other animals of the same species, variety, sex and age;

17.4. the possible pollution of drinking water and surface water.

18. When taking official samples from carcasses or products in an initial production establishment of the products (hereinafter – the slaughterhouse), an inspector of the Service shall assess carcasses or products and take samples, if possible, from carcasses or products of different origin according to the following criteria:

18.1. the species, sex, age and type of keeping or fattening of the animal;

18.2. practices of the use of medicinal products in the relevant species of animals and according to the type of keeping or fattening of the animals;

18.3. information regarding results of the checks conducted previously in the holding or a product manufacturing establishment in the field of circulation of veterinary medicinal products and monitoring of residues, if any;

18.4. characteristics of the use of medicinal products in animals, if any.

19. An inspector of the Service shall take an official sample in quantities necessary for fulfilment of the conditions referred to in Paragraph 20 of this Regulation. The official sample shall be placed in a suitable container to preserve integrity of the sample, and packaged using materials which do not affect quality of the sample and ensure stability of residues contained in the sample.

20. The official sample shall be divided into at least two similar sub-samples by ensuring the quantity necessary for conducting of all required laboratory investigations of each sub-sample. The sample shall be divided in a laboratory which investigates the sample. One part of the sample shall be subject to laboratory investigation, but the remaining part shall be kept in a laboratory which conducts investigation in order to ensure repeated laboratory investigation of the sample in the cases referred to in Paragraph 28 of this Regulation.

21. The official sample shall be transported and kept under appropriate circumstances by preventing substitution of the sample, further spreading or degradation of the residues, and ensuring the preservation of the initial physical-chemical properties of the sample. Special

attention shall be paid to transportation boxes, temperature and time of delivery to the laboratory.

22. The packaged official sample shall be placed in a labelled container provided for such purpose and the container shall be sealed. A container label shall contain the following information:

22.1. the sample number;

22.2. the identification number (imprint of stamp) and signature of an inspector of the Service.

23. An inspector of the Service shall prepare a report regarding taking of the official samples and a copy thereof. The following information shall be indicated in the report:

23.1. the address of the Service;

23.2. the identification number (imprint of stamp) and signature of the inspector of the Service;

23.3. the sample labelling number;

23.4. the date of sampling;

23.5. the address and name, surname or business name of the animal keeper or a producer or distributor of the product, feed, drinking water or surface water;

23.6. the name, registration number and address of the animal holding if the sample is taken in the holding, or the hunting site (hunting district) – for game animals of wild species;

23.7. the species, sex, age and identification number of the animal or, if it is not possible to indicate the identification number, another specific unit shall be indicated (such as hive);

23.8. the type of product or feed, recognition or registration number of the production establishment in the Register of Supervised Objects of the Service, if the sample is taken in a product or feed production establishment;

23.9. the type and form of the sample;

23.10. the medicinal products which have been used for treatment of the animals during the last four weeks prior to the day of sampling, if the sample is taken in the holding;

24.11. the substances or groups of substances to be determined;

23.12. other information, if any.

24. The prepared sampling report and a copy thereof shall be signed by an inspector of the Service and the keeper of the animals, feed, product, drinking water or surface water from which the sample is taken. Original of the report shall be kept at a territorial structural unit of the Service or a border control point, by ensuring that unauthorised persons may not access the document. A copy of the report shall be given to the keeper of the animals, feed, product, drinking water or surface water from which the sample is taken.

25. An accompanying document shall be sent to a laboratory together with the sample to be investigated. The following information shall be indicated in the accompanying document:

25.1. the address of the Service;

25.2. the identification number (imprint of stamp) and signature of the inspector of the Service;

25.3. the sample labelling number;

25.4. the date of sampling;

25.5. the species of the animal;

25.6. the type and form of the sample;

25.7. the substances or groups of substances to be determined;

25.8. other information, if any.

26. If a laboratory detects any non-compliance of the sample to be investigated with the requirements referred to in Paragraphs 19, 21 or 25 of this Regulation, the laboratory shall inform the Service thereof.

27. If any substances of Group A referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation or residues thereof are detected in the laboratory investigation and the investigation results are obtained using a method other than a reference method, the results shall be confirmed by the laboratory referred to in Paragraph 10 of this Regulation using the reference method.

28. In the event of any disputes the investigation results regarding the substances included in Annex 1 to this Regulation shall be confirmed by a reference laboratory. Expenditure related to repeated laboratory investigations shall be covered by a submitter of the complaint.

## **V. Official Control Measures**

29. Animals which are subject to an official control shall be individually identified or marked. If it is not possible to indicate the identification number, another specific unit shall be indicated (such as hive).

30. If there is a suspicion of unauthorised use of medicinal products or use of prohibited substances, the Service shall receive all information regarding the use of medicinal products in the animal and justification of use of medicinal products from the animal keeper and the veterinary practitioner treating this animal.

31. If after examination of the information justifying the use of medicinal products there is a suspicion of unauthorised use of medicinal products or use of prohibited substances, the Service shall conduct:

31.1. random checks of the animals in the animal holding (including it shall be inspected whether medicinal products are administered in a form of implants), by taking official samples, where necessary;

31.2. checks in the animal holding (including holdings and establishments which are administratively related to this holding) or the holding of origin of animals or the holding from which animals were sent. Random samples of drinking water and feed, as well as samples of the water where aquaculture animals live in case of aquaculture production establishment shall be taken for this purpose;

31.3. the checks referred to in Sub-paragraph 16.1 of this Regulation;

31.4. other checks in order to find out origin of prohibited substances or origin of the treated animals.

32. During investigation of animals in accordance with Paragraph 30 of this Regulation it is prohibited to remove animals of the relevant holding from the holding or hand them over to another person, except for cases where it is related to official control of the Service.

33. If unauthorised use of medicinal products or use of prohibited substances is detected in the investigation of the official sample, the Service shall:

33.1. obtain information in order to determine the animal, the holding of origin of the animal or the holding from which the animal was sent, and information regarding results of the check referred to in Paragraph 31 of this Regulation, if such check has been conducted. If the holding of origin of the animal or the holding from which the animal was sent is in another Member State of the European Union or of the European Economic Area (hereinafter – the Member State), the Service shall inform the involved Member States and the European Commission regarding the detected infringement;

33.2. check the holding of origin of the animal or the holding from which the animals were sent in order to establish the reasons for unauthorised use of medicinal products or presence of prohibited substances;

33.3. check the origin of the detected medicinal products or substances and traces the stages of production, storage, transportation, distribution and use of the relevant medicinal products and substances;

33.4. conduct other checks in order to find out the reasons for unauthorised use of medicinal products or use of prohibited substances;

33.5. prohibit removal of the animals [from the holding] from which official samples are taken until receipt of the check results.

34. If exceeded maximum residue limits are detected in the investigation of the official samples, the Service shall take all the measures in order to prevent threat to the public health, as well as impose a prohibition to remove animals from the holding and to distribute the products until the end of withdrawal period of medicinal products.

35. The Service shall prohibit the use of the products, in which the prohibited substances are present or the maximum residue limits are exceeded, in food.

36. If during investigation of official samples the Service detects that the animal keeper or the product producer repeatedly fails to comply with the requirements for the maximum residue limits by moving the animals or distributing the products, the Service shall, for at least the further six months after the last positive investigation, exercise enhanced residue control of animals or products of the relevant holding or establishment by preventing distribution of products or moving of animals until receipt of results of the laboratory investigation.

37. If the check confirms the presence of prohibited substances or exceeded maximum residue limits, the animal keeper shall cover expenditure related to:

37.1. the laboratory investigation and repeated laboratory investigation referred to in Paragraphs 34 and 36 of this Regulation;

37.2. the processing or disposal of animals, feed or products without reimbursement for losses or compensation.

38. If the official sample is taken from an animal which is imported:

38.1. from another Member State, and the investigation of the official sample detects the presence of prohibited substances or exceeded maximum residue limits, the Service shall send a request to a competent institution of the Member State of origin of the animal or the product to take measures equivalent to the controls referred to in Paragraphs 33, 34, 35, 36 and 37 and Chapter VI of this Regulation;

38.2. from a country which is not a Member State (hereinafter – the third country), and the investigation of official sample detects the unauthorised use of medicinal products or the use of prohibited substances, the Service shall act in accordance with Paragraph 44, 45 and 46 of this Regulation.

## **VI. Action of the Service if Non-compliance is Established**

39. If during the check the Service detects that a person produces, stores, distributes or uses in animals without authorisation the substances referred to in Group A or Group B, Sub-group 1 in Annex 1 to this Regulation or the medicinal products containing these substances by infringing the requirements of the laws and regulations governing circulation of veterinary medicinal products, the Service shall suspend operation of the establishment of the relevant person until final clarification of circumstances and track the stages of production, storage,



transportation, distribution and use of the relevant medicinal products or substances. In the case of detecting a repeated infringement, the Service is entitled to withdraw all veterinary permits and confirmations granted to the establishment of the person.

40. If unauthorised use of medicinal products or use of prohibited substances is confirmed in the laboratory investigation of samples referred to in Paragraph 33 of this Regulation, the Service shall:

40.1. ensure that the abovementioned animal is immediately brought to a slaughterhouse where it is slaughtered separately from other animals. Slaughter products and by-products of the animal shall be collected, transported, processed and disposed of in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding circulation of by-products of animal origin;

40.2. take official samples from other animals owned by the animal keeper that are suspected of being subject to the unauthorised use of medicinal products or the use of prohibited substances, or if non-compliance is detected in at least half of the samples taken in accordance with Paragraph 33, the animal keeper shall be offered a choice between check of all the animals in the holding suspected of being subject to the unauthorised use of medicinal products or the use of prohibited substances, and slaughter of all the abovementioned animals. Expenditure shall be covered by the animal or product owner;

40.3. an enhanced residue control shall be exercised for at least the further 12 months in the holdings owned by the same animal keeper by preventing distribution of the products or moving of animals until the receipt of results of laboratory investigations;

40.4. check the persons which have supplied the substances referred to in Group A or Group B, Sub-groups 1 and 2 in Annex 1 to this Regulation and the medicinal products containing these substances to the animal keeper in order to determine origin of the detected substance;

40.5. check the holdings and companies from the same animal or feed supply chain to which the holding of origin of animals or of the supplier belongs;

40.6. determine that the animal keeper, product or feed owner covers expenditure related to processing and disposal of animals, feed or products without reimbursement for losses or compensation.

41. If during an ante-mortem inspection a veterinarian authorised by the Service (hereinafter – the veterinary expert) suspects unauthorised use of medicinal products or use of prohibited substances, or there is evidence thereof:

41.1. these animals shall be slaughtered separately from other animals;

41.2. official samples shall be taken from carcasses and sub-products in order to determine the used substances. Carcasses and sub-products shall be detained until the receipt of results of laboratory investigations;

41.3. and the obtained results are positive, the carcasses and sub-products of the abovementioned animals shall be sent for processing and disposal in accordance with the laws and regulations regarding the circulation of by-products of animal origin without reimbursement for losses or compensation to the animal keeper;

41.4. the provisions referred to in Sub-paragraphs 40.2, 40.3, 40.4, 40.5 and 40.6 of this Regulation shall be applied.

42. If during an ante-mortem inspection a veterinary expert reasonably suspects the failure to comply with the withdrawal period of the medicinal product from the organism of the animal, the slaughter of the animal shall be suspended until the end of withdrawal period of the medicinal product. Withdrawal period of the medicinal product shall not be shorter than that indicated in the instructions for use. Expenditure related to the keeping of the animal until the end of withdrawal period of the medicinal product shall be covered by the animal keeper.

43. In exceptional cases or in order to observe welfare requirements of animals, or if due to the infrastructure of slaughterhouse the slaughter of the animal may not be suspended, the animal may be slaughtered prior to the end of withdrawal period of the medicinal product and the veterinary expert shall take the official sample. Carcasses, sub-products and by-products derived from the relevant animal shall be detained until the receipt of results of laboratory investigation. Only the meat and sub-products not exceeding the maximum residue limits shall be used for the production of the products.

44. If the official sample is taken from animals or products imported from a third country and exceeded maximum residue limits or the presence of prohibited substances or residues thereof are detected during laboratory investigation, the Service shall conduct enhanced check of the animal and product cargoes from the same country of origin. The next ten batches of animals or products of the same origin shall be detained at a border control point, and random samples shall be taken from each batch or part thereof for determination of residues.

45. If residues of prohibited substances or exceeded maximum residue limits are detected during the check referred to in Paragraph 44 of this Regulation, the Service shall apply Articles 18, 19, 20 and 21 of Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on official controls performed to ensure the verification of compliance with feed and food law, animal health and animal welfare rules.

46. Expenditure related to the destruction, forced processing or transportation of the cargo to the processing or destruction location shall be covered by the person responsible for the cargo.

Prime Minister

Valdis Dombrovskis

Minister for Agriculture

Laimdota Straujuma

**Substances to be Included in the Residue Control Programme whose  
Presence or Residues shall be Determined in Animals, Feed, Products of  
Animal Origin and Water**

**I. Group A – prohibited substances and substances with anabolic (growth stimulating) effect**

1. Stilbenes, stilbene derivatives and their salts and esters.
2. Thyrostatic agents.
3. Steroids.
4. Resorcylic acid lactones, including zeranol.
5. Beta-agonists.
6. Substances referred to in Table 2 “Prohibited substances” of Annex to Regulation No. 37/2010.

**II. Group B – substances, which may be used in veterinary medicine, and contaminants**

1. Veterinary medicinal products containing the following substances:
  - 1.1. antibacterial substances, including sulphanilamide and quinolones;
  - 1.2. anthelmintic substances;
  - 1.3. coccidiostats, including nitroimidazoles;
  - 1.4. carbamates and pyrethroids;
  - 1.5. sedatives;
  - 1.6. non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs;
  - 1.7. other pharmacologically active substances.
2. Contaminants and other substances:
  - 2.1. organochlorine compounds, including polychlorinated biphenyls;
  - 2.2. organophosphorus compounds;
  - 2.3. chemical elements;
  - 2.4. mycotoxins;
  - 2.5. dyes;
  - 2.6. other substances.

Minister for Agriculture

Laimdota Straujuma

## **Level and Frequency of Taking Official Samples**

### **1. Bovine.**

In order to determine the residues of substances of Groups A and B referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation (hereinafter – the substances) in bovine, the minimum number of samples to be investigated in the relevant year shall be 0.4 % of the animals slaughtered in the previous calendar year (hereinafter – the year):

1.1. for determination of the substances of Group A, 0.25 % of the number of animals slaughtered in the previous year shall be investigated in compliance with the following conditions:

1.1.1. half of the samples shall be taken from live animals in holdings, but the other half – from products of animal origin in slaughterhouses. In order to determine the presence of substances of Group A, Sub-group 5, samples of feed and drinking water may also be taken;

1.1.2. each substance of Group A shall be determined each year by investigating at least 5 % of the total number of samples to be taken for determination of the substances of Group A;

1.1.3. distribution of the remaining samples shall be determined by assessing the possible presence of the specific substances in samples;

1.2. for determination of the substances of Group B, the number of samples to be investigated shall be 0.15 % of the number of animals slaughtered in the previous year, of which:

1.2.1. 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 1.1;

1.2.1. 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-groups 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7;

1.2.3. 10 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 2;

1.2.4. the remaining 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated, and distribution of investigations shall be determined by assessing the possible presence of the specific substances in samples.

### **2. Porcine.**

In order to determine the substances of Groups A and B referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation in porcine, the minimum number of samples to be investigated in the relevant year shall be 0.05 % of the animals slaughtered in the previous calendar year:

2.1. for determination of the substances of Group A, the number of samples to be investigated shall be 0.02 % of the number of animals slaughtered in the previous year in compliance with the following conditions:

2.1.1. each substance of Group A shall be determined each year by investigating at least 5 % of the number of samples intended for determination of the substances of Group A. Distribution of the remaining samples shall be determined by assessing the possible presence of the specific substances in samples;

2.1.2. if samples are taken from animals in a slaughterhouse, samples of drinking water, feed, faeces, urine or blood shall also be taken in holdings. In such a case the minimum number of holdings from which samples are taken shall be one holding per 100 000 pigs slaughtered in the previous year;

2.2. for determination of the substances of Group B, the number of samples to be investigated shall be 0.03 % of the number of animals slaughtered in the previous year, of which:

2.2.1. 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 1.1;

2.2.2. 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-groups 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7;

2.2.3. 10 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 2;

2.2.4. the remaining 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated, and distribution of investigations shall be determined by assessing the possible presence of the specific substances in samples.

### **3. Ovine and Caprine.**

In order to determine the presence of substances of Groups A and B referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation in ovine and caprine, the minimum number of samples to be investigated in the relevant year shall be 0.05 % of the number of such animals slaughtered in the previous year that were more than three months old:

3.1. for determination of the substances of Group A, the number of samples to be investigated shall be 0.01 % of the number of animals slaughtered in the previous year in compliance with the following conditions:

3.1.1. each substance of Group A shall be determined each year, and the number of samples of each substance to be investigated shall be at least 5 % of the total number of samples to be investigated for determination of the substances of Group A;

3.1.2. distribution of the remaining samples shall be determined by assessing the possible presence of the specific substances in samples;

3.2. for determination of the substances of Group B, the number of samples to be investigated shall be 0.04 % of the number of animals slaughtered in the previous year, of which:

3.2.1. 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 1.1;

3.2.2. 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-groups 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 and 1.7;

3.2.3. 10 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the presence of substances of Group B, Sub-group 2;

3.2.4. the remaining 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated, and distribution of investigations shall be determined by assessing the possible presence of the specific substances in samples.

#### **4. Equidae.**

The type, number and distribution of samples shall be determined by assessing the possible presence of the substances of Groups A and B referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation in samples in compliance with the requirements referred to in Sub-paragraphs 7.4.1, 7.4.2 and 7.4.3 of this Regulation.

#### **5. Poultry.**

In order to determine the presence of substances of Groups A and B referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation in poultry (broilers, spent breeders, turkeys and other poultry), the minimum number of samples per year for each category of poultry shall be one sample from every 200 tonnes of the product. A sample shall consist of one or several fowls in accordance with the requirements of the method of analysis:

5.1. for determination of the substances of Group A, 50 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated in compliance with the following conditions:

5.1.1. the number of samples taken in poultry holdings shall be 10 % of the number of samples of the substances of Group A to be investigated;

5.1.2. each substance of Group A shall be inspected each year, and the number of samples of each substance shall be at least 5 % of the total number of samples to be investigated for determination of the substances of Group A;

5.1.3. distribution of the remaining samples shall be determined by assessing the possible presence of the specific substances in samples;

5.2. for determination of the substances of Group B, 50 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated, and of this:

5.2.1. 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 1.1;

5.2.5. 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-groups 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, and 1.6;

5.2.3. 10 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 2;

5.2.4. the remaining 30 % of the samples intended for determination of the presence of substances of Group B shall be investigated, and distribution of investigations shall be determined by assessing the possible presence of the specific substances in samples.

Note. If the amount of products of a specific poultry category exceeds 5 000 tonnes per year, at least 100 samples shall be investigated for each group of substances in this poultry category.

#### **6. Aquaculture animals.**

In order to determine the substances of the Groups A and B referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation in fin fish farmed for food (hereinafter – the fish), the minimum number of samples per year shall be one sample from 100 tonnes of the fish caught per year. According

to the size of aquaculture animals or requirements of the method of analysis, one or several animals may be taken for each sample in compliance with the following conditions:

6.1. in order to determine the substances of Group A, one third of the total number of samples shall be investigated. Samples shall be taken in fish farms (hereinafter – the farms) from fish in all farming stages, including the fish prepared for the market. In case of marine aquacultures (maricultures) in which circumstances of sampling may be especially complicated, feed samples may be taken instead of fish;

6.2. in order to determine the substances of Group B, two thirds of the total number of samples shall be investigated by taking samples in a farm from fish which are prepared for the market, or in a processing establishment or in wholesale from fresh fish, provided it is possible to determine the farm of origin of the fish. The number of samples taken in a farm shall be at least 10 % of the number of samples intended for determination of the substances of Group B;

6.3. if veterinary medicinal products or other chemical substances are used on aquaculture animals other than fish, or there is a suspicion of the environmental contamination, the relevant species of aquaculture animals shall be included in the sampling plan in proportion to the amount of products as additional samples to the fish samples referred to in Sub-paragraphs 6.1 and 6.2 of this Annex.

## **7. Milk.**

In order to determine the substances referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation in milk, samples shall be taken from fresh, non-pasteurised common milk in the holding or establishment (in milk collection, treatment and processing establishment – from tank-vehicles). The minimum number of samples per year shall be one sample from 15 000 tonnes of milk, but not less than 300 samples. Of which:

7.1. 70 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated in order to determine residues of veterinary medicinal products. Each sample shall be investigated to determine at least four different substances of Group A, Sub-group 6 and Group B, Sub-groups 1.1, 1.2 and 1.6;

7.2. 15 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated in order to determine the presence of contaminants and mycotoxins;

7.3. 15 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances which are most commonly used in the treatment of animals intended for production of milk, or the substances whose use has presented non-compliance in the previous years.

## **8. Eggs.**

In order to determine the substances referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation in eggs, samples shall be taken in the holding or at a site of collection or packaging of eggs. One sample shall consist of not less than 12 eggs. The minimum number of samples per year shall be one sample from 1 000 tonnes of eggs intended for human consumption, but not less than 200 samples. Of which:

8.1. 70 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group A, Sub-group 6 and Group B, Sub-groups 1.1 and 1.3. Each sample shall be investigated to determine the presence of at least one substance from each group;

8.2. 30 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated in order to determine the presence of substances of Group B, Sub-group 2.1.

## **9. Honey.**

In order to determine the substances referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation in honey, samples shall be taken at a site of collection or processing of honey. The minimum number of samples per year shall be 10 samples from 300 tonnes of honey. If the amount of honey exceeds 3 000 tonnes per year, at least one sample shall be taken from every 300 tonnes that exceed the initial 300 tonnes. From all the samples:

9.1. 50 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-groups 1.1 and 1.4;

9.2. 40 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated in order to determine the presence of substances of Group B, Sub-groups 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3;

9.3. 10 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated in order to determine the possible presence of substances in honey.

## **10. Rabbits.**

In order to determine the substances referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation, samples of rabbit meat shall be taken in holdings or slaughterhouses. The minimum number of samples per year shall be 10 samples from 300 tonnes of products. If the amount of products exceeds 300 tonnes per year, one sample shall be taken from every 300 tonnes that exceeds the initial 300 tonnes. From all the samples:

10.1. for determination of the substances of Group A, 30 % of the total number of samples shall be investigated, of which:

10.1.1. 70 % of the samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group A, Sub-group 6;

10.1.2. 30 % of the samples shall be investigated in order to determine other substances of Group A;

10.2. for determination of the substances of Group B, 70 % of the samples shall be investigated, of which:

10.2.1. 30 % of the samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 1.1;

10.2.2. 30 % of the samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-groups 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5 and 1.6;

10.2.3. 10 % of the samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 2;

10.2.4. the remaining samples shall be investigated by taking into account the possible presence of specific substances in samples – to determine substances of other sub-groups;

10.3. samples of drinking water and feed shall be taken, if necessary.

## **11. Game animals farmed in restricted areas.**

In order to determine the substances referred to in Annex 1 to this Regulation, samples of meat of the wild animals farmed in a restricted area shall be taken in a slaughterhouse or a meat processing establishment. The minimum number of samples per year shall be 100 samples, of which:

11.1. for determination of the substances of Group A, 20 % of the samples shall be investigated. The majority of the samples shall be investigated to determine the substances of Group A,

Sub-groups 5 and 6;

11.2. for determination of the substances of Group B, 70 % of the samples shall be investigated, of which:

11.2.1. 30 % of the samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 1.1;



11.2.2. 30 % of the samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-groups 1.2 and 1.3;

11.2.3. 10 % of the samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-groups 1.4 and 1.6;

10.2.4. 30 % of the samples shall be investigated in order to determine the substances of Group B, Sub-group 2.

Note. In order to determine the presence of residues of other sub-groups, the possible presence of specific substances in samples shall be assessed and the necessary number of samples shall be determined. Samples of drinking water and feed shall be taken, if necessary.

## **12. Game animals of wild species.**

Samples of game meat shall be taken at the animal hunting site or in a processing establishment, and investigated to determine the presence of the residues of chemical elements. The minimum number of samples shall be 100 samples per year.

Minister for Agriculture

Laimdota Straujuma

**Substances and Residues Thereof that shall be Determined in Animals,  
Feed, Products, Drinking Water and Surface Water**

No.	Substances to be determined	In cattle, sheep, goats, horses and pigs	In broilers, spent breeders, turkeys and other poultry	In aquaculture animals (including fin fish)	In milk	In eggs	In rabbits, game animals of wild species <sup>1</sup> , and meat of animals of wild species farmed in restricted areas	In honey
<b>I. Group A – prohibited substances and growth promoters</b>								
1.	Stilbenes, stilbene derivatives and their salts and esters	X	X	X			X	
2.	Thyrostatic agents	X	X				X	
3.	Steroids	X	X	X			X	
4.	Resorcylic acid lactones, including zeranol	X	X				X	
5.	Beta-agonists	X	X				X	
6.	Substances referred to in Table 2 “Prohibited substances” of Annex to Regulation No. 37/2010	X	X	X	X	X	X	

<b>II. Group B – veterinary medicinal products and contaminants</b>								
<b>1. Veterinary medicinal products</b>								
1.1.	Anti-microbial agents, including sulphanilamide and quinolones	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
1.2.	Agents against endoparasites	X	X	X	X		X	
1.3.	Anticoccidials, including nitroimidazoles	X	X			X	X	
1.4.	Carbamates and pyrethroids	X	X				X	X
1.5.	Sedatives	X						
1.6.	Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs	X	X		X		X	
<b>2. Other substances and contaminants</b>								
2.1.	Organochlorine compounds, including polychlorinated biphenyls	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2.2.	Organic phosphorous compounds	X			X			X
2.3.	Chemical elements	X	X	X	X		X	X
2.4.	Mycotoxins	X	X	X	X			
2.5.	Dyes			X				

Note. <sup>1</sup>Only chemical elements shall be determined in the meat of game animals of wild species.

Minister for Agriculture

Laimdota Straujuma