

Sampling of droppings (500 ml pot) for the detection of *Salmonella*

SAMPLING METHODS SM5 - Version 01

1 **REQUIRED EQUIPMENT**

- 500 ml sterile sealed pot.
- Disinfected single-use gloves.
- Spatula (optional).

2 **STORAGE OF SAMPLING EQUIPMENT**

Keep sealed in a dry and dust-free place.

3 **SAMPLING METHODS**

- Collect 60 separate samples of fresh caecal droppings, each weighing at least 1 gram (see current French Decrees on *Salmonella* testing for details).
- Securely close the pot, ensuring the lid is fully sealed.
- Label the pot using a permanent marker.

4 **PACKAGING AND TRANSPORTATION OF SAMPLES TO THE LABORATORY**

- Place the pot in a bag grouping samples from the same origin.
- Deliver the samples to the laboratory within 48 hours, or dispatch them the same day in securely sealed outer packaging.

5 **SAMPLE ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA**

- Reception time: Maximum 48 hours. Samples must arrive before 2pm to ensure same-day analysis.
- Minimum regulatory sample quantity: 60 samples of at least 1 gram of droppings each combined into a single sample.
- Transport temperature: Samples should be transported quickly at room temperature or in a cooler.
- Sample integrity: Samples must be properly labelled and hermetically sealed.

KEY POINTS

Protect the samples with outer packaging for transport to the laboratory.