

# Technical Brief 2016/06

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## Issue of NMD Specifications 2016

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### Notification:

The Animal Products Notice: Specifications for National Microbiological Database Programme (NMD Notice) has been updated and the new version issued on 20 September 2016.

The new NMD Notice comes into force on 3 October 2016, except for poultry operators who have not participated in NMD before (i.e. those who have not processed broiler chickens), who have until 5 December 2016 to implement the new Notice.

It is expected that Operators will work towards making any necessary amendments to RMPs to be fully compliant with the new Notice by the end of January 2017. Changes relating to seasonal sampling requirements for bobby calves (i.e. Salmonella sampling window and post-chill carcass sampling) must be applied from the time the operator commences bobby calf processing in 2017. It is anticipated that any RMP amendments will be classified as minor amendments. VS intends to schedule a targeted verification of the new NMD requirements in February 2017.

### Key changes:

The following summary identifies key changes in the Notice, however this is not an exclusive list and operators and verifiers need to review the full Notice.

### General

The layout of the Notice has changed significantly from the previous version, with general requirements in Parts 1 and 2 and a dedicated section for red meat (Part 3) and poultry (Part 4).

### Red Meat

Section	Brief overview of changes	Action required
3.1	The definition of VLT premises has changed.	VLT premises need to review their status and, if necessary, submit and updated <a href="#">NMD demographic form</a> where they have changed from VLT to standard throughput or vice versa.
3.2.2	VLT operators are now required to test more samples on each sampling occasion but only sample once a month rather than each week.	Amend random sample selection and sample collection procedures.
3.2.3	The Salmonella sampling programme has changed so that a 16 week PSW is only required as a one-off for new operators processing bovine, caprine or ratite. Existing operators of these species and operators processing bobby calves must complete a 6 week SW at the beginning of each season. There is no longer a requirement for Salmonella sampling for cervine.	Amend sampling procedures.
3.9	The photographs / diagrams of carcass sampling sites are no longer provided in the NMD Notice, however these may be obtained from MIMM (the Meat Industry Microbiological Manual).	MIMM can be accessed via the AgResearch website: <a href="http://www.agresearch.co.nz/news/meat-industry-microbiological-manual/">http://www.agresearch.co.nz/news/meat-industry-microbiological-manual/</a>  A password can be requested through the application form on the website.
3.20	There are new M-limit values and the way an M-alert is calculated differs from the historical moving windows.	Amend procedures for identifying and responding to alerts.

	If the operator misses NMD sampling during a week it should be undertaken, this will count as exceeding the M-limit (note this does not include technical failures). There are specified responses that must be taken following an M-alert.	
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### Poultry Meat

Section	Brief overview of changes	Action required
4.2	The NMD Poultry Programme now monitors Salmonella and Campylobacter through five independent sampling programmes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ducks</li> <li>• EOLs chickens (breeder and layers)</li> <li>• meat Chickens (broilers, poussins and small chicken breeds such as silky and pullets)</li> <li>• turkeys</li> <li>• new start up meat chickens premises</li> </ul>	Operators will need to ensure they are part of the NMD programme and have completed the <a href="#">NMD demographic form</a> . A new form has been added to the website to align with the new requirements. Procedures should be updated.
4.14	Campylobacter Performance Target for meat chicken remains the same. Ducks, EOLs and Turkeys will not be subject to a performance target.	N/A. Procedures should already be current.
4.2.1 (3) 4.14.1	New start up premises operators processing meat chickens must collect NMD samples each processing day that meat chickens are processed as per standard throughput requirements until there has been a clear CPT moving window.	Ensure NMD demographic information is correct.
4.2.1.1	VLT premises processing multiple poultry types are only required to sample 3 poultry carcasses per processing week. If a VLT premises that process 2 or more type of poultry during any processing week are only required to sample 1 type of poultry during that processing week.	Amend sampling procedures. Ensure that NMD demographic information is correct.
4.13 4.13.1 and 4.13.2	The Salmonella Performance Standard (SPS) for meat chickens has been updated to Salmonella may be detected in no more than 5 carcass rinse samples in a 51 sample moving window. Introduced new process for responding to the detection of Salmonella and non-compliance with the SPS	Amend procedures for identifying and responding to alerts.
4.15	Prevalence Performance Target (PPT) for Campylobacter in Meat chickens has been incorporated	Ensure procedures for identifying and responding to alerts include the PPT.

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