



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Denise McAndrew
ALS Life Sciences
Carrigeen Business Park, Clonmel,
Co. Tipperary
E91 PF63

1 December 2025

Re: Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine approval for laboratory testing

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to advise you that ALS Life Sciences has DAFM approval for testing as per **Annex 1** with effect from 1 December 2025 and for a period of two years, or until the date the approval is revoked by DAFM or ceased or at the request of ALS Life Sciences.

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) Laboratories undertake the National Reference Laboratory functions for a variety of parameters in food, feed and animal health under Regulation (EU) 2017/625.

Approval of laboratories is on a programme-by-programme basis (Annex 2). To be approved, laboratories must confirm that they are currently in compliance with and will continue to comply with the criteria listed below. DAFM reserves the right to revoke the approval of laboratories on the grounds of no adherence with these criteria.

Approval criteria:

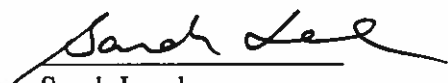
1. Be accredited to ISO 17025 for all relevant tests and matrices. For new testing requirements a lead time for accreditation is granted¹.
2. Inform DAFM Laboratories immediately of any change in accreditation status (including any refusal of an application for accreditation), and any major non-compliances or concerns with the reliability of the laboratory's testing.
3. Utilise only those test methods approved by DAFM (see Annex 2).
4. Test samples individually and not to pool samples for analysis unless this is specifically allowed by the method (i.e. Trichinella) or approved previously by DAFM Laboratories.

¹ Derogations to accreditation requirement are at the discretion of DAFM or as defined by legislation

5. Participate to the satisfaction of DAFM Laboratories in relevant proficiency testing and technical reviews as may be considered appropriate by DAFM (see Annex 2) and provide the results of such proficiency testing to DAFM Laboratories upon completion or upon request by DAFM.
6. Facilitate such laboratory visits as may reasonably be requested by DAFM within specified deadlines.
7. Disclose as soon as possible all information regarding the source and types of samples and the obtained results in the case of potential food safety or animal health incidents. For example, the laboratory must immediately notify DAFM of the presence of the source of any *Salmonella* Typhimurium, monophasic *S. Typhimurium* and *S. Enteritidis* in poultry houses.
8. Submit isolates/materials, as per Annex 2. In the case of potential food safety or animal health incidents, isolates/materials must be submitted to DAFM Laboratories as soon as possible from isolation or from confirmation of a positive. Submitted isolates/materials must be accompanied by the most up-to-date DAFM Laboratories submission form, identifying each isolate/material uniquely and containing all other relevant details requested in the form, including the source of the isolate/material.
9. If DAFM results on analyses of the isolates/materials submitted, e.g., serotyping results, are reported to clients, only using the precise format of the DAFM Laboratories report, without paraphrasing or interpretation. Be aware that DAFM reports state "These results can only be reproduced in full".
10. Retain a record of all testing carried out in relation to the programmes for at least 3 years and furnish copies/extracts from time to time to DAFM Laboratories on request in such a manner as DAFM may require.
11. Indemnify and guarantee immunity to DAFM against any claim for damages or compensation arising from the disclosure or publication of the results of the examinations and tests.
12. Provide DAFM Laboratories with documents related to the accreditation process pertaining to the approved activities as required.
13. Participate in DAFM Laboratories recommended training events and workshops.

The approval of the test method referred to will be without prejudice to other official controls for public and animal health reasons and does not exempt the laboratory from any prohibition, regulation or restriction imposed by DAFM nor any other agency or Department.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Lawless
Milk and Meat Hygiene/ABP/TSE Division
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,
Eir Building, Old Knockmay Road,
Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32YK81.

Annex 1: Scope of DAFM approval for ALS Life Sciences

DAFM Testing Programme	DAFM Testing requirement	Types of samples DAFM approved for this Laboratory	Private Laboratory DAFM Approved Method
Poultry Regulations (SI 305 of 2024 and SI 565 of 2010)	Salmonella detection by ISO 6579-1:2017 using MSRV agar as the selective enrichment or certified alternative validated method	Boot swabs, Faeces and Dust	SP038: Method for the detection of Salmonella spp. and SP178 or SP241: Method for the confirmation of Salmonella spp.
Animal by-products (Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009)	Salmonella detection by ISO 6579-1:2017 or certified alternative validated method	Pet food, Processed Animal Proteins, Rendered Fats, Compost and digestates	SP038: Method for the detection of Salmonella spp. and SP178 or SP241: Method for the confirmation of Salmonella spp.
Animal by-products (Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009)	Salmonella detection by ISO 6579-1:2017 or certified alternative validated method	Pet food, Processed Animal Proteins, Rendered Fats, Compost and digestates	SP102 Detection of Salmonella in food, animal feed and environmental samples by Solus Salmonella Optima ELISA kit and SP178 or SP241: Method for the confirmation of Salmonella spp.
Animal by-products (Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009)	Enterobacteriaceae enumeration by ISO 21528-2:2017 or certified alternative validated method	Pet food, Processed Animal Proteins, Rendered Fats	SP033: Enumeration of Enterobacteriaceae (Presumptive & Confirmed)
Animal by-products (Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009)	E. coli enumeration by ISO 16649 or certified alternative validated method	Compost and digestates	SP049: Enumeration of presumptive β -glucuronidase positive E. coli
US trade requirements Certification requirements	Shiga-toxin E. coli detection by USDA MLG 5 or method with a No-objection letter issued by FSIS	Beef Carcass swabs and Beef composite meat sample	SP209 Method for the real-time PCR detection of virulence genes in Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli (STEC) and of 7 major serogroups (O157, O111, O26, O103, O145, O45 and O121) AND SP210 Method for the isolation and confirmation of Shiga Toxin Producing E. coli (STEC) Serogroups (O157, O111, O26, O103, O145, O45 and O121) following PCR detection of virulence genes
US trade requirements Certification requirements	Salmonella detection by MLG 4 or by a method deemed equivalent by FSIS	Beef Carcass swabs	SP102 Detection of Salmonella in food, animal feed and environmental samples by Solus Salmonella Optima ELISA kit and SP178 or SP241: Method for the confirmation of Salmonella spp.

Annex 2: Summary of DAFM approval requirements

Programme	Legal basis	DAFM policy divisions	Parameters required	Reference method	Types of samples	Specific PT requirements	Reporting requirements	Submission of materials	DAFM audit/inspection
Poultry Regulations	S.I. 305 of 2024	Veterinary Public Health, Food Safety and Pigs and Poultry	<i>Salmonella</i> detection	ISO 6579-1:2017 using MSRV agar as the selective enrichment or certified alternative validated method	Dust, faeces, boot swabs	VetQAS PT0088 Or LGC 06CF – Detection of <i>Salmonella</i> species in Chicken faeces	Flock owner to be immediately informed of all positive results	<i>Salmonella</i> isolates	n/a
Animal by-products	Commission Regulation (EU) No 142/2011 implementing Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009	Milk & Meat Hygiene, ABP, TSEs	<i>Salmonella</i> detection	ISO 6579-1:2017 or certified alternative validated method	Pet food, Processed Animal Proteins (PAP), tallow and greaves, compost, digestates	n/a	n/a	<i>Salmonella</i> isolates	n/a
			<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> enumeration	ISO 21528-2:2017 or certified alternative validated method	Pet food, PAP, tallow and greaves	n/a	n/a		n/a
			<i>E. coli</i> enumeration	ISO 16649 or certified alternative validated method	Compost, digestates	n/a	n/a		n/a
			<i>Clostridium perfringens</i> detection	ISO 7937:2004 to plate 10 ml of 1/10 dilution instead of 1 ml Or ISO 15213:2023	PAP, tallow and greaves obtained during validation of new rendering processes	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<i>Trichinella</i>	Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1375 And OCR EU 2017/625 (Official laboratory)	Veterinary Public Health, Food Safety and Pigs and Poultry	<i>Trichinella</i> larvae counting	Reference digestion method described in Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/1375 or approved alternative method (none approved by NRL at present)	Pig and horse muscle	VetQAS PT PT0111, NRL PT	All test reports to be copied to Veterinary Officer in slaughterhouse	Digestates with detected <i>Trichinella</i> larvae	Audit required before approval. Thereafter audits will be every 2 y
US trade requirements	Certification requirements	EU Eng, Trade & Vet Cert	<i>Salmonella</i> detection	ISO 6579-1:2017 or certified alternative validated method	Beef Carcass swabs	n/a	All test reports to be copied to Veterinary Officer in slaughterhouse	<i>Salmonella</i> isolates	Audit required before approval. Thereafter audits will be every 2 y
			STEC detection	USDA MLG 5 or method with a No-objection letter issued by FSIS	Beef Carcass swabs, Beef composite meat sample	LGC Shiga Toxin E. coli (STEC)		STEC isolates	

Poultry Health	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2035	Veterinary Public Health, Food Safety and Pigs and Poultry	Salmonella Pullorum/ Gallinarum	Salmonella detection by direct enrichment in Selenite Cysteine broth and BGA and XLD plating Salmonella detection by ISO 6579-1:2017 using RVS/MKTTn as selective enrichment	Pooled sample of meconium and fluff, Day-old chicks, Dead-in-shell chicks	VetQAS PT PT0180	DAFM to be immediately informed of all positive results	Salmonella isolates	n/a
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