

The presence of *Salmonella* spp. in samples of feed for livestock animals from the area monitored by the Veterinary Inspectorate in Olsztyn

Summary

Animal feed should be of good quality, as it can cause infections in animals and introduce harmful substances into the food chain, which may be ingested by humans. The aim of this study was to analyse the microbiological quality of feed samples evaluated for *Salmonella* spp. during official inspection and privately commissioned tests in the area monitored by the Veterinary Inspectorate in Olsztyn in 2018-2019. Analysis of the occurrence of *Salmonella* in animal feed was based on data from the Veterinary Inspectorate in Olsztyn. The research was carried out in accordance with European Standard EN ISO 6579-1:2017. In 2018, 644 samples were tested for *Salmonella* as part of official feed inspection and in privately commissioned tests. Of these, 11 tested positive (1.71%). In 2019, seven of 1270 samples tested positive (0.55%). In 2018-2019, none of the feed materials of animal origin were contaminated with *Salmonella*. Positive samples were recorded only among feed materials of plant origin. In addition, we analysed compound feeds for poultry, pigs, cattle and fur-bearing animals, which were evaluated as part of official inspection and in privately commissioned tests. In 2018 a positive result was obtained for feed for poultry and for fur-bearing animals. In 2019, however, only one sample (of cattle feed) tested positive. The decrease in *Salmonella* contamination of feed is most likely due to technological progress and the implementation of much more rigorous control systems, as well as GMP, GHP, and HACCP standards.

KEY WORDS: plant-based feed material, animal-based feed material, feed quality, *Salmonella* spp.