Vaccination of laying hens has proven to reduce the fecal shedding of *Salmonella Enteritidis* (SE) in layers. However, it does not eliminate infection, especially when the environment of the flock is contaminated. The present study describes a longitudinal monitoring of the environmental contamination on two persisting SE contaminated layer farms. At both farms up till 100 places in the three stables, the egg collecting area and the outside environment were sampled on different occasions (during the laying periods and after cleaning and disinfection). Samples were analyzed semi-quantitatively to determine the degree of contamination at the different places. Results will be used to take control measures to eliminate the SE contamination.

The percentage of contaminated samples at the end of the laying period was 40 and 24% for both farms, respectively. Cleaning and disinfection following the disposal of the spent hens did not eliminate SE completely; still 6 and 5% of the samples, respectively, remained positive. At the beginning of the laying period of the subsequent flock, the overall percentage of contaminated samples increased again (up till 22%).
The high prevalence of SE at both farms indicates the need of a regular and sensitive monitoring of persistently SE positive flocks and shows that there is a substantial scope for improvement of cleaning and disinfection.