

Overview

This standard is about monitoring the health and welfare of any farmed fish or shellfish. It relates to the implementation of programmes to monitor and maintain the health and welfare of fish/shellfish within holding units.

It requires that work is completed in accordance with site standard operating procedures and in line with industry codes of practice.

This standard is for those who monitor the health and welfare of fish/shellfish.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. carry out work safely in line with relevant health and safety requirements
2. monitor **stocking densities** within holding units
3. monitor fish/shellfish for any signs of stress or disorder
4. monitor fish/shellfish for the presence of disease or parasites in accordance with industry standards
5. remove and record mortalities from holding units minimising disturbance to remaining fish/shellfish
6. report any unusual variations in mortality promptly to the appropriate person
7. maintain appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security
8. provide information to maintain records of monitoring in accordance with legal and site requirements

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the relevant health and safety requirements associated with monitoring the health and welfare of fish/shellfish
2. the anatomy of a healthy fish/shellfish
3. welfare requirements for fish/shellfish and how these are maintained within holding units
4. the signs that indicate stress or disorder in fish/shellfish
5. why accurate mortality records are essential to the management of a fish/shellfish farm
6. how variations in mortality can be used to indicate the condition of farm stock
7. how to recognise common parasites including their different life cycles
8. how to recognise common diseases
9. site procedures for maintaining effective hygiene and bio-security
10. the legal and site requirements for maintaining records of the health and welfare of fish/shellfish

Glossary

stocking density – for fin fish – total weight of fish kept in a volume of water, usually measured in kg/m³ or kg/m²

stocking density – for shellfish – the weight or number of shellfish in a known volume of water

Monitor fish/shellfish health and welfare

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