

Overview

This standard is about preparing to and treating health problems in fish and helping to deliver the site Fish Health Plan (FHP). It can be applied to any situation where fish are treated to maintain their health and condition. It requires that the work is completed in accordance with site standard operating procedures.

This standard includes the administration of internal and external treatments.

This standard is suitable for those who treat health problems in farmed fish.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. carry out work safely in line with relevant health and safety requirements
2. identify and **condition** fish ready for the safe administration of **treatments**
3. prepare treatments and equipment to meet specified requirements, in accordance with the site **Fish Health Plan**
4. prepare treatment facilities to effectively isolate target stock during treatment, and avoid the contamination of non-target stock and the environment
5. administer treatments to fish accurately according to veterinary instructions while continually monitoring fish for signs of stress
6. use treatment facilities to control the administration of treatments to avoid contaminating other stock and the environment (i.e. holding units and containers)
7. take emergency action, within the limits of your own authority, in response to any adverse effect caused by treatments
8. monitor treated fish to evaluate recovery and the effectiveness of treatments
9. provide information to maintain records of treatments administered to fish in accordance with legal and site requirements

Prepare and treat health problems in fish

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the relevant health and safety requirements when treating health problems in fish
2. the hazards associated with treatments and the precautions that are used to control them
3. how fish are conditioned ready for treatment
4. how husbandry risk assessments are used to ensure successful treatments and maintain fish welfare
5. the equipment and methods used to treat fish
6. how to prepare the equipment used to treat fish
7. the importance of fully preparing fish before administering treatments
8. how to identify when fish are not fully prepared and ready for treatment
9. why it is important to prepare treatment according to legal requirements
10. how dosages for treatments are calculated
11. why it is important to administer treatment according to veterinary instructions and the requirements of the site Fish Health Plan
12. why it is important to control treatments to protect other stock and the environment
13. why treated fish need to be isolated and controlled
14. how to recognise signs of stress during treatment
15. the emergency actions to take in response to any adverse effects caused by treatments
16. the purpose of withdrawal periods and how to calculate withdrawal periods
17. why it is important to maintain accurate records of treatments administered to fish
18. the importance of monitoring and evaluating treated fish
19. site procedures for the disposal of chemicals and treatments
20. the legal and site requirements for maintaining records of treatments administered to fish

Glossary

condition – the removal of feed

Fish Health Plan (FHP) – also referred to as Veterinary Health Plan (VHP) or Veterinary Health and Welfare Plan (VHWP)

treatments – e.g. bath, injection, in-feed treatment

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