

Collect fish eggs and milt and spawn fish

Overview

This standard is about spawning fish by collecting fish eggs and milt for fertilisation. It relates to the work activities involved with the collection of fish eggs and milt and egg fertilisation. It can be applied to any fish hatchery where the spawning process is completed. It requires that the work is completed in accordance with site standard operating procedures.

This standard is for those who collect fish eggs and milt and spawn fish.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. carry out work safely in line with relevant health and safety requirements
2. prepare broodstock ready for spawning, using anaesthetics appropriately
3. prepare facilities to support the production of clean and healthy fish eggs
4. strip fish in a manner that is appropriate to the species, that minimises stress and that maintains the quality of fish eggs or **milt**
5. maintain the condition of fish eggs or milt by storing them under controlled conditions
6. mix fish eggs and milt to facilitate effective fertilisation
7. handle unfertilised and fertilised eggs in a manner that avoids damaging them
8. rinse fish eggs in preparation for incubation
9. maintain appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security
10. provide information to maintain records of the spawning process in accordance with legal and site requirements

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the relevant health and safety requirements associated with the spawning process including the dangers associated with using anaesthetics
2. how to recognise broodstock, including their readiness for spawning
3. how to prepare broodstock for spawning
4. the use of anaesthetics, and their application in the preparation of broodstock
5. the importance of minimising stress and maintaining fish health and welfare
6. the importance of hygiene to egg or milt production and fertilisation
7. the importance of storing eggs under appropriate conditions
8. how to recognise ripe and over-ripe eggs
9. the importance of sperm motility and how it is confirmed
10. the vulnerability of non-hardened eggs to external factors including rain, heat and cold
11. when and how fish eggs can be safely moved
12. the importance of bio-security in a hatchery
13. the use of hormones in egg production
14. hatchery emergencies and the procedure to follow if an emergency is identified
15. the legal and site requirements for maintaining records of the spawning process



Glossary

milt - fish sperm

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