
Overview

This standard is about controlling spat collection in support of shellfish production. ("Spat" is defined as young shellfish and shellfish seed).

This standard includes the ability to organise the following activities:

- preparation of spat collectors
- deployment of spat collectors at sea
- monitoring of spat collection
- retrieval of spat collectors
- handling and storage of spat

This standard is for those who control the collection of spat.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. ensure all work is carried out safely in accordance with relevant legal requirements and site procedures
2. organise the **resources** required to complete planned spat-collection **activities**
3. control spat-collection activities to achieve **planned production** requirements in accordance with relevant legal requirements
4. ensure the welfare of spat is maintained during collection
5. monitor and adjust spat-collection operations to take account of **variations** from planned production
6. control the retrieval and sorting of **viable spat** through the effective implementation of spat collection and storage operations
7. ensure appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security are maintained
8. maintain records of spat collection to meet legal requirements, in accordance with site procedures

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. relevant legal requirements and site procedures for health and safety associated with the collection of shellfish spat
2. spat-collection techniques relevant to the shellfish species being farmed
3. how to identify the life cycle stages of the shellfish being farmed
4. how to identify the spat of target and non-target shellfish, fouling organisms and predator species
5. how and when to establish spat-collection activities in order to control and maximise spat collection
6. how to store and transport shellfish spat
7. the methods used to limit predator actions during spat collection
8. spat-handling techniques that limit the stress caused to shellfish spat
9. the different methods that can be used to control the collection of spat
10. the relevant legal and environmental conditions that constrain **collection site** selection
11. the resource requirements of safe and effective spat collection
12. factors that can impact on the collection of spat
13. how to determine the viability of spat
14. site procedures for maintaining hygiene and bio-security
15. the legal requirements and site procedures for maintaining records of spat collection

Scope/range

This standard requires that you organise the following **activities**:

- preparation of spat collectors
- deployment of spat collectors at sea
- monitoring of spat collection
- retrieval of spat collectors
- the handling and storage of spat

This standard requires that you take account of variations from **planned production** due to:

- changes in environmental conditions
- predator action
- variations in spat fall

Glossary

collection sites – areas in the sea where spat collectors have been established

planned production – anticipated production based on historical data and testing

resources – people, equipment, storage, transport

viable spat – spat that is likely to survive within a fish farm environment

Control spat collection

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