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## Overview

This standard is about feeding fish in accordance with specified feeding regimes, both **routine** and **specialist**. It involves obtaining feed, and the maintenance of feeding equipment and machines so that planned feeding can be accurately achieved. It requires that work is completed in accordance with site standard operating procedures.

This standard is for those who feed 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. maintain hygienic feed storage across the site
3. feed fish according to a given feeding specification, with minimum wastage
4. observe and report on feeding behaviour
5. monitor feed intake and wastage
6. set, calibrate and maintain feeding equipment to ensure it is in good working order
7. dispose of waste according to site waste management procedures
8. provide information to maintain records of feeding activities 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 feeding
2. the characteristics and types of feed suitable for feeding fish at different stages of development
3. the storage requirements of fish feed including the importance of effective pest control
4. the importance of following specified feeding schedules and minimising waste
5. how to recognise poor quality feed and the problems that can be caused if it is given to fish
6. the different types of feeder or feeding systems used on site
7. why feeding is modified in response to **environmental conditions**
8. normal feeding behaviour including signs that indicate when fish are full
9. how water quality and suspended solid discharge can be affected by feeding activities
10. how feeding rates are calculated
11. why and how feeders are set, calibrated and maintained
12. the systems used to monitor feed intake and wastage (including considering poor quality feed, uneaten feed and packaging)
13. the component of foodstuffs and their role in the development of fish
14. how customer and quality requirements influence the content of the feed used
15. how food conversion rates are calculated for fish stock, the factors that affect it and its importance to the production process
16. the financial significance of feed costs in the production of farmed fish
17. the importance of good hygiene when feeding fish
18. the legal and site requirements for maintaining records of feeding activities

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## Glossary

**environmental conditions** - weather conditions, changes in water quality

**routine feeding regime** - normal feeding activities

**specialist feeding regime** - feeding in support of specific requirements e.g. fasting, in-feed treatments, providing pigment, smolt diets, immuno stimulants

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