

LANFIM4

Collect fish samples to monitor the condition of a fishery



Overview

This standard is about monitoring the health and condition of fish. It includes collecting samples of fish from a fishery in a manner that minimises the disturbance to the fishery and then assessing the individual fish to determine their health and condition using routine and non-routine tasks.

This standard requires that the condition of live fish is determined by length and weight, condition factor, age, the presence of parasites and disease.

This standard requires that you carry out work safely in line with legal health and safety requirements and that you work to maintain bio-security and minimise environmental disturbance at all times.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 obtain samples of live fish
- P2 prepare and handle fish in a manner which minimises stress
- P3 take samples accurately from fish ready for further analysis
- P4 dispatch fish humanely where appropriate, to facilitate the collection of data
- P5 determine characteristics of individual fish using measuring equipment as appropriate
- P6 record mortalities to obtain management information
- P7 keep equipment in a serviceable condition
- P8 sterilise and store equipment after use
- P9 dispose of waste according to organisational procedures
- P10 provide accurate information to maintain records of fields

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the health and safety requirements associated with the sampling process
- K2 how to identify common British freshwater and marine fish species
- K3 how to recognise external characteristics of healthy fish
- K4 the identity and function of the main internal organs of fish
- K5 the measurements which are commonly used to determine the size of individual fish
- K6 the importance of maintaining measuring equipment into a serviceable condition
- K7 the factors which affect fish growth and condition
- K8 common health problems and abnormalities affecting fish and how to recognise their presence
- K9 how anaesthetics can be used to assist the process of data collection and minimise the stress caused to fish
- K10 the dangers and the law associated with the use of anaesthetics in the field
- K11 the methods used to obtain fish samples
- K12 how to recognise stress and abnormality in fish
- K13 common causes of death, including how the cause of death can be determined
- K14 notifiable diseases and why they need to be reported
- K15 how the characteristics of individual fish can be used to determine the characteristics of a fishery as a whole
- K16 how to dispose of dead fish and other forms of waste
- K17 how to determine the size of fish using weight and length measurements
- K18 the structures used to determine the age of different fish species
- K19 how to accurately record field measurements
- K20 the errors associated with equipment and its use in the field
- K21 the importance of sterilisation in respect to bio-security
- K22 the role of data in fisheries management
- K23 the importance of bio-security and its role in minimising risks to the fishery

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