Draft new Chapter 4.Z. Control of pathogenic agents in traded milt and fertilised eggs of fish

September 2023 meeting

The Aquatic Animals Commission reviewed the draft new Chapter 4.Z. Control of pathogenic agents in traded milt and fertilised eggs of fish, which had been developed in collaboration with industry. The Commission reminded Members that the purpose of this chapter is to provide recommendations for safe trade in milt and fertilised eggs of fish from areas which have not been declared free from infection with a listed disease.

To take into account the provisions in the draft new Chapter 4.Z., the Commission agreed to revise model Article 10.X.10. for infection with SAV, infection with IHNV and infection with VHSV and Article 10.4.15. for infection with ISAV, and to add an option in both points 1 and 2 to follow the requirements described in Chapter 4.Z.

The Commission revised model Articles 10.X.15. for infection with SAV, infection with IHNV and infection with VHSV, and Article 10.4.20. for infection with ISAV to align with the recommendations of the new Chapter 4.Z.

The Commission agreed to add a new definition for ‘collection and incubation centre’ to the Glossary of the *Aquatic Code* to ensure a common understanding of this term given the importance of its use in the draft new Chapter 4.Z.

The Commission agreed that it would further discuss any suitable article changes for fish disease chapters other than infection with SAV, infection with IHNV, infection with VHSV and infection with ISAV at its February 2024 meeting.

The new Chapter 4.Z. Control of pathogenic agents in traded milt and fertilised eggs of fish, is presented as Annex 12 for comments.

The revised model Article 10.X.10. for Chapter 10.5. Infection with SAV, Chapter 10.6. Infection with IHNV and Chapter 10.10. Infection with VHSV, and Article 10.4.15. for Chapter 10.4. Infection with ISAV, is presented as Annex 13 for comments.

The revised model Article 10.X.15. for Chapter 10.5. Infection with SAV, Chapter 10.6. Infection with IHNV and Chapter 10.10. Infection with VHSV, and Article 10.4.20. for Chapter 10.4. Infection with ISAV, is presented as Annex 14 for comments.

The new glossary term is presented as Annex 15 for comments.

Annex 15. Items 6.7. & 6.8. – Glossary

GLOSSARY

[...]

*COLLECTION AND INCUBATION CENTRE*

means a facility for the collection of eggs, fertilisation and incubation, and the collection, processing, and storage of milt approved by the *Competent Authority* in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 4.Z.

[...]

*ORNAMENTAL AQUATIC ANIMAL*

means an *aquatic animal* that is intended for display, exhibition, competition, or to be kept as a pet.

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