**Annex 34. Item 8.2.4. – Section 2.2.1. and 2.2.2. of Chapter 2.4.5. Infection with *P. marinus***

**USA COMMENTS IN RED FONT**

CHAPTER 2.4.5.

infection with *PERKINSUS MARINUS*

[…]

2.2. Host factors

2.2.1. Susceptible host species

~~Eastern oyster,~~ *~~Crassostrea virginica~~*~~; Pacific oyster,~~ *~~C. gigas~~*~~; suminoe oyster,~~ *~~C. ariakensis;~~* ~~mangrove oyster,~~ *~~C. rhizophorae~~*~~; Cortez oyster,~~ *~~C. corteziensis~~* ~~(Andrews 1996; Calvo~~ *~~et al.,~~* ~~1999; Calvo~~ *~~et al.,~~* ~~2001; Villalba~~ *~~et al.,~~* ~~2004; Cáceres-Martínez~~ *~~et al.,~~* ~~2008); softshell clam,~~ *~~Mya arenaria~~*~~; Baltic macoma,~~ *~~Macoma balthica~~* ~~(Dungan~~ *~~et al.,~~* ~~2007).~~

Species that fulfil the criteria for listing as susceptible to infection with *Perkinsus marinus* according to Chapter 1.5. of the *Aquatic Animal Health Code* (*Aquatic Code*) are: American cupped oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*), Ariake cupped oyster (*Magallana* [Syn. *Crassostrea*] *ariakensis*), Cortez oyster (*Crassostrea corteziensis*) and palmate oyster (*Saccostrea palmula*).

~~2.2.2.~~ ~~Susceptible stages of the host Species with incomplete evidence for susceptibility~~

~~All stages after settlement are susceptible.~~

~~Species for which there is incomplete evidence to fulfil the criteria for listing as susceptible to infection with~~ *~~P. marinus~~* ~~according to Chapter 1.5. of the~~ *~~Aquatic Code~~* ~~are: Gasar cupped oyster (~~*~~Crassostrea tulipa~~*~~), mangrove cupped oyster (~~*~~Crassostrea rhizophorae),~~* ~~and Pacific cupped oyster (~~*~~Magallana~~* ~~[Syn.~~ *~~Crassostrea~~*~~]~~ *~~gigas~~*~~).~~

~~In addition, pathogen-specific positive polymerase chain reaction (PCR) results have been reported in the following species, but no active infection has been demonstrated: Columbia black oyster (~~*~~Crassostrea columbiensis~~*~~), soft shell clam (~~*~~Mya arenaria~~*~~), and stone oyster (~~*~~Striostrea prismatica~~*~~).~~

**RATIONALE:** The U.S. does not support the listing of species for which there is "incomplete susceptibility" as to date this is subjective since WOAH has not published any criteria for determining that a species meets "incomplete susceptibility" criteria. If a given specifies does not meet the WOAH criteria for listing as susceptible, then it should not be included in the WOAH chapter.

The inclusion of species which do not meet the criteria for listing as susceptible, may have adverse trade impacts due to member countries feeling like they should be regulating the movement of these species to protect their health status, when in fact there is insufficient scientific rational to do so, and this could be seen as a non-scientific barrier to trade (which is against WTO standards).

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