

Cob House - Biosecurity Plan





Biosecurity

Biosecurity Manager

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Training

All staff will be trained in suitable fish handling procedures and husbandry techniques for the species present on the site, any new training will be identified by the Manager and be provided by the Manager.

Staff working with fish will be trained to identify clinical signs of the disease that affect the fish cultivated. We will ensure staff are aware of actions to take in the event of a disease episode occurring after contacting the partners of the company or their authorised deputy

Fish Movements onto Site.

External Suppliers:

We will assess the potential for introducing infection agents as a result of movements of live fish into our site for on growing. It is company policy that NO Carp or fish susceptible to KHV are to be brought onto site. We do not purchase eggs or fish from outside of the country, bring dead fish onto site and net fish from outside waters, we also try to avoid multiple delivery destinations.

We will fully consider the sources of fish available before deciding where to purchase new stock and only deal with a few credible dealers. If we feel necessary we will request a copy of the companies biosecurity plan before purchasing stock from new suppliers.

All fish brought onto site are put into separate tanks for close inspection before moving onto site. Any concerns about the condition of the fish on delivery the DELIVERY IS REFUSED.

Do not accept fish unless the fish movement book is complete or equivalent documentation.

Disinfect fish transport equipment before and after use.

We must ensure that handling methods and husbandry by suppliers and our own staff do not compromise the health of fish stocks.

Collect and remove mortalities on a daily basis, or as they occur and record accordingly.

Identify the risks of contracting and spreading disease as a result of site procedures

No vehicles are allowed through the fishery site without being sprayed with Fam30 at the entrance and are only allowed by booking in previously by phone.

The site and equipment must be kept clean and tidy; areas not kept clean can harbour pathogens.

Berrow Farm. There is no movement of vehicles near the growing ponds that would have visited other fisheries. It is only our own vehicles and farm vehicles allowed within that area.

Internal Movements between Cob House and Berrow Farm:

If fish are being brought in/out from Berrow Farm, the transport equipment must be disinfected before and after use.

Ensure that handling methods and husbandry do not compromise the health of fish stocks.

Internal movement sheets to be completed by the Manager.

Fish health must be checked at the time of loading and any concerns must be reported immediately to the partners and any movement stopped.

Hatchery:

All visitors to the hatchery must walk through the foot dip, use antibacterial hand disinfectant outside each room and be instructed not to put hands into tanks.

Nets within the hatchery are kept to the same system, no nets to be moved from the hatchery to the on-growing rooms without disinfection. Eventually a "Zoned" system will be implemented.

Vermin control procedures are in place and regularly attended to by a company.

The hatchery water comes from the on-site borehole.

All visitors into the Fishery/Hatchery area with vehicles must spray their vehicles and tyres at the entrance gate before proceeding along the track. This sprayer must be kept full and monitored by Hatchery staff.

The gate entering the hatchery must be kept locked outside of normal working hours and at weekends to prevent visitors entering areas that they should not.

Outside growing ponds are checked daily and any mortalities are recorded in the appropriate record book.

Fishery:

All landing nets and keepnets are supplied to fishermen and they are not allowed to bring their own on to site. These are air dried in sunshine when possible.

Deterrents are around the fishery to deter predatory (Hérons and Cormorants) birds, however a license to shoot cormorants has been obtained and regular bird scaring rockets are used.

Vermin control procedures are in place and regularly attended to by a company.

We will continue to assess the risk of contracting disease from external sources as a result of visitors to the farm and will continue to develop this.

Part of the fishery site is susceptible to flooding from a small brook that comes from our own farm. This brook does not have any other fisheries that pass along it so is "clean" water.

Laugharne Brook flows along the bottom edge of the fishery, to prevent fish transmittance in the event of a flood, the area has been re-fenced with a wire that has very small holes along the whole side of the brook.

There are 2 footpaths through the fishery side of the grounds and 1 on the fish farm side.

Most of the water requirements for the fish farm pools and fishery come from Berrow Brook which is not contaminated by other fisheries.

Pools are checked daily and any mortalities recorded in the appropriate record book.

Berrow Farm: Fishing pools let to a small syndicate. All nets have been purchased from ourselves and kept on site there; no outside nets are to be used. The syndicate monitors the health of fish and reports any abnormalities. When Cob House staff visit the farm it is important that they cast an eye over fishing pools to check the health of the stocks also.

Monitoring the Biosecurity Plan

Staff are trained to carry out regular fish health examinations by their manager and to record the results of these in the daily farm diary, any abnormalities above normal levels must be notified to the Partners immediately.

Monitor water and take appropriate action where parameters fall outside acceptable limits.

Maintain pool inlet and outlet screens to prevent movement of fish into or out of the site.

All mortalities and fish identified with clinical signs of disease will be recorded in the daily diary. This record will include the number of fish affected, the unit affected and action taken.

We will complete the veterinary medicines book in full for all medicines administered and treatments undertaken on the site.

We will record the use and replenishment of disinfectant sprays and footbaths in the daily farm diary.

Contingency planning

Where clinical signs of infection disease affecting more than 1% of any batch are identified, this will be recorded in the farm diary. We will carry out a full investigation to ascertain the cause. We will record the findings of the investigation and identify whether it was the result of disease, environment changes or other factors.

We will identify a suitable means for disposal of fish mortalities in line with relevant legal requirements, thus ensuring disposal does not increase the risk of spreading infection. Any mortalities will be incinerated on site or sent off with appropriate contractor.

We will not transport or move affected batches of fish, unless under the direction of a veterinarian as required to treat the fish.

Where treatments are required, the Manager will liaise and consult with the veterinarian to ensure medication is administered in an effective and safe manner.

Where the treatments have no effect or a notifiable disease is suspected, we will contact the CEFAS Fish Health Inspectorate and our nominated veterinarian.

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