



IFA V6 PC SUMMARY: AQUACULTURE



TOPICS	FEEDBACK	RESPONSE
Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The hygiene section is very good, especially given the current situation of COVID-19. Its level should be higher. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entire section raised to Major Must
Workers' occupational health and safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The entire section should be Major Must. Some fish pathogens may also infect humans. The section on diving operations should be expanded. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entire section raised to Major Must Stronger requirements on the prevention of disease spread and animal handling for workers (risk of zoonosis) Considerable expansion of section on diving operations
Training and assigned responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish-welfare-related training shall be required for workers at all stages of production. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of training requirements extended for workers at all stages of production with detailed welfare criteria: Diseases, parasites, physical damage, behavioral abnormalities, morphological abnormalities, visual indicators of poor water quality, and altered production parameters
Biodiversity-inclusive environmental impact assessment (EIA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed feedback was received on several areas: Frequency (If EIA is performed by authorities, it can be accepted, although it is not normally done annually.) Cumulative impacts Pharmaceuticals inclusion Clarification requested on the minimum parameters that need to be monitored following the EIA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequency still annual, in addition to EIA performed by the authorities where applicable Feed and fertilizer use now included in calculation of effluent phosphorus load Restructuring to link the use and legal disposal of all chemical compounds to section on empty containers and unused chemicals; detailed inclusion of pharmaceuticals In EIA-related requirements lists the parameters that need to be monitored and requests justification on those values that does not apply to the respective system used. This evaluation is supported by the inclusion of the Guideline AQ III - Environmental Parameters of Relevance based on the Aquaculture System used. Strengthening the requirement of measurement and evidence of no significant negative impact on the biodiversity of the benthic fauna and/or recipient water body sediment/water column, in addition to the EIA and environmental management plan (EMP)
Impact of farming on the environment and biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Escapes requirements should be increased. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification of escape management to specify an aim of zero escapes; attention to climate change related escape incidents, to be used as base to increase prevention management, including cage structures
Predator exclusion plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lethal predator control techniques shall not be used on any animal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of predator exclusion plan; encouragement for use of nonlethal control practices
Animal health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are concerns over the use of antimicrobials of high importance for humans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear instructions for the use of antimicrobials, including extra criteria for very specific exceptions where an antimicrobial of high importance for humans can be used: Instructions in the aquaculture health plan (AHP) to be signed by a certified animal health professional; goal of transparency instead of banning (to avoid temptation to hide use in practice); reference in IFA v6 to both WHO and OIE recommended practices regarding the responsible use of antimicrobials in order to familiarize users with the substances list Adoption of negative list of banned substances into the AHP

Animal welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The highest volume of feedback received in the three public consultation rounds for IFA v6 was related to animal welfare: • Requirements directly related to the specifics of salmon and trout (sea lice, cleaner fish, metrics on hatcheries and grow-out stages, stunning methods) should be included. • The concept environmental enrichment where aquatic species are farmed should be introduced. • Specific criteria for shrimp farming: All larvae sourced either internally or externally shall originate from shrimp females without eye stalk ablation. • Animal welfare should be improved by introducing stunning-related requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For feedback directly related to the specifics of salmon and trout, reference to the planned collaboration with RSPCA Assured • Adoption of environmental enrichment concept under the animal welfare section • Adoption of specific requirement for shrimp farming: All internal or external sourcing of larvae from shrimp females without eye stalk ablation from April 2024 onwards • Adoption of specific stunning requirement: An effective stunning method and immediate unconsciousness; monitoring procedures; phasing out of ice slurry or asphyxia methods where proven technology is available for a particular species (reference to the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code/Stunning and killing methods at www.oie.int)
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IFA V6 INTERNAL FEEDBACK – SUMMARY: AQUACULTURE

TOPIC	AMENDMENT(S) IMPLEMENTED
Food safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes from IFA v5.3-GFS to v5.4-GFS based on the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) recognition are also transferred to IFA v6. • 12-month period to comply with certified feed is amended with immediate effect. By the time of the initial certification body (CB) audit, aquaculture farms shall already receive feed supply from sources certified to the IFA standard or other recognized schemes with letter of compliance against section 5 of CFM v3 (responsible sourcing of feed materials). This amendment is based on the last recognition process.
Environment including biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New criteria were adopted based on new Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI) version, considering that the planned IFA v6 is to be subject of re-recognition against this new GSSI version.
Standard structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The term “control points and compliance criteria” (CPCCs) was changed to “principles and criteria” (P&Cs), where principles are now statements, replacing the previous question format.
Harmonization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wording of principles and criteria (P&Cs) was harmonized by cross-referencing common aquaculture (AQ) P&Cs with those of fruit and vegetables (FV) and flowers and ornamentals (FO).
Products covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finfish, crustaceans, molluscs, and seaweed are covered. Seaweed has been included in the product list since May 2020.
Standard reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although there has been considerable efficiency in terms of merging principles and criteria to reduce the overall number, the large amount of feedback from the animal welfare community led to the creation of new principles and criteria, resulting in a total of only 10 fewer principles and criteria overall for IFA v6.
Introduction of three values as part of the audit report, on top of the assessment of such criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both internal and certification body (CB) audit reports shall have a value of the overall percentage of mortalities per production stage and values linked to the causes of death. • Both internal and certification body (CB) audit reports shall have at least two values recorded in the report: Average fish meal and fish oil percentage (where possible, both described for each origin) AND the fish in/fish out ratio. • Both internal and certification body (CB) audit reports shall have at least one FCR value recorded in the report: eFCR per production life cycle. The economic feed conversion ratio (eFCR) is the quantity of feed used to produce the quantity of fish harvested (net production measured in live weight).

Note: If you would like further details on the feedback received during the public consultation process, please contact GLOBALG.A.P. at publiccomments@globalgap.org.