

ATTACHMENT 1

HEALTH CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR FRESHWATER ORNAMENTAL FINFISH IMPORTED INTO AUSTRALIA

1. General requirements

- a. Each consignment of freshwater ornamental finfish must be accompanied by a health certificate, written in English and, where necessary, in a language understood by the certifying individual. The certifying individual must be authorised by the Competent Authority of the exporting country, have an appropriate knowledge of fish health and the export premises and attest that:
- the fish in the consignment have been inspected within 7 days prior to export and show no clinical signs of infectious disease or pests,
 - the export premises is currently approved for export to Australia,
 - the fish being held at the export premises exhibit no signs of significant infectious disease or pests and are sourced from populations not associated with any significant disease or pests within the previous 6 months,
 - all fish in the consignment have been in premises approved for export of freshwater finfish to Australia for the 14 days prior to export,
 - the fish have not been kept in water in common with farmed foodfish (fish farmed for human consumption including recreational fishing) or koi carp, and
 - adequate safeguards are in place to maintain certified fish health status until export.
- b. Certification must be based on a system of inspection, acceptable to the Competent Authority of the country of export, for it to be satisfied that there is no significant disease or pest problem in the export premises at the time of certification. The Competent Authority must also be satisfied that the premises is maintained at the standards required for approval for export of freshwater ornamental finfish to Australia (see Appendix 1).

2. Additional requirements for goldfish

- a. Each consignment of goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) must be accompanied by a health certificate stating that:
- the goldfish originate from a country, zone or export premises (the population) determined to be free from spring viraemia of carp virus (SVCV) and *Aeromonas salmonicida* (other than goldfish ulcer disease strains) based on a program of monitoring and surveillance acceptable to the Competent Authority and consistent with criteria for health certification stated in Section 2(b) below;
 - the goldfish are exported from a country, zone or export premises determined to be free from spring viraemia of carp virus (SVCV) and *Aeromonas salmonicida* (other than goldfish ulcer disease strains) based on a program of monitoring and surveillance acceptable to the Competent Authority, and consistent with criteria for health certification stated in Section 2(b) below; and
 - all goldfish in the consignment have been treated with an effective parasiticide (e.g. trichlorfon, formaldehyde, sodium chloride) during the 7 days prior to export to Australia to eliminate infestation by the gill flukes *Dactylogyrus vastator* and *D. extensus*.

- b. Criteria for health certification:
- Spring viraemia of carp virus (SVCV): This certification must be based on negative test results during the two years prior to date of certification. The fish population from which the goldfish originate must be tested for SVCV using virus isolation and identification methods as described in the OIE '*Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases*'. The frequency of testing and sample size are as stated below.
 - *Aeromonas salmonicida*: This certification must be based on negative test results during the two years prior to date of certification. The fish in the population from which the goldfish originate must be tested for *A. salmonicida* using standard bacteriological methods. Tissues tested should include skin lesions (if present), kidney, liver and spleen. Testing must be based on internationally accepted methods of isolation, culture and identification. The frequency of testing and sample size are as stated below.
- c. Certification of freedom from specified disease agents or pests applies to the country, zone or export premises from which fish are exported to Australia. If the fish originated from a country other than the exporting country within 6 months of export, certification attesting to the health of the source fish population must accompany all shipments.
- d. Countries, zones or premises declared free or in the process of establishing freedom from specified disease agents or pests, must take adequate precautions to prevent introduction of the disease agent or pest into the country, zone or premises, including via infected fish or water.
- e. Certification for SVCV and *A. salmonicida* must be based on a minimum testing frequency of twice a year (at approximately 6 month intervals) for each of the previous 2 years prior to issuing of the certificate. The number of fish sampled must ensure a 95% confidence level of disease agent/pest detection in a source fish population with an agent prevalence of 2%. The population size is defined as the number of fish of the same species that share a common water supply and originate from the same broodstock.
- f. After two years of surveillance with laboratory tests and in the absence of suspect clinical signs or suspect or positive test results, twice yearly testing must continue but the sample size at each inspection may be reduced to 30 fish of the species being exported (including broodfish when available), provided that all introductions of new fish to the population are sourced from fish populations that meet an equivalent or superior health standard.