



NOTIFICATION TO CLIENTS

Fish Submissions NOT from Pacific Ocean Watershed

Date: 31-12-2018

To: All PAHC clients submitting Fish Submissions NOT from the Pacific Ocean Watershed

Laboratories in Canada that import aquatic animals or infectious materials with aquatic animal disease agents into Canada already require an import permit from the CFIA. Similar requirements are now necessary for movement of aquatic animals or infectious materials to laboratories **within** Canada. The permit issued to the BC Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Health Centre Laboratory is known as the “Closed Premise Permit” and allows for submission of fish or fish tissues for diagnostic testing where these fish or fish tissues originate from Infected, Buffer or Provisionally Free Areas for one or more of the CFIA declared diseases. This typically refers to fish or fish tissue submissions originating from outside of the Pacific Ocean Watershed.

In order for the Animal Health Centre to meet the requirements of the Closed Premise Permit issued by the CFIA, clients submitting Fish samples NOT from the Pacific Ocean Watershed must adhere to the following conditions when submitting to the laboratory:

1. Specimens must be packaged according to Transportation of Dangerous Goods - watertight inner packaging surrounded by absorbent material, watertight secondary inner packaging and sturdy outer packaging e.g. corrugated cardboard. Please refer to the TDG regulations from the Government of Canada:
<https://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/tdg/clear-tofc-211.htm>
2. Shipping containers and packaging material must be new or confirmed to be decontaminated (*refer to table 1 at end of this document for recommended disinfectants).
3. The specimen being submitted to the laboratory is not under any movement restriction imposed under a law of Canada or a province, and is not intended for destruction for disease control purposes.
4. The “**Fish NOT from Pacific Ocean Watershed**” submission form must accompany the submission, be completed in full, declarations initialed and submission form signed and dated. The submission form may be found on our website at:
<http://www.gov.bc.ca/animalhealthcentre>

Note that specimens must be shipped in accordance to the Health of Animals regulations (Humane Shipment of Animals) – Part XII section 138: https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/regulations/C.R.C.,_c._296/page-16.html#h-70

Please note that under the permit conditions the Animal Health Centre, BC Ministry of Agriculture, is required to report to the CFIA if any of the following occur:

1. The reportable disease status of the fish or fish tissue has not remained the same as declared for the area of origin of the animal or thing.
2. Loss of integrity of packaging during transport of the fish or fish tissue to the laboratory.
3. The fish or fish tissue are under movement restriction imposed under a law of Canada or a province, and are intended for destruction for disease control purposes.

Please contact the Animal Health Centre, BC Ministry of Agriculture, if you have any questions regarding these requirements.

Jane Pritchard

Executive Director/Chief Veterinary Officer
 Plant and Animal Health Centre
 BC Ministry of Agriculture

***Table 1 – Appropriate Disinfectants** – clean surfaces of organic debris prior to disinfection

Disinfectant	Contact Time	Fungicidal	Bactericidal	Virucidal	Tuberculocidal	Sporicidal
1:200 6% Household Bleach:Water	10 min	X	X	X	X	X
1% Virkon	10 min	X	X	X		X
100ppm Ovadine (PVP Iodine) 10ml Ovadine/1 litre clean water	10 min	X	X	X		