

Japan's Comments on the Proposed Amendments of the Aquatic Animal Health Code and the Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals in the report of the meeting of the OIE Aquatic Health Standards Commission in February 2011

Comments

- **Annex 18 – Aquatic Manual – Criteria for listing species as susceptible to infection with a specific pathogen**

NOTE

Please find the following specific comments in which proposed insertion is underlined and proposed deletion is ~~struck-out~~. Any deletion or insertion by Japan shall be shaded in grey on this paper.

Criteria for Listing Species as Susceptible to Infection With a Specific Pathogen

Specific Comments

(Proposed Text)

Criteria for Listing Species as Susceptible to Infection with a Specific Pathogen

3. Criteria for infection

The presence of a multiplying or otherwise developing or latent pathogenic *agent* in or on the live aquatic animal should be observed for infection of a host species.

In addition, a combination of these the following criteria may-should be used to assess decide infection of a host species:

- i) presence of an infectious or a viable organism, in or on, the live aquatic animal;
- ii) evidence of multiplication or other development of the organism;
- iii) clinical and pathological changes associated with the infection; and/or
- iv) specific location of the pathogen.

(Rationale)

Japan would like to draw attention of the Aquatic Animal Health Commission to the term “infection” defined in the glossary of the Aquatic Code. According to the report of the Aquatic Animals Commission, the proposed text in the Aquatic Manual will be applied for both of the Aquatic Code and Manual, therefore, this definition should be followed.

“Infection means the presence of a multiplying or otherwise developing or latent pathogenic *agent* in a host.” This term is understood to include infestation where the pathogenic agent is a parasite in or on a host.”

According to the definition, i) and ii) of proposed criteria 3. are prerequisite in order to be assessed as infected. Therefore, Japan proposes to amend the description to make it in line with it.

In addition, Japan believes that iii) and iv) may be useful to identify the specific infected pathogen but not the required condition to judge whether aquatic animals are infected or not. Therefore, Japan proposes to make these two conditions as option.