

Japan's Comments on the report of the meeting of the
OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission in October 2011

Date: 19 January 2012

List of comments

1. Report of the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Assessing the Criteria for Listing Aquatic Animal Species as Susceptible to Infection with a Specific Pathogen
2. Assessment for listing of Infection with ostreid herpesvirus-1 (including OsHV-1 μ var) as an emerging disease

**Report of the OIE *ad hoc* Group on Assessing the Criteria for Listing
Aquatic Animal Species as Susceptible to Infection with a Specific
Pathogen**

General Comments

Regarding susceptibility of goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) to koi herpesvirus disease, it is our great pleasure that Japan's comments contribute to prepare an OIE manual. Japan is ready to submit additional information and/or to reply to questions from the Commission and *ad hoc* Group if required.

Assessment for listing of Infection with ostreid herpesvirus-1 (including OsHV-1 μ var) as an emerging disease

General Comments

Japan opposes to list all genetic types of ostreid herpesvirus-1 (OsHV-1) as an emerging disease.

Pathogenicity of OsHV-1 is significantly different according to the genetic types of the virus and not all genetic types of OsHV-1 causes increased mortality such as OsHV-1 μ var.

According to our recent study, nonlethal OsHV-1, which has a specific genome region different from those observed in OsHV-1 μ var reported in Europe, is identified. Although there is the deletion consisted of consecutive nucleic acids in C2/C6 genome region, there is no mutation replacing amino acid in this nonlethal virus.

Japan considers that it is appropriate to list lethal OsHV-1 μ var only. Nonlethal virus, which does not fulfill criteria for listing, should not be listed to avoid reporting burden and over restriction on trade. For this purpose, clear definition of lethal OsHV-1 μ var, including its genetic characteristics, should be developed.

Japan is ready to contribute to the discussion and is willing to submit a scientific paper, which is under preparation, on request.