

Quarantine Requirements for the Importation of Live Crustaceans and Molluscs

(Draft amendments)

(In case of any discrepancy between the English version and the Chinese text of these Requirements, the Chinese text shall govern.)

1. The scope of species and pertinent diseases of concern of crustaceans and molluscs to which these Requirements apply is shown in the attached Tables 1 and 2.

~~The applicant shall apply for an import permit from a central competent authority if the species of live crustaceans and molluscs are referred to Article 24 of Wildlife Conservation Act as protected wildlife or Article 27 as wildlife which are not domestic species.~~

~~The importation of live crustaceans and molluscs for human consumption shall comply with Article 11 of Act Governing Food Sanitation.~~

2. Sample collection, testing and surveillance as referred to in these Requirements must be conducted in accordance with relevant provisions in the Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals of the World Organisation for Animal Health (hereinafter referred to as the OIE Aquatic Manual). For diseases with no sampling, testing or surveillance methods prescribed in the OIE Aquatic Manual, methods that have been published in international scientific journals are to be used.

Disease incubation periods referred to in these Requirements are those specified in the OIE Aquatic Manual or the Aquatic Animal Health Code of the OIE (hereinafter referred to as the OIE Aquatic Code). For diseases with incubation periods not specified in the OIE Aquatic Manual or OIE Aquatic Code, incubation periods stated in articles published in international scientific journals shall apply. If no such information can be found either in the OIE Aquatic Manual, OIE Aquatic Code or international scientific journals, the incubation period will be 30 days.

3. The importation of live crustaceans and molluscs listed in Tables 1 and 2 for aquaculture or rearing purpose shall comply with the following conditions:

- (1) The animals must be kept for at least fourteen days prior to exportation at a water area or an aquaculture facility which is under the supervision of the exporting country's government. Within a period of three months prior to the exportation, there must be no incidents of high mortality occurring in that specific species of crustaceans or molluscs which are caused by communicable diseases or unknown etiology in the water area or aquaculture facility of origin.

(2) The consignments shall meet one of the following conditions:

I. The pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2 are notifiable diseases in the exporting country. Basic biosecurity measures have been implemented at the water area or aquaculture facility of origin for at least the previous two years; or

II. Within a period of thirty days immediately preceding the exportation, samples are collected from the water area or aquaculture facility of origin for testing by a laboratory designated by the exporting country's government for the pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2. The results must be negative.

(3) ~~Three~~ Within seven days prior to its leaving from the water area or aquaculture facility of origin, the animal must be inspected and found healthy and be free from infestation of ectoparasites or any clinical signs of communicable diseases.

Basic biosecurity measures referred to in Section 2 of the preceding paragraph are defined as follows:

(1) The water area or aquaculture facility of origin has been subjected to an official health surveillance scheme conducted by a laboratory designated by the exporting country's government. According to the surveillance results, the pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2 have not occurred for a minimum period of two consecutive years in the water area or aquaculture facility of origin; and

(2) The water area or aquaculture facility of origin must only introduce aquatic broodstock from areas free from the pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2, or from water areas or aquaculture facilities where basic biosecurity measures have been implemented.

4. The importation of live crustaceans and molluscs for human consumption must comply with one of the following conditions:

(1) The pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2 are notifiable diseases in the exporting country. The water area or aquaculture facility of origin has been subjected to an official health surveillance scheme conducted by a laboratory designated by the exporting country's government. According to the surveillance results, the pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2 have not occurred for a minimum of two consecutive years in the water area or aquaculture facility of origin; or

(2) Within a period of thirty days immediately preceding the exportation, samples are collected from the water area or aquaculture facility of origin for testing by a laboratory designated by

the exporting country's government for the pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2. The results must be negative.

5. The packaging, transportation and disinfection of the live crustaceans and molluscs must comply with relevant provisions in the OIE Aquatic Code.

6. Live crustaceans and molluscs (except for those complying with Article 7) to be imported into Taiwan must be accompanied by an original health certificate issued by the exporting country's competent authority. The certificate must specify the following information in English:

(1) Animal species and origin

I. ~~Species:~~ Scientific names and common name.

II. Name and address of the water area or aquaculture facility of origin.

III. Age or development stage.

IV. Quantity and total weight.

V. Name of the exporting country.

VI. Name and address of the exporter.

VII. Name of the exporting country's competent authority.

(2) Destination

I. Country of the destination.

II. Name and address of the importer.

(3) Results of quarantine inspection

I. For consignments for aquaculture or rearing purposes, explicit confirmation of compliance with Article 3 and specifying one of the following information:

(I) Name of the diseases under official surveillance in accordance with Article 3; or

(II) Name of the diseases tested within 30 days prior to export, and the sample collection date, number of samples collected, name of the testing laboratory, test methods and the test results.

II. For consignments for human consumption, explicit confirmation of compliance with Article 4 and specifying one of the following information:

(I) Name of the diseases under official surveillance in accordance with Article 4; or

(II) Name of the diseases tested within 30 days prior to export, and the sample collection date, number of samples collected, name of the testing laboratory, test methods and the test results.

~~III. The importation of live crustaceans and molluscs for human consumption shall attest that the consignment have complied with the Article 11 of Act Governing Food Sanitation.~~

(4) Date and place the certificate is issued, name and official stamp of the issuing authority, and name and signature of the certifying officer.

~~6. The format of the veterinary certificate may be drawn up in reference to the model health certificate for international trade in live aquatic animals and gametes of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code.~~

7. To import live crustaceans and molluscs which have been granted importing approval by the fishery authority of Taiwan as part of its national genetic renewal project or for specific research purposes, but fails to provide an original health certificate in accordance with Article 6, the consignments must be detained in a post-entry quarantine facility designated by the animal quarantine authority of Taiwan until all the following conditions have been complied with:

- (1) The quarantine period must be or longer than three times of the longest incubation period among the pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2 (hereinafter referred to as the longest incubation period);
- (2) During the post-entry quarantine, samples must be collected twice consecutively, with at least the longest incubation period apart, for testing of the pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2; the results must be negative;
- (3) During the post-entry quarantine period, the animals must be identified individually under the instructions of the animal quarantine authority of Taiwan; and
- (4) During the post-entry quarantine period, only the imported consignments, their offspring and sentinel animals approved by the animal quarantine authority of Taiwan are allowed to be kept in the designated quarantine area of the post-entry quarantine facility. Personnel without the permission of the animal quarantine authority of Taiwan are restricted from access to the designated quarantine facility.

The designated post-entry quarantine facility as referred to in the preceding paragraph must comply with all of the following conditions. The equipment and operation must be inspected by the animal quarantine authority of Taiwan to confirm it is in compliance with the biosecurity principles.

- (1) The post-entry quarantine facility must be so constructed to be able to prevent the entry of crustaceans, molluscs, or animals belonging to Phylum Chordata from outside and the escape or flowing out of live crustaceans or molluscs from inside;
- (2) Monitoring system must be installed to cover each entrance and exit. Electronic locks must be used to control the entrance and exit of personnel. The post-entry quarantine facility must be equipped with an independent water system with filtration mechanism for incoming water supply and disinfection mechanism for the drainage water; and
- (3) If the animals are dispensed in separate pools, water of the pools must be effectively segregated from each other. Any exchange or contamination of water between/among pools will render them as one pool. Appliances must be confined to be used in only one pool to

avoid cross contamination. Any exchange or joint use of appliances between/among pools will also render them as one pool.

In addition to complying with Article 2, sample collection and testing mentioned in the preceding paragraph must also comply with the following conditions:

(1) Consecutive sample collections must be conducted with at least the longest disease incubation period apart. For each sample collection in every consignment, at least thirty animals must be sampled for testing. For consignments with less than 30 animals, all animals must be sampled;

(2) If sentinel animals are used for testing, samples must be collected after the sentinel animals have been kept in the same water system with the imported animals for a period that is at least one longest incubation period. The sample size for sentinel animals must be no less than the sample size designated for that specific consignment.

When tested positive of the pertinent diseases of concern listed in the attached Table 1 or 2, all animals kept in the same water system must be rejected or culled.

Attached Table 1

Species and pertinent diseases of concern for the importation of live crustaceans subjected to quarantine inspection

(Not amended)

Attached Table 2

Species and pertinent diseases of concern for the importation of live molluscs subjected to quarantine inspection

(Not amended)