GUIDANCE TO MEETING BAP HATCHERY FIFO REQUIREMENTS

FINFISH, CRUSTACEAN AND MOLLUSK HATCHERIES AND NURSERIES STANDARD (Version 1, September 2014)

BAP recognizes the pivotal role played in the aquaculture supply chain by hatcheries, since they provide the first life stages of animals used to stock farms. As such the health and quality of hatchery seedstocks are of critical importance for farms, and the nutritional profile of feeds used in hatcheries can have an important impact on those characteristics. Feeds used in various stages of the hatchery production process may include such items as live cultured phytoplankton, zooplankton, fresh and frozen marine products such as squid or clams, and formulated feeds. The nutritional requirements of both broodstock and early life stages of hatchery-reared stocks vary considerably from species to species, and production results can be significantly impacted when substitutions are made for critical ingredients traditionally used in formulated feeds, including marine meals and oils. The Animal Welfare component of the BAP Hatchery Standard (Section 12) emphasizes the importance for hatcheries to provide live aquatic of the best possible quality:

Hatcheries shall demonstrate that all facility operations are designed and operated with animal welfare in mind, and maximum survival and seed quality shall be sought.

BAP is in the process of updating the Finfish, Crustacean and Mollusk Hatcheries and Nurseries Standard, and the Technical Advisory Committee for this standard has strongly recommended, with the objective of supplying farms with live aquatic products of the highest possible quality, that the assignment of limits for use of fish meal and oil (as expressed by the Fish In, Fish Out Ratio, clause 7.11) be eliminated, while retaining all the other feed biosecurity and fishmeal and fish oil conservation requirements of Section 7. The FIFO limit clause in the current BAP hatchery standard is the following:

7.11: The fish in:fish out ratio shall not exceed 1.5.

Guidance:

Data concerning FIFO ratios (but with no set limit) shall be collected from all hatcheries that use over 500 MT of formulated feed/year (clause 7.10) for evaluation purposes by BAP. FIFO ratios may exceed 1.5 in hatchery and broodstock production systems in situations where nutritional requirements are a concern. Related requirements concerning sourcing feeds responsibly (clauses 7.7-7.9, and 7.12) are still applicable.

This guidance is effective to all BAP-certified hatcheries and hatchery facilities seeking BAP certification worldwide with immediate effect.