

# Animal Health Certification Requirements for Import of Live Ornamental Fish into Malaysia

## 1. Scope

1.1 Under the Fisheries Act 1985, fish is defined as any aquatic animal or plant live, sedentary or not, and includes all species of finfish, crustacea, mollusc, aquatic mammals, or their eggs or spawn, fry, fingerling, spat or young, but does not include any species of otters, turtles or their eggs.

1.2 Malaysia had gazetted and will be enforcing the Fisheries (Fish Disease Control Compliance for Exports and Imports) Regulations 2012, Fisheries Act 1985. The requirements for imported live ornamental fish under the regulation are as follows:

- a) Comply with the measures for fish disease control prescribed by the competent authority
- b) Source the fish from culture system approved by the competent authority of the exporting country
- c) Include the original fish health certificate issued by the competent authority of the exporting country

1.3 With regard to paragraph 1.2 (c), health certificates are required for every shipment of ornamental fish imported into Malaysia which are either susceptible<sup>1</sup> or can act as vector to the following disease(s):

No.	Disease	Susceptible species	Species which shall be regarded as vectors
i.	Spring viraemia of carp (SVC)	As listed in OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code	-
ii.	Koi herpesvirus disease (KHV)	As listed in OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code	-
iii.	Epizootic ulcerative syndrome (EUS)	As listed in OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code	-
iv.	Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis (EHN)	As listed in OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code	Goldfish ( <i>Carassius auratus</i> ), koi carp ( <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> )
v.	Furunculosis ( <i>Aeromonas Salmonicida</i> )	Goldfish ( <i>Carassius auratus</i> )	-
vi.	White spot disease (WSD) (White Spot Syndrome virus WSSV)	As listed in OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code	-

<sup>1</sup> A susceptible species is a species of aquatic animal in which infection has been demonstrated by natural causes or by experimental exposures to the disease agent that mimics the natural pathways for infection as defined by OIE.

1.4 Irrespective of paragraph 1.3, health certificates are required for every shipment of marine ornamental fish imported into Malaysia.

## **2. Documentation**

The importation shall be accompanied by an original copy of health certificate issued by the competent authority (CA) of the exporting country in English, and providing information on the following:

### 2.1 Consignment details

- i. Name and address of the aquaculture establishment
- ii. Country, zone or compartment and place of origin
- iii. Date of the shipment
- iv. Name of the exporting country
- v. Name and address of the consignor
- vi. Name of the competent authority of the exporting country
- vii. Country of destination
- viii. Name and address of the consignee

### 2.2 Identification of the animals

- i. Species: Scientific name and common name
- ii. Quantity (in pieces)
- iii. Total number of packages

### 2.3 Health Information

2.3.1 Health attestation that the fish in the consignment are free from the diseases listed under paragraph 1.2 as follows:

2.3.1.1 The fish originate from a country, zone or compartment, farm or an area or an aquaculture establishment that has been subject to an official fish health surveillance system equivalent to the relevant OIE standard and is officially recognized (by the CA of the country) as being free from Spring viraemia of carp (SVC)\*, Koi herpesvirus disease (KHV)\*, Epizootic ulcerative syndrome (EUS)\*, Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis (EHN)\* and White spot disease (WSD)\* and any emerging diseases.

2.3.1.2 For Furunculosis (*Aeromonas salmonicida*)\*, there is absence of clinical signs.

2.3.1.3 The fish have been examined within seven (7) days before loading and found to be healthy and free from any clinical signs of disease

2.3.1.4 The fish have not been kept in water in common with koi carp<sup>2</sup> or farmed foodfish (fish farmed for human consumption including recreational fishing).

\* Keep as appropriate for the susceptible species

---

<sup>2</sup> Except in the case of export of koi carp.

2.3.2 Additional health requirements for consignment(s) containing marine ornamental fish:

2.3.2.1 The fish are not sourced from a population associated with any significant infectious disease or pests and there have not been any unusual or substantial outbreaks of infectious fish disease or pests in the areas from which the fish have been collected during the 6 months prior to collection.

2.3.2.2 The fish were collected from an area at least five (5) kilometers from any foodfish aquaculture operation and the fish in the consignment have not come into contact with water, equipment or fish associated with farmed foodfish (fish farmed for human consumption including recreational fishing).

2.3.2.3 The fish are wild caught and have not been bred or hatched on a farm or other premises.

2.3.3 The aforementioned health certificate may be drawn up taking reference from the model certificate of the Aquatic Animal Health Code of the OIE and shall include the following:

- i. The certificate reference number on every page
- ii. Name, address, official position, date, signature and official stamp of the CA

### **3. Labeling of consignments**

3.1 The consignment is identified by a legible label on the exterior of every packing bag or container with the following information:

3.1.1 Name of aquaculture establishment

3.1.2 Name of consignee