

My Number: DAPH/VRA/1|1|8/10/5
Department of Animal Production and Health
Peradeniya
Date : 23.07.2025.

Director (Animal Health/ Animal Breeding/ Veterinary Regulatory Affairs/ Livestock Planning and Economics/ Human Resource Development/ Veterinary Research)

All Provincial Directors
District Deputy Directors
District Veterinary Officers
Veterinary Investigation Officers
All Divisional Veterinarians

Registration of export-oriented ornamental fish establishments/farms and maintenance of relevant biosecurity and health conditions.

In accordance with the powers vested in me under Section 16 of the Animal Diseases Act, No. 59 of 1992 the following shall be done with effect from 31.07.2025 for the registration and renewal of registration of all export-oriented ornamental fish establishments/farms and for the maintenance of relevant biosecurity measures.

1. Registration:

- I. An application shall be submitted as per **Annexure 1** for registration of all export-oriented ornamental fish establishments/farms.
- II. Every such application shall be submitted with (a) Sketch diagram of the establishment/ farm layout, (b) Copy of the NAQDA registration certificate and (c) Declaration of fish species and varieties in the ornamental fish operation.
- III. If the application is duly submitted, a technical committee of the department appointed by the Director of Animal Health shall visit the premises and conduct an on-site inspection and if the committee is satisfied with the criteria given, it may be recommended for registration or may be required to submission of other relevant document (reports and plans etc.) necessary for making recommendations. In case of non-compliance, the Director of Animal Health shall order a second on-site inspection.
- IV. In terms of the Animal Diseases Act No. 59 of 1992, such recommendation may be made by means of a statement of the following specific topics.
 - Compliance with biosecurity measures.
 - Adequacy of physical facilities on the premises.
 - Availability of trained and experienced personnel in the proper functioning and management.

- V. The Registration Certificate for a registered export-oriented ornamental fish establishment /farm shall be issued by the Director (Veterinary Regulatory Affairs) as per **Annexure 2**. The registration so executed shall be valid for one year from the date of such registration and shall be renewable on application made in that behalf.
- VI. The Director General or any officer authorized by him/her shall have legal authority to visit such premises and inspect them whenever he/she deems it appropriate.
2. Registration Renewal:
The registration should be renewed annually. The farm/ornamental fish establishment shall provide information on any changes made at the renewal of the registration
3. Export standards maintenance
- 3.1. Biosecurity
- I. All registered export-oriented ornamental fish establishment /farm should follow biosecurity procedures according to the guideline published on the Department web site.
- II. Authorized Officers shall visit the establishment/ farm in every six months for monitoring for fish health and biosecurity measures adopted.
- 3.2. Disease surveillance
- I. Active surveillance programs on testing of WOAHP listed diseases should be implemented at subsidized rates for registered export-oriented ornamental fish establishment /farm in accordance with the annual inspection plan.
- II. The exporters should provide the information of required tests related to importing country in advance. DAPH will proceed such special sampling and testing accordingly and the exporter should bear the testing fees.
- 3.3. Laboratory Testing
- I. The Veterinary Research Institute has been designated as the authorized laboratory for the diagnosis of animal diseases in Sri Lanka. When necessary, the Veterinary Research Institute shall send samples to other international laboratories operating under the World Health Organization for confirmation.
- II. Specialized testing facilities have been established at the selected veterinary investigation centres for the diagnosis of animal diseases, and the Veterinary Research Institute shall conduct proficiency testing on the suitability of those testing facilities. Accordingly, those centres have been authorized to provide services and if further confirmation of the test results obtained from them is required, they should be referred to the Veterinary Research Institute for confirmation. The Veterinary Research Institute has

the final authority to confirm the results related to the confirmation of diseases affecting aquatic animals.

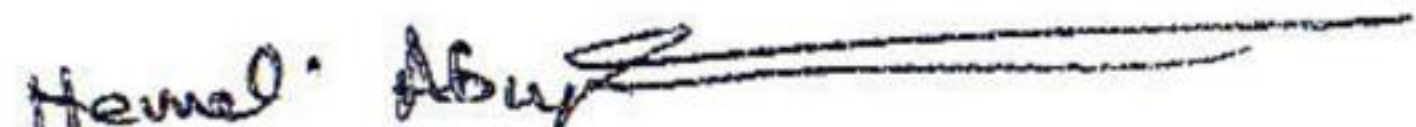
- III. In cases of epidemic diseases, all samples should be obtained from the relevant District Veterinary Investigation Centres to the Central Veterinary Investigation Centre of the Veterinary Research Institute.

3.4. In an emergency fish disease outbreak or deaths

The farm/ornamental fish establishment owner must inform the actual scenario to the Government veterinary surgeon of the area which such premises are situated for necessary action.

4. Publication of Aquaculture farm details.

The name, address, latitude and longitude of the registered and renewed all export-oriented ornamental fish establishments/farms should be published on the department website and it is essential that every veterinary surgeon in his division is aware of the information available and act according to the instructions of this circular.



Dr. K.A.C.H.A. Kothalawala
Director General
Department of Animal Production and Health

Dr. (Mrs.) K.A.C.H.A. Kothalawala
Director General
Dept. of Animal Production & Health
P. O. Box 13, Gatambe
Peradeniya

Copies:

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| 4. Director General, Department of National Zoological Gardens | - For information |
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