



# Organic Food Federation

## Explanatory Note 329

*These notes are intended to help applicants comply with OFF Aquaculture Standards and, where applicable Organic EC Regulation 2092/91. They are not exhaustive and are for explanation only. In cases of doubt the OFF should be consulted.*

### Certification of AQUACULTURE

There are currently no legally enforceable organic standards for aquaculture in the EC. However aquaculture operations can be certified as compliant with the Federations Private Standards:

- Book 6a Salmonids (salmon and trout) approved by Defra
- Book 6b Gadoids (cod, hake, haddock etc.) approved by Defra
- Book 6c Bi-valves (Oysters, Mussels, Clams, Scallops) approved by Defra

All stock must have been grown on from young stock reared from eggs or spat at a registered and certified hatchery.

The transport of young stock to production cages must be by approved contractors in compliance with the Federations Private Organic standards:

Organically managed fish farming operations including growing, slaughter, preparation and labelling for market must comply with all local and national requirements relating to environmental protection. When a third party carries out preparation for the market or further processing, the latter must also be registered and certified.

All compounded feeds must be produced to comply with the Federation's Aquaculture standards and the Organic Feed Requirements (EC2092/91)

All further processing of fish e.g. Portioning, Freezing, Smoking, Curing, Recipe products (based on the farmed fish) etc. must be carried out in accordance with OFF Organic Standards Book 3 and labelled in accordance with Book 4.

Certification will not be awarded if there are any deviations from the Federation's standards unless the deviation is the subject of a prior unexpired derogation from OFF.

Inspection reports are assessed by the Federations Certification Officer/s. When there are irregularities or non-compliances the Certification Officer (CO) will require the operator provide documentary evidence of the measures taken for the correction and prevention of future recurrences of them.

The CO will recommend certification if and when there are no outstanding non-compliances.

When a certificate is due for renewal, the inspection and certification process will be repeated and after assessments of the renewal inspection report the CO will recommend renewal of certification or withholding of certification if there are non-compliances.

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Document No:	Revision No:	Issue Date:	Issued By:	Page No.
329	1	29/08/07	JW	1 of 1