Declaration from the UK of a compartment free from KHV, at New Lodge Farm, Carshalton, England.

1. Introduction

New Lodge Farm (Neil Hardy Aquatica Ltd (NHA)) is a secure ornamental wholesale facility comprising a single epidemiological unit, holding species of fish susceptible to KHV. Confirmation of disease free compartment status will allow NHA to continue to export Koi carp to other EU states independent of what status the rest of UK adopts for KHV. As the UK has not yet declared its KHV status the only option for NHA to continue trading to areas that have recently declared, or are seeking, freedom from KHV was to seek disease free compartment status for KHV..

2. The compartment

The compartment is a single epidemiological unit and is not influenced by the health status of surrounding waters. The facility is a secure premises containing two separate closed recirculation systems with no means of escape for the fish and there is no threat from flooding or infiltration from surrounding watercourses.

The facility has previously traded as an SVC free site, but had not traded in fish confirmed to be free of KHV. The facility has therefore been cleared of all aquatic animals, cleaned and disinfected under the supervision, and to the satisfaction, of the Fish Health Inspectorate. The water supply to the facility comprises a mains potable water supply with all discharge to tertiary sewerage treatment. All fish introduced to the facility since its disinfection have been health certified for KHV and SVC from disease free sources.

3. Supporting information required by 2009/177/EC (Annex IV)

Requirements/information needed	Information/further explanation and justification
1. Identification of the programme	
1.1. Declaring Member State	United Kingdom
1.2. Competent authority (address, fax, e-mail)	Fish Health Inspectorate Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science Barrack Road, The Nothe, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 8UB UK Tel: +44 (1305) 206673/4 Fax: +44 (1305) 206602 Email: fhi@cefas.co.uk
1.3. Reference of this document	UK/7/2010 (KHV)
1.4. Date sent to the Commission	
2. Type of communication	
2.1. ☑ Declaration of disease-free status	
2.2. ☐ Submission of application for disease-free status	
3. National legislation ([1])	
4. Diseases	
4.1. Fish	☐ VHS ☐ IHN ☐ ISA ☑ KHV
4.2. Molluscs	☐ infection with *Marteilia refringens* ☐ infection with *Bonamia ostreae*
4.3. Crustaceans	☐ White spot disease
5. Grounds for disease-free status	
5.1. ☐ No susceptibles ([2])	
5.2. ☐ Pathogen not viable ([3])	
5.3. ☐ Historic free-status ([4])	
5.4. ☐ Targeted surveillance ([5])	
6. General information	
6.1. Competent authority ([6])	The Cefas Fish Health Inspectorate (Cefas FHI) acts for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) in undertaking statutory and inspection duties resulting from the EU Fish Health regime and other national legislation in the area of fish and shellfish health within England and Wales. Inspectorate's duties include: • Monitoring for notifiable diseases or other serious diseases. • Investigating suspected cases of notifiable disease or abnormal mortalities.

	• The placing of statutory controls. The Inspectorate also licenses and monitors imports of fish and shellfish from other countries and runs an enforcement programme aimed at preventing the illegal importation of these animals. The Cefas Weymouth laboratory is designated as a national Reference Laboratory under the EU Fish Health regime and an OIE Reference laboratory for KHV, and has modern diagnostic facilities. Routine samples taken by the Inspectorate are screened for serious fish pathogens, using methods laid down by the EU Fish Health regime. The laboratory also has experts in molecular biology, virology, bacteriology, parasitology and histopathology working in multidisciplinary teams applying the latest techniques, to assist in the identification of the cause of disease outbreaks.
6.2. Organisation, supervision of all stakeholders involved in the programme to achieve disease-free status ([7])	New Lodge Farm is a secure ornamental facility with two recirculation systems but acting as a single biosecure, epidemiological unit. The systems are used to hold species of fish susceptible to KHV. New Lodge farm has been authorised as an aquaculture production business (APB), in accordance with Directive 2006/88/EC, under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 and complies with the import/export and health certification requirements in these Regulations and as set out in Council Directive 2006/88/EC and Council Regulation 1251/2008/EC. New Lodge (NHA) imports carp from listed third countries and exports to other Member States. In order to facilitate continued trade to areas of the EU with freedom or control programmes for KHV, it is necessary for New Lodge (NHA) to become a disease free compartment for this disease, and to operate as an open ornamental facility. As such, Cefas FHI will monitor imports and carry out risk-based surveillance. Under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009, New Lodge is required to notify Cefas FHI of any increased mortality or suspicion or outbreak of disease resulting in fish mortalities.
6.3. An overview of the structure of the aquaculture industry in the area in question (disease-free Member State, zone or compartment) including types of production and species kept	New Lodge (NHA) is an ornamental holding facility in England with a significant trade supplying ornamental facilities in other Member States. New Lodge (NHA) holds Koi carp, goldfish and other coldwater ornamental species in a secure epidemiological unit. The closed recirculation units are not influenced by the health status of other waters and there is no risk of escape or threat from flooding or infiltration from surrounding watercourses. There are multiple farms, importers and fisheries within England and Wales holding and producing species that are susceptible to KHV. There is no risk to existing farms, importers or fisheries in England and Wales from the secure ornamental facility at New Lodge or vice versa.
6.4. The notification to the competent authority of the suspicion and confirmation of the disease(s) in question has been compulsory since when (date)?	KHV became notifiable in England and Wales in 2007 and subsequently on 27 March 2009 under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009. Under these Regulations Authorised businesses (APB's) are required to notify Cefas FHI of any increased or unusual mortalities or any suspicion of a notifiable disease.

6.5. Early detection system in place throughout the Member State, enabling the competent authority to undertake effective disease investigation and reporting since when (date)? ([8])	Imports into New Lodge of KHV susceptible or vector species will only be accepted from within the EC or from a third country listed by the EC. As the site operator wishes to be able to sell fish to all types of site within the EU, all imports to the site must be accompanied by a health certificate from the place of origin. Under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009, it is an offence for a relevant person who knows or suspects that a listed disease is present in any aquatic animal to fail to notify Cefas FHI immediately. The owner and staff of New Lodge (NHA) are well aware of the legal obligations and are able to identify the characteristics of listed and emerging diseases. The owner has at least 25 years experience in the ornamental fish industry The FHI is responsible for the investigation of disease in the wild, farmed and imported fish and responds rapidly to any report of suspected disease in fish. In England and Wales, Cefas is the competent authority and has the capacity to investigate and report on suspected outbreaks using histology, virus isolation and PCR.
6.6. Source of aquaculture animals of species susceptible to the disease in question entering in the Member State, zone or compartments for farming	All stock entering the compartment must be accompanied by a health certificate from the place of origin declaring the source to be disease free for KHV. Checks will be made by the Border Inspection Post at point of entry, and by inspections by Cefas FHI at destination, of consignments entering the compartment. The FHI have confirmed that all stock entering the site has been sourced from farms declared KHV by the competent authorities in the source country.
6.7. Guidelines on good hygiene practice ([9])	New Lodge (NHA) operates in accordance to a biosecurity plan in accordance to authorisation under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 and has been inspected to ensure good biosecurity. This will continue to be assessed during visits by FHI. Goldfish and other coldwater species are held with the Koi carp but these species are not listed as a susceptible or vector species for KHV. They will be sourced from sites attested to be free of SVC.
6.8. Epidemiological situation of the disease in at least the previous 4 years before the commencement of the programme ([6])	New Lodge (NHA) has been in existence since March 2008 KHV became initially notifiable in England and Wales in 2007. During its existence there has been no occurrence of KHV at New Lodge (NHA) and no history of occurrence of any other notifiable or other serious diseases. The facility was cleared of stock and disinfected on 6th April 2010 under the supervision, and to the satisfaction, of Cefas FHI. The site has re-commenced operations, obtaining stock only from sources certified free of KHV and SVC as necessary.

6.9. Description of the submitted programme (7)	New Lodge (NHA) has been cleared of any previous stocks and disinfected in accordance to Cefas FHI requirements and satisfaction; it has received only stock certified free of KHV as checked by Cefas FHI. In accordance with Article 50 (1) (c) of 2006/88/EC, New Lodge wishes to apply for KHV disease free status as a separate compartment within England and Wales. The compartment is a secure premises consisting of one epidemiological unit which contains two closed recirculation units. The compartment is not influenced by the health status of surrounding waters, there is no means of escape for the fish and no threat from flooding or infiltration from surrounding watercourses. All subsequent imports will be sourced from KHV free certified stock and quarantined on site. In addition to this the site will be subject to a regular surveillance programme as dictated by the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009.
6.10. Duration of the programme	The site has already been cleared and disinfected and stocked with Koi Carp from certified KHV and SVC free sources.

7. Area covered

7.1. ☐ Member State		
7.2. ☐ Zone (entire water catchment area) ([10])		
7.3. ☐ Zone (part of water catchment area) ([11]) Identify and describe the artificial or natural barrier that delimits the zone and justify its capability to prevent the upward migration of aquatic animals from the lower stretches of the water catchment area		
7.4. ☐ Zone (more than one water catchment area) ([12])		
7.5. ☑ Compartment independent of the surrounding health status ([13])		New Lodge (NHA) is a separate compartment under a common biosecurity system containing ornamental aquatic animals with a distinct health status with respect to KHV. The compartment consists of a single epidemiological unit and is not influenced by the health status in surrounding waters. The unit contains two independent closed recirculation systems with no means of escape for the fish and there is no threat from flooding or infiltration from surrounding watercourses.
Identify and describe for each farm the water supply ([14])	☑ Well, borehole or spring ☑ Water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen ([15])	N/A – closed system

Identify and describe for each farm natural or artificial barriers and justify its capability to prevent that aquatic animals enter each farm in a compartment from the surrounding watercourses		N/A – closed system
Identify and describe for each farm the protection against flooding and infiltration of water from the surrounding watercourses		
7.6. ☐ Compartment dependent on the surrounding health status ([16])		
☐ One epidemiological unit due to geographical localisation and distance from other farms/farming areas ([17])		
☐ All farms comprising the compartment fall within a common biosecurity system ([18])		
☐ Any additional requirements ([19])		
8. Geographical demarcation ([20])		
8.1. Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)		New lodge Farm Neil Hardy Aquatics Ltd Woodmansterne Lane Carshalton Surrey SM5 4DQ National Grid Reference: TQ28386146 Authorisation number: EW050-C-780 See Figures 1 and 2; Figure 1 – Regional map (with position in England and Wales) showing surrounding towns and position of farm Figure 2 – Immediate neighbourhood
8.2. ☐ Non-free buffer zone ([21])	Geographical demarcation ([19])	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers, geographical situation and health status ([22])	
	Type of health surveillance	
8.3. ☐ Non-free zones or compartments ([23])	Geographical demarcation ([19])	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers, geographical situation and health status ([15])	
8.4. ☐ Extension of disease-free zone to other Member States ([24])	Geographical demarcation ([19])	
8.5. ☐ Existing disease-free zones/compartments in the vicinity	Geographical demarcation ([19])	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)	

9. Farms or mollusc farming areas which commence or recommence their activities ([25])

9.1. ☐ New farm		
9.2. ☑Recommencing farm	☐ Health history of farm known to competent authority	
	☐ Not subject to animal health measures in respect of listed diseases	
	☑ Farm cleaned, disinfected and, as necessary, fallowed	

([1]) National legislation in force applicable to the declaration of and application for disease-free status

([2]) Applicable if none of the species susceptible to the disease(s) in question is present in the Member State, zone or compartment, and where relevant in its water source.

([3]) Applicable if the pathogen is known not to be able to survive in the Member State, zone or compartment, and where relevant in its water source. Provide the scientific information supporting the inability of the pathogen to survive in the Member State, zone or compartment.

([4]) Applicable if susceptible species are present, but where there has not been any observed occurrence of the disease for at least a period of 10 years before the date of declaration of or application for the disease-free status, despite conditions that are conducive to its clinical expression, and if it complies mutatis mutandis with the requirements laid down in Part I.1 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC. This ground for disease-free status must be declared or applied for by 1 November 2008. Provide detailed information on the compliance with Part I.1 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC.

([5]) Applicable if targeted surveillance complying with Community requirements has been in place for at least a period of two years without the detection of the disease agent on farm, or in mollusc farming areas that rear any of the susceptible species.

Where there are parts of the Member State, zone or compartment in which the number of farms or mollusc farming areas is limited, but in which there are wild populations of susceptible species, information on the targeted surveillance in those wild populations shall be given.

Describe diagnostic methods and sampling schemes. When OIE or EU standards are applied, reference must be made to them. If not, describe them. Name the laboratories involved in the programme (national reference laboratory or designated laboratories).

([6]) A description shall be provided of the structure, competencies, duties and powers of the competent authority involved.

([7]) A description shall be provided of the competent authority in charge of the supervision and coordination of the programme and the different operators involved.

([8]) The early detection systems shall in particular ensure the rapid recognition of any clinical signs consistent with the suspicion of a disease, emerging disease, or unexplained mortality in farms or mollusc farming areas, and in the wild, and the rapid communication of the event to the competent authority with the aim of activating diagnostic investigation with minimum delay. The early detection system shall include at least the following:

([a]) broad awareness, among the personnel employed in aquaculture businesses or involved in the processing of aquaculture animals, of any signs consistent with the presence of a disease, and training of veterinarians of aquatic animals health specialists in detecting and reporting unusual disease occurrence;

([b]) veterinarians or aquatic animal health specialists trained in recognising and reporting suspicious disease occurrence;

([c]) access by the competent authority to laboratories with the facilities for diagnosing and differentiating listed and emerging diseases.

([9]) A description shall be provided in accordance with Article 9 of Directive 2006/88/EC.

([10]) An entire water catchment area from its sources to its estuary.

([11]) Part of a water catchment area from the source(s) to a natural or artificial barrier that prevents the upward migration of aquatic animals from the lower stretches of the water catchment area.

([12]) More than one water catchment area, including their estuaries, due to the epidemiological link between the catchment areas through the estuary.

([13]) Compartments comprising one or more farms or mollusc farming areas where the health status regarding a specific disease is independent of the health status regarding that disease of surrounding natural waters.

([14]) A compartment which is independent of the health status of surrounding waters, shall be supplied with water:

([a]) through a water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen in order to reduce the risk of the introduction of the disease to an acceptable level; or

([b]) directly from a well, a borehole or a spring. Where such water supply is situated outside the premises of the farm, the water shall be supplied directly to the farm, and be channelled through a pipe.

([15]) Provide technical information to demonstrate that the relevant pathogen is inactivated in order to reduce the risk of the introduction of the disease to an acceptable level.

([16]) Compartments comprising one or more farms or mollusc farming areas where the health status regarding a specific disease is dependent on the health status of surrounding natural waters regarding that disease.

([17]) A description shall be provided of the geographical localisation and the distance from other farms/farming areas that makes it possible to consider the compartment as one epidemiological unit.

([18]) A description shall be provided of the common biosecurity system.

([19]) Each farm or mollusc farming area in a compartment which is dependent on the health status of surrounding waters shall be subject to additional measures imposed by the competent authority, when considered necessary to prevent the introduction of diseases. Such measures may include the establishment of a buffer zone around the compartment in which a monitoring programme is carried out, and the establishment of additional protection against the intrusion of possible pathogen carriers or vectors.

([20]) The geographical demarcation shall be clearly described and identified on a map, which must be attached as an Annex to the declaration/application. Any substantial modification in the geographical demarcation of the zone or compartment to be declared free must be subjected to a new application.

([21]) In connection with a zone or a compartment dependent on the health status of surrounding waters, a buffer zone in which a monitoring programme is carried out shall be established, as appropriate. The demarcation of the buffer zones shall be such that it protects the disease-free zone from passive introduction of the disease. (Part II.1.5 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC).

([22]) Health status in accordance with Part A of Annex III to Directive 2006/88/EC.

([23]) Relevant in cases of declaration of disease-free Member States, where minor areas of the Member State are not considered disease-free.

([24]) Where a zone extends to more than one Member State, it may not be declared a disease-free zone unless the conditions set out in points 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 of Part II of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC apply to all areas of that zone. In that case both Member States concerned shall apply for approval for the part of the zone situated in their territory.

([25]) In accordance with Part II.4 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC.

4. Additional Information

New Lodge Farm, is part of the group of sites owned by Neil Hardy Aquatica Ltd. The group of sites comprises a range of sites from farm production of ornamental species to holding tropical ornamental species.

Three of the group of sites including New Lodge have held disease free status for SVC for over two years and in addition, the Farm production site (Zeals Fish Farm) is under a testing programme to attain disease free compartment status for KHV in addition to its existing SVC free status.

All imported fish for New Lodge are health certified from origin against KHV and SVC and are non-vaccinated. No fish enter the New Lodge site from other sites run by Neil Hardy Aquatica.

No vaccinated fish have ever been imported into this facility since its establishment.

All water is brought in from main line potable water.

Any discharge of water is into tertiary waste sewerage treatment.

There are no natural freshwater sources for potential escapes within 1 Km of radius.

There is no risk of flooding or of escapes.

Separate equipment is used for each recirculation unit. All equipment is disinfected in separate baths between usage.

Disinfectant footbaths are present at the entrance of the facility.

The photos below display the general layout of the facility and the disinfection of the facility.

Photo 1 – Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) being circulated through recirculation systems

Photo 2 – Layout of recirculation systems

7. Annex 1. Supporting figures.

Figure 1- Regional map (with position in England and Wales) showing surrounding towns and position of farm.

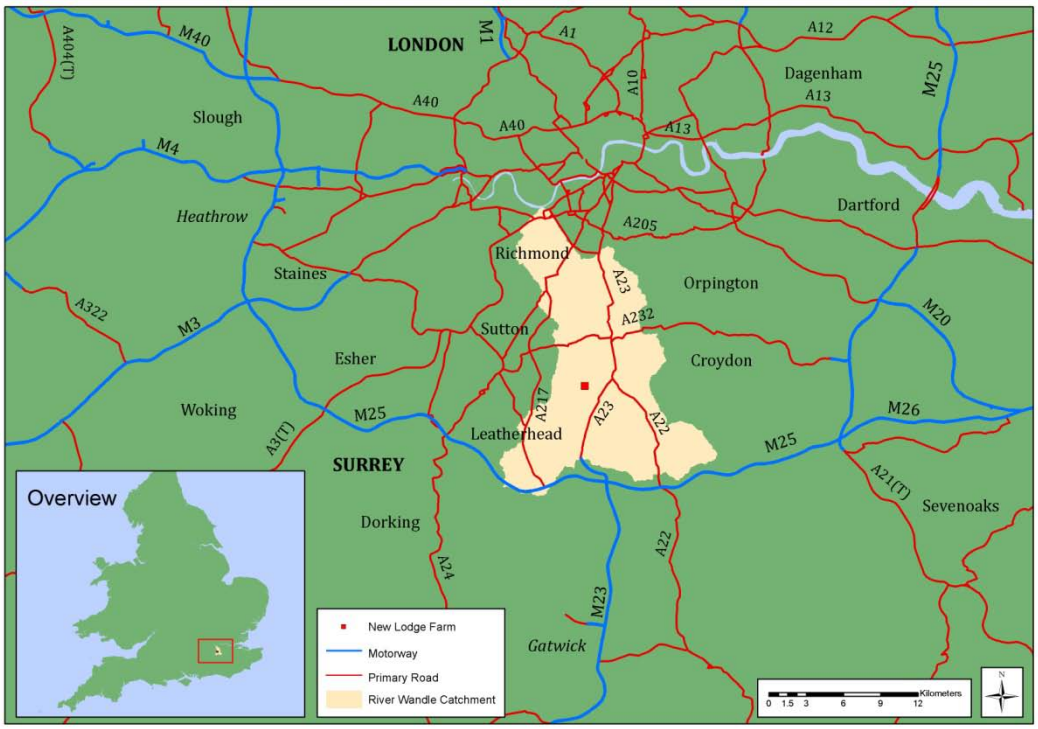

Figure 2 - Immediate neighbourhood