

Fisheries Law and Regulations

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Disease control

- Rules and procedures on aquatic animal diseases and disease control are regulated by the following legislations:
- Law No. 5996 of 2010 on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed.
- Regulation No. 28190 of 2012 on Aquatic Animal Health and Protection and Fight Against Aquatic Animal Diseases.
- Circular No. 2007/32 on Listed Diseases To Be Registered According to Article 4 of Animal Health and Sanitation Law.



- Law No. 5996 defines the responsibilities of the Ministry (MoFAL) in cases of epidemic animal diseases outbreak and the rules and procedures of compensation to be paid by the Ministry. The Regulation on Aquatic Animal Health and Protection and Fight Against Aquatic Animal Diseases sets forth the required health conditions in aquatic animals and aquaculture products, preventive measures to be taken by the authorities and aquaculture facilities and precautions to be taken in case of disease breakout

- The Regulation also covers provisions on aquatic animal quarantine, vaccination and monitoring and control programs.
- In addition the Circular No. 2007/32 underlines some of the aquatic animal diseases listed above, as diseases to be reported and registered if it is suspected to be present or approved that it is present.

- The DG for Food and Control (DGFC) of MoFAL is the competent authority for disease control. The Bornova Veterinary Control and Research Institute is the designated national reference laboratory responsible for coordinating diagnostic standards and methods, fish health surveillance, and diagnostic services.

- There are also university laboratories in Trabzon, Rize, Sinop, Istanbul, Izmir, Ankara, Elazig, Erzurum, Isparta, Mugla, Adana, as well as MoFAL Fisheries Institute laboratories in Trabzon, Elazig, Egirdir, Antalya. All these laboratories deal with fish health issues. In addition, private diagnostic and therapeutic services and material providers are located in Istanbul, Izmir and Mugla.

- According to Law No. 5996 on Veterinary Services, Plant Health, Food and Feed and the Fisheries Regulation No. 22223 in cases of contagious disease in an aquaculture facility, or upon suspicion of such a disease, the competent authority can order necessary measures in order to limit the spread of the disease, including taking the area or farm(s) under control, or engaging in killing and destruction. They can also order the reconstruction of facilities, transport units and equipment in these cases. Provincial Directorates publicize the measures taken via local and/or regional press and media.

- Articles 4 of Law No. 5996 and 20 of Aquaculture Regulation No. 25507 provide measures that shall be taken to maintain the health of farmed fish:
- The Ministry has the authority to take or order to take any actions to protect aquaculture production areas and fish health.
- Dead fish shall be collected regularly and disposed with lime in hollows.
- The Ministry has authority for control, audit, to make sampling and analysis in production areas and aquaculture facilities.
- Relevant Provincial Directorates should be informed immediately when a disease outbreak is observed or suspected, at that point the Provincial Directorate either begins monitoring the situation or takes quarantine measures.
- If the disease outbreaks/occurs in land-based systems, all ponds and other production units are cleaned and disinfected. Live materials are extirpated via recommended methodology by veterans.
- The facilities should stop operation until further notice from the relevant Provincial Directorate.