Aquaculture April 2018 news alert (sent by email 16 May 2018)

This Seafish aquaculture industry news e-alert covers news items, legislation and reports.

**Aquaculture Common Issues Group meeting. 18 April 2018.**
The minutes and presentations from all the meetings are on the [website](#).

Seafish news and reports

The six manuals have recently been reviewed and the technical and legal information updated to reflect current best practice and legislation developments. These manuals were originally developed in the 1990's but are still very relevant and much used. They provide guidance on developing and operating five standard designs for purification systems, with additional guidance for developing and operating non-standard systems. All six manuals can be found [here](#).


Seafish [UK Domestic Aquaculture - Reports page](#)

Seafish [Guides and information page](#)

Seafish [Market Insight](#) Seafish provides market data on retail, foodservice and supply (imports, exports, landings) to help seafood businesses keep up to date with the latest market information. See [here](#)

Consultations/reviews/funding opportunities/policy guidelines/surveys

**Public consultation on the open method of coordination for EU aquaculture.** 26 April 2018 to 20 July 2018.
The online consultation aims to gather opinion and perception about the coordination of EU aquaculture policy across Member States through the Open Method of Coordination. This consultation gives all individuals and organisations wishing to express a view on the Open Method of Coordination for EU aquaculture to do so. The Open Method of Coordination is the process through which the European Commission and the Member States collaborate to support and encourage the sustainable development of aquaculture in the EU.

**Funding available for fish health projects.** 27 March 2018. Deadline 16 May 2018.
Grants towards innovative projects that could improve the health and welfare of livestock – including farmed aquatic species – are currently being offered by the Moredun Foundation. Applications for the 2018 Moredun Foundation (TMF) Award Scheme are invited between now and 16 May, offering an opportunity for individuals to pursue a short-term project to broaden their education and experience in areas relating to livestock health and welfare. It is hoped that this award scheme will encourage innovative and diverse projects, help support personal development, and contribute to Moredun’s mission to improve the health and welfare of livestock. The TMF Award scheme is open to a wide variety of project proposals with £2,000 available per award.
**New £1.7m fund for humane slaughter.** 13 March 2018. Applications by 31 May 2018.
New research funding worth £1.7 million is aimed at improving the welfare of fish, crustaceans and cephalopods at slaughter. The project, under the auspices of the Humane Slaughter Association (HSA), will include farmed fish, crustaceans such as crabs and lobsters, and cephalopods (octopus, cuttlefish and squid). For further information see

**Defra invites feedback on fisheries and/or aquaculture and EU Exit.**
Defra are committed to listening to industries concerns regarding matters relating to fisheries and/or aquaculture and EU Exit. If you have any comments E: FishEUexit

**Certification**
Given a number of developments including: the widespread proliferation and uptake of independent production standards for farmed species; developments in feed formulations; and other changing best management practices, MCS considers it appropriate and timely to invite views on proposed changes and additions to their current methodology. They are inviting comments on any of the proposed changes outlined in the cover letter or any other aspects of the proposed draft methodology. Please send your feedback and any queries to MCS

**Public Comment Sought for Expanded Seafood Processing Standards.** 2 May 2018.
The Global Seafood Assurances (GSA) Seafood Processing Standards are now available for public comment, the Global Aquaculture Alliance has announced. The 60-day public comment period ends on 1 July. The GSA Seafood Processing Standards are the first and only seafood-specific processing plants standards for both farmed and wild seafood. Based on the Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) Seafood Processing Standards, the GSA Seafood Processing Standards are comprehensive in that they encompass all four pillars of responsibility — environmental responsibility, social responsibility, animal health and welfare, and food safety.

ASC applied for GSSI recognition of its Salmon Standard in August 2017, and has been benchmarked against the GSSI Global Benchmark Tool on Section A (Governance), Section B (Operational Management) and Section C (Aquaculture- – Salmon Standard). GSSI invites comments on the recommendation of the Benchmark Committee to recognize the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) for its Salmon Standard after the Independent Experts and the Benchmark Committee found the scheme to be in alignment with all the GSSI Essential Components.

**67% of ASC practitioners find eco-label backs ‘social license to operate’.** 24 April 2018.
The Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) has published the result of its first global survey, and the findings were relatively positive for the certification. To date, more than 600 fish and shellfish farms have been certified, the majority of which are in Europe and Asia, and 11,000 different products are available on the market bearing the ASC consumer label. The results were seen as very encouraging, with the majority (92%) of
respondents stating that their reputation had been enhanced by certification, 90% benefited from meeting the preference of buyers, and 87% gained access to new market opportunities. In addition, farmers valued the opportunity to reduce their environmental impact, and three quarters had become more aware of sustainability issues related to feed use.

**Introducing the new GlobalG.A.P. non-GM add-on for the aquaculture and livestock sector.** 23 April 2018.
GLOBALG.A.P. has developed a set of modules for a NON-GM Add-on that enables GLOBALG.A.P. certified compound feed producers, livestock and aquaculture producers, and processors to apply for a label on their products with the German standardized VLOG “Ohne GenTechnik” seal.

**The Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative (GSSI) recognizes the GlobalG.A.P. aquaculture certification system.** 20 April 2018.
The Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative has provided formal recognition of the GLOBALG.A.P. Aquaculture Certification System for the scope of Aquaculture. GSSI’s recognition shows that the GLOBALG.A.P. Aquaculture Certification System, for their GLOBALG.A.P. Integrated Farm Assurance System (Aquaculture V5.1-1, 10 November 2017) is in alignment with all applicable Essential Components of the GSSI Global Benchmark Tool (version 1.0, 8 October 2015). GLOBALG.A.P. is the fifth seafood certification scheme, and the second global aquaculture scheme, to be benchmarked against GSSI’s Global Benchmark Tool and achieve recognition.

**Reports/brochures/web sites/presentations**
**Seafood Expo Global – are business and certification bodies addressing fish welfare?** 27 April 2018.
The four big sustainable certification bodies are all engaging in welfare. GlobalGAP has already integrated a range of explicit welfare criteria into their aquaculture standards. The ASC, GAA, and Friend of the Sea are all in the process of designing welfare specific modules and content for their existing standards. See the videos for their own words on how they're approaching fish welfare and why they do it.

**FAO updates aqua production statistics, releases pen drive of publications.** 19 April 2018.
FAO’s Global Aquaculture Production Quantity and Value Statistics have been published online with the time series updated to cover 67 years from 1950 to 2016 (value data from 1984 to 2016). There are statistical details significantly improved retroactively for some back years for some countries, including a few global and regional major producing countries. The organization has also released a pen drive of all its publications.

**Know your fish.** 29 March 2018
**Know your fish: A novel compound-specific isotope approach for tracing wild and farmed salmon** highlights a new method for profiling salmon using multivariate analyses of amino acids. Characteristic profiles of distinct groups are referred to as fingerprints. The fingerprints can discriminate between wild and organic salmon with high fidelity. The fingerprints are well suited for detecting novel ingredients such as macroalgae and insects.

**Forthcoming aquaculture events in 2018**
**23-24 May 2018 Aquaculture UK 2018,** MacDonald Resort, Aviemore, Scotland.

7 June 2018  **Improving Water Quality: Tackling the Causes of Pollution and Promoting Sustainable Solutions**, Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Brussels. **NEW**.

18-20 June 2018  **SeaWeb Seafood Summit**, Barcelona, Spain

25-29 August 2018  **Aqua 2018**, Montpellier, France


4-5 October 2018  **Association of Scottish Shellfish Growers Annual Conference**, Scotland

15-17 October 2018  **IFFO Annual Conference**, Rome, Italy

5-7 November 2018  **GLOBALG.A.P. Summit**, Lima, Peru

**Monthly fishmeal news alert**
There is also a monthly Seafish fishmeal industry news e-alert covering news items, legislation and reports. To be added to the mailing list email E: k.green@seafish.co.uk

**Seafood Ethics Common Language Group (Seafood Ethics CLG)**
Seafish has set up a seafood ethics group to keep track of ethical issues affecting the seafood supply chain and to encourage dialogue and collaborative action across the UK supply chain. The main outputs will be communicated but if you would like to be added to this mailing list for news updates E: k.green@seafish.co.uk

**See:**
- **Seafish aquaculture web page**: [http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture](http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture)
- **For guides and information see**: [http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-support/guides-and-information](http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-support/guides-and-information)
- **For the Aquaculture Common Issues Group minutes and presentations see**: [http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-groups/aquaculture-common-issues-group](http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-groups/aquaculture-common-issues-group)
- **Fishmeal news**: [http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-support/fishmeal-and-fishoil](http://www.seafish.org/industry-support/aquaculture/aquaculture-support/fishmeal-and-fishoil)

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