

FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

Program: Aquatic Biotechnology

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Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) plays a role in the regulation of living aquatic animal products of biotechnology*, such as genetically engineered fish. With the development of new living aquatic animal products of biotechnology, there's a need to assess their impact on environmental and indirect human health safety. This is achieved through the implementation of a regulatory program under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999 (CEPA 1999). DFO assists in the administration of the Aquatic Biotechnology Program Regulations (Organisms) under CEPA 1999 for living aquatic animal products of biotechnology.

* "biotechnology" means the application of science and engineering in the direct or indirect use of living organisms or parts or products of living organisms in their natural or modified forms.

Regulated goods:

- Aquatic Biotechnology Program
- Live fish
- Ornamental fish
- Crustaceans
- Molluscs, and other types

Documents required:

- Aquatic Animal Health Import Permit
- SFC License
- Foreign Processing Establishment

The EDI transaction notification from CBSA to the importer / broker of "Approved", only signifies that the documentation provided to the CBSA has been accepted. The product is allowed entry into Canada to the final destination identified on the import documentation, and is subject to inspection.

Commercial importations

Importers or the person in possession, or care and control of the goods are responsible for ensuring that their goods comply with the requirements of all government departments and agencies prior to importation into Canada.

The importer must have a valid SFC license. Fish and fish products imported without a valid import licence will be refused entry into Canada.

Aquatic Animals (live or dead)

Under the Health of Animals Regulations there are additional information requirements that must be declared upon entry, including the scientific or taxonomic names for finfish, crustaceans, and molluscs. Consequently, travellers and commercial importers must report scientific names of all imported aquatic species in the commodity description field of Form C11, Canada Customs Invoice or the commercial invoice, either electronic or paper, as per the instructions in Memorandum D1-4-1, CBSA Invoice Requirements, and/or in accordance with the technical requirements, specifications and procedures for electronic data interchange as set out in the Electronic Commerce Client Requirements Document (ECCRD). In addition to taxonomic names, travellers and commercial importers must declare the number of aquatic animals being imported, the life stage, the country in which the aquatic animal was born or where the germplasm came from, and whether the animals are from captivity or the wild. The following websites are sources of scientific names and information on aquatic species:

- a. Fish Base**
- b. Mollusca Base**
- c. World Register of Marine Species (WoRMS)**
- d. Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS)**

Implementation of the CBSA Single Window Initiative (SWI)

Under the Single Window Initiative, release requests will be submitted utilizing a new Integrated Import Declaration (IID) that allows custom brokers to submit and obtain electronic release for goods also regulated by participating department and agencies.

Release requests for regulated Fisheries and Ocean under the Aqua biotechnology program may be provided to the CBSA electronically by submitting an IID and Document Image Functionality (DIF), License, Permits, Certificate and other document (LPCO). The IID must include the following information:

- a. Import License/Permit number
- b. LPCO information
- c. Animal Health Import Permit
- d. New Substances Notification (NSN) number

The New Substances Notification Regulations only apply to live aquatic animals. Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC).

Note: The information required under the SWI does not add any additional requirements, which currently exist to the import process.

Data Element Rationales

The following data element rationales provide additional information of the specific data element requirements required under the Single Window Initiative Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) programs- Aquatic Biotechnology.

Authorization Type	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
NSN Number	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Genetic Modification Indicator	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Genetic Modification Description	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Gene(s) or Nucleotide Sequence	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Trade Mark Name	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Common Name	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Genus/Species Name	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Life Stage	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.

Sex	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Intended Use	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
TSN	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Commodity Total Value	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Purpose of Genetic Modification	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Commodity Unit Count	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Country of Source	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Country of Origin	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Manufacturer	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Harvesting Party	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
Authorization Type	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.
NSN Number	Used in conjunction with other information to determine admissibility of goods to Canada and to support regulatory preparedness and scientific assessments.

Electronic Commerce Client Requirements Document (ECCRD)

The following table provides the specific rules and conditions associated to each of the data elements for DFO Declarations. The data elements are Mandatory (M), Conditional (C) or Optional (O).

Data element name	PGA element definition	Data element status	Data element rules and conditions
Document Type (Licence , Permit, Certificate, Other)	Authorization Type	C	<p>If the importer has a New Substances Notification (NSN) Number from Environment and Climate Change Canada that is applicable to all commodities on this declaration, the following Document Type must be provided for the Aquatic Biotechnology Program.</p> <p>New Substances Notification</p> <p>If not applicable to all commodities, please provide the Document Type code at the commodity line level (SG121).</p>
Document Reference Number	NSN Number	C	<p>If the importer has a New Substances Notification Document from Environment and Climate Change Canada that is applicable to all commodities on this declaration, the New Substances Notification (NSN) Number must be provided in this field.</p> <p>The format is NSN12345</p>
Commodity Description (Genetic Modification Indicator)	Genetic Modification Indicator	M	Provide the coded identifier “yes” or “no” to indicate whether the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered.
Commodity Description (Genetic Modification)	Genetic Modification Description	C	A description of the biotechnology application or genetic modification of the commodity must be provided if the Genetic Modification Indicator is “yes”.
Commodity Description (Recombinant Genes)	Gene(s) or nucleotide sequence	O	For living aquatic animal products of biotechnology that have been derived through recombinant DNA technology, describe the inserted gene(s) or nucleotide base pairs inserted into the commodity, if known.
Commodity Characteristics (Trade Name)	Trade Mark Name	C	<p>If the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered, the Trade Name must be provided.</p> <p>Note: The company that has developed a genetically engineered/modified food, thus far has given it a Trade Name, which is Trade Marked by the company.</p> <p>Example: Atlantic Salmon has been genetically modified by a Company Aquadvantage. So in this case Trade Mark Name is Aquadvantage Salmon (or simply Aquadvantage)</p>
Commodity Characteristics	Common name	C	<p>If the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered, the common name must be provided.</p> <p>Note: Common Name is a Non-scientific name by which the species are referred.</p>

Commodity Characteristics	Genus / species name	C	If the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered, the Latin scientific name (genus + species) must be provided.
Commodity Characteristics	Life Stage	C	<p>If the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered, the life stage must be provided using one of the following codes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propagate • Embryo • Juvenile • Adult <p>Note: Repeat this segment if there are multiple selections applicable for this commodity.</p>
Commodity Characteristics	Sex	C	<p>If the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered, the sex of the commodity must be provided using one of the following codes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Male • Female • Other • Sterile • Hermaphrodite <p>Note: Repeat this segment if there are multiple selections applicable for this commodity.</p>
Intended End Use	Intended Use	C	<p>If the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered, the coded description of how a product will be used within Canada must be provided.</p> <p>Use one of the following codes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food • Aquaculture • Research and development (e.g. animal model) • Production of specialty chemical (e.g. drug, vitamin) • Environmental application (e.g. bioremediation, invasive species control) • Ornamental (e.g. aquarium trade, zoo) • Educational • Other <p>Note: Repeat this segment if there are multiple selections applicable for this commodity.</p>
Commodity Identifier	TSN	O	<p>Organisms can be identified through their Taxonomical Serial Number.</p> <p>This information will allow a clearer identification of the product and may expedite processing in case of referrals.</p>
Commodity Value	Commodity Total Value	M	The Total value of the commodity line must be provided in CAD dollars.

Product Category	Purpose of Genetic Modification	C	<p>If the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered, the appropriate product categorization for the commodity must be provided.</p> <p>Use one of the following codes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth enhancement • Disease resistance • Shelf life extension • Chemical/drug production • Appearance • Nutritional composition • Laboratory animal model (e.g. human disease research) • Stress resistance (e.g. temperature, oxygen) • Altered metabolic processes (e.g. reduced phosphate output) • Altered dietary requirement • Altered reproductive capacity • Other
Commodity Count	Commodity Unit Count	C	If the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered, the number of regulated items must be provided using the unit count “each” (EA).
Country of Source	Country Of Source	C	The country in which the goods have been grown, harvested, manufactured, processed, produced or slaughtered must be provided, if different than the Country of Origin and/or Country of Source provided in SG104.
Country of Origin	Country of Origin	C	The country in which the goods have been grown, harvested, manufactured, processed, produced or slaughtered must be provided if different than the Country of Origin provided at SG104.
Manufacturer	Manufacturer	C	<p>If the commodity being imported has been genetically modified or genetically engineered, the name and address details of the party that manufactured, processed or were involved in the final production or modification of these goods, must be provided.</p> <p>See Appendix A for details that must be provided if different than the manufacturer at SG102.</p>
Harvesting Party	Harvesting Party	C	<p>Name and address of the party that grew or harvested the commodity, must be provided if different than the manufacturer at SG119.</p> <p>See Appendix A for details that must be provided.</p>
Document Type (Licence, Permit, Certificate, Other)	Authorization Type	C	<p>If the importer has a New Substances Notification (NSN) Number from Environment and Climate Change Canada that is applicable to this commodity line and not provided at the declaration level then, the following Document Type must be provided for the Aquatic Biotechnology Program.</p> <p>New Substances Notification</p>

Document Reference Number	NSN Number	C	<p>If the importer has a New Substances Notification Document from Environment and Climate Change Canada that is applicable to this commodity line and not provided at the declaration level, the New Substances Notification (NSN) Number must be provided in this field.</p> <p>The format is NSN12345</p>
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Additional resources

Reference Code Tables

Legislative References:

The Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999

Lists of Acts and Regulations:

Fish Inspection Regulations: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/reg/rege.shtml>

Fish Inspection Act: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/reg/rege.shtml>

Custom Memoranda:

CBSA Memorandum D19-8-5 Import Prohibitions and Requirements for Commercial Importers of Aquatic Species and for Travellers Under the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations

<https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/dm-md/d19/d19-8-5-eng.pdf>

CBSA Memorandum D19-7-1 Interpretation of the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPPRIITA) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

<https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/publications/dm-md/d19/d19-7-1-eng.html>

Appendix A: Details that must be provided if different than the manufacturer

Field	Location	Format	Description
Name	C080.3036.4	an..70	Business/personal name
Street	C059.3042.5	an..35	Up to 3 lines
City	3164.6	an..35	
Country Subdivision (e.g., state)	C819.3229.9	an..6	State or foreign country political subdivision (e.g., "county" for UK)
Postal Id	3251.8	an..9	Postcodes / ZIP (for Canadian or US harvesters)
Country	3207.9	an2	2 character ISO 3166 code

Contact Livingston

Have questions or need help with your SWI imports?

Contact your Livingston client services representative.

Write to us at: clientserviceCanada@livingstonintl.com or give us a call at **1-855-225-5544**.