

PERSPECTIVE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF OIE STANDARDS – CHALLENGES: KENYA

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COUNTRY PROFILE

- **Introduction and Perspectives**
- **Land Area** - 582,646 sq. km. (225 000 sq mile), Of which 11,227 sq km is water
- **Human Population** - 40 million
- **Annually fish production** contribute 4.3% and 0.43% agricultural production and export, respectively and 0.5 % GDP.
- Kenyan government has recognized the importance of the fish sub-sector and **provided funds** for aquaculture through **economic stimulus** programmes - 2009/2010 & 2010/2011 (**Challenges:** Source of fish seeds; health; feeds)
- Tilapia is the **main** farmed fish in Kenya.



Fish production/health Extension

- Fisheries Department (Fisheries Officers, Assistant Fisheries Officers, Fisheries Assistants and Fish Scouts)
- Department of veterinary services
- The Lake Basin Development Authority
- Universities (Moi University, Nairobi, others)
- The Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute conduct aquaculture research and offer limited services to fish farmers
- NGOs, CBO and Others.

Diagnostic Institutional Capacity

- National (CVL) laboratory at Kabete, Six Regional (6) laboratories plus sub-regional laboratories under Dept Vet Services
- Laboratories at FVM, University of Nairobi
- All perform limited fish diagnostic services and disease investigations

HUMAN RESOURCES

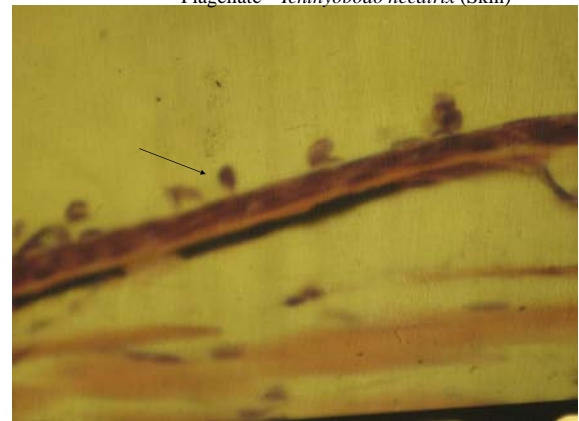
- Currently Many (old) practicing veterinarians and para-veterinarians have **little or no practical skills** in aquatic animal health management.
- Fish science has become part of Bachelor Veterinary Medicine and postgraduate (Msc Fish Science & MVEE) training in the last 5 yr.
- There is **intention** and **commitment** to build on this capacity but resources are limited.

Fish diseases

- No **Notifiable** disease of aquatic animals has been reported.
- Common diseases reported are bacterial, parasitic, intoxications, pollution, nutritional deficiencies and conditions associated with water quality.



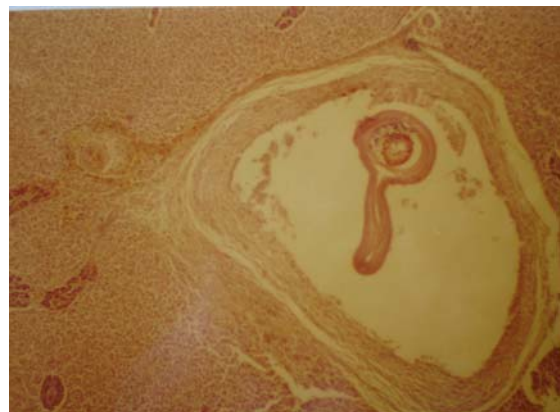
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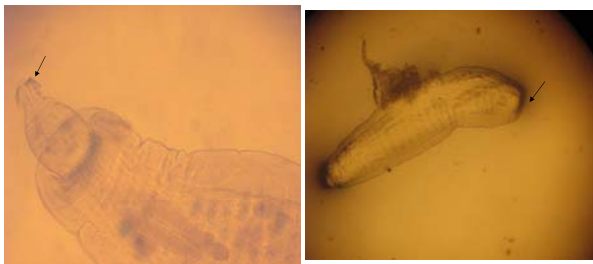
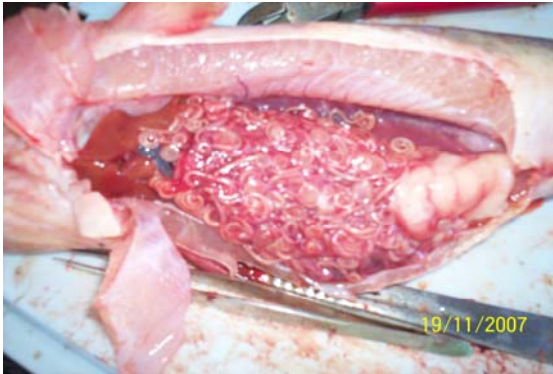
Flagellate – *Ichthyobodo necatrix* (Skin)



Neascus cysts – black spot disease



Heavy peritoneal *Contracaecum* 3rd larvae spp. infection in a catfish



A) Acanthocephalan worm with a protruding proboscis armed with hooks (Right side). B)Acanthocephalus worm with an invaginated proboscis (arrow)

Scoliosis in Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)



IMPLEMENTATION OF OIE STANDARDS

•Kenya engages in **import and export** of commodities under the OIE, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreements and Measures, WTO, and Codex Alimentarius and EAC harmonized sanitary standard regulations.

•The Competent Authority of aquatic animal health rests with the Department of Veterinary Services which is responsible for the quality and safety of livestock and livestock products including fish.

•There are adequate and well implemented policies on livestock diseases that can control serious diseases within the country but not those related specifically to aquatic animal pathogens.

•Kenya currently has Ministry of Fisheries Development which carries out sanitary inspection and certification in collaboration with the Department of Veterinary Services.

Some Constraints and Challenges

A. Focal point

- 1) Inadequate funds to the aquatic animal health section
- 2) Lack of Aquatic Animal disease policy and inadequate legislation.
- 3) Inadequate communication channels between the various competent authorities.
- 4) Poor aquatic animal disease reporting and diagnosis from the field.
- 6) Inadequate information flow from the OIE.

Some Constraints and Challenges (Cont)

B. Kenya

- 1) Lack of Aquatic animal health fish policy.
- 2) Inadequate funding of the sub-sector.
- 3) Inadequate institutional and human resource capacity.
- 4) Lack of aquatic animal health contingency plan.
- 5) Difficulties in exporting under increasingly strict SPS measures.
- 6) The high cost of conformity in production, certification and control.

Some Constraints and Challenges (Cont)

B. Kenya

- 7) Low technical know-how in the private and public service sectors that certify and control conformity to SPS.
- 8) Insufficient capacity to carry out risk analysis promulgated by the relevant international organization.
- 9) Suboptimal representation and attendance in OIE/SPS standard setting committee meetings
- 10) Inadequate capacity to enforce restriction on imports of aquatic animals and products.

Suggested Way Forward

- 1) Implement recommendations of the OIE Performance, Vision Strategy (PVS) tool exercise carried in Kenya in April 2007.
- 2) Development of plans for phased implementation of measures to strengthen sanitary capacities and address domestic and export consumer market concerns.
- 3) Formulate an aquatic Animal health policy and legislation.
- 4) Enhanced funding of Aquatic animal health and production research.

Suggested Way Forward (Cont)

- 5) A human resource and institutional capacity building program that will result in the efficient provision of adequate nationwide and regional coverage (curriculum, short course and continuous education).
- 6) Assistance to enable the country participate actively in setting of internationally agreed standards and norms.
- 7) Lobbying for harmonized testing and certification standards by importing countries and full transparency in tests used with adequate notification and application of SPS measures.
- 8) Streamline the mechanisms of diseased fish reporting as domestic livestock.

THANK YOU

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