



World Organisation
for Animal Health



The Aquatic Animals Health Standards Commission

25 – 27 July 2023 Lusaka, Zambia



Members of the WOAHA Aquatic Animals Commission



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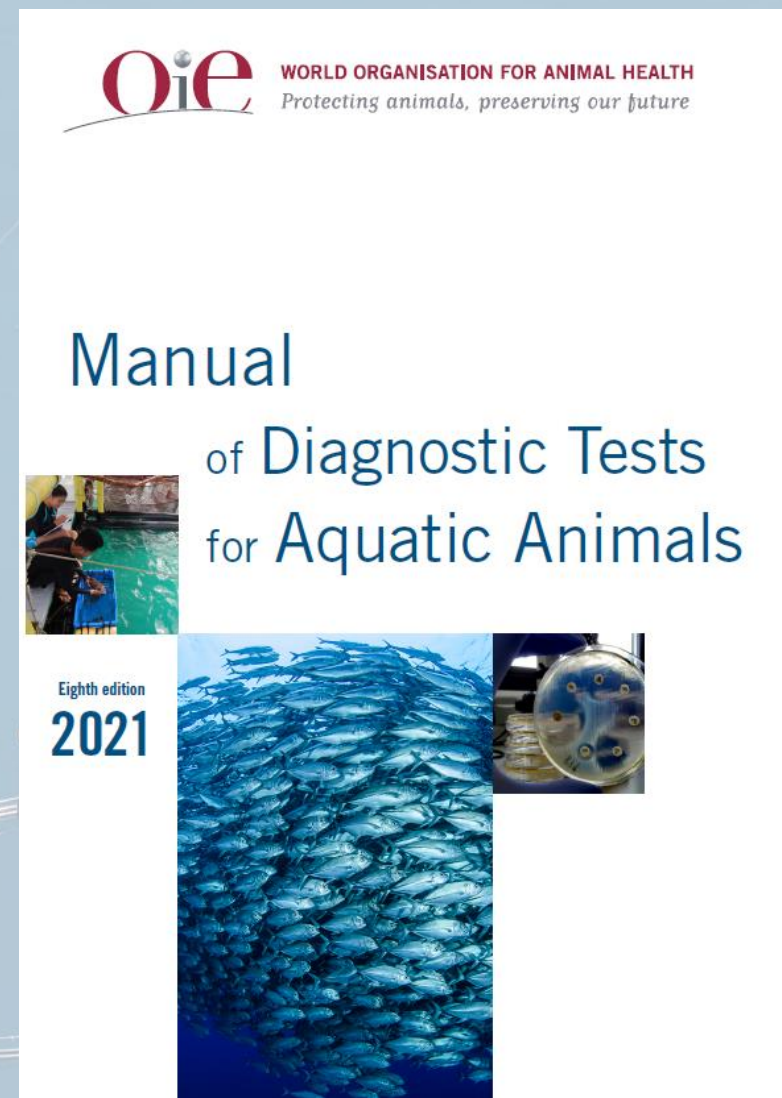
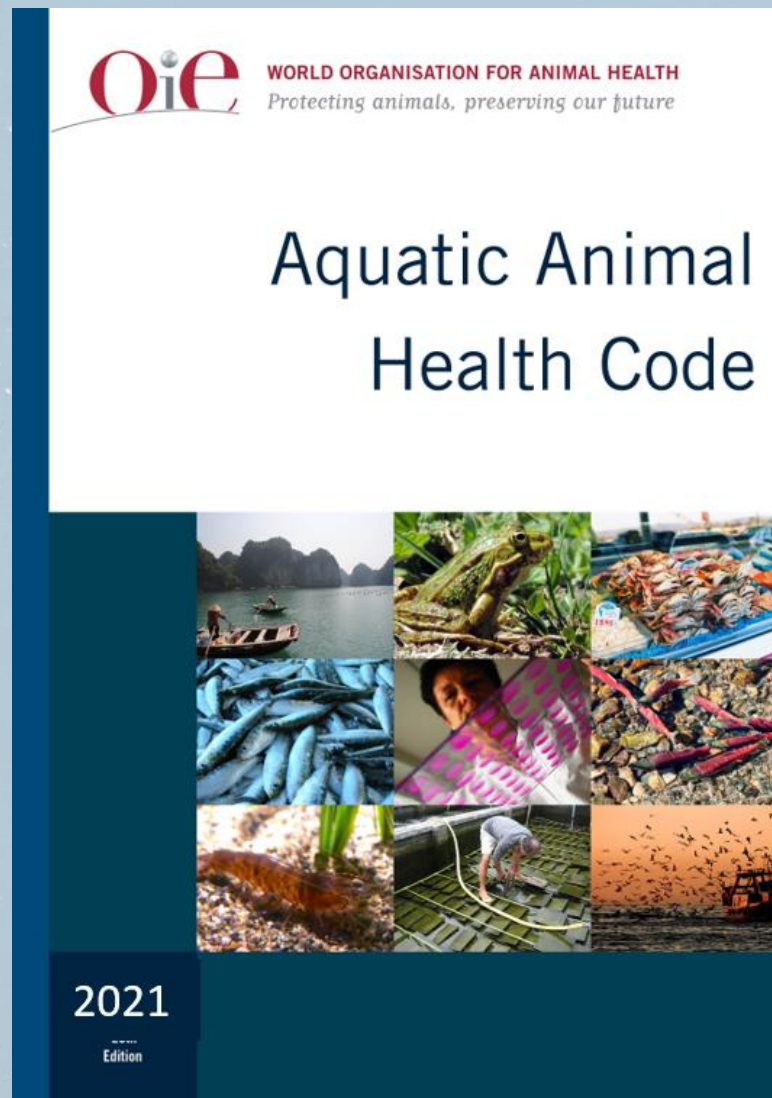


**Prof. Espen
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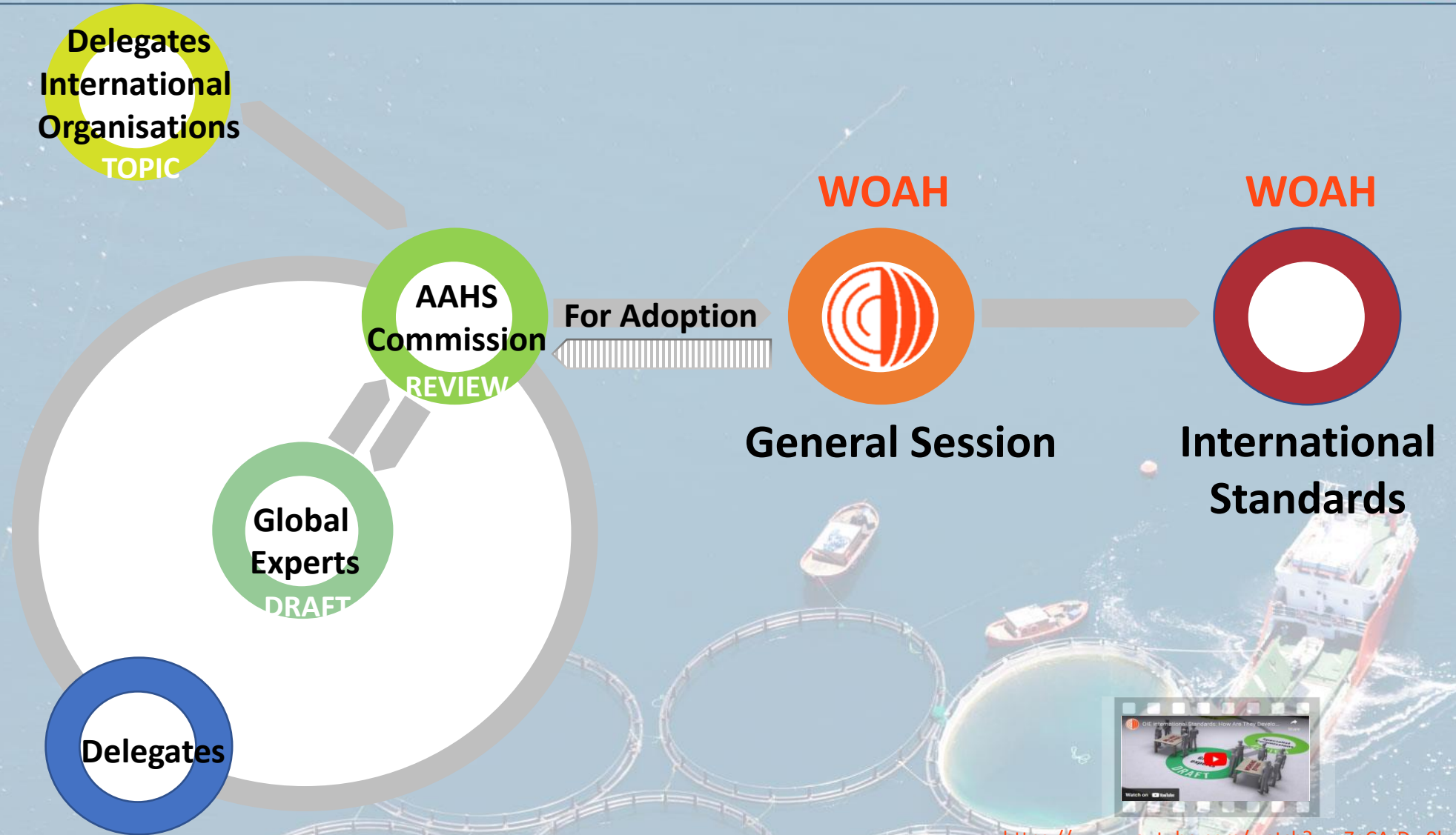


**Dr. Kevin
Christison**
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The Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission



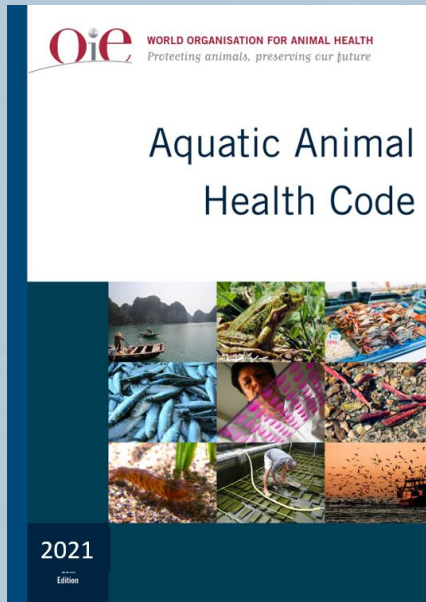
The WOAH Standard setting process



The Aquatic Animal Health Code

Provides standards for the improvement of aquatic animal health worldwide.

- also includes standards for the welfare of farmed fish and the use of antimicrobial agents in aquatic animals.

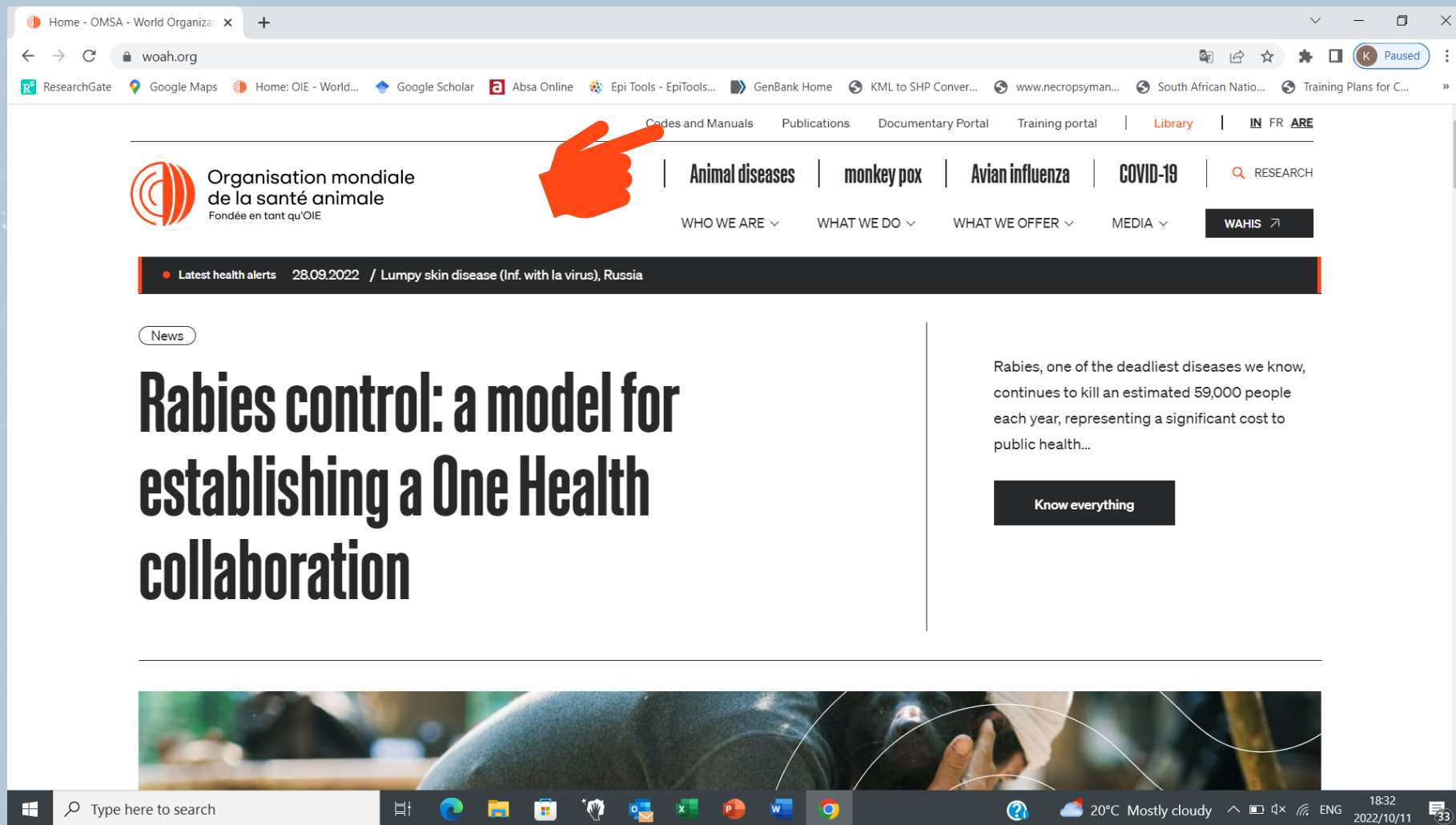
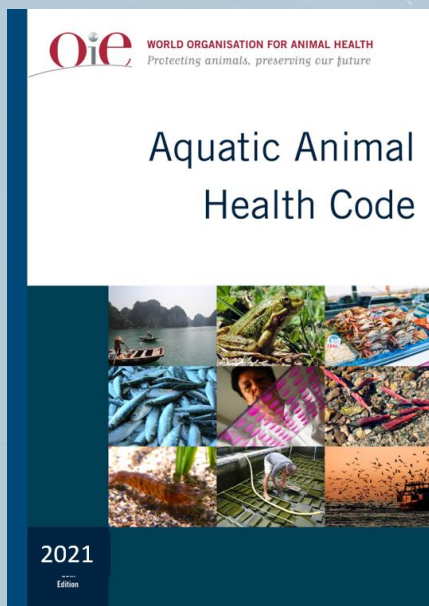


Recommends measures to be used by Veterinary Authorities or other Competent Authorities.

- For early detection, reporting and control of pathogenic agents in aquatic animals (amphibians, crustaceans, fish and molluscs).
- To prevent their spread via international trade in aquatic animals and their products, while avoiding unjustified sanitary barriers to trade.



The Aquatic Animal Health Code



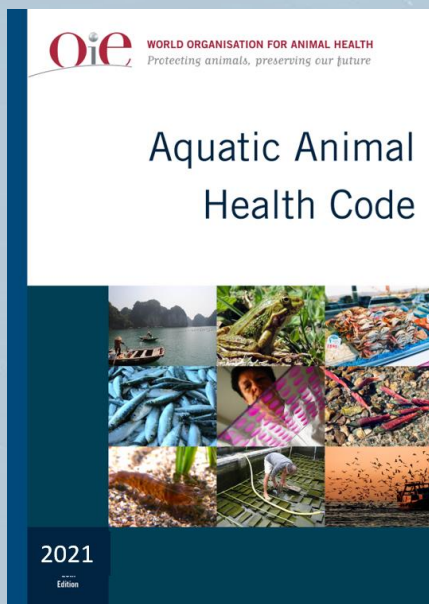
The screenshot shows the WHOAH website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Codes and Manuals', 'Publications', 'Documentary Portal', 'Training portal', 'Library', and 'IN FR ARE'. Below this is the WHOAH logo and name in French: 'Organisation mondiale de la santé animale Fondée en tant qu'OIE'. A red hand icon points to the 'Animal diseases' menu item. Other menu items include 'monkey pox', 'Avian influenza', 'COVID-19', and 'RESEARCH'. Below the navigation is a 'Latest health alerts' section with a link to '28.09.2022 / Lumpy skin disease (Inf. with la virus), Russia'. The main content area features a 'News' tag and a large article titled 'Rabies control: a model for establishing a One Health collaboration'. The article text states: 'Rabies, one of the deadliest diseases we know, continues to kill an estimated 59,000 people each year, representing a significant cost to public health...'. A 'Know everything' button is located below the text. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the search bar, system tray with weather (20°C Mostly cloudy), and the date (2022/10/11).

<https://www.woah.org/>





The Aquatic Animal Health Code



Codes and Manuals - OMSA - W... x +

woah.org/fr/ce-que-nous-faisons/normes/codes-et-manuels/

Codes and Manuals | Publications | Documentary Portal | Training portal | Library | IN FR ARE

Animal diseases | monkey pox | Avian influenza | COVID-19 | RESEARCH

WHO WE ARE | WHAT WE DO | WHAT WE OFFER | MEDIA | WAHIS

Codes and Manuals

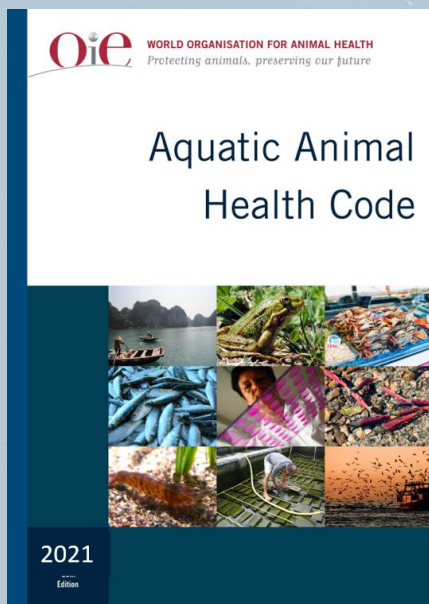
The Terrestrial and Aquatic Animal Health Codes of the World Organization for Animal Health (OMSA, founded as OIE) provide standards for the improvement of animal health and welfare and public health worldwide, including through standards for the safe international trade of terrestrial and aquatic animals and their products. The manuals provide a standardized approach to disease diagnosis as well as internationally validated production and control procedures for vaccines and other biological products.

Land code | Land Manual | Aquatic Code | Aquatic Manual





The Aquatic Animal Health Code



Codes and Manuals - WOAH - W x +


woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/#ui-id-3

ResearchGate Google Maps Home: OIE - World... Google Scholar Absa Online Epi Tools - EpiTools... GenBank Home KML to SHP Conver... www.necropsyman... South African Natio... Training Plans for C...

Terrestrial Code Terrestrial Manual Aquatic Code Aquatic Manual

Aquatic Animal Health Code

Online version

 [Access](#) →

A hard copy can be purchased from the WOAH online Bookshop. **Order online.**

Type here to search

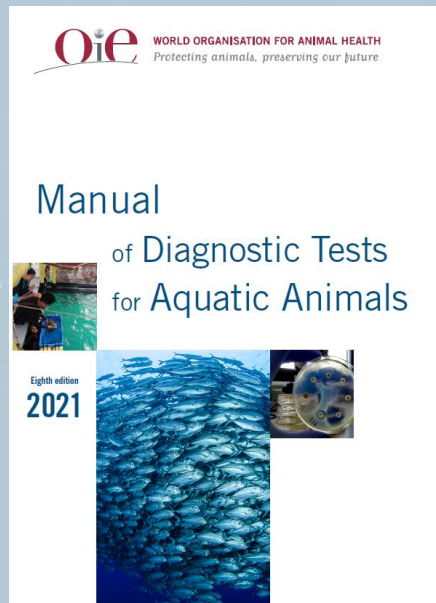
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The Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals

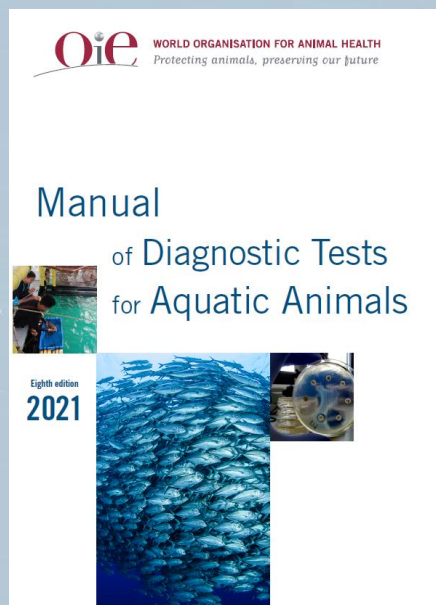
The Manual provides:

1. Internationally agreed recommendations to support effective laboratory testing capacity.
2. Specific methods for disease diagnosis.
3. Presents a network of WOAHA reference laboratories and collaboration centers.





The Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals



Codes and Manuals - WOA... x +

woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/#ui-id-4

Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals

Online version

[Access →](#)

... the concise and accurate description of diagnostic techniques contained in this Manual is indispensable for anyone involved in the control of aquatic animal diseases.

Vlaams Diergeneeskundig Tijdschrift

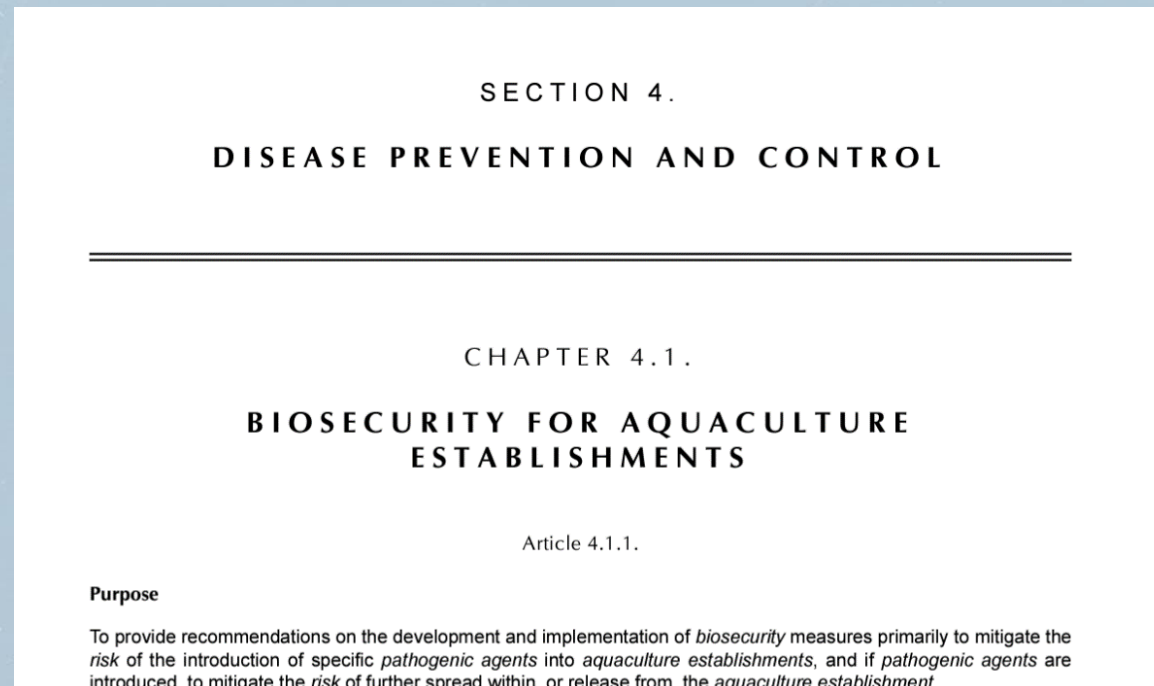
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Highlights of
recent work

Chapter 4.1., Biosecurity for Aquaculture Establishments (new chapter)



Highlights of recent work

Chapter 1.4. Aquatic Animal Disease Surveillance

Pathway	Primary Evidence	Secondary Evidence	Level of application
1. Absence of susceptible species	Surveys, Historical data, Import records, Environmental information	None	Country, Zone
2. Historical freedom	Passive surveillance (Early Detection System)	Targeted surveillance	Country, Zone
3. Targeted surveillance	Targeted surveillance	Passive surveillance	Country, Zone, Compartment
4. Returning to freedom	Targeted surveillance	Passive surveillance	Country, Zone, Compartment

CHAPTER 1.4.

AQUATIC ANIMAL DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

Article 1.4.1.

Purpose

This chapter provides guidance on the *surveillance* approaches to be used by a *Competent Authority* to make and maintain a *self-declaration of freedom from disease* or to confirm the occurrence of a *listed disease* or an *emerging disease*.

Article 1.4.2.

Introduction and scope

This chapter supports a *Competent Authority* to meet the requirements for *self-declaration of freedom from disease* at the level of a *country, zone or compartment*, and for maintenance of freedom, that are presented in each disease-specific chapter. It also provides a *Competent Authority* with guidance to meet the requirements of *notification of a listed disease* or an *emerging disease* in accordance with Chapter 1.1.

This chapter is not intended to provide detailed technical guidance on *surveillance* design or analysis. *Competent Authorities* are encouraged to consult published literature and seek appropriate expertise to design and analyse *surveillance* programmes that meet the requirements of the *Aquatic Code*.

- 1) The general requirements of a *surveillance* system necessary to support a *self-declaration of freedom from disease* are specified in Articles 1.4.5. to 1.4.8.
- 2) The criteria that have been used to set the periods specified in each disease-specific chapter for *basic biosecurity conditions* to be in place, or for *targeted surveillance* that should be undertaken, prior to claiming freedom, are included in Articles 1.4.9. and 1.4.10.
- 3) The requirements for each of the four pathways for claiming freedom, and for maintaining freedom, are introduced in Article 1.4.3. and described in detail in Articles 1.4.11. to 1.4.15.
- 4) Guidance on the design of surveys to demonstrate freedom from disease, and for combining multiple sources of *surveillance* information are provided in Articles 1.4.16. and Article 1.4.17., respectively.
- 5) Article 1.4.18. provides guidance on diagnostic confirmation of *listed diseases* or an *emerging disease*.

Competent Authorities should refer to the relevant disease-specific chapter of the *Aquatic Manual* for recommendations on sample collection and appropriate diagnostic methods for *surveillance* and diagnosis of *listed diseases*. The relevant disease-specific chapter of the *Aquatic Manual* should also be consulted for the necessary information on epidemiology and diagnostic performance of assays required for *surveillance* programme design.

Article 1.4.3.

Pathways for demonstrating freedom from disease

Competent Authorities may use one of four pathways to make a *self-declaration of freedom from disease*. Each pathway outlines the aquatic animal health circumstances and requirements that should be met for a *self-declaration* to be made. Any one of these four pathways may be utilised; however, a *Competent Authority* should provide evidence that all relevant requirements to demonstrate *disease* freedom have been met as described in this chapter and the relevant disease-specific chapter of the *Aquatic Code* including when water bodies are shared with other countries or are under the control of different *Competent Authorities*. The four pathways are:

Highlights of recent work

DISEASES LISTED BY THE OIE

The diseases in this chapter have been assessed in accordance with Chapter 1.2. and constitute the OIE list of *aquatic animal diseases*.

In case of modifications of this list of *aquatic animal diseases* adopted by the World Assembly of Delegates, the new list comes into force on 1 January of the following year.

Article 1.3.1.

The following *diseases* of fish are listed by the OIE:

- Infection with *Aphanomyces invadans* (epizootic ulcerative syndrome)
- Infection with epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus
- Infection with *Gyrodactylus salaris*
- Infection with HPR-deleted or HPR0 infectious salmon anaemia virus
- Infection with infectious haematopoietic necrosis virus
- Infection with koi herpesvirus
- Infection with red sea bream iridovirus
- Infection with salmonid alphavirus
- Infection with spring viraemia of carp virus
- Infection with tilapia lake virus
- Infection with viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus.

Chapter 1.3. Diseases listed by the OIE

Listing of infection with tilapia lake virus

TiLV *ad hoc* group report

(standards→standard setting process→ad hoc
groups→aquatic animals)

New work of the commission **New Code Chapters:**

Emergency Disease Preparedness

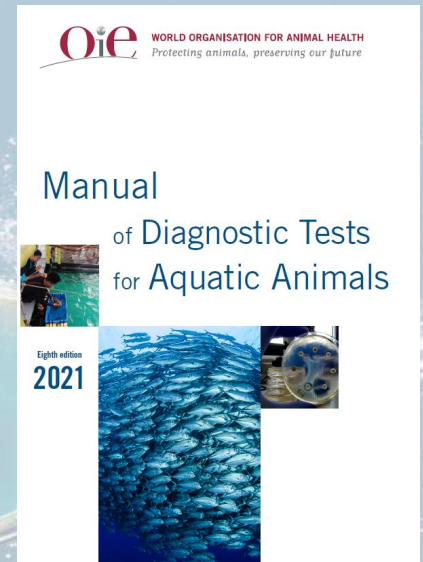
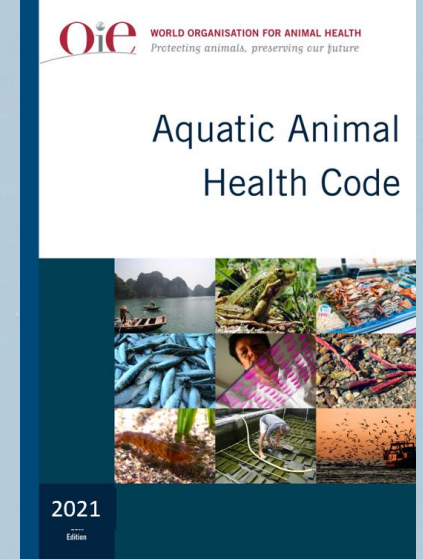
Emergency Response

Application of compartmentalisation

New Chapter 5.X. Ornamental aquatic animals

New Work in the Manual:

Section 2.2. Diseases of molluscs



PVS Tool - Aquatic

Evaluation of Performance of Aquatic Animal Health Services (WOAH PVS TOOL Aquatic)

Scope of the PVS Evaluation

- Sustainable improvement of National Aquatic Animal Health Standards.
- Undertaken at request of MC to identify gaps within the AAHS to comply with WOAH standards.
- Specific to the Aquatic Animal Health Domain.

PVS Tool - Aquatic

4 Fundamental components and 47 Critical Competencies

Human, Physical and Financial Resources

Technical Authority and Capability

Interaction with Stakeholders

Access to Markets



47 Critical
competencies
in total



5 Levels of
Advancement

PVS Tool - Aquatic

Benefits and outcomes of using the WOAHPVS Tool - Aquatic

- Indication of overall performance of AAHS.
- A basis for comparison and cooperation/ negotiation within Region
- A process for verifying compliance with WOAHPVS Standards.
- Identify priorities and gaps for improvement of AAHS

Thank you

