



Foras na Mara
Marine Institute

Update on Animal Health Legislation

Bill Dore

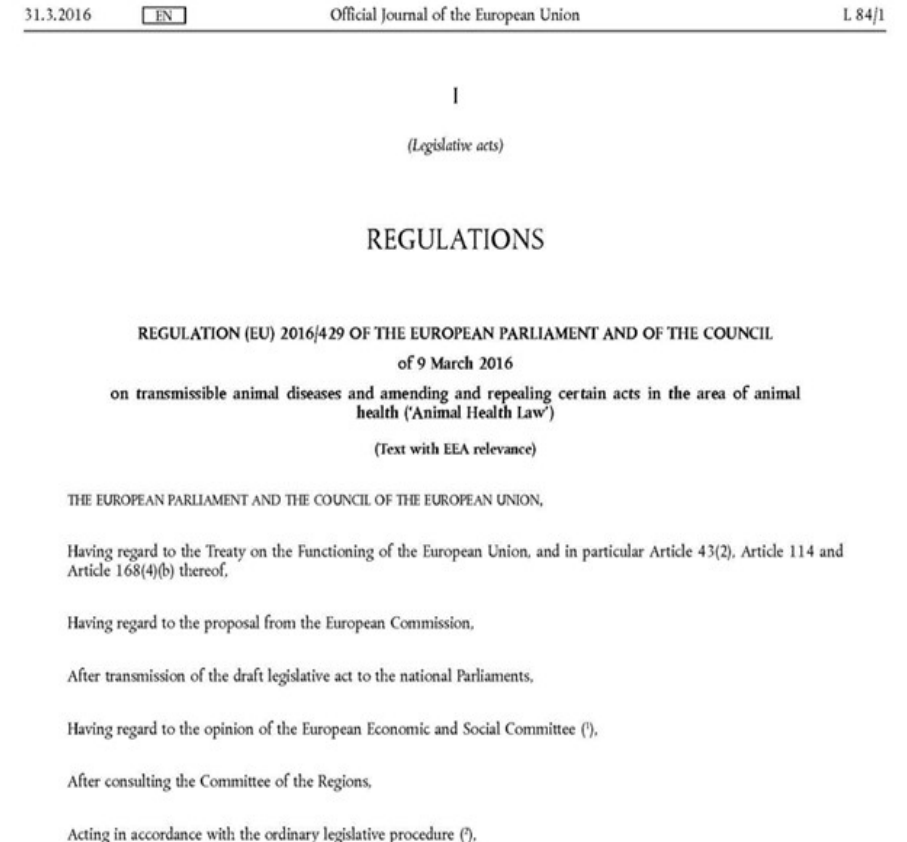
Oyster Industry Workshop

17th April 2023

Animal Health Law

❖ Regulation (EU) 2016/429 Lays down rules for the prevention and control of animal diseases which are transmissible to animals or humans

- *In force since April 21st 2021*
- *Known as “Animal Health Law”*
- *Replaces Council Directive 2006/88/EC*



Regulation 2016/429

-Key Features

- ❖ Regulation – directly applicable in Ireland
- ❖ Terrestrial and aquatic animals
- ❖ Contains general and specific (animal/disease) rules
- ❖ Content
 - *Disease notification*
 - *Approval of establishments*
 - *Animal movements*
 - *Health Surveillance*
 - *Disease control*



Regulation 2016/429 – Simplification?

Simplification

- ❖ All previous EU animal health directives and regulations into the one regulation
 - repeals >100 pieces of animal health regulation

But...

- ❖ is supported by various Delegated acts (13) and Implementing acts (12), which make it operational
- ❖ More difficult to navigate than previous directive?



What does this mean for you?

❖ Little practical change for operators in Ireland

- Risk Based Surveillance – frequency of inspections
- Approval for dispatch and purification centres
- Self-declaration forms
- Updates to existing fish health management plan

Risk-based surveillance

❖ Health surveillance inspections based on risk assessment

- (a) at least once **per year** in **high risk** establishments;
- (b) at least once every **two years** in **medium risk** establishments;
- (c) at least once every **three years** in **low risk** establishments.

❖ Previously 2 years for all oyster farms

❖ Risk assessment for each establishment

- *Movements*
- *Size of operation*
- *Previous compliance (local V.I. input)*

❖ You may now be inspected every 1, 2 or 3 years



Fish Health Approval

- ❖ Regulation (EU) 2016/429 requires that **purification and dispatch** centres are approved by the competent authority
- ❖ Derogation applied (article 3 of delegated regulation 2020/691) for purification or dispatch centres which:
 - (i) are approved in accordance with Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 and
 - (ii) receive molluscs only from within the epidemiological area in which the establishment is located;
- ❖ Establishments have been approved and are now part of the health surveillance programme

Self-Declaration Form

- ❖ Article 218 of Regulation (EU) 2021/429 requires that a self-declaration form accompanies each consignment of aquatic animals between Member States (where a health certificate is not required)
- ❖ Provides details of the establishment and consignment and declares that.....
 - *animals show no mortality or symptoms of disease*
- ❖ Applies to oysters for ongrowing/farming or for further treatment (depuration, relaying, packing) before consumption
- ❖ Maintain records (incoming/outgoing)

Template available from Marine
Institute Fish Health website
<https://www.fishhealth.ie/fhu/moving-fish-shellfish/self-declaration-form-template>

20 April 2023

Self-Declaration Document for Movements of Aquaculture Animals within European Union

Operators at origin site are obligated to issue a self-declaration document for movement of oysters to another Member State, as detailed under Article 218 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429.

The self-declaration form is ONLY required when consignments of aquaculture animals are not accompanied by an animal health certificate.

I.1 Consignor Details		I.2 Consignee Details	
Name: Address: Country: Company fish health approval number: (FHA number as issued by Marine Institute "FHA-XXX")		Name: Address: Country: Unique registration or approval number (if relevant):	
I.3 Departure Details		I.4 Approval Details	
Date:	Time:	Movement Approval Reference: (Movement number as issued by Marine Institute "EXP-XXXX")	
I.6 Means of Transport		I.7 Transporter Details	
Road vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Please Specify:</i>		Name: Address: Country:	
I.8 Description of Consignment		I.10 Intended Use of Consignment	
Species: Age: Seed <input type="checkbox"/> Halfgrown <input type="checkbox"/> Adult <input type="checkbox"/> Quantity (numbers/volume or weight):		Further Ongrowing <input type="checkbox"/> Purification Centres <input type="checkbox"/> Relaying <input type="checkbox"/> Dispatch Centres <input type="checkbox"/> Other (<i>Please Specify:</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Research Purposes <input type="checkbox"/>	
I.12 Declaration			
<i>I, the undersigned, hereby certify that:</i> 1. The aquaculture animals as referred to above are not subject to any movement restrictions or emergency measures affecting the species or categories concerned (unless derogations apply). 2. The consignment of aquatic animals show no mortality or symptom of disease.			

Declaration by Operator

Name (in block capitals): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

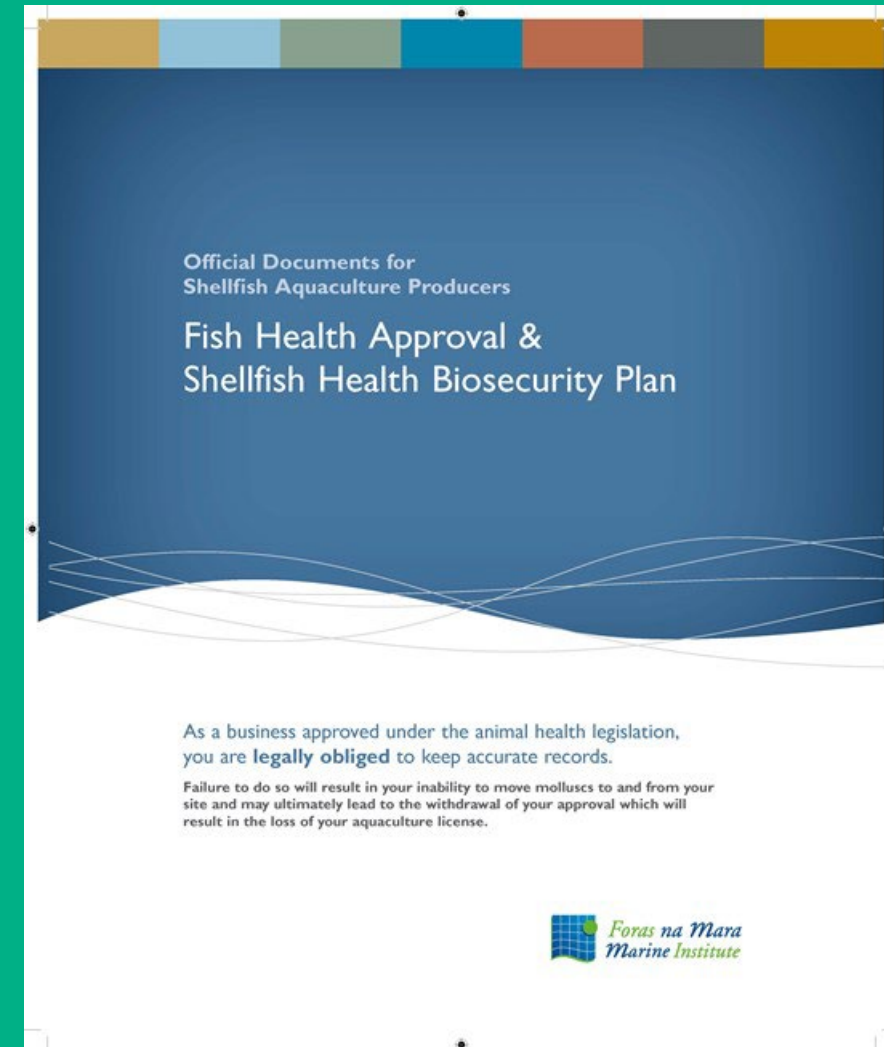
Health Management Plans

❖ **New Shellfish Health Record Folders will be provided by VIs during health surveillance inspection**

- *Update regulations*
- *Terminology – Approval, biosecurity plan, establishment*

• **New Shellfish Biosecurity Plan – to be completed during next inspection**

- *Surveillance inspection frequency*
- *Requirement to keep self-declaration forms*



Summary

- ❖ Regulation (EU) 2016/429 in force since April 2021
- ❖ Minimal practical changes to requirements of directive 2006/88/EC
 - *Changes to inspection frequency - 1-3 years based on risk*
 - Health approval & surveillance of purification and dispatch centres
 - Self declaration forms
 - Update record folders and biosecurity plans during inspections

THANK YOU



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