

## **EXPORT OF AQUATIC ANIMALS INTO CHINA**

### **Aquatic products deriving from fishing or cultivation**

There are some wild catch from Persian Gulf, Oman Sea and Caspian Sea. Also, There are some aquatics farms for rainbow trout (Coldwater fishes) and common carp, Big head, silver carp, grass carp ( warm water fishes) , sturgeon fish .Also, shrimps are caught from Persian gulf and Oman sea and also cultured in shrimp farms.

There are 164 fish and shrimp processing and packing establishments, 12 sturgeon and caviar processing establishments, 134 fish canning factories, 36 fish meal factories,114 aquatics cold stores, 5530 aquatics retail shops, 130 wholesale centers ,17 Aquatics feed mills, 24 aquatics and livestock feed mills, warm water fishes farms admeasuring 34504 hectares, cold water fishes farms admeasuring 169 hectares, natural water resources 499117 hectares, Shrimp farms 2148 hectares.

### **Using purpose of aquatic products**

Most part of the aquatics production is used in domestic market and part of it is exported aboard .Please find the aquatics export figures as described below (for 2019):

Total production: 1290000 MT from which 525000 MT derived from culturing

Cyprinid species production: 281377 MT

Rainbow trout production: 187319 MT

Shrimp production: 46114 MT

Ornamental fish: 266838000 pieces

Cultured caviar meat: 2500 MT

Cultured caviar: 10/7 MT

### **Organizational system; duties and function of veterinary management agencies in Iran veterinary system, competent authorities in issuing fishery export certificate**

1. IRAN VETERINARY ORGANIZATION is the sole competent authority for issuing fishery products export certificate.
2. Thirty two provincial veterinary General Directorate are under auspices of IVO headquarter under supervision of General Manager. The Organizational chart of provincial veterinary General Directorate mirrors that of IVO with related department. Around 383 Governorate Veterinary Offices are under control of their related Provincial Veterinary General Directorates. All levels have standard organization charts and job descriptions established by the IVO.
3. In private sector, the veterinary council registers 25000 members (Almost Half veterinarians and others are veterinary para-professionals).IVO is regularly funded by national budget. 85% of the operational budget is spent at the provincial level. Please find the job descriptions of different departments of IVO as follow:
4. 1-Headship, law related affair and performance evaluation office

A-Planning and harmonizing the affairs and schedules of head of Iran Veterinary Organization

B-Streamlining the relations with other governmental bodies and organizations including the provincial General Directorates

C-Pursuing the adoption of required laws and regulations

D-Supervising on headquarter offices and provincial general directorates and evaluating performances thereof

E-Inspecting the headquarter offices and provincial general directorates

F- Receiving complaints from clienteles and scrutinizing and pursuing them.

G-litigating against the violators of Veterinary Act and rules and regulations thereof and defending against claims in courts of law.

2-Specialized organizations, public relation and international affairs office

A- Planning and policy making for international cooperation and working with regional and specialized organizations in the field of animal health.

B-Collecting and exchanging technical information from international and regional and specialized organizations

C-Planning for holding international meetings or training course if required

D-Performing the formalities for foreign guests

F-Drawing up and pursuing Agreements, protocols and MOUs with veterinary services of other countries and with international bodies

G-Information dissemination about the Iran Veterinary Organizations operations and connecting with media.

H-Engaging in holding the domestic meetings and occasions

3-Livestock health and management of livestock diseases office

A-Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up strategic programs for studying, combating and establishing surveillance of livestock diseases with priority for notifiable livestock diseases and monitoring thereof.

B-Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up strategic programs for examining, combating and establishing surveillance of zoonotic and monitoring thereof.

C-Supervising and evaluating Veterinary General Directorates operations in the field of livestock health and controlling and eradication measures including collecting and analyzing the animal health data and feed backing the analysis to the related veterinary general directorate.

D-Anticipating the required equipments, facilities, man power, vaccines ,.. required for control of livestock diseases.

4-Poultry, honey bee and silk worm health and office

A-Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up strategic programs for studying, combating and establishing surveillance of Poultry, honey bee and silk worm diseases with priority for notifiable livestock diseases and monitoring thereof.

B-Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up strategic programs for wild and back yard birds.

C-Supervising and evaluating Veterinary General Directorates operations in the field of Poultry, honey bee and silk worm health and controlling and eradication measures including collecting and analyzing the animal health data and feed backing the analysis to the related veterinary general directorate.

D-Anticipating the required equipments, facilities, man power, vaccines,.. required for control of Poultry, honey bee and silk worm diseases.

#### **5-Aquatics health and diseases office**

A-Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up strategic programs for studying, combating and establishing surveillance of aquatics diseases with priority for notifiable aquatics diseases and monitoring thereof.

B-Supervising and evaluating Veterinary General Directorates operations in the field of aquatics health and controlling and eradication measures including collecting and analyzing the animal health data and feed backing the analysis to the related veterinary general directorate.

C-Anticipating the required equipments, facilities, man power, vaccines,.. required for control of aquatics diseases.

#### **6-Public health and Food office**

A-Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up strategic programs for controlling residues ( drug, hormones, fungal metabolites, radionuclide, dioxins, pesticides, heavy metals and other chemicals) for animal derived products.

B- Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up biosecurity standards and requirements in pastures, animal premises, animal feed production establishments, animal products processing plants and slaughterhouses.

C- Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up strategic programs for animal population identification system.

#### **7-Quarantine and biosecurity office**

A- Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up quarantine standards and requirements for importing, exporting and transporting animal and animal derived products.

B- Studying, planning, policy making and operating Quarantine Integral Electronic system monitoring animal and animal derived products transportation.

C-Operating and supervision on quarantine Border inspection posts and domestic quarantine stations.

#### **8-Veterinary drugs office**

A- Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up quarantine standards and requirements for importing, exporting, storage, transporting, distributing, selling, registration of veterinary drugs and biological.

B- Studying, planning, policy making and drawing up strategic programs for importing, exporting, storage, transporting, distributing, selling, registration of veterinary drugs and biological.

C-Supervision on veterinary drugs and biological production establishments

#### **9-Central Veterinary Laboratory and applied studies**

A-Reference Laboratory for animal diseases and veterinary drugs and biological and supervising other veterinary laboratories.

B-Participating in comparison tests with other reference laboratory

C-Preparation of bank of positive samples and domestic standards of the country.

D-Harmonizing and updating diagnostic procedures and drawing up SOP and validation and verification thereof.

#### **10-Feed, Veterinary drugs and biological risk analysis and studies.**

A-Studying the documents and commenting on the quality, quantity, efficacy and safety of importing and exporting Feed, Veterinary drugs and biological.

B-Preparing directives and protocols on the quality, quantity, efficacy and safety of importing and exporting Feed, Veterinary drugs and biological.

**Regulations in inspection, surveillance, attestation of hygiene conditions at aquatic animal products processing and production establishments and of aquatic products consuming in the market. Documents, standards, criteria relating to export fishery products.**

### **Legal Basis**

The IVO has enough legal resources to implement veterinary legislation at all levels. The Veterinary Act (Ratified by Senate in 1971 and amendments thereof) is the main legal Act for the IVO followed by the IVO circulars, regulations, by laws, etc issued by IVO as the related competent authority and a branch of Iran government. There is a legal department in the IVO and each provincial office and all items are regularly published in relevant domains. IVO enforce Law and with assistance of the Judiciary and Law enforcement units if required.

It is noteworthy that most all of the Iranian circulars, regulations and directives are abstracted from EU directives including but not limited to 852/2005, 853/2004, 627/2019/EC, 183/2005/EC... which somehow tailored with considering the Iranian domestic status and facilities. Also, OIE Terrestrial code is considered as the mainstay for International trade rules and regulations.

All related personnel have undergone related trainings including the contents of related EU rules and regulations. In most cases the related officers at provincial levels are summoned to IVO headquarters to participate in refreshing courses who are obliged to transfer the information to the people at provincial levels. Also, related experts are dispatched to the provinces to hold training courses and visit the establishments to emphasize on the potential deficits. Also, courses are held by Veterinary Council to improve the knowledge of the veterinarians.

Any and all related EU rules and regulations including related Directives were sent for provinces as a reference for the official veterinarians. The refreshing courses have been conducted for the related veterinarians by the same instructors. The checks list and all other materials are prepared by IVO headquarter and send to the provinces to ensure that harmonised system is in place all over the country. The dispatched IVO headquarter officers studied the operating systems in provinces and correct any deviations. Also, provincial officers have been sent to the other provinces in the framework of Auditing team not only check the in place situation but also to learn about conducting systems in other provinces and correct potential short fallings.

### **Controls**

The official controls are conducted by the related governorate veterinary office staff at local levels, controlled and check at higher level by Provincial Veterinary General Directorate and controlled and check at the highest level by Iran Veterinary Organization Headquarter officers.

The inspections have been done in the format of routine, periodical and without previous notice to ensure that harmonized approach and compliance with legislations.

Every establishment or vessel shall deliver its own tailored HACCP manual which shall be studied and approved by official veterinary offices before receiving approval through studying of the manual and on the spot visit and finding the compliance of the governing procedures and general and detailed building plan of the establishment. Each and every Establishment or vessel employs a veterinarian as technical officer who shall be a member of veterinary council who control and check related matters on daily basis. The related governorate veterinary office staff at local levels control and check the vessels and establishments routinely and periodically who checked by Provincial Veterinary General Directorate officers too. The Iran Veterinary Organization Headquarter officers check the establishments, local networks and provincial offices with their expertise visit without earlier notice. All visits are done through completion of the related checklists prepared according to EU directives.

### **Transportation**

According to Law any and all transportation of animal derived products shall be done upon collecting Transportation certificate from Veterinary Offices all over the country. The Certificate is issued only for already inspected and approved vehicles in the format of E-certificate exclusively issued for registered premises or establishments and checked by the veterinary office of destination or veterinary officer upon offloading. Any violation of the regulations shall be faced with deprivation of next loading of animal derived products through the computerized system (Quarantine Integrated computerized Network).All exporting products are produced in Iran and not imported from abroad.

Storage conditions of exported products are checked by attending veterinary officers in the related establishments on routine basis. Almost all related vehicles are equipped with thermographs. Any and all exported products are checked, controlled and tested by official veterinary officers before issuance of the consignment Health certificate only after receiving the signed and sealed certificate issued by the attending veterinarian certifying the compliance of consignment with governing rules and regulations including storage condition.

<i>Official controls of production</i>	<i>Location of control</i>	<i>Controller (Central/Regional/ Local/Other)</i>	<i>Frequency of control</i>
<i>Raw material</i>	<i>Upon arrival to the processing plant &amp; during processing</i>	<i>Veterinarian</i>	<i>Upon arrival</i>
<i>Inspection of Transport vessels</i>	<i>Upon arrival to the plant</i>	<i>Veterinarian</i>	<i>Upon arrival</i>
<i>Inspection of "processing plants"</i>	<i>On spot</i>	<i>Official veterinarian</i>	<i>Every six month by Central Headquarter</i>
	<i>On spot</i>	<i>Official Veterinarian</i>	<i>Every month by provincial officers</i>
	<i>On spot</i>	<i>Veterinarian</i>	<i>Every day by the veterinarian</i>
<i>Checks on storage and transport conditions</i>	<i>Before, during and after loading and before offloading</i>	<i>Official veterinarian</i>	<i>Upon every loading and offloading</i>
<i>farm</i>	<i>Upon Loading</i>	<i>Veterinarian</i>	<i>Upon Loading</i>
	<i>On spot</i>	<i>Veterinarian</i>	<i>Occasionally</i>

<i>Official controls of</i>	<i>Location of sampling</i>	<i>Official Sampler (Central/Regional/Local/Other)</i>	<i>Frequency of sampling</i>
<i>(a) Organoleptic examinations</i>	<i>Processing plant</i>	<i>Local official samplers</i>	<i>Upon arrival</i>
<i>(b) Contaminants(national residue plan)</i>	<i>Once in a year</i>	<i>Regional sampler</i>	<i>Once a year</i>
<i>(c) Microbiological checks</i>	<i>Processing plants</i>	<i>Local official samplers</i>	<i>Upon arrival</i>

**The following steps were taken for registration/ approval:**

Lodging a written request by applicant requested for registration/approval, asking for HACCP manual plus nomination of an veterinarian as technical officer, visit at local level( both fish farms

and establishments), reflecting the defects and asking for correction, written request for re-visit claiming correction of all defects, performing re-visit ,sending visit report plus HACCP manual to provincial veterinary office, approval by provincial veterinary officers in terms of HACCP contents and potential re-visit if required, sending a copy of HACCP and approval notice for IVO headquarter in terms of compliance with EU rules and regulations, registration and granting approval number.

Any and all aquatics farms are requested by law to collect IVO license before establishments. Therefore all these farms were visited and working under supervision of Iran veterinary organization at local level. On the other hands any and all imports of fish foods and drugs are allowed by Iran Veterinary Organization. The farmers are required by Law to report any diseases to IVO at the earliest time. Any violations of these items shall be faced with punishments according to Law including but not limited to license revocation

### **System, capability of laboratories in aquatics disease test**

350 governorate laboratories including 10 regional reference laboratories can undertake all types of analyses except drug quality. A special department in IVO headquarter is responsible to prepare the materials, equipments and SOPs and calibrations of the equipments.

The residue related laboratory tests have been conducted by a French accredited laboratory. The remaining laboratory tests are conducted by Iranian laboratory. A special department in IVO headquarter is responsible to prepare the materials, equipments and SOPs. Other services including calibrations of the equipments are offered by this department. Samples were sent to Central Veterinary Laboratory (holder of ISO 17025) to ensure about the laboratory results and in cases when sceptical results are collected.

As mentioned all SOPs, materials, equipments are prepared through IVO headquarter in accordance with EU required regulations. The records are checked through expertise visits and samples are sent for CVL for checking purpose.

The laboratories that dedicated only for fish diseases are as follow:

#### **1- Central Veterinary Laboratory**

Virus culture, PCR, Viral disease of aquatics, bacterial culture, fungi culture, parasitological diseases diagnosis, water physico-chemical tests

#### **2- National laboratory for diagnosis of shrimp and marine fish( Busheher)**

Diagnosis of all important and notifiable viral shrimp and marine fish using Nested-PCR and bacterial, parasitological, mycological of shrimp and marine fish and water physico-chemical tests.

#### **3- National laboratory for diagnosis of cold water fish( Chabahar)**

Diagnosis of all important and notifiable viral cold water fish using Nested-PCR and bacterial, parasitological, mycological of cold water fish and water physico-chemical tests.

#### **4- National laboratory for diagnosis of warm water and marine fish (Gilan)**

Diagnosis of all important and notifiable viral warm water and marine fish using Nested-PCR and bacterial, parasitological, mycological of warm water and marine fish and water physico-chemical tests

#### **5- National laboratory for diagnosis of warm water fish(Khuzestan)**

Diagnosis of all important and notifiable viral warm water fish using Nested-PCR and bacterial, parasitological, mycological of warm water fish and water physico-chemical tests

350 governorate laboratories including 10 regional reference laboratories can undertake all types of analyses and general bacteriological, mycological and parasitological tests except drug quality. A special department in IVO headquarter is responsible to prepare the materials, equipments and SOPs and calibrations of the equipments.

For organoleptical tests Directive 2406/96 /EC, for water quality tests Directive 98/83/EC, feed microbiological tests Directive 2073/20-5/EC and for contaminants Directive 1881/2006/EC are employed.

#### **Aquatics epidemic situation in Iran in last 3 years and epidemic control programs**

Please check the OIE website.

#### **Report of program results in examination, test of toxic residues, polluted microorganism on aquatic products in the last 3 years and plan of performance in the following year.**

At the moment the residue levels are assayed by Inovalys laboratory which is an accredited laboratory. The results have been sent for EU related office in Ireland for approval. During last three years no case of incompliance has been seen. The results are liable to be delivered and checked if required.

#### **Process of production, measures of surveillance to ensure product safety standards/regulations on veterinary hygiene of aquatic products**

Application by the Technical officer(veterinarian) working in approved establishments requesting issuance and health certificate, studying the latest status of the establishment according to the records ,sampling of the consignments and visit the consignment status by state veterinarians and tested in state run laboratories.

In case of compliance of the establishment with rules and regulations and acceptable tests results, the certificate will be issued .All certificates are issued via Quarantine Integrated System as an E-certificate.

Facing with violations

The non-compliant establishments are referred to the courts to be punished according to the Law with considering the nature of non-compliance. The license of the violators will be subjected to revocation if the infringements repeat.



**Sequence, procedures to issue export quarantine certificate for aquatic animal, aquatic animal products, exported from Iran**

Storage conditions of exported products are checked by attending veterinary officers in the related establishments on routine basis. Almost all related vehicles are equipped with thermographs. Any and all exported products are checked, controlled and tested by official veterinary officers before issuance of the consignment Health certificate only after receiving the signed and sealed certificate issued by the attending veterinarian certifying the compliance of consignment with governing rules and regulations including storage condition