



**ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN  
MINISTRY OF JIHAD - E - AGRICULTURE  
VETERINARY ORGANIZATION**

**IRIHR/FROZEN FISH/02/02/2013**

**Health Requirements for IMPORT FRESH FROZEN FISH INTO I.R.IRAN**

**A- General requirements**

Exporting country (Other than EU member states) should have valid authorization to export frozen fish into EU countries.

Related processing authorized plant/establishment or freezing ship should have valid EC code published officially in EU website.

Frozen fish (except those which will be used in canned products) should be eviscerated in authorized plants/establishments or on the board of freezing ships.

**B- Organoleptic-criteria**

Acceptable level for freeze burning: Maximum 10% per total surface

Discoloration and abnormal odor: Maximum 10 % per total weight.

Abrasion and superficial damages: Maximum 10% per total surface.

No evidence of defrosting must should be seen.

Dripping must be as low as possible.

The odor must be as fresh and natural as possible.

The texture must remain flexible and potent after defrosting.

**C- Bacteriological criteria**

Product	Test	No. of samples (n)	c	m	M
Fish and Shrimp (Frozen/Fresh) (Dressed or eviscerated/ Fillet)	Total count (CFU/g)	5	2	$5 \times 10^5$	$5 \times 10^6$
	E.Coli count CFU/g)	5	1	$1 \times 10^1$	$1 \times 10^2$
	Staphylococcus aureus (CFU/g)	5	2	$1 \times 10^2$	$1 \times 10^3$
	Toxin of Clostridium botulinum **	5	0	0	-
	Salmonella	5	0	0	-

\*For seafood that be consumed in raw form .

\*\* In case of canned/vacuumed/ smoked seafood products



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**D- Parasitic criteria**

Should comply with following table and according to the last directory of Iran Veterinary Organization:

Weight of sample in KG	1	2.5	5	7-8.5	9-10	25
Acceptable number of macroscopic parasites	1	2	4	6	7	17

N.B the viscera is not included in for existed macroscopic parasites

**E- Chemical criteria**

TVBN (TVN) : Max. 30mg/100 g

Histamine: HPLC Method

No. of samples ( n)	c	m	M
9	2	100 mg/kg	200 mg/kg

Lead: Max. 0.2mg/100g

Ca.: Max. 0.05mg/kg

Mercury : Max. 0.5mg/kg (Tuna Fish and Shark meat Max. 1 mg/kg)

**F- Health attestation:**

The official veterinarian, have to certify that is aware of the relevant provisions of Regulations (EC) No 178/2002, (EC) No 852/2004, (EC) No 853/2004 and (EC) No 854/2004 and certify that the fishery products intended to be export to I.R.Iran will be produced in accordance with those requirements, in particular that they:

- come from (an) establishment(s) implementing a program based on the HACCP principles in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 852/2004,
- have been caught and handled on board vessels, landed, handled and where appropriate prepared, processed, frozen and thawed hygienically in compliance with the requirements laid down in Section VIII, Chapters I to IV of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004,
- satisfy the health standards laid down in Section VIII, Chapter V of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 and the criteria laid down in Regulation (EC) No 2073/2005 on microbiological criteria for foodstuffs,
- have been packaged, stored and transported in compliance with Section VIII, Chapters VI to VIII of Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004
- have been marked in accordance with Section I of Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 853/2004
- the guarantees covering live animals and products thereof, if from aquaculture origin, provided by the residue plans submitted in accordance with Directive 96/23/EC, and in particular Article 29 thereof, are fulfilled and
- have satisfactorily undergone the official controls laid down in Annex III to Regulation (EC) No 854/2004.II.2