Stakeholder Consultation Workshop
Shrimp Health and Welfare

September – October 2023
Project objective
ASC Farm Standard

- 2.14 Fish Health and Welfare
  - 2.14a Fish Health and Welfare
  - 2.14b Fish Health and Welfare – Handling
  - 2.14c Fish Health and Welfare – Slaughter
- 2.16 Veterinary therapeutants
Background information

Alignment process: ASC Farm Standard

Shrimp is the most important commodity, by value, in the international seafood trade.

- Shrimp industry has grown exponentially in the last decades
- Growth is expected to continue for the years to come
- Success of the shrimp sector is closely linked with sustainable and responsible shrimp farming practices
- Good health and welfare throughout their lifecycle
- Finfish health and welfare was prioritised over shrimp H&W
- Shrimp needed a Specific Technical Working Group (TWG)
ASC rationale for topic proposal

Consideration of species-specific needs endorsed by TWG and TAG

Proposal based on:

- Revision of the health and welfare indicators currently proposed in the ASC Farm Standard (criteria 2.14 and 2.16) and Shrimp Standard v1.2
- Reuse indicators to cover shrimp where possible
- Formulate new indicators for those practices or situations that are specific to shrimp and are not yet covered
Topic Proposal
Health & Welfare

2.17 Shrimp Origin
   Origin domestication and diseases susceptibility
   Eyestalk ablation

2.14a Fish Health & Welfare
   Health and welfare monitoring (including OWI)

2.14b Fish Health & Welfare – Handling

2.14c Fish Health & Welfare – Slaughter

2.16 Veterinary therapeutants and alternatives to therapeutants
## Changes at a glance

**Shrimp Health and Welfare**

### Draft indicators endorsed by TWG and TAG

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Existing</th>
<th>New</th>
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</table>
| Shrimp origin                 | Selection of various indicators from 2.14 and 2.16                      | • Allowance of only domesticated stock (except for natural tidal flow in P. monodon).  
• Treatment records shall be available.  
• Information feedback mechanism between hatchery and grow-out.  
• Survival to stress test.  
• Promotion of shortest possible supply chain. |
| Routine health and welfare    | 2.14a (including OWI monitoring)                                         | • Shrimp quality check on arrival to grow-out (includes water quality, physical activity, physical damage, and compromised welfare).  
• Specific parameters for morphological scoring on shrimp.  
• Reporting of yearly survival rates. |
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<tr>
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<th>Existing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Handling (refers mainly to transfer to grow-out ponds)</td>
<td>2.14b</td>
<td>• Fitness assessment 2 day prior to handling event.</td>
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<td>• Pond preparation description and verification.</td>
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<td>• Acclimation measures.</td>
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<td>• Weight checks at every handling event.</td>
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<td>• Grow-out pond release conditions and verifications.</td>
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<td>• Morphological and behavioural verifications immediately and a few days after handling.</td>
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<td>Slaughter</td>
<td>2.14c</td>
<td>• Allowed stunning methods are electricity or ice slurry.</td>
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<td>• Ice slurry must be $&lt;$4°C and at a 1:1 ratio ice:shrimp.</td>
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<td>• Shrimp shall be stunned prior to using sodium metabisulfite for quality purposes.</td>
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<td>• Electrical stunners must be used according to the manufacturers or supplier recommendations.</td>
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<td>• Shrimp specific parameters to monitor stunning and killing efficacy.</td>
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<td>• Addition of three extra forbidden killing methods: drowning in freshwater (for saltwater shrimps), boiling, and dismemberment.</td>
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<td>• Extra ice or an additional electrical device in place as back-up system.</td>
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<td>• Harvest log in place.</td>
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<td>Topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veterinary therapeutants</td>
<td>2.16</td>
<td>- Allowance of only non-therapeutants registered or approved by local regulations and used as per the suppliers' recommendations.</td>
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<td>- Records of all non-therapeutants used.</td>
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<td>- No use of fermented probiotic bacterial strains to seed further probiotic batches.</td>
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<td>- In the case of a diseases outbreak apply treatment or culling.</td>
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Stakeholder consultation (SC)

First SC on Shrimp Health and Welfare

September – October 2023

- 1 out of 2 consultation periods → Content focus
- Key stakeholders:
  - Producers
  - Retailers
  - CABs
  - NGOs
  - Academia
  - Primary processors
- Feedback mechanisms:
  - Online survey
  - Online workshop
  - 1:1 meetings
Consultation Questions
General questions

S1. Are you aware of any mutilation practices performed apart from the eyestalk ablation?

- Yes
- No

S2. If yes, please specify which ones?
General questions

S3. Is it realistic to have an indicator asking to purchase shrimp nauplii, larvae or post-larvae (PL) only from the nearby hatchery?
   - Yes
   - No

S4. If your answer to the previous questions was “No”, please specify which would be the challenges.
General questions

S17. Is there any topic missing from those covered by the proposed indicators?

- Yes
- No

S18. If yes, which ones?
Specific questions

**S5.** Indicator 2.14a.16.1 to 5. - Do you think it is realistic to develop and implement these monitoring programmes using the operational welfare indicators (OWI’s) for shrimp species?

- Yes
- No

**S6.** If your answer to the previous questions was “No”, please specify which would be the challenges.
Operational Welfare Indicators (OWI’s)

**Parameters**

- Traffic light system
- Data collection

**Frequency**

- Data utilisation

**OWI monitoring**

**Short term:**
Increase monitoring
Corrective/mitigation measures

**Long term:**
Improvement measures
Specific questions

S7. Indicator 2.14b.1 - Is it realistic to develop and implement the Shrimp Handling Management Plan?

○ Yes
○ No

S8. If your answer to the previous questions was “No”, please specify which would be the challenges.
Handling Management Plan

- Fitness assessment 2 day prior to handling event.
- Pond preparation description and verification.
- Acclimation measures.
- Weight checks at every handling event.
- Grow-out pond release conditions and verifications.
- Morphological and behavioural verifications immediately and a few days after handling
Specific questions

**S9.** Indicator 2.14b.1 f) - Is the survival rate of 98% after the "stress test" adequate?

- Yes
- No

**S10.** If no, please suggest an alternative percentage and rationale.
Specific question

**S11. Indicator 2.14c.1** - “The UoC shall ensure all shrimp are stunned prior to killing, by immersion in a controlled ice slurry bath or electrical device”. Do you agree with the stunning methods permitted?

- Yes
- No

**S12. If no, please explain why and provide rationale.**
Specific question

S13. Indicator 2.14c.2.1 – “The UoC shall ensure ice slurry is $< 4 \, ^\circ C$ and at a 1:1 ratio of ice: shrimp”. Do you agree with the requested parameters?

- Yes
- No

S14. If no, please explain why and provide rationale.
Specific question

2.14c.4 The UoC shall not use the following methods to kill shrimp:

- asphyxia in air,
- CO2,
- salt baths,
- ammonia baths,
- drowning in freshwater (applicable only for saltwater shrimp),
- boiling, or
- dismemberment.
Specific question

S15. Indicator 2.14c.4 - Are there any killing methods missing from the proposed list of prohibited methods?

- Yes
- No

S16. If yes, explain which and provide rationale.
You want to get involved?

Email: consultation@asc-aqua.org or maria.castanheira@asc-aqua.org

- Survey [link]
- Slides in [multiple languages]
- Consultation questions in [multiple languages]
- Public workshops [dates and link]
- FAQ [link]
- Proposal [multiple languages]
- 1:1 meetings
Thank you