

Harvest fish or shellfish for human consumption

Overview

This standard is about the skills and knowledge required to harvest fish or shellfish for human consumption. It relates to the work activities involved with preparing for, and producing, fish or shellfish suitable for human consumption.

You must know and understand how to harvest the fish or shellfish, minimising disturbances or stress to the fish or shellfish, complete the necessary records and maintain communication with relevant people. You must also know how to address problems and adhere to regulatory standards and standard operating procedures and be able to apply your skills and knowledge within food safety and health and safety regulations and any relevant international industry codes. You should also have an understanding of how the green circular economy supports repeated use of resources and products within your organisation.

This standard is for you if you work in the role of general fish or shellfish farm assistant or husbandry on either a full or part time basis. It can be applied on any farm which produces fish or shellfish to be sold for human consumption.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. check that fish or shellfish are in a suitable condition and of a size ready for harvesting
2. obtain tools and equipment required to support planned operations, including hygiene and personal protective equipment
3. check harvesting equipment and facilities are clean and ready for harvesting
4. undertake sampling, handling and harvesting of fish or shellfish in a manner which minimises stress and disturbance
5. minimise losses and escapes
6. apply harvest methods
7. undertake post-harvesting processing
8. handle and store fish or shellfish to minimise quality losses
9. report any variations from expected harvest specification
10. deal with factors that can disrupt the harvesting process within own limits of authority
11. clean and store harvesting equipment after use
12. dispose of waste according to organisational procedures and regulatory requirements
13. complete records according to organisational requirements

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. what the organisational standards are and what may happen if they are not followed
2. food hygiene requirements associated with the production of fish or shellfish for human consumption
3. individual responsibilities under food hygiene legislation
4. how and why fish or shellfish are conditioned in preparation for harvest
5. why fish or shellfish that do not meet required harvesting specification must be managed
6. hygiene requirements associated with the harvesting of fish or shellfish
7. why it is important to minimise stress during harvest
8. the requirements for post-harvesting processing and storage including the different methods and techniques used
9. how environmental legislation controls the disposal of waste
10. how food safety legislation controls the production of fish or shellfish for human consumption
11. legal requirements which control the post-harvesting processing of fish or shellfish
12. the importance of completing a harvest to meet customer requirements
13. what recording, reporting and communication is needed, how to carry this out and the reasons why it is important to do so
14. the limits of your own authority and competence and why it is important to work within those limits

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