

## QUARTERLY AQUATIC ANIMAL DISEASE REPORT

Country: Hong Kong SAR, China

Period: April-June 2004

Item	Disease status <sup>a/</sup>			Level of diagnosis	Epidemiological comment numbers
	Month				
<b>DISEASES PREVALENT IN THE REGION</b>	April	May	June		
<b>FINFISH DISEASES</b>					
<b>OIE-listed diseases</b>					
1. Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis	0000	0000	0000	II	
2. Infectious haematopoietic necrosis	0000	0000	0000	III	
3. <i>Oncorhynchus masou</i> virus disease	0000	0000	0000	II	
4. Spring viraemia of carp	0000	0000	0000	III	
5. Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia	0000	0000	0000	III	
6. Viral encephalopathy and retinopathy	+?	+	-	III	1.
7. Infectious pancreatic necrosis	0000	0000	0000	III	
8. Epizootic ulcerative syndrome (EUS)	0000	0000	0000	II	
9. Bacterial kidney disease	0000	0000	0000	III	
10. Red seabream iridoviral disease	-	-	+	III	2.
11. Enteric septicaemia of catfish	0000	0000	0000		
<b>Non OIE-listed diseases relevant to the region</b>	0000	0000	0000		
12. Epitheliocystis	+? (2002)			II	3.
13. Grouper iridoviral disease	-	+	-	III	4.
14. Infection with koi herpesvirus	0000	0000	0000	II	
<b>MOLLUSC DISEASES</b>					
<b>OIE-listed diseases</b>					
1. Infection with <i>Bonamia exitiosa</i>	0000	0000	0000	II	
2. Infection with <i>Mikrocytos roughleyi</i>	0000	0000	0000	II	
3. Infection with <i>Haplosporidium nelsoni</i>	0000	0000	0000	II	
4. Infection with <i>Marteilia sydneyi</i>	0000	0000	0000	II	
5. Infection with <i>Perkinsus olseni/atlanticus</i> <sup>b/</sup>	0000	0000	0000	II	
<b>Non OIE-listed diseases relevant to the region</b>					
6. Infection with <i>Marteilioides chungmuensis</i>	0000	0000	0000	II	
<b>CRUSTACEAN DISEASES</b>					
<b>OIE-listed diseases</b>					
1. Taura syndrome	0000	0000	0000	III	
2. White spot disease	+? (2003)			III	5.
3. Yellowhead disease (YH virus, gill-associated virus)	0000	0000	0000	III	
4. Spherical baculovirus ( <i>Penaes monodon</i> -type baculovirus)	0000	0000	0000	II	
5. Infectious hypodermal and haematopoietic necrosis	0000	0000	0000	II	
6. Spawner-isolated mortality virus disease	0000	0000	0000	II	
7. Tetrahedral baculovirus ( <i>Baculovirus penaei</i> )	0000	0000	0000	II	
8. Necrotising hepatopancreatitis	0000	0000	0000	II	
<b>Non OIE-listed diseases relevant to the region</b>					
9. Baculoviral midgut gland necrosis	0000	0000	0000	II	
<b>UNKNOWN DISEASES OF A SERIOUS NATURE</b>					
1. Koi mass mortality	0000	0000	0000	II	
2. Akoya oyster disease	0000	0000	0000	II	
3. Abalone viral mortality	0000	0000	0000	II	
<b>ANY OTHER DISEASES OF IMPORTANCE</b>					
1.					
2.					

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**DISEASES PRESUMED EXOTIC TO THE REGION, BUT LISTED BY THE OIE<sup>(c)</sup>****Finfish:** Channel catfish virus disease; Infectious salmon anaemia; Piscirickettsiosis; Gyrodactylosis (*Gyrodactylus salaris*); White sturgeon iridoviral disease**Molluscs:** Infection with *Bonamia ostreae*; *Marteilia refringens*; *Mikrocytos mackini*; *Perkinsus marinus*; *Candidatus Xenohaliotis californiensis*; *Haplosporidium costale***Crustaceans:** Crayfish plague (*Aphanomyces astaci*)

a/ Please use the following symbols:

+	Disease reported or known to be present	+()	Occurrence limited to certain zones
+?	Serological evidence and/or isolation of causative agent but no clinical diseases	***	No information available
?	Suspected by reporting officer but presence not confirmed	0000	Never reported
		-	Not reported (but disease is known to occur)
		(year)	Year of last occurrence

b/ *Perkinsus olseni* and *P.atlanticus* are now considered conspecific. They may have different host species in different regions, and countries are encouraged to provide epidemiological comments where either of these agents occur.

c/ If there is suspicion or confirmation of any of these diseases, they must be reported immediately, because the region is considered free of these diseases.

**1. Epidemiological comments:**

(Comments should include: 1) Origin of the disease or pathogen (history of the disease); 2) Species affected; 3) Disease characteristics (unusual clinical signs or lesions); 4) Pathogen (isolated/sero-typed); 5) Mortality rate (high/low; decreasing/increasing); 6) Death toll (economic loss, etc); 7) Size of infected areas or names of infected areas; 8) Preventive/control measures taken; 9) Samples sent to national or international laboratories for confirmation (indicate the names of laboratories); 10) Published paper (articles in journals/website, etc). and 11) Unknown diseases: describe details as much as possible.)

Comment No.	
1.	Three cases of infection with a Nervous Necrosis Virus were identified by virus isolation and PCR during the three month period. Species involved were giant grouper and green grouper imported as small fingerlings from mainland China and Taiwan. All cases involved trickling mortalities that accumulated to about 10% after several weeks. Histology indicated that there were little or no disease changes visible in sections of eye or brain, and secondary bacterial infections were found to be the major contributing factor in the cause of death
2.	Newly-acquired specific PCR primers for RSIV indicated that most cases previously reported as Grouper Iridovirus were in fact RSIV. Seasonal cases occur in late Spring & Summer, with 5 cases occurring in June during this reporting period. Species involved were farmed giant grouper, green grouper, hybrid striped bass, seabream & perch. Significant disease with typical histological changes occurred in most cases, with mortalities usually around 20% of fingerlings. Source of infections were all unknown, but virus is believed to be endemic in stock imported from mainland China and Taiwan. Disease outbreaks were self-limiting when water quality issues such as high ammonia levels were addressed.
3.	No further cases reported.
4.	One disease outbreak in green grouper fingerlings was found to be Grouper Iridovirus after sequence analysis identified a PCR product amplified with generic Iridovirus primers. Cumulative mortalities reached about 60% after 2-3 weeks, which was considerably higher than for RSIV cases. Source of infection was unknown, but virus was possibly present in stock imported from mainland China and Taiwan.
5.	No further cases reported this period, but virus is known to be present in occasional batches of otherwise healthy ornamental lobsters and crustaceans routinely tested for health certification for export. Most stock originate from breeding establishments in mainland China. No disease has ever been reported associated with positive results from PCR.

**2. New aquatic animal health regulations introduced within past six months (with effective date):**