

Comments of Thailand on report of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission, 17–24 February 2021

Issue	Comment
Aquatic Manual	
<p>General comments for disease-specific chapters in the Aquatic Manual</p>	<p>According to the reformatting of the Aquatic Manual, we observed that some disease-specific chapters were found to be inconsistent. For example, Section 3.5.3 (Samples for histopathology, immunohistochemistry or in-situ hybridization) of Chapter 2.3.4 (Infection with Infectious Haematopoietic Necrosis virus) and of Chapter 2.3.6 (Infection with Salmonid alphavirus) provide detail of tissue fixation, while the same section of Chapter 2.3.9 (Infection with Spring viraemia of carp virus) removes all the details and provides reference to Chapter 2.3.0 (General information) instead.</p> <p>In this regard, we would like to suggest that all disease-specific chapters of the Aquatic Manual should be revised to be consistent with a new format and correspond to Chapter 2.3.0, where applicable.</p> <p>Thailand noted the clarification from the Aquatic Commission regarding the setting of level of validation (LV) in Table 4.1 that the LV is not the only factor that determines an assays recommendation rating, and that the validation is a continual process and LV will likely change in the future. However, for Table 4.1 of Chapter 2.1.2 Infection with <i>Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans</i>, Chapter 2.3.6 Infection with salmonid alphavirus and Chapter 2.3.9 Infection with spring viraemia of carp virus, LV of some diagnostic methods does not correlate with the recommendation rating (presented by symbol +, ++ or +++ in the table).</p> <p>In this regard, for better understanding on the setting of LV in the Aquatic Manual, the outcome of validation process to determine the recommended LV for each diagnostic method based on studies published in peer reviewed journals and in accordance with the OIE Validation Pathway given in Chapter 1.1.2 (Principles and methods of validation of diagnostic assays for infectious diseases) should be provided as an Annex in the report of the Aquatic Commission for further reference.</p>