

International aquatic animal health code (2nd edn)^a Diagnostic manual for aquatic animal diseases (2nd edn)^b

^a1997. *Office International des Épizooties*, 192pp., soft cover. Price: FrF 200, US\$ 35 (including airmail postage). ISBN 92 9044 420 7.

^b1997. *Office International des Épizooties*, 251pp., soft cover. Price: FrF 200, US\$ 35 (including airmail postage). ISBN 92 9044 427 4.

The growing international trade in aquatic animals and aquatic animal products poses a significant risk of spreading diseases of importance in aquaculture. Promotion of animal health on a global scale is the mandate of the *Office International des Épizooties* (OIE). In recognition of the unique problems posed by aquaculture, a Fish Diseases Commission was established by the OIE to formulate guidelines for the control of aquatic animal diseases. These take the form of an *International Aquatic Animal Health Code* and accompanying *Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases*.

The International Aquatic Animal Health Code is aimed at regulatory bodies involved in veterinary health certification and import control. It provides detailed information on both the principles and the practical application of certification, including excellent models of international health certificates for fish and shellfish. A section on import risk analysis is included as well as chapters on import and export procedures. Background information is given on all the internationally important diseases of finfish, shellfish and crustaceans. An appendix

deals with destruction of pathogens by disinfection.

The companion *Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases* concentrates on diagnostic procedures for notifiable and other significant diseases of finfish, shellfish and crustaceans. Background information on host range, clinical signs and epidemiology is given for all the diseases and some chapters include sections on control measures, vaccines and pathology when applicable. Chapters on sampling procedures and other practical aspects of health surveillance programmes are incorporated. Comprehensive references complete each section.

Both the *International Aquatic Animal Health Code* and *Diagnostic Manual for Aquatic Animal Diseases* are clearly written and contain a wealth of information on a wide range of topics related to aquatic animal disease control. Although unlikely to be of use to the general practitioner, anyone involved in health certification and import control of aquatic animals will find them invaluable.

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