

**Declaration from the UK of a compartment free from KHV,  
at Connoisseur Koi International, Arborfield, England**

## **1. Introduction**

Connoisseur Koi (CK) is a business operating two secure ornamental facilities both of which hold species of fish susceptible to KHV. These facilities are entirely separated from each other and have no contact with surrounding watercourses. CK has previously conducted trade to areas of the EU recognised to be free of SVC. These areas have recently been recognised to be free of KHV and the operators of CK have elected to take action to ensure that one of their facilities CK International (CKI) is able to be declared KHV and SVC free, such that it can re-establish trade with them. Confirmation of disease free compartment status will allow the business to continue to export koi carp to other EU states independent of the UK's status for KHV.

## **2. The compartment**

The compartment CKI comprises one building which contains a single recirculation system. It represents a single epidemiological unit and is not influenced by the health status of surrounding waters or by the second facility operated by CK which is present on the same plot of land. The water supply to the facility comprises a mains potable water supply. Effluent from the system enters a private self-contained sewage system. The system is secured against the escape of fish and there is no threat from flooding or infiltration from surrounding watercourses. This facility has previously held aquatic animals but has now been cleared of stock, cleaned and disinfected under the supervision, and to the satisfaction, of the Fish Health Inspectorate. The site has been re-stocked from sources certified to be free of both KHV and SVC.

### **3. Supporting information required by 2009/177/EC (Annex IV)**

Requirements/information needed	Information/further explanation and justification
<b>1. Identification of the programme</b>	
1.1. Declaring Member State	United Kingdom
1.2. Competent authority (address, fax, e-mail)	Fish Health Inspectorate Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science Barrack Road The Nothe Weymouth Dorset DT4 8UB UK Tel : +44 (1305) 206673/4 Fax : +44 (1305) 206602 Email : fhi@cefasc.co.uk
1.3. Reference of this document	UK/9/2010 (KHV)
1.4. Date sent to the Commission	10 December 2010
<b>2. Type of communication</b>	
2.1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declaration of disease-free status	
2.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Submission of application for disease-free status	
3. National legislation <sup>(1)</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales ) Regulations 2009</li> <li>• Animal and Animal products (Import and export)(England) Regulations 2006</li> </ul> <p>For further information see: <a href="http://www.cefasc.co.uk/fish-health-inspectorate/legislation-covering-fish-and-shellfish-disease-controls.aspx">http://www.cefasc.co.uk/fish-health-inspectorate/legislation-covering-fish-and-shellfish-disease-controls.aspx</a></p>
<b>4. Diseases</b>	
4.1. Fish	<input type="checkbox"/> VHS <input type="checkbox"/> IHN <input type="checkbox"/> ISA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KHV
4.2. Molluscs	<input type="checkbox"/> infection with <i>Marteilia refringens</i> <input type="checkbox"/> infection with <i>Bonamia ostreae</i>
4.3. Crustaceans	<input type="checkbox"/> White spot disease
<b>5. Grounds for disease-free status</b>	
5.1. <input type="checkbox"/> No susceptibles <sup>(2)</sup>	
5.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Pathogen not viable <sup>(3)</sup>	
5.3. <input type="checkbox"/> Historic free-status <sup>(4)</sup>	
5.4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Targeted surveillance <sup>(5)</sup>	
<b>6. General information</b>	
6.1. Competent authority <sup>(6)</sup>	<p>The Cefas Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI) acts for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) in undertaking statutory and inspection duties resulting from the EU Fish Health regime and other national legislation in the area of fish and shellfish health.</p> <p>Inspectorate's duties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring for notifiable diseases or other serious diseases.</li> <li>• Investigating suspected cases of notifiable disease or</li> </ul>

	<p>abnormal mortalities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The placing of statutory controls.</li> </ul> <p>The Inspectorate also authorises and monitors imports of fish and shellfish from other countries and runs an enforcement programme aimed at preventing the illegal importation of these animals.</p> <p>The Cefas Weymouth laboratory is designated as a national Reference Laboratory under the EU Fish Health regime and has modern diagnostic facilities. Routine samples taken by the Inspectorate are screened for serious fish pathogens, using methods laid down by the EU Fish Health regime and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). The laboratory also has experts in molecular biology, virology, bacteriology, parasitology and histopathology working in multidisciplinary teams applying the latest techniques, to assist in the identification of the cause of disease outbreaks.</p>
6.2. Organisation, supervision of all stakeholders involved in the programme to achieve disease-free status <sup>(7)</sup>	<p>Connoisseur Koi (CK) has been authorised as an Aquaculture Production Business (APB) in accordance with Directive 2006/88/EC under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009, and its premises are subject to regular monitoring by the Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI).</p> <p>The business complies with the import / export and health certification requirements in these Regulations and as set out in Council Directive 2006/88/EC and Council Regulation 1251/2008/EC, importing and exporting stock as an open ornamental facility. All imported fish are obtained from sources certified to be SVC and KHV free.</p> <p>One of their premises known as Connoisseur Koi International (CKI), which is the compartment declared KHV free, is additionally subject to annual targeted surveillance in order to ensure that it remains free of KHV and SVC.</p> <p>The FHI operate a programme of import surveillance, and samples of fish from supplying importers will be subject to disease testing prior to entering the CK business premises.</p> <p>Under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009, CK is required to notify Cefas FHI of any increased mortality or suspicion or outbreak of disease resulting in fish mortalities.</p>
6.3. An overview of the structure of the aquaculture industry in the area in question (disease-free Member State, zone or compartment) including types of production and species kept	<p>CK is a business with a small trade supplying high quality koi direct to hobbyists within the UK and other Member States.</p> <p>CK holds koi carp in secure facilities. The closed recirculation units are not influenced by the health status of other waters and there is no risk of escape or threat from flooding or infiltration from surrounding watercourses. The facilities are contained in buildings that prevent the egress of both avian and mammalian predators.</p> <p>There are multiple farms, importers and fisheries within England and Wales holding and producing species that are susceptible to KHV. There is no risk to existing farms, importers or fisheries in England and Wales from the secure ornamental facility at CK or vice versa.</p>
6.4. The notification to the competent authority of the suspicion and confirmation of the disease(s) in question has been compulsory since when (date)?	<p>KHV was made notifiable in England and Wales in 2007 and subsequently on 27 March 2009 under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009. Under these Regulations, APB's are required to notify Cefas FHI of any increased or unusual mortalities or any suspicion of that disease.</p>
6.5. Early detection system in place throughout the Member State, enabling the competent authority to undertake effective disease investigation and reporting since when (date)? <sup>(8)</sup>	<p>The Fish Health Inspectorate has been operational in its present form since 1992.</p> <p>Under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 it is an offence for a relevant person who knows or suspects that a listed disease is present in any aquatic animal to fail to notify Cefas FHI immediately.</p> <p>The owner of CK and his employees are well aware of the legal obligations and are able to identify the characteristics of listed and emerging diseases.</p> <p>The FHI is responsible for the investigation of disease in wild, farmed and imported fish and responds rapidly to any report of suspected notifiable disease in fish. Fish movement restrictions will be immediately applied to any site suspected to be infected with notifiable disease.</p> <p>In England and Wales, Cefas is the competent authority and has the capacity to investigate and report on suspected outbreaks using histology, virus isolation and PCR.</p>
6.6. Source of aquaculture animals of species susceptible to the disease in question entering in the Member State, zone or compartments for farming	<p>All stock entering the compartment must be accompanied by a health certificate from the place of origin declaring the source to be disease free for KHV. Checks will be made by the Border Inspection Post at the point of entry and by inspections from Cefas FHI at destination, of consignments entering the compartment.</p>

		The FHI have confirmed that all stock entering the business, since the disinfection of the CKI site have been sourced from farms declared free of KHV by the competent authorities in the source country.
6.7. Guidelines on good hygiene practice <sup>(9)</sup>		CK operates to a biosecurity plan with a specific additional plan for the operation of CKI in accordance with authorisation conditions set out under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 and has been approved by and will be continually assessed during visits by Cefas FHI.
6.8. Epidemiological situation of the disease in at least the previous 4 years before the commencement of the programme <sup>(6)</sup>		CK was first registered with Cefas FHI in March 2008 and authorised under the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009 on 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2009.  KHV became initially notifiable in England and Wales in 2007. KHV has never been suspected at CKI, but the second premises operated by CK was infected with KHV in 2009 and the relevant facilities were disinfected under the supervision of the FHI. There has been no evidence of the disease on this site since that time.
6.9. Description of the submitted programme.		CK International was thoroughly cleaned and disinfected in accordance with Cefas FHI requirements on 14 October 2010. It was re-stocked with koi certified free from KHV from health certified sources in Japan in early November 2010.  The compartment (CKI) is a secure premises containing one closed recirculation unit, which comprises a single epidemiological unit. The compartment is not influenced by the health status of surrounding waters or other fish-keeping premises; there is no means of escape for the fish and no threat from flooding or infiltration from surrounding watercourses. The facilities are contained in a building that prevents the egress of both avian and mammalian predators.  All subsequent imports will be sourced from KHV free certified sources.  The CKI site will be subject to a regular surveillance programme as dictated by the Aquatic Animal Health (England and Wales) Regulations 2009.
6.10. Duration of the programme		The site has been cleared and disinfected and stocked with Koi carp from certified KHV free sources.  FHI will subject the site to full stock inspection, both during compliance visits and export certification inspections, and at least one annual sample of 30 fish will be taken from the stock held to screen for KHV and SVC.
<b>7. Area covered</b>		
7.1. <input type="checkbox"/> Member State		
7.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Zone (entire water catchment area) <sup>(10)</sup>		
7.3. <input type="checkbox"/> Zone (part of water catchment area) <sup>(11)</sup>		
Identify and describe the artificial or natural barrier that delimits the zone and justify its capability to prevent the upward migration of aquatic animals from the lower stretches of the water catchment area		
7.4. <input type="checkbox"/> Zone (more than one water catchment area) <sup>(12)</sup>		
7.5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compartment independent of the surrounding health status <sup>(13)</sup>		CKI is a separate compartment containing ornamental aquatic animals with a distinct health status with respect to KHV.  The compartment consists of a single epidemiological unit and is not influenced by the health status of surrounding waters. The unit contains one independent closed recirculation system with no means of escape for the fish and no threat from flooding or infiltration from surrounding watercourses. The facilities are contained in a building that prevents the egress of both avian and mammalian predators.
Identify and describe for each farm the water supply <sup>(14)</sup>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Well, borehole or spring  <input type="checkbox"/> Water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen <sup>(15)</sup>	The CKI site uses a mains potable water supply, which is re-circulated with a low rate of water exchange.  Water is discharged from the site to self contained sewage system.
Identify and describe for each farm natural or artificial barriers		N/A – Closed system.

and justify its capability to prevent that aquatic animals enter each farm in a compartment from the surrounding watercourses		
Identify and describe for each farm the protection against flooding and infiltration of water from the surrounding watercourses		
7.6. <input type="checkbox"/> Compartment dependent on the surrounding health status <sup>(16)</sup>		
<input type="checkbox"/> One epidemiological unit due to geographical localisation and distance from other farms/farming areas <sup>(17)</sup>		
<input type="checkbox"/> All farms comprising the compartment fall within a common biosecurity system <sup>(18)</sup>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Any additional requirements <sup>(19)</sup>		
<b>8. Geographical demarcation <sup>(20)</sup></b>		
8.1. Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)		<p>Connoisseur Koi International Arborfield Berkshire UK</p> <p>Authorisation Number: EW004-C-734</p> <p>Figure 1 – Regional map (with position in England and Wales) showing surrounding towns and position of farm</p> <p>Figure 2 – Immediate neighbourhood</p> <p>Figure 3 – Site plan</p>
8.2. <input type="checkbox"/> Non-free buffer zone <sup>(21)</sup>	Geographical demarcation <sup>(19)</sup>	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers, geographical situation and health status <sup>(22)</sup> )	
	Type of health surveillance	
8.3. <input type="checkbox"/> Non-free zones or compartments <sup>(23)</sup>	Geographical demarcation <sup>(19)</sup>	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers, geographical situation and health status <sup>(15)</sup> )	
8.4. <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of disease-free zone to other Member States <sup>(24)</sup>	Geographical demarcation <sup>(19)</sup>	
8.5. <input type="checkbox"/> Existing disease-free zones/compartments in the vicinity	Geographical demarcation <sup>(19)</sup>	
	Farms or mollusc farming areas covered (registration numbers and geographical situation)	
<b>9. Farms or mollusc farming areas which commence or recommence their activities <sup>(25)</sup></b>		
9.1. <input type="checkbox"/> New farm		
9.2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recommencing farm	<input type="checkbox"/> Health history of farm known to competent authority	

	<input type="checkbox"/> Not subject to animal health measures in respect of listed diseases	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Farm cleaned, disinfected and, as necessary, fallowed	

(<sup>1</sup>) National legislation in force applicable to the declaration of and application for disease-free status

(<sup>2</sup>) Applicable if none of the species susceptible to the disease(s) in question is present in the Member State, zone or compartment, and where relevant in its water source.

(<sup>3</sup>) Applicable if the pathogen is known not to be able to survive in the Member State, zone or compartment, and where relevant in its water source. Provide the scientific information supporting the inability of the pathogen to survive in the Member State, zone or compartment.

(<sup>4</sup>) Applicable if susceptible species are present, but where there has not been any observed occurrence of the disease for at least a period of 10 years before the date of declaration of or application for the disease-free status, despite conditions that are conducive to its clinical expression, and if it complies *mutatis mutandis* with the requirements laid down in Part I.1 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC. This ground for disease-free status must be declared or applied for by 1 November 2008. Provide detailed information on the compliance with Part I.1 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC.

(<sup>5</sup>) Applicable if targeted surveillance complying with Community requirements has been in place for at least a period of two years without the detection of the disease agent on farm, or in mollusc farming areas that rear any of the susceptible species.

Where there are parts of the Member State, zone or compartment in which the number of farms or mollusc farming areas is limited, but in which there are wild populations of susceptible species, information on the targeted surveillance in those wild populations shall be given.

Describe diagnostic methods and sampling schemes. When OIE or EU standards are applied, reference must be made to them. If not, describe them. Name the laboratories involved in the programme (national reference laboratory or designated laboratories).

(<sup>6</sup>) A description shall be provided of the structure, competencies, duties and powers of the competent authority involved.

(<sup>7</sup>) A description shall be provided of the competent authority in charge of the supervision and coordination of the programme and the different operators involved.

(<sup>8</sup>) The early detection systems shall in particular ensure the rapid recognition of any clinical signs consistent with the suspicion of a disease, emerging disease, or unexplained mortality in farms or mollusc farming areas, and in the wild, and the rapid communication of the event to the competent authority with the aim of activating diagnostic investigation with minimum delay. The early detection system shall include at least the following:

(<sup>a</sup>) broad awareness, among the personnel employed in aquaculture businesses or involved in the processing of aquaculture animals, of any signs consistent with the presence of a disease, and training of veterinarians of aquatic animals health specialists in detecting and reporting unusual disease occurrence;

(<sup>b</sup>) veterinarians or aquatic animal health specialists trained in recognising and reporting suspicious disease occurrence;

(<sup>c</sup>) access by the competent authority to laboratories with the facilities for diagnosing and differentiating listed and emerging diseases.

(<sup>d</sup>) A description shall be provided in accordance with Article 9 of Directive 2006/88/EC.

(<sup>10</sup>) An entire water catchment area from its sources to its estuary.

(<sup>11</sup>) Part of a water catchment area from the source(s) to a natural or artificial barrier that prevents the upward migration of aquatic animals from the lower stretches of the water catchment area.

(<sup>12</sup>) More than one water catchment area, including their estuaries, due to the epidemiological link between the catchment areas through the estuary.

(<sup>13</sup>) Compartments comprising one or more farms or mollusc farming areas where the health status regarding a specific disease is independent of the health status regarding that disease of surrounding natural waters.

(<sup>14</sup>) A compartment which is independent of the health status of surrounding waters, shall be supplied with water:

(<sup>a</sup>) through a water treatment plant inactivating the relevant pathogen in order to reduce the risk of the introduction of the disease to an acceptable level; or

(<sup>b</sup>) directly from a well, a borehole or a spring. Where such water supply is situated outside the premises of the farm, the water shall be supplied directly to the farm, and be channelled through a pipe.

(<sup>15</sup>) Provide technical information to demonstrate that the relevant pathogen is inactivated in order to reduce the risk of the introduction of the disease to an acceptable level.

(<sup>16</sup>) Compartments comprising one or more farms or mollusc farming areas where the health status regarding a specific disease is dependent on the health status of surrounding natural waters regarding that disease.

(<sup>17</sup>) A description shall be provided of the geographical localisation and the distance from other farms/farming areas that makes it possible to consider the compartment as one epidemiological unit.

(<sup>18</sup>) A description shall be provided of the common biosecurity system.

(<sup>19</sup>) Each farm or mollusc farming area in a compartment which is dependent on the health status of surrounding waters shall be subject to additional measures imposed by the competent authority, when considered necessary to prevent the introduction of diseases. Such measures may include the establishment of a buffer zone around the compartment in which a monitoring programme is carried out, and the establishment of additional protection against the intrusion of possible pathogen carriers or vectors.

(<sup>20</sup>) The geographical demarcation shall be clearly described and identified on a map, which must be attached as an Annex to the declaration/application. Any substantial modification in the geographical demarcation of the zone or compartment to be declared free must be subjected to a new application.

(<sup>21</sup>) In connection with a zone or a compartment dependent on the health status of surrounding waters, a buffer zone in which a monitoring programme is carried out shall be established, as appropriate. The demarcation of the buffer zones shall be such that it protects the disease-free zone from passive introduction of the disease. (Part II.1.5 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC).

(<sup>22</sup>) Health status in accordance with Part A of Annex III to Directive 2006/88/EC.

(<sup>23</sup>) Relevant in cases of declaration of disease-free Member States, where minor areas of the Member State are not considered disease-free.

(<sup>24</sup>) Where a zone extends to more than one Member State, it may not be declared a disease-free zone unless the conditions set out in points 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 of Part II of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC apply to all areas of that zone. In that case both Member States concerned shall apply for approval for the part of the zone situated in their territory.

(<sup>25</sup>) In accordance with Part II.4 of Annex V to Directive 2006/88/EC.

#### 4. Additional Information

#### 7. Annex 1. Supporting figures.

Figure 1. Immediate Neighbourhood

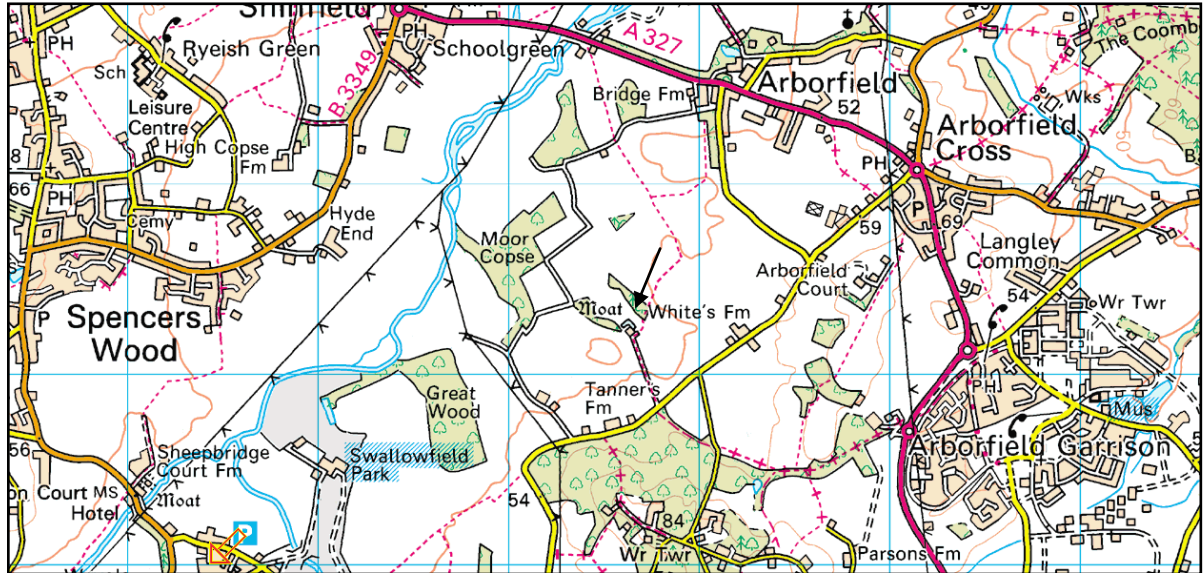


Figure 2. Regional map showing position in England.



Figure 3 - Site plan

