

MEMO

26 June 2008

To: GSL Brine Shrimp Companies

From: Earl Rogers DVM, Utah State Veterinarian
A. Kent Hauck, Fish Health Program Manager

Subject: Importation Requirements for Non-Great Salt Lake Cysts into Utah (08-116)

Several years ago, the responsibility for issuing export certificates shifted to USDA. A recent review of the situation, initiated by questions from Larry Dalton of Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (UDWR), revealed that, due to a misunderstanding, there has been no oversight of the importation of brine shrimp cysts to Utah by any of the agencies involved in the regulatory process.

The responsibility for importation properly belongs with the Utah Department of Agriculture & Food (UDAF), since the issue involves animal health and the potential for introduction of prohibited disease pathogens. The specific requirements for importation of aquatic animals and aquaculture products are contained in R58-17-13. Accordingly, UDAF is returning to the procedures that were previously followed.

A summary of the requirements is as follows:

1. **Certificate of Registration:** Brine shrimp companies operating in Utah that import foreign brine shrimp cysts must obtain a certificate of registration (COR) from UDAF (801-538-7129) as required by R58-17-4. As in the past, there is no fee for this license at the present time.
2. **Certificate of Veterinary Inspection:** A certificate of veterinary inspection from the source must be provided as detailed in R58-17-13 including a record of testing for OIE listed pathogens, pathogens listed in R58-17-15(D)(2) & (3), as well as a statement regarding the absence of species in the source waters as listed on the UDAF *List of Aquatic Invasive Species* (enclosed).
3. **Testing Requirements:** The UDAF will maintain a list of pathogens that must be tested for prior to entry. These requirements may vary, depending on the source and the history of testing done previously in the source waters. Testing for Anthrax, *Clostridium* and heavy metals will be required prior to entry.
4. **Disinfection:** Imported brine shrimp cysts must be cleaned and disinfected prior to shipment according to one of the following methods:
 - i. 200 ppm Povidone iodine, 10 minutes

- ii. 200 ppm bleach, 20 minutes
 - iii. 200 ppm potassium permanganate, 20 minutes
- 5. **Import Permit:** An entry permit must be obtained for each shipment by calling 801-538-7029. UDAF will issue a permit number over the telephone at no charge with compliance with R58-17-13 and import requirements in this memorandum.
- 6. **Discharge into Public Waters:** Discharge of imported brine shrimp cysts into Utah public waters is prohibited (R58-17-13).

The above list is a summary of some of the requirements of R58-17-13, a copy of which is included for your reference. This regulation has been developed over the years by the Utah Fish Health Policy Board for the protection of Utah's aquaculture industry and natural resources. There are no fees or inspections associated with these requirements at this time. Rather, UDAF will rely on documentation provided to us by the importer. No on-site inspections of brine shrimp companies are anticipated unless deficiencies are detected.

We look forward to working with you in the effort to assure that the brine shrimp industry in Utah continues to enjoy freedom from exposure to prohibited pathogens.

CC: Terry Menlove, Director
Robert A. DeCarolis DVM, USDA-APHIS-VS
Walt Donaldson, UDWR
Larry Dalton, UDWR

TM/ER/KH

Enclosures