

Workplan 2015 for the EURL for fish diseases

	Description	Objectives	Expected outputs	Related PI
1. Coordination and training				
1-1	Annual workshop	Organize and prepare for the 19th Annual Workshop for the National Reference Laboratories for Fish Diseases (NRLs) in 2015	To be held 27-28 May 2015	AH NRL 1 AH NRL 2 AH NRL 3
1-2	Annual workshop report	Produce a technical and financial report from the Annual Workshop 2015.	To be finalized and submitted August 2015	AH NRL 1 AH NRL 2 AH NRL 3
1-3	Survey & diagnosis	Collect and report data on the fish disease situation in EU, including all the listed non-exotic fish diseases given in Council Directive 2006/88/EC Annex IV Part 2.	A questionnaire will be submitted in January 2015 and data collated for the Annual Workshop in May.	AH NRL 1 AH NRL 2 AH R&D 1
1-4	Training	Facilitate and provide training in laboratory diagnosis. The yearly training courses in methods used for diagnosis of fish diseases will be offered at the EURL laboratory facilities. The courses will primarily be for training of staff from NRLs and the content will depend on request from participants.	Training courses are provided fall (tentatively November) 2015; two courses of 3-4-day each with expected 15 participants are foreseen.	AH NRL 5 AH NRL 6
1-5	Scientific working group	Organize specific scientific meeting collating international experts to assess and provide recommendations on emerging diseases problems management and control.	One meeting gathering 5 to 7 international experts will be held at our premises or on spot according to disease case. Scientific report and recommendations will be delivered afterwards to relevant stakeholders.	AH NRL 5 AH ANA 1 AH ANA 2 AH ANA QI
2. Proficiency test				
2-1	Proficiency tests	Prepare the Annual Inter-laboratory Proficiency Tests year 2015 for the NRLs. The tests will include VHSV, IHNV, EHNV, ISAV, and KHV and will also address other common viral pathogens in fish farming (IPNV, SVCV etc)	To be shipped fall 2015 (tentatively primo September)	AH PT 1 AH PT 3 AH PT 6 AH PT QI
2-2	PT report	Collate and analyze information gained from the Inter-laboratory Proficiency Tests	Report for the proficiency test 2014 will be submitted February 2015, while results of the 2015 test will be finally collated December 2015,	AH PT 3 AH PT 4 AH PT 5 AH PT 6 AH PT QI
3. Reagents and products				
3-1	Supply of Reagents	Supply reference reagents to the NRLs in Member States.	Reagents as monoclonal antibodies, rabbit antisera, pathogen isolates or cell cultures are expected to be send to approx 15 laboratories in 2015	AH PT 2
3-2	Production of reagents	Production of diagnostic reagents against selected pathogens when necessary	Diagnostic reagents (i.e. polyclonal antibodies raised in rabbit, monoclonal antibodies from stored hybridoma cells or In Situ	AH PT 2

			Hybridization -ISH probes) will be produced according to demand	
3-3	Pathogen library	Update and maintain a library of isolates of Infectious salmon anaemia virus (ISAV), Viral Haemorrhagic Septicaemia virus (VHSV) and Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis virus (IHNV), Koi Herpes virus (KHV) and Enzootic Hematopoietic Necrosis virus (EHNV) and other relevant putative emerging fish pathogens.	The library will be updated with 10 to 20 pathogen isolates	AH PT 2
4. Scientific advice and activities				
4-1	Webpage	Update the webpage for the EURL, www.eurl-fish.eu	Keep the webpage constantly updated, uploading relevant material (e.g. AW report, AW presentations, Training course report etc.,)	AH R&D1
4-2	Diagnostic manuals	Update the diagnostic manuals for VHS, IHN, ISA, KHV disease, EHN and EUS on the EURL web page.	The diagnostic manuals are finally adopted by the Commission in 2014. A number of comments are expected from the Member States. The EURL will revise these and update the manuals accordingly	AH R&D1
4-3	Fishreflabnet	Maintain and further develop the interactive network with the NRLs, Fishreflabnet, in order to promote a more proactive data sharing and communication with and between reference laboratories in member states.	The webpage and mailing list based platform for communication and data sharing will be continued with periodical updates sent to all members that subscribed.	AH R&D1
4-4	Pathogen characterization	Identify and characterise selected isolates of listed viruses (pathogenicity testing in-vivo and in-vitro, serological and genetic characterisation).	The EURL receive every year strains and samples for corroboration of diagnostic results in EU Member states. Regularly these strains must be characterised properly as an emergency response to avoid unwanted spreading of new pathogens in EU	AH PT 2
4-5	www.fishpathogens.eu	Update and expand www.fishpathogens.eu with more pathogens.	The database is a valuable tool for virus characterisation and molecular epidemiology. The more isolates included the stronger the tool. New databases on other listed and emerging pathogens are in the pipeline such as a database on SAV (pancreas disease and sleeping disease viruses). At least 50 new isolates are envisaged to be included and 1 new database opened.	AH PT 2 AH R&D1
4-6	Molecular epidemiology	Perform molecular epidemiology analysis to improve knowledge on diseases spreading mechanisms of viral pathogens.	A study involving isolates from several Continental European countries is envisaged.	AH PT 2 AH R&D1 Other activities

4-7	Real-time PCR	Assessment and standardisation of real-time PCR tests for the diagnosis, identification and typing of emerging and listed non-exotic and exotic fish diseases.	Real-time PCR is a highly sensitive and specific tool for diagnosis and surveillance of a number of listed pathogens. Published and non-published methods will be assessed in our premises in order to offer validated protocols for the NRL's	AH ANA1 AH ANA2 AH ANA QI AH R&D QI
4-8	Emerging diseases	In collaboration with specialised experts WW to review selected emerging fish diseases in Europe and assess their potential listing as exotic or non-exotic diseases	It is that more focus should be given to emerging diseases and rapid response. An assessment of risk for contracting and spreading emerging and re-emerging diseases in EU will be continued in 2015 (e.g. CEV – Koi sleepy disease; virusY in Rainbow trout, RLO- Rickettsia like organism in Sea bass)	AH ANA1 AH ANA2 AH ANA QI
4-9	Producing virtual teaching material (e-learning)	Preparing virtual guidelines for conducting proficiency tests (receiving and opening ampoules inoculation etc.)	Set up tools for producing e-tutorials in-house. One tutorial on opening ampoules for PT produced.	AH NRL QI
5. Missions				
5-1	Missions	Organizing missions to relevant laboratories. Missions will focus on NRLs where on-site communication would be beneficial. As collaboration with NRLs in 3rd countries from where EU is importing large amount of fish products is increasing, missions to these, e.g. China and Korea is foreseen	1-2 missions will be conducted, the laboratories to visit will be appointed in order to strengthen collaboration in the NRL network. (e.g. Spain, Croatia, Iceland etc...)	AH COM 1 AH NRL 5 AH PT 5
5-2	International meetings	Attending missions, international meetings and conferences in order to be updated on emerging and listed exotic and non-exotic fish diseases.	The EURL expect to participate in 2 to 3 international conferences.	AH R&D 1 AH R&D QI Other activities