

# AQUATIC ANIMAL MEDICINE RECORD BOOK



It is a legal requirement for you to retain these records for at least five years following the administration or other disposal of the medicines, irrespective of whether or not the animals concerned are in your possession, have been slaughtered or have died during that period.



**ASSURING THE SAFETY, QUALITY AND EFFICACY  
OF VETERINARY MEDICINES**



Contact address for further information:

Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI)  
Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science  
Barrack Road  
The Nothe  
Weymouth  
Dorset  
DT4 8UB  
UK  
Tel: +44 (0) 1305 206700  
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Email: [fhi@cefias.co.uk](mailto:fhi@cefias.co.uk)  
Web: [www.efishbusiness.co.uk](http://www.efishbusiness.co.uk)

## Medical Details

Named responsible person

APB Name

Authorisation APB Number

## Emergency telephone numbers

Veterinarian:

Name:	<input type="text"/>
Telephone:	<input type="text"/>
Fax:	<input type="text"/>
Email:	<input type="text"/>

Local Doctor:

Name:	<input type="text"/>
Telephone:	<input type="text"/>
Fax:	<input type="text"/>
Email:	<input type="text"/>

# Code of Practice on the Responsible Use of Medicines on the Farm

## **Introduction**

Medicines play a very important role in the prevention and control of diseases in aquaculture. UK consumers have long been protected from harmful medicine residues in their food by systems such as statutory controls on the authorisation, distribution and use of such medicines.

## **Safe use of medicines on site**

It is the farmer who is responsible for ensuring that all animal medicines are used in a safe, responsible and effective way in accordance with the prescription.

## **Your responsibility**

Prevention is the best policy; all farms should take the time to draw up a clear biosecurity measures plan with their veterinarian. This document should identify best practices to prevent or treat disease in your stocks taking into account responsibility for your stocks' welfare. This plan may include changes to farming practices and all of the medicines and vaccines you use or intend to use (including those that are incorporated into medicated feedstuffs).

You have a legal obligation to inform Cefas Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI), acting on behalf of Defra as the competent authority, if you suspect any notifiable disease or suffer an unexplained mortality in your fish stock.

The Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2008 requires all Aquaculture Production Businesses (APBs) to keep a proper record of all medicines that are purchased for use on stocks, including vaccines. You must keep these records for a minimum of 5 years. The Cefas FHI also encourages voluntary keeping of records for products which can be supplied without prescription, such as salt and formalin.

Further information on record keeping requirements is available in Veterinary Medicines Guidance Note 16, found at [www.vmd.gov.uk](http://www.vmd.gov.uk).

## Administration

A named member of staff must be responsible for the recording, safeguarding and administration of medicines and for seeing that the withdrawal period is observed.

Read all instructions carefully before administering any medicines. It is critical for the efficacy of the drug and the safety of your stock that the dose and method of administration are correct.

Check the expiry date on the label, and do not use if past that date. Only use medicines as directed by the product guidance unless you have been directed to do otherwise by your veterinary surgeon. All medicines must be used in accordance with the manufacturers recommendations. It is an offence under the Veterinary Medicines Regulations (2008 et seq) not to do so unless under the direction of the prescribing veterinarian.

If you are in any doubt, contact your veterinary surgeon for advice and training in the administration of medications.

## Storage and disposal

Medicines should be stored in accordance with the instructions on the label, pay attention to the particular requirements. For example, storage temperature is critical for some medicines, especially vaccines, whereas, exposure to light can damage others.

Make sure your medicines are stored securely, under lock and key where practicable. Keep medicines out of reach of children, animals and anyone not supposed to handle them.

Dispose of unused medicines safely when treatment is finished. Do not hoard partly used medicines in case they may be useful later. Never pass them on to anyone else; it is illegal to do so. Do not dispose of such items in domestic rubbish or pour animal vaccines down the drain. Your veterinary surgeon will be able to advise you on their safe disposal.

## Purchase of Animal Medicines

Information to be recorded when a medicine is bought or otherwise acquired.

<i>Date of purchase or acquisition of medicine</i>	<i>Name of medicine and quantity purchased or acquired</i>	<i>Batch No.</i>	<i>Expiry date</i>

<i>Suppliers of veterinary medicine</i>	<i>Withdrawal period of medicine</i>

*YOU MUST RECORD THE FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE SUPPLIER THE FIRST TIME YOU RECORD IT*

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<i>Length of withdrawal period (days)</i>	<i>Manufacturers withdrawal period (days or degree days)</i>	<i>Date of end of withdrawal period</i>	<i>Average daily temperature (° C) since treatment end date</i>

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# Disposal of Animal Medicines

Information to be recorded when medicines are disposed of other than by treating an animal.

<i>Name of medicine</i>	<i>Quantity of medicine</i>	<i>Date of disposal</i>

*Method of disposal*

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# Appendix 1

## Injections

The following simple rules will help to reduce the risks of spreading infection when giving single or multiple injections:

- Disposable needles and syringes should be used where possible; take care to dispose of them safely.
- Ensure that all other equipment (needles, syringes, tubing, etc) are cleansed and sterilised\* before and after use. During use ensure that all equipment is left on a clean surface.
- If you are using a syringe which requires to be filled from the bottle between doses, use one sterile needle left in the bottle during use to fill the syringe and a separate needle to inject the animal.
- In the case of an automatic refill syringe, if an air bleed is required to equalise pressure as the injection fluid is withdrawn, use a sterile needle for this purpose.
- Use a sterile needle for the injection, preferably using a fresh needle for each animal or at least changing it frequently (after a set amount of animals) and sterilising\* it between animals. All used discarded needles should be discarded into a 'sharps' box.
- All partially used bottles of vaccines should be destroyed safely, as puncture of the rubber cap can result in contamination of remaining contents.
- If the operator is accidentally injected, medical help should be sought immediately.

\* Needles should be sterilised by boiling, immersing in surgical spirit, or washing in disinfectant recommended for instrument sterilisation. General-purpose disinfectants are dangerous if injected.



