

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directorate D - Animal health and Welfare
D4 - International questions (bilateral)
Head of Unit

Brussels,
SANCO D4 TB/dn (2010) 440067

Dear Md. Rafiqul Islam,

Subject: Import of aquaculture products from Bangladesh into the EU

According to Commission Decision 2008/630/EC, Bangladesh is requested to provide pre-export testing guarantees that Bangladeshi products are compliant for chloramphenicol, metabolites of nitrofurans, tetracycline, malachite green and crystal violet.

We were informed by EU Member States about difficulties in interpreting the analytical results concerning crystal violet certified by Bangladesh. The certificates do not clearly indicate whether these analytical results comply with Decision 2002/657/EC.

Article 6 of Decision 2002/657/EC reads: "The results of an analysis shall be considered non-compliant if the decision limit (CC-alpha) of the confirmatory method for the analyte is exceeded".

Your authorities must specify the CC-alpha or Limit of Quantification (LOQ) for the chemical confirmatory analytical methods used by the laboratories for substances for which no EU MRL or MRPL as defined in Commission Decision 2002/657/EC has been set. This is the case for crystal violet (sum of crystal violet & leuco crystal violet).

It is suggested to use the following wording on the laboratory report forms for such substances (e.g. for crystal violet):

Substance: Crystal violet (sum of crystal violet & leuco crystal violet)

MRL/MRPL/RPA: Not Set

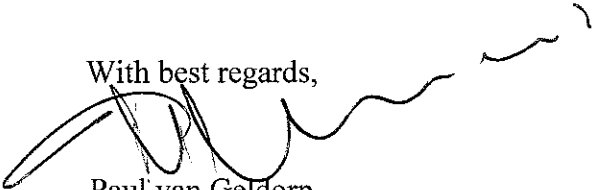
CC-alpha (or LOQ): XX ppb

Laboratory result: **either**: <CCalpha (< LOQ) **or, if greater than CC alpha or the LOQ**: an actual, measured, confirmed concentration.

Md. Rafiqul Islam
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Director General
Department of Fisheries Bangladesh
Matshya Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka

Consignments accompanied by a laboratory certificate in which CC-alpha has NOT been specified for crystal violet (in the absence of which it is not possible to judge whether any declared concentration for crystal violet on the laboratory certificate is compliant or not), have in accordance with the provisions of Commission Decision 2008/630/EC to undergo all appropriate checks on arrival at the border to determine that crystal violet is not present.

With best regards,



Paul van Geldorp

C.c.: The Embassy of Bangladesh in Belgium