

9.15 PROTOCOL FOR BIVALVE AND MOLLUSC SAMPLING

Overview

Comprehensive surveys are carried out to determine the status of shellfish growing waters. Annual review surveys are less intense in nature; they are conducted to update the classification of an area. Annual review surveys can confirm that sanitary conditions have not changed and that the classification is still valid. A re-evaluation survey updates the classification of the area. This may involve an in-depth assessment of the elements in the comprehensive survey. The complexity and extent of a re-evaluation survey will be specific for each area.

Sources

CFIA, Environment Canada, and DFO (2008)

At a glance

*minimum 15
samples*

Comprehensive surveys

1 Conduct bacteriological monitoring under varied environmental conditions. The number and location of sampling stations selected should be adequate to produce the data necessary to effectively evaluate all point and non-point sources of pollution.

2 A minimum of 15 samples shall be collected at each station. In remote shellfish growing areas this requirement may be modified if warranted by the sanitary conditions in the area.

3 In certain circumstances, an alternative sampling strategy, systematic random sampling, may be followed. All sampling requirements, i.e. standards, sampling frequency, and data analysis are as outlined in the "National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish, 2003".

Annual review survey

1 Review files to evaluate the changes in existing and new pollution sources.

2 Perform a shoreline sanitary investigation and/or bacteriological sampling at representative stations (if deemed necessary).

Re-evaluation survey

1 Conduct bacteriological monitoring under varied environmental conditions. The number and location of sampling stations selected should be adequate to produce the data necessary to effectively evaluate all point and non-point sources of pollution.

2 Collect a minimum of 5 samples at each station.

3 Analyze (a minimum of) the last 15 water samples from each representative station to determine the appropriate classification for the area