



Promotion of the use of fish vaccines replacing the use of antimicrobials

Recommendation – July 2019



The Aquaculture Advisory Council (AAC) gratefully acknowledges EU funding support.

Contents

1	Introduction	3
2	Recommendation	3

1 Introduction

In a previous AAC position paper (Relevance of the availability of effective vaccines in aquaculture) was highlighted that “Vaccination” is one of the most effective tools for preventing animal diseases and for promoting animal health and welfare, safe food production and public health.

For environment-friendly aquaculture and human health concerns owing to the rise in incidences of antimicrobial resistant microbes and food safety hazards, the vaccination strategies are highly effective and economical in protecting the health of fish and aquaculture animals from various infectious agents.

For the future of the fish farming industry it is important that vaccines can be used in an increasingly extended and effective way in reducing the need to use antibiotics in animals, thereby contributing to the fight against antimicrobial resistance. Vaccines are also designed to prevent viral and parasitic diseases in fish. Furthermore, vaccines aid to minimise the environmental footprint of fish farming by reducing the aforementioned potential releasing of antibiotics into the environment but also because of the reduction in the need for the use of biocides and antiparasitic products.

The aquaculture profession, the animal health industry, the regulatory authorities, the veterinary profession, environmental NGOs and researchers should join forces to improve the availability of vaccines for farmed aquatic animals.

2 Recommendation

For this reason, in order to increase the spread of prevention measures in fish health in aquaculture, to pursue the sustainable development of EU aquaculture and to "contribute to food security in the EU through sustainable and competitive aquaculture and markets", the AAC recommends that in the next EMFF period (2021-2027) vaccines and the dissemination of effective vaccination strategies can be considered eligible for receiving public aid.



Aquaculture Advisory Council (AAC)

Rue de l'Industrie 11, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: +32 (0) 2 720 00 73

E-mail: secretariat@aac-europe.org

Twitter: @aac_europe

www.aac-europe.org