

AQUACULTURE REGULATIONS OF GHANA LI 1968 OF 2010

Permit for aquaculture operations

52. (1) an aquaculture or aquaculture related activity shall only be undertaken after an environmental permit has been obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency in compliance with the Environmental Assessment Regulations, 1999 (L.I1652).

(2) The Commission shall issue a permit for aquaculture operations after receipt of an environmental permit from the Environmental Protection Agency.

(3) A permit for water usage in accordance with the water resource commission act, 1996 (Acts 522) shall be obtained.

(4) A person, institution, organization or establishment shall not carry out aquaculture without measures to guarantee confinement of the fish to prevent escape from the rearing facility.

(5) The Commission shall not allow exotic species to be introduced in fish farming unless the Commission has adequate knowledge of the biology and life history of the species indicating low risk, and has granted permission to be introduced.

(6) A person , institution or organization or establishment who undertakes an aquaculture related activity without a permit commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not less than one hundred and fifty penalty units.

Application for aquaculture establishment

53. (1) a person who intends to operate an intensive or semi- intensive production type of aquaculture establishment shall not construct, reconstruct or adapt an aquaculture facility without the approval of the Commission.

(2) An applications for approval under sub regulation (1) shall be as in Form H of the Schedule and accompanied with the following:

(a) a plan of the establishment; and

(b) a list of the activities to be carried by the establishment;

(3) The Commission may approve the plans if it meets the requirements in the National Aquaculture Guidelines or any relevant guidelines that the Commission may approve.

(4) An establishment, which meets the requirements in the National Aquaculture Guidelines, may be issued with the Aquaculture Establishment Certificate as set out in Form I of the Schedule.

(5) The Commission shall determine details of fees to be paid for permits and other aquaculture services based on the type and scale of production.

(6) A person who seeks to carry out activities other than those for which approval is given shall apply in writing to the Commission for further consideration and approval.

(7) An Establishment which carries out activities other than those approved by the Commission commits an offence and every officer of the establishment is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding one hundred and fifty penalty units or to imprisonment for a term of not more than twelve months or to both.

Refusal to approve an aquaculture establishment

54. (1) The Commission may refuse to approve an aquaculture establishment if the project is not in the public interest.

(2) A person aggrieved by the refusal of the Commission may appeal to the Minister within thirty days from the date of receipt of the refusal for redress.

(3) The Minister shall constitute an appeals panel to consider the matter and advise the Minister accordingly.

(4) The membership of an appeals panel consists of a representative each from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish Farmers Organization, the Attorney-General's Department, a Civil Society Organization and the Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Division of the Fisheries Commission.

Regular monitoring and inspection of aquaculture establishment

55. The Commission or its agent shall have the authority to enter any aquaculture facility for the purposes of monitoring and ensuring compliance with the provisions of these Regulations.

Fish seed production certificate and fish transfer permit

56. (1) A person shall not produce, distribute or sell fish seed without a fish seed production certificate issued by the Commission.

(2) An application for fish seed production certificate shall be as in Form J of the Schedule and addressed to the Commission.

(3) A fish seed production certificate shall be as in Form K of the Schedule.

(4) For the purposes of avoiding transmission of diseases and Para-site or pathogens in a hatchery that deals with fish seed production, the Commission shall issue a sanitary or health certificate as in Form L of the schedule upon the recommendation of the Health Unit of the Commission in respect of fish seed leaving the hatchery.

(5) An application for fish seed or live fish transfer within Ghana shall be as in Form M of the Schedule.

(6) The Commission shall issue a permit for the transfer of fish seed or live fish within Ghana as set out in Form N of the Schedule.

(7) The Commission may refuse to give permission for transfer of live fish if the live fish to be transferred comes from

- (a) an infested facility; or
- (b) a District that has an outbreak of disease.

(8) A fish seed production certificate shall be issued on payment of the prescribed fee.

Withdrawal of fish seed production certificate

57. The Commission upon the recommendation of an Aquaculture Inspector shall withdraw a fish seed production certificate if the production of fish seed, the hatchery or breeding facilities and the brood stock are not in accordance with the Guidelines and Code of Practice of Aquaculture as established by the Commission.

Reasons for refusal to issue a fish seed production certificate

58. (1) Where the Commission refuses to issue a fish seed production certificate, the Commission shall communicate in writing the reasons for the refusal to the establishment or applicant within thirty days from the date of receipt of the application.

(2) A person aggrieved by the refusal of the Commission may appeal to the Minister within thirty days from the date of receipt of the refusal for redress.

Fish breeding permit

59. (1) A person, institution, organization or an establishment shall not engage in fish breeding without a permit issued by the Commission.

(2) The application for fish breeding permit shall be as set out in Form O of the Schedule and addressed to the Commission.

(3) A Fish Breeding Permit shall be as in Form P of the Schedule.

Reasons for refusal to grant fish breeding permit

60. (1) Where the Commission refuses to grant a fish breeding permit, the Commission shall communicate in writing the reasons for refusal to the applicant within thirty days of receipt of the application

(2) A person aggrieved by the refusal of the Commission may appeal to the Minister within thirty days from the date of receipt of the refusal for redress.

Unauthorized aquaculture practices

- 61.** (1) A person or establishment shall not carry out aquaculture production in a manner that
- (a) degrades the environment;
 - (b) introduces new species apart from those approved for that area; and
 - (c) compromises the safety of food fish.
- (2) A person or establishment that contravenes sub-regulation (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than one hundred and fifty penalty units or to a term of imprisonment of not more than twelve months or to both.

Tampering with aquaculture establishment

- 62.** (1) A person shall not add an item or organism or deleterious sub-stance to an aquaculture facility without the knowledge and consent of the owner.
- (2) A person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to penalties specified in the Act, 1992 (PNDCL 305B) and Fisheries Act, 2002 (Act 625).

Aquaculture inputs permit

- 63.** (1) A person or establishment that intends to engage in
- (a) The production of aquaculture inputs for sale and distribution; or
 - (b) The importation of fish feed and other aquaculture inputs apart from drugs and chemicals for aquaculture use, shall submit an application as in Form Q for approval by the relevant authorities.
- (2) The use of chemicals or drugs in aquaculture shall be in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency Act, 1990, (Act 490)

Refusal to issue aquaculture inputs permit

64. (1) the Commission may refuse to issue an aquaculture permit for import, export, production or sale of aquaculture inputs for use in aquaculture if the inputs pose an unacceptable risk.

(2) Where the Commission refuses to issue an aquaculture permit the Commission shall communicate in writing the reasons for the refusal to the applicant.

(3) A person aggrieved by the refusal of the Commission may appeal to the Minister within thirty days from the date of receipt of the refusal for redress.

Aquaculture research

65. A modified or improved living organism that is a production form aquatic research shall be under quarantine and shall only be released from quarantine with the written consent of the Commission.

Certification or approval of general production from aquaculture research

66. (1) The Commission shall not certify or approve a generated product or technology for aquaculture production purposes, unless a certification or approval of the generated product from aquaculture research has been approved by the relevant regulatory Institution.

(2) Where the Commission refuses to certify or approve a products or technology, that production or technology shall be seized and destroyed or rendered harmless by the Commission or its agents.

Aquaculture record keeping

67. (1) A person or an establishment involved in aquaculture production shall keep records and regularly compile an annual fish farm data in a format as set out in Form R of the Schedule.

(2) The compiled data as part of an annual report, including information on clients engaged in fish seed production shall be submitted by the person or

management of the establishment to the Commission as the Commission shall determine.

(3) The Commission may revoke a certificate granted to an establishment where the management of the establishment fails to keep or provide aquaculture production records to the Commission.

Aquaculture harvesting gears

68. (1) Harvesting gear used in aquaculture shall not be used to capture fish from the natural waters.

(2) A person who uses harvesting gear in contravention of sub-regulation (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than one hundred and fifty penalty units or to a term of imprisonment of not more than twelve months or to both.

Importation of live fish

69. (1) A person shall not import live fish or exotic fish species including eggs and gametes for purposes of aquaculture without a permit issued by the Commission.

(2) A permit issued under sub-regulation (1) shall include the importation of ornamental fish species.

(3) An application for a permit to import a live ornamental fish shall be as in Form S of the Schedule to these Regulations.

(4) A live fish import permit shall be as in Form T of the Schedule and shall be issued on payment of the fees prescribe by the Commission.

(5) A health certificate from the country of origin shall accompany the consignment at the port of entry for examination as set out in Form U.

(6) Imported live fish shall be quarantined by the Commission and the cost of the quarantine shall be borne by the importer.

(7) The duration for processing an application for live fish imports shall not exceed thirty working days from the date of receipt of the application.

Export of live fish

70.(1) a person shall not export live fish including authorized species of ornamental fish or their gametes without a fish export Health Certificate issued by the Commission.

(2) A fish export health certificate shall be

(a) subject to the conditions that may be considered necessary by the Commission; and

(b) as set out in Form V of the Schedule on payment of fees as prescribed by the Commission.

(3) The fish export health certificate fro Ghana signed by the competent authority shall accompany the consignment.

Penalty for failure to comply with aquaculture requirements

71. a person, institution or establishment in charge of or engaged in aquaculture that fails to take steps to ensure compliance with theses regulations, in respect of aquaculture activities commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine of not more hundred and fifty penalty units or to imprisonment for a term of not more than twelve months or to both.

Reasons for refusal to issue a permit for transfer of fish and fish seed

72.(1) Where the Commission refuses to issue a permit for the transfer of fish and fish seed , it shall communicate in writing to the applicant the reasons for the refusal , within thirty days from the date of receipt of the application.

(2) A person aggrieved by the refusal of the commission may appeal to the Ministry within thirty days from the receipt of the refusal address.

Miscellaneous matters

Falsification of the documents

73. (1) A person shall not falsify or unlawfully alter, destroy, erase or obliterate any declaration, certificate or other documents made or issued under these Regulations.

(2) A person who acts contrary to sub-regulations (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary convictions to the fine specific under sections 128(4) of the Act.

Navigational hazardous water quality

74. (1) the positioning of pens, cages and the concentration of such structures shall be such as not hamper navigation, water circulation and water quality.

(2) A person who contravenes sub-regulation (1) commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than one hundred penalty units or to a term of imprisonment of not more than six month or both.

Use of drugs or chemicals

75. (1) a person shall not use a chemical or drug in any aquaculture establishment without a valid prescription by a veterinary officer.

(2) A person who contravenes sub-regulation(1) commits an offences and is liable , on summary conviction, to a fine of not more than two hundred penalty units or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding fifteen months or to both.

Minimum sanitary requirements

76. (1) a fishing vessel shall have minimum sanitary requirements as set out in the relevant regulations of the competent authority

(2) The inspection of the hygienic requirements on board a fishing vessel shall be conducted by competent authority.

Sanitary condition of fish landings

77. A fish inspector from a competent authority shall inspect fish landings for their quality and status at landing sites.

Importation of fish and fish products

78. (1) fish imported in the country shall

(a) have an accompanying health certificate signed by a competent authority of the exporting country, and

(b) specify the origin of fish on the certificate.

(2) fish imported into Ghana shall be

(a) delivered in the its imported conditions;

(b) in conformity with the fish and fish products specified in

the permit

to facilitate inspection by a Fisheries Inspector from the competent authority.

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM H

APPLICATION FOR SEMI-INTENSIVE/INTENSIVE GROW-OUT AQUACULTURE OPERATIONS

Name of Establishment

Address of Establishment (Postal).....

Telephone/Fax.....

Email.....

Name (Proprietor/s).....

Location (GPS).....District.....Region.....

Type of culture facility (Pond, Cage, Raceway, Tanks, Pens, Aquaria, Others (specify)).....

Year of Establishment.....

No and Size(s) of culture facility.....

.....

Production Capacity.....

Species to be Produced

Name of Applicant

Signature.....

Date:.....

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM J

APPLICATION FOR AQUATIC ORGANISM SEED PRODUCTION PERMIT

Name of Establishment.....

Address of Establishment (Postal).....

Telephone/Fax.....

Email.....

Name of Proprietor(s).....

Location (GPS).....District.....Region.....

Type of culture facility [Pond, Cage, Raceway, Tanks, Pens, Aquaria, Others (specify)].....

Size of Establishment (No. of ponds, hatcheries).....

Year of Establishment.....

Types of Species

Origin of brood stock:

Wild: Specify water body and location.....

Culture: Specify farm and location.....

Capacity (number per annum).....

Seed production facility (ponds, tanks or others Specify).....

.....

Signature

Date

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM K

PERMIT FOR AQUATIC ORGANISM SEED PRODUCTION

This is to certify that
of.....is permitted to produce, distribute
and sell.....

From.....To

Name and Rank of authorizing officer

Signature of authorizing officer.....

Date.....

Official Stamp/Seal.....

Duplicate

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FROM M

**APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF LIVE AQUATIC ORGANISM OR SEED WITHIN
GHANA**

Name of Applicant

Establishment

Location.....District.....Region.....

Species to be transferred

Stage of Organism: Eggs Milt Gametes Fry Fingerling Adult Others
(Specify).....

Number/Weight to be transferred.....

Origin of stock:

Wild: Specify water body and location.....

Culture: Specify farm and location.....

Purpose for transfer.....

Final destination

Signature of applicant.....

Date.....

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM N

PERMIT FOR AQUATIC ORGANISM TRANSFER WITHIN GHANA

This permit is issued to.....

of.....for the transfer of.....

.....from.....

to.....

Mode of Transportation.....

Expiry Date of Permit

Signature of Authorizing Official.....

Date.....

Official Stamp/Seal.....

Quintuplicate booklet

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM O

APPLICATION FOR AQUATIC ORGANISM BREEDING PERMIT

Name of Establishment.....

Address of Establishment (Postal).....

Telephone/Fax.....

Email.....

Name of Proprietor(s).....

Location (GPS).....District.....Region.....

Type of culture facility [Pond, Cage, Raceway, Tanks, Pens, Aquaria, Others (specify)].....

Size of Establishment (No. of ponds, hatcheries).....

Year of Establishment.....

Types of Species

Characteristics of intended breed (fast growing, disease resistant, bright colours, taste etc.).....

.....

Origin of brood stock:

Country:.....

Wild: Specify water body and location (GPS).....

Culture: Specify farm and location (GPS).....

No. of Broodstock: Male.....Female.....

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM P

PERMIT FOR AQUATIC ORGANISM BREEDING

This is to certify that

of.....is permitted to engage in the

breeding of the following species:

.....
.....

From.....To

Name and Rank of authorizing officer

Signature of authorizing officer.....

Date.....

Official Stamp/Seal.....

Duplicate

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM Qa

APPLICATION FOR IMPORTATION OF AQUACULTURE INPUTS

Name of Establishment.....

Address of Establishment.....

Location.....District.....Region.....

Specification of Inputs

Item	Quantity (Units)	Source/Country	Manufacturer	Purpose

Name of Applicant.....

Signature

Date

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM Qb

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF AQUACULTURE INPUTS

Name of Establishment.....

Address of Establishment.....

Location.....District.....Region.....

Item (s) to be produced.....

Types of Raw materials.....

Source of raw materials.....

Production per annum.....

Name of Applicant.....

Signature

Date

Please attach Environmental Permit, Sanitary Permit

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM R

QUARTERLY FISH FARM DATA

Period:.....

Name of Establishment.....

Proprietor(s): Male(s).....Female(s).....

Number of Staff:Male(s).....Female(s).....

Location.....District.....Region.....

Types of Enterprise: Fry Production/Nursery/Grow out/ Breeder/ Bait/Ornamental

.....

Source of Stock.....

Facility			Stocking				Culture		Quarterly Output (kg)
Type	Total No.	Total Size (m ² /m ³)	No. of facilities Stocked	Size of facilities stocked (m ² /m ³)	Species	No.	Mono*	Poly	

*Monoculture=MC; Mono-sex=MS

Name of Farm Official.....

Signature.....

Designation.....

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM S

APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO IMPORT LIVE AQUATIC ORGANISM(S) INTO GHANA

Name of Establishment.....

Address of Establishment.....

Location.....District.....Region.....

Address of the Supplier

.....

.....

.....

Details of aquatic organism.

Fish Eggs Gametes

Wild/Capture Culture

Species Name (Scientific)	Common Name	Quantity	
		pieces	kg

Purpose: Ornamental, Breeding, Bait, Grow-out, Others (Specify).....

Country of Origin of Import.....

Name of Applicant

Signature of applicant.....

Date.....

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM U

PERMIT TO IMPORT LIVE AQUATIC ORGANISMS INTO GHANA

This permit is issued to.....

of.....for the importation of the under-listed live aquatic organism(s).

Details of import:

Fish Eggs Gametes

Wild/Capture Culture

Tropical: Fresh water Brackish water Marine

Species Name (Scientific)	Common Name	Quantity	
		pieces	kg

From (Consignor)

Country of Origin

Mode of Transportation:.....



FISHERIES COMMISSION
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

FORM V

HEALTH CERTIFICATE FOR THE EXPORT OF LIVE AQUATIC ORGANISMS FROM GHANA

Cert. Number.....

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST ACCOMPANY THE CONSIGNMENT

Please complete this in BLOCKLETTERS

This is to permit (Name of Consignor).....

of(Address of Consignor).....

Location.....District.....Region.....

to export the under-listed Aquatic Organisms

IDENTIFICATION

Scientific Name	Common Name	Quantity		Packaging	
		Number	Weight (kg)	Type	Number

Source: Cultured Wild

 Fresh water brackish water marine

Nature of consignment: Fish Mollusc Crustaceans

 Eggs Gametes Milt

to

Name of Consignee.....Location.....

Country of Destination.....

for (Intended use).....

Mode of transport:

Air

Land

Sea

Declaration

I, the undersigned Veterinarian, declare that the aquatic animals forming the present consignment originates from a culture facility /wild where they have been submitted to health supervision as prescribed by the OIE. The above consignment as at the time of inspection before shipment no clinical signs of disease were observed.

This certificate is valid for 14 days from the date of issue.

Name and Rank of Official

Signature

Stamp of Official.....

Stamp/Seal of Competent Authority.....

Date of issue:.....

Triplicate with page number and water mark.

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM W

APPLICATION FOR HEALTH CERTIFICATE TO EXPORT LIVE
AQUATIC ORGANISM(S) FROM GHANA

Name of Establishment.....

Address of Establishment.....

Location.....District.....Region.....

Address of the Consignee.....

.....

.....

Details of aquatic organism.

Species Name	Common Name	Quantity (kg/pieces)

Purpose (Ornamental, Breeding etc.).....

Country of Destination of Export.....

Name of Applicant

Signature of applicant.....

Date.....

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM Xa

PERMIT FOR IMPORTATION OF AQUACULTURE INPUTS

This permit is issued to.....
of.....for the importation of the under-listed
aquaculture inputs

Type	Quantity

Country of Origin

This permit is valid from to

Name and Rank of Authorizing Officer.....

Signature.....

Date

Official Stamp/Seal.....

Please attach export permit of country of origin.

This Permit is not transferable.

FISHERIES COMMISSION

FORM Xb

PERMIT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF AQUACULTURE INPUTS

This permit is issued to.....
of.....for the production of the under-listed
aquaculture inputs.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

This permit is valid from to

Name and Rank of Authorizing Officer.....

Signature.....

Date

Official Stamp/Seal.....

REPORT ON THE CONTENT AND FORMAT OF FISHERIES COMMISSION PERMITS AND CERTIFICATES

Mandate:

- Verify and propose **content and format of application forms** for the various Fisheries Commission Permits and certificates as in the Fisheries Regulation 2010.
- Verify and propose **content and format for various Fisheries Commission Permits and Certificates** as in the Fisheries Regulation 2010.
- Establish various fees for the various permits and certificates.

Participants: Staff who participated in the verification and proposal for the content and format of the application forms, permits and certificates included

Dr D. F. S. Schandorf

Mr. S Quatey

Mrs P. Markwei

Mr S. Avorke

Mrs D. Yeboah

Dr. P. Ziddah

Mr P. Banermannn

Mr E. Aryee

Mr W. Agbenu

Mr Peng-yir

Mr Inseidu

Mr G. Baidoo-Tsibu

Miss M. Quist

Mrs M. Nkansa

Ms Ayebilla

Mr H. Agbekporu

Suggested Charges

I suggest different charges for the establishment of pond culture and cage culture. I however suggest one charge for the different activities as shown in the table below.

Item		Charge
Ponds/ Raceways/Tank/ Culture		
Ornamental		₱100.00
Food Fish	Small	₱20.00
	Medium	₱150.00
	Large	₱200.00
Establishment Certificate Cage culture	Small	₱100.00
	Medium	₱400.00
	Large	₱600.00
Aquatic Organism Seed Production (Hatchery)	Small	₱100.00
	Medium	₱250.00
	Large	₱500.00
Aquatic Organism Breeding permit		₱1,000.00
Aquatic Organism Import Permit		₱50.00
Aquatic Organism Health Cert. for Export		₱100.00
Aquaculture Input Import Permit		*
Aquaculture Input Production Permit	Small	₱300.00
	Medium	₱500.00
	Large	₱1000.00
Aquatic Organism Transfer permit	Less than 200 pcs	₱5.00
	200 pcs - 1,000 pcs	₱10.00
	1,001 pcs-3,000 pcs	₱20.00
	Over 3,000	₱30.00

*See schedule.