

PIRSA policy on importation of Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) spat from Tasmania

1. Only oyster spat reared within the intertidal zone are permitted translocation. Intertidally raised oysters are defined as those raised inter-tidally, in a manner which achieves shell drying for a minimum of 4 hours per day for at least the last 60 days prior to export. Oyster spat reared in upweller or other systems that mimic the regimen of desiccation experienced by intertidally reared spat (as defined above), will also be permitted. Translocation of oysters reared subtidally will not be permitted until standards of washing and drying, or other treatments that sufficiently mitigate *Boccardia knoxi* associated risks are established.
2. Oyster spat must be no larger than 15 mm in size and must be graded through a 10000 mesh screen (maximum size) within 4 days prior to shipment. Requirements for the translocation of larger oysters will be considered on a case by case basis.
3. Oyster spat are required to be treated with freshwater for a period of 12 hours prior to translocation
4. Oyster spat are required to be depurated in sterilised seawater for a period of 12 hours prior to translocation.
5. Oyster spat suppliers are required to sign a vendor declaration that they have adhered to the required protocol. The declaration should clearly state:
 - the species of oyster translocated,
 - the size mesh the oysters have passed through,
 - the length of time the oysters were soaked in fresh water,
 - the duration of seawater depuration and the method used for seawater sterilisation, and
 - that the oyster spat were reared within the intertidal zone or other system that has provided shell drying for a minimum of 4 hours per day for at least the last 60 days prior to export.

A copy of the vendor declaration will accompany the shipment throughout the translocation, and should be held by the importer for a period of 12 months.

6. Each Pacific oyster spat supplier must be part of a system that enables the Competent Authority of Tasmania (CA) to audit the supplier's activities and thereby ensure, to the satisfaction of the CA, that the above pre-shipment processes are adhered to and, that in the past six months there have been no significant pests or diseases associated with the oyster population from which the spat are sourced.
7. Oyster spat suppliers must participate in the Tasmanian oyster health surveillance program. A copy of the documentation attesting current membership in the program must accompany each shipment.

Note: *Alternative measures that provide an equivalent level of risk management will be considered by PIRSA on a case-by-case basis. Such submissions to PIRSA should include all available supporting scientific data.*

Effective 11 June 2001