

# LANAqu17 SQA Unit Code HC0M 04

## Prepare and maintain fish eggs in a hatchery



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### Overview

This standard is about the preparation and maintenance of fish eggs in a fish hatchery, pre- and post-hatch. It requires that work is completed in accordance with site standard operating procedures.

This standard is for those who prepare and maintain fish eggs in a hatchery.

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### Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 carry out work safely in line with relevant health and safety requirements
  - P2 prepare the fish hatchery to a condition suitable for receiving fish eggs
  - P3 wash and disinfect fish eggs in preparation for hatchery
  - P4 estimate fish egg numbers by volume
  - P5 establish fish eggs at specified densities within holding units
  - P6 maintain environmental conditions within holding units to maximise the survival of eggs
  - P7 monitor and report on water temperature within the hatchery
  - P8 remove dead fish eggs from holding units, keeping disturbance of remaining eggs to a minimum
  - P9 provide information to maintain records of hatchery conditions in accordance with legal and site requirements

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

- K1 the relevant health and safety requirements associated with fish hatchery work
- K2 the developmental and environmental requirements of the early life stages of the fish being farmed
- K3 the legal requirements controlling the movement of fish eggs between different farm sites
- K4 why it is important to disinfect fish eggs before they are established into a hatchery
- K5 site procedures for maintaining hygiene and bio-security within a hatchery
- K6 common health problems and disorders associated with hatcheries, and the signs that identify their presence
- K7 how to estimate fish egg numbers by volume
- K8 how to recognise viable fish eggs
- K9 the term “**degree days**” and how it is calculated
- K10 why it is important to remove dead eggs from hatcheries and minimise disturbance to other eggs
- K11 relevant legal requirements controlling the disposal of mortalities and waste
- K12 hatchery emergencies and the procedures to follow if an emergency is identified
- K13 the legal and site requirements for maintaining records of hatchery conditions

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#### Glossary

**degree days** – method of calculating the rate of fish growth by multiplying the number of days by the average water temperature in degrees Celsius for that time period. e.g. 5 days with water temperatures of 10 degrees = 50 degree days. Different species of fish have different “degree day” requirements to reach the required stage of growth.

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