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## Overview

This standard is about the *depuration* of shellfish. For the purpose of this standard, “depuration” is the process used to internally purify bi-valve shellfish to a condition suitable for human consumption. It requires that work is completed in accordance with site standard operating procedures.

This standard includes the ability to carry out the following depuration activities:

- preparation of shellfish and equipment
- loading of shellfish into depuration
- checking environmental conditions
- unloading of purified shellfish
- labelling of shellfish for dispatch
- despatch of purified shellfish
- cleaning of depuration facilities

This standard is for those who conduct shellfish depuration operations.

# LANAqu8 SQA Unit Code HC1N 04

## Conduct shellfish depuration operations

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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 depuration system for receiving sterilising water and shellfish, maintaining hygienic working conditions
- P3 **prepare and condition shellfish** ready for adding to the depuration system
- P4 load shellfish into depuration systems at specified density
- P5 check **environmental conditions** within the depuration system to achieve required purification
- P6 report any problems with the depuration process
- P7 unload shellfish from depuration, in a manner that minimises the stress caused to shellfish and avoids re-contamination
- P8 wash, prepare and label shellfish for despatch
- P9 clean the depuration facility to a hygienic condition ready for the next shellfish batch
- P10 provide information to maintain records of shellfish depuration and despatch to meet 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 the depuration process
- K2 the hygiene and food safety requirements associated with depuration and your responsibilities under food safety legislation
- K3 common human health problems that can be caused by shellfish that have not been depurated
- K4 the legal requirements of the depuration process
- K5 why shellfish are washed before depuration
- K6 why it is important to remove dead or damaged shellfish before depuration begins
- K7 why it is important to adhere to specified density levels when loading shellfish into the depuration system
- K8 the environmental conditions required for effective depuration
- K9 the classifications given to shellfish growing areas and how this impacts on the purification requirements
- K10 Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) requirements in relation to the depuration process
- K11 how shellfish become stressed and why it is important to minimise the stress caused
- K12 how to despatch shellfish so their quality is maintained
- K13 labelling requirements for shellfish despatch
- K14 the significance of shellfish contamination to public health
- K15 the legal time requirement for depuration
- K16 the limitations of the depuration process
- K17 site procedure for dealing with dead or damaged shellfish
- K18 the legal and site requirements for maintaining records of shellfish depuration and despatch, including information required for traceability

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### Glossary

**environmental conditions** – temperature, water flow, turbidity, salinity, dissolved oxygen

**prepare and condition shellfish** – washing, removing dead shellfish, removing damaged shellfish

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