

MAURITIAN
STANDARD

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**Good Aquaculture Practices
- Part 2: Land based
Freshwater culture**

ICS 65.150



**Mauritius Standards Bureau
Moka**

National Foreword

This Mauritian Standard was drawn by the **Food Products Standards Committee** (FPSC) through its **Subcommittee on Aquaculture**. It was approved by the **Standards Council** on **29 October 2018** and was notified in the **Government Gazette** on **24 November 2018***.

In preparing this standard, the following was used as working document:

CAC/RCP 52, Code of Practice for Fish and Fishery Products

The use of information and assistance derived from the above documents is gratefully acknowledged.

* **General Notice No 1736 of 2018**



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Introduction

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations has defined aquaculture, or fish farming, as the farming of the aquatic organisms, including fish, molluscs, crustaceans and plants. Farming implies some form of intervention in the rearing process to enhance production, such as regular stocking, feeding and protection from predators. Farming also implies individual or corporate ownership of the stock being cultivated.

Fish are an important source of both food and income to many people in developing countries. Maintaining a good land based freshwater culture environment is the key to ensuring sustainable use of fish culture zones and successful rearing of healthy and good quality fish. Land based fish farmers must therefore thoroughly understand the impacts of fish culture activities and natural factors on the culture environment and fish stock. When land based freshwater fish farm is poorly managed such as over-density, over-feeding or improper disposal of dead fish, a significant amount of organic matter would be introduced to the water body. As the load of organic matters increases, the water body may be affected by problems like turbidity, anoxia, proliferation of disease that may lead to death of benthic species.

The Good Aquaculture Practices for Marine and land based freshwater culture has been prepared with a view to help local aquaculture farmers gain recognition ultimately leading to the certification programme denoting key elements of responsible aquaculture, including environmental responsibility, social responsibility, food safety, animal health and welfare, and traceability.

MS 192 consists of the following parts under the general title Good Aquaculture Practices:

Part 1: *Marine culture*

Part 2: *Land based freshwater culture*

Good Aquaculture Practices – Land based freshwater Culture

1 Scope

This Standard on Good Aquaculture Practices (GAP) specifies requirements for land based freshwater culture including harvesting and post - harvest handling of products of good quality and safe for consumption.

Hatching and nursing are not covered in this standard.

This Standard may be used for certification purposes.

2 Normative References

The following documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition (including any amendments) applies.

CAC/RCP 52 *Code of practice for fish and fishery products*

Codex Stan 193 *Codex General Standard for contaminants and toxins in food and feed*

The Fisheries and Marine Resources Act 2007

Guidelines for inland surface water quality

3 Definitions

For the purpose of this standard, the following definitions shall apply:

3.1 aquaculture

the farming of aquatic organisms involving intervention in the rearing process to enhance production and the individual or corporate ownership of the stock

3.2 veterinary drug

any substance applied or administered to any food-producing animal, whether used for therapeutic, prophylactic, or diagnostic purposes or for modification of physiological functions or behaviour.