

11 January 2018

Reference: Update 4/ 18-19

To all interested parties:

## **Updated Classifications of the Bivalve Mollusc Production Areas in England & Wales for 2018-19**

The Food Standards Agency wishes to notify you of the following update to the classifications of bivalve mollusc production areas. These amendments have been made under Regulation (EC) 854/2004 and take immediate effect.

### **New classifications**

#### **Poole – Poole Coastal (*C. gigas* and *O.edulis*) B**

Sampling at the representative monitoring point (RMP) commenced in October 2018, following a pRMP assessment. To date 10 samples have been received and the results show 100% compliance with class B, (upper threshold is 4,600). This site is therefore given provisional classification (note 1) at the class B level.

### **Downgrade**

#### **St Austell Bay – Ropehaven (*Mytilus* spp.) B070W**

An action state result was recorded at this class A site on the 12 November 2018 (1,300 *E. coli*/100g). Local investigations did not reveal sufficient evidence to waive the result. The regulatory requirement is 80% of sample results less than or equal to 230 *E. coli*/100g and no results exceeding 700 *E. coli*/100g. This result of 12 November exceeds the upper limit for class A not permitted in Regulation (EC) 854/2004.

The data does not show a clear and robust seasonal trend. The data does however comply with class B and meet the criteria for a long term classification. Current compliance with 4,600 are 100% over the last 12 months (13 samples), 100% over the last three years (41 samples) and 98.4% over the last five years (62 samples). There have been no results >46,000 from this site in the last five years. This site is therefore downgraded to class B-LT.

#### **Lyme Bay – Site 2 (*Mytilus* spp.) B090P**

Following a result of 490 *E.coli*/100g recorded on 4 December 2018 (during the class A season for this site) a possible downgrade was issued. There have also been results of 330 on 16 October 2018 and 490 on 13 November 2018. Investigations into the high results did not reveal any grounds to suggest they could be waived. Class A compliance over the current class A season

is 72.7% (11 samples) over the last year and 89.7% (29 samples) over the last three-years. The requirement is 80% of sample results less than or equal to 230 E. coli/100g and no results exceeding 700 E. coli/100g.

A clear seasonal trend is still evident at this site, so the class A season is reduced to 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September (with March as the transition period). Over this period (including the transitional period), compliance with 230 over the last year is 100% (7 samples) and over the last three years it is 90% (19 samples). There have been no results over 700 during this class A season and transitional period.

## Declassifications

### Brancaster - Thornham (*C. gigas*) B005Y

The Local Authority has advised that there is no commercial harvesting and there are low stocks of oysters at this site. They do not intend to sample. It has therefore been included as declassified (B-LT) note 7.

### Taw Torridge – Chivenor (*Mytilus* spp.) B36AK

The local authority advised that there is currently no commercial interest in this site, so they will be reverting to quarterly sampling. It is therefore recommended that this bed is declassified C note 2.

### Poole - West Brownsea Relay Area (*Tapes* spp.) B54CS

The Local Authority has advised that there is no commercial interest in using this relay area at present and they do not intend to sample. It has therefore been included as declassified (B) notes 4 & 7.

## DESIGNATED BIVALVE MOLLUSC PRODUCTION AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

### New classifications

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Poole	Poole Coastal	<i>C. gigas</i> and <i>O.edulis</i>	B	1	Poole BC

### Downgrades

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
St Austell Bay	Ropehaven	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	B-LT		Cornwall PHA
Lyme Bay	Site 2	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	Seasonal A	<b>Transition period</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> March – 31 <sup>st</sup> March <b>Class A season</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> April-30 <sup>th</sup> September (class B at all other times)	Torbay BC

## Declassifications

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Brancaster	Thornham	<i>C. gigas</i>	Declassified B-LT	7	Kings Lynn and West Norfolk BC
Taw/Torridge	Chivenor	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	Declassified C	2	North Devon DC
Poole	West Brownsea Relay Area	<i>Tapes</i> spp.	Declassified B	4 & 7	Poole BC

The classification list will be updated on the FSA website:

<https://www.food.gov.uk/business-guidance/shellfish-classification>

If you require further information or wish to discuss these amendments further please contact Catherine Miller or Emily Davis (07771 345180) on the details below.

Yours sincerely



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