

30 September 2019

Reference: Update 2/ 19-20

To all interested parties:

**Updated Classifications of the Bivalve Mollusc Production Areas in England & Wales for 2019-20**

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.

**Downgrade**

**Blakeney – Wells – The Pool (*Mytilus* spp.) B006R**

Following a result of 92,000 *E. coli*/100g on 13 August 2019 for this site, which is currently class B-LT, a possible downgrade was triggered. This result exceeds the upper limit for class B sites (46,000 *E. coli*/100g). The classification protocol states that sites may be downgraded to class C following one result over 46,000 *E. coli*/100g if compliance is failing, however, each situation will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Currently, compliance with 4,600 *E. coli*/100g at this site is 81.8% over one-year (11 samples), 94.3% over three-years (35 samples) and 93.2% over five-years (59 samples). There have been no other results over 46,000 *E. coli*/100g in the last three-years.

No exceptional rainfall or pollution incidents were reported in the lead up to sampling. This site will not be downgraded to C at this stage because three-year compliance is above 90% and there is no previous history of results of this magnitude. However, long term status will be withdrawn and an explanatory note 4 added to denote the fact that there has been a prohibited level result.

**Roach – Paglesham Pool (*C. gigas*) B73AC**

A possible downgrade was issued for this class A site following three results over 230 in the last year. The results were 490 *E. coli*/100g on 16 October 2018, 330 *E. coli*/100g on 11 March 2019 and 330 *E. coli*/100g on 19 August 2019. No exceptional rainfall or pollution incidents were reported in relation to the recent high result.

The protocol states that the downgrade criteria for a class A site are: 3 results over 230 *E. coli*/100g but less than 700 *E. coli*/100g in the rolling review year, or 1 result over 700 *E. coli*/100g. Compliance with 230 *E. coli*/100g over one-year is 75.0% (12 samples) and 91.7% (36 samples) over three-years. Therefore, this site is to be downgraded to class B.

## Declassification

### Poole Bay – Poole Coastal (*C. gigas* and *O. edulis*) B54CU

The local authority has advised that there is no longer any commercial interest at this site, so they will be reverting to quarterly sampling. This bed will therefore be declassified as a B note 2.

### Beds now meeting B-LT criteria

Data from the following beds now meet with the criteria for long term B classification, therefore, they will be given B-LT status:

- At least 40 results available over the last 5-year period
- Sites must show 90% or better compliance with 4,600 *E. coli*/100g
- Sites must not have returned a result >46,000 in the last 5-year period

RMP	Production Area	Bed Name	Council	Species	Classification	Total no of results (1 Year)	Total no of results (5 Years)	Max <i>E. coli</i>	% Compliance with 4600 1Year	% Compliance with 4600 3 Year	% Compliance with 4600 5 Year
B16CO	Thames	Barrow Deep	London PHA	<i>O. edulis</i>	B	12	41	1300	100.0	100.0	100.0
B54BS	Poole Harbour	Barrel O	Bournemouth Poole Christchurch Council	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	B	12	60	3300	100.0	94.6	91.7
B54CP	Poole Harbour	Whitley Lake	Bournemouth Poole Christchurch Council	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	B	12	49	24000	91.7	97.2	95.9
B70AH	Lantivet Bay	Sandheap Point	Cornwall PHA	<i>Ensis</i> spp.	B	11	53	78	100.0	97.3	98.1
B33AN	Fal (Lower)	Mylor Creek	Cornwall PHA	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	B	12	53	7900	91.7	94.1	96.2
B036F	Taw Torridge	Cool Stone - Instow	North Devon DC	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	B	11	59	4900	91.7	94.4	91.7

## DESIGNATED BIVALVE MOLLUSC PRODUCTION AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

### Downgrades

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Blakeney	Wells – The Pool	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	B	4	North Norfolk DC
Roach	Paglesham Pool	<i>C. gigas</i>	B		London PHA

### Declassification

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Poole Bay	Poole Coastal	<i>C. gigas</i> & <i>O. edulis</i>	Declassified B	2	Poole BC

The classification list will be updated on the FSA website in due course:

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

If you require further information or wish to discuss these amendments further, please contact the Shellfish Delivery team on the details below.

Yours sincerely

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