

5 October 2018

Reference: Update 2/ 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 classification

Exe – Sandy Bay (*S. solida*) B26BI and B26BJ

A PRMP (Provisional Representative Monitoring Point) assessment identified two RMPs (Exe East and Exe West), for initial monitoring towards classification. There are now a total of 10 paired samples from each site showing 100% compliance with 4,600. This site is therefore classified as class B note 1 (as monitoring does not yet cover one full year). B26BJ Exe West RMP will be used for ongoing monitoring due to slightly higher results. The local authority has asked for the bed to be listed as 'Sandy Bay'.

Upgrades

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

This bed is currently class B-LT. The rolling one-year compliance with 230 *E. coli*/100g is 92.3% (13 samples) and the three-year compliance is 92.3% (39 samples). There have been no results above 700 in the last three years (a previous result of 2300 was recorded on 21 September 2015, which has now dropped off the three-year data set). This site is now upgraded to class A.

Fal (Upper) - King Harry Reach Mussel Lines (*Mytilus* spp.) B33BD

Mussels at King Harry Reach (represented by sampling at Trelissick Pontoon) were downgraded to class C in the annual review based on the then current dataset and evidence available. The Environment Agency reported a farm pollution incident in relation to a result of 4,900 on 13 February 2018 and have recently confirmed the source of the pollution has been rectified and is unlikely to recur. This result was waived in October. One-year compliance is currently 93.3% *E. coli*/100g (15 results) and three-year compliance is 92.1% (38 results). A result of 54,000 was recorded on 8 August 2017, but this has now dropped off the one-year dataset. This site is therefore upgraded to class B.

Fal (Upper) - King Harry Reach (*O. edulis* and *C. gigas*) B33BI

Oysters at King Harry Reach (represented by sampling at King Harry Ferry) were downgraded to class C in the annual review based on the then current dataset and evidence available. The Environment Agency reported a pollution incident in relation to a result of 4,900 on 13 March 2018 and recently confirmed this was an isolated incident and there is no reason why this should recur. The result was waived in October. The one-year compliance is currently 93.3% (15 results) and three-year compliance is 92.1% (38 results). A result of 54,000 was recorded on 8 August 2017, but this has now dropped off the one-year dataset. This site is therefore upgraded to class B.

Downgrade

Blackwater – Ray Channel (*O. edulis* and *C. gigas*) – B014Y

An action state result was recorded on the 28 August 2018 (780 *E. coli*/100g). Local investigations did not find sufficient evidence to waive the result. Current compliances with 230 are 91.7% (12 samples) over one-year and 97.1% (35 samples) over three years. This most recent result is the only result above 700 in the last three years, which exceeds the upper limit for class A. No results above 700 are permitted. This site is classified for oysters (*C.gigas*) which are high risk as consumed without any treatment, therefore it is now downgraded to class B.

Declassification

Teign – Devon Valley (*Mytilus* spp.) – B27AD

The local authority have confirmed that this bed is no longer in use, so it is declassified with note 2 as quarterly sampling will be maintained. A result of 7900 was recently recorded, so it may not be possible to immediately reclassify it as class B should commercial interest resume.

DESIGNATED BIVALVE MOLLUSC PRODUCTION AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

New Classification

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Exe	Sandy Bay	<i>S. solida</i>	B	1	East Devon DC

Upgrades

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
St Austell Bay	Ropehaven	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	A		Cornwall PHA
Fal (Upper)	King Harry Reach	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	B		Cornwall PHA

	Mussel Lines				
Fal (Upper)	King Harry Reach	<i>O. edulis</i> & <i>C. gigas</i>	B		Cornwall PHA

Downgrade

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Blackwater	Ray Channel	<i>O. edulis</i> & <i>C. gigas</i>	B		Maldon DC

Declassification

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Teign	Devon Valley	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	Declassified (B)	2	Teignbridge DC

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 on the details below.

Yours sincerely

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