

06 January 2020

Reference: Update 5/ 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.

Upgrade

The Wash – Welland and Witham Inner (*Mytilus* spp.) B003M

This seasonal class B site has been 100% compliant with 4,600 *E. coli*/100g in the last year (12 samples). It is also 94.4% compliant over the last three years (36 samples) with no results >46,000 *E. coli*/100g.

In accordance with the protocol this site is therefore upgraded to year-round class B.

West Mersea – Ray Creek (*C. gigas* and *O. edulis*) B013Y

This B-LT site has been 81.8% compliant with 230 *E. coli*/100g in the last year (11 samples). There were results of 330 *E. coli*/100g on 15 May and 330 *E. coli*/100g on 8 October 2019. This site is also 88.2% compliant over the last three years (34 samples) with no results >700 *E. coli*/100g.

In accordance with the protocol this site is therefore upgraded to class A.

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

This class B site has been 83.3% compliant with 230 *E. coli*/100g in the last year (a result of 330 *E. coli*/100g was recorded on 11 March and 330 *E. coli*/100g on 19 August 2019) out of a total of 12 samples. It is also 91.7% compliant over the last three years (36 samples) with no results >700 *E. coli*/100g.

In accordance with the protocol this site is upgraded to class A.

Downgrades

Blackwater – Buxey Sands and Dengie Flats (*C. edule*) B14AA

An action state result was recorded at this class A site on the 23 October 2019 (4,900 *E. coli*/100g). Local investigations did not reveal sufficient evidence to waive the result. No pollution incidents were reported in the lead up to sampling and rainfall was not exceptional although was sustained over a number of days prior to the sample being taken.

Current compliance figures with 230 *E. coli* per 100g are 90.1% (11 samples) over one-year and 94.3% (35 samples) over three-years. This most recent result is the only result above 700 *E. coli* per 100g in the last three years. However, as it exceeds the upper limit for class A, in accordance with the protocol this site should be downgraded.

Current compliances with the class B threshold (4,600 *E. coli* per 100g) are 100% over the last year (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 *E. coli* per 100g from this site in the last five years.

The data complies with B-LT criteria and so, the site will be downgraded to B-LT.

Declassification

Fal (Upper) – Ruan Creek (*Mytilus* spp.) B33AL

This bed is currently class C. The local authority has advised that there is no longer any commercial interest here, so they will be ceasing sampling. This bed will therefore be declassified class C note 7.

Change of Explanatory note

Fal (Upper) – Lambe Creek and Malpas (*Mytilus* spp.) B033C

This bed is currently declassified class C note 2. The local authority has advised that there will no longer be sampling at this site due to a lack of commercial interest. This bed will therefore be declassified class C note 7.

DESIGNATED BIVALVE MOLLUSC PRODUCTION AREAS IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Upgrades

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
The Wash	Welland and Witham Inner	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	B		Boston BC
West Mersea	Ray Creek	<i>C. gigas</i> & <i>O. edulis</i>	A		Colchester BC
Roach	Paglesham Pool	<i>C. gigas</i>	A		London PHA

Downgrades

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Blackwater	Buxey Sands and Dengie Flats	<i>C. edule</i>	B-LT		Maldon DC

Declassification

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Fal (Upper)	Ruan Creek	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	Declassified C	7	Cornwall PHA

Change of Explanatory Note

Production Area	Bed Name	Species	Class	Comment	Food Authority
Fal (Upper)	Lambe Creek and Malpas	<i>Mytilus</i> spp.	Declassified C	7	Cornwall PHA

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

The Shellfish Team

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