



To whom it may concern,

Freezing exemption for fishery products derived from fish farming

As of August 19th 2022, the following is the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration's (DVFA) interpretation of the legal conditions for exemption from the freezing requirement for fishery products derived from fish farming.

The freezing requirement for fishery products found in Regulation (EC) No 853/2004, annex III, section VIII, chapter 3, D., point 1, can be disregarded if the fishery products fulfil certain conditions set in 853/2004, annex III, section VIII, chapter 3, D., point 3, litra d:

3. Food business operators need not carry out the freezing treatment set out in point 1 for fishery products:

[...]

(d) derived from fish farming, cultured from embryos and have been fed exclusively on a diet that cannot contain viable parasites that present a health hazard, and one of the following requirements is complied with:

(i) have been exclusively reared in an environment that is free from viable parasites; or

(ii) the food business operator verifies through procedures, approved by the competent authority, that the fishery products do not represent a health hazard with regard to the presence of viable parasites.

Food businesses that fulfil the condition in either (i) or (ii), can accompany their fishery products with documentation stating that the products are exempt from the freezing requirement.

If condition (i) is fulfilled, the food business itself is responsible for the accompanying documentation and upholding the conditions therein. The DVFA audits the food business and ensures that it fulfils any legal requirements for food hygiene, but does not create or sign documentation for freezing exemption in this case.

If the food business fulfils condition (ii), the food business operator will have documentation of the DVFA's verification of the control procedures.

This interpretation can be subject to change if new legislation or information appears.