

Kefalonia Fisheries' strict production practices and standards ensure that the health and welfare of our fish is monitored in a constant way throughout the production cycle and maintained to the highest level. The policy covers all fish regardless of the species produced and is applied in all our establishments.

Securing Fish health and responsible medicinal treatments

Each farming establishment has a dedicated fish health and welfare professional, who is specifically trained to ensure that fish health and welfare is maintained to the highest possible level. Veterinary Health Plan (VHP), Biosecurity plan and Better Management and husbandry Practices (BMP's) are applied or supervised by our fish health professionals.

All mortality is recorded by population (cage or tank), and the specific mortality cause is registered appropriately. Any mortality is retrieved and disposed following biosecure practices according to the VHP and the relevant legislation.

To minimize the risk of disease outbreaks and mitigate their effects, 100% of our sea bass populations is vaccinated by injection against the main bacterial or viral diseases occurring in each production site according to the existing VHP. To avoid stress induced welfare issues during handling, anaesthesia is applied during the vaccination process.

Despite our efforts and as we operate in natural environments, the possibility of a disease outbreak cannot be excluded. In that case, and in need of using veterinary medicinal treatments to ensure our fish wellbeing, only approved veterinary medicinal products are used. Every treatment is applied under a veterinary prescription issued by veterinarians and registered in the proper veterinary medicine registry as described in the relevant legislation. Antimicrobial medicines are applied when a bacterial infection is present to the specific population treated and its health has been compromised. In such cases the use of antimicrobials is necessary to avoid unnecessary suffering and not treating the fish would be unacceptable from our welfare perspective. The use of antimicrobials as preventive treatments is not allowed in any of our establishments.

Kefalonia Fisheries acknowledging the importance of the excess use of antimicrobials and the need to safeguard human health against antimicrobial resistance, doesn't use critically important antimicrobials included in the relevant WHO list.