

Our Ref: WRB/OFS/L03/025

DID: 6751 9809

FAX: 6759 5043

13 Nov 03

To: Importers of Koi/Carp

## **KOI HERPES VIRUS**

Please refer to the above subject.

2 You may recall that AVA conducted a dialogue session on Koi Herpes Virus (KHV) in July 03. As part of AVA's effort in helping the industry, we are now adopting import control measures for kois imported from Indonesia and Japan because of recent reports that KHV has been found in kois from these two countries.

3 The measures will involve an import inspection, collection of koi samples (10 pieces) for lab analyses and a compulsory post-arrival quarantine for all kois imported from these two countries. The period of quarantine will be pegged to the emergence of the lab results of the koi samples.

4 In the event that the koi samples are tested positive for KHV, the kois that are being quarantined will have to be culled to prevent any spread of the KHV as the disease is highly contagious and surviving kois can carry the virus.

5 For high-valued kois, we recommend using sentinel kois for the lab tests. Traders are to keep 12 pieces of low-cost kois from a reliable source with the high-valued kois which are imported from either Japan or Indonesia for 1 week before collection by AVA officers.

6 Please note that cost will be incurred for the lab analyses of the koi samples. The estimated cost is about \$189.80.

7 Koi traders are advised to self-adopt precautionary measures when importing kois from countries suspected of having KHV. These precautionary measures can be found in the handout given earlier during our dialogue session. If you did not receive a copy, please feel free to contact the OFS office.

8 The early detection of the KHV in imported kois will allow the disease to be controlled & be eliminated from the farm should the imported kois happen to carry the virus. As such, we seek your understanding and cooperation in carrying out the above-mentioned import control measures for kois from Indonesia and Japan. Please note that AVA may also consider extending the import control measures to kois from other countries, if KHV is reported to be prevalent in those countries.

9 If you have any queries about the import control measures, please do not hesitate to contact us at tel: 6751 9809 for clarification.

10 Thank you.

Issued by: Wildlife Regulatory Branch  
Import & Export Division  
Agri-Food & Veterinary Authority