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The Gazette of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka  
EXTRAORDINARY

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No. 2318/11 - MONDAY, FEBRUARY 06, 2023

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**PART I : SECTION (I) — GENERAL**

**Government Notifications**

L.D.B. 1/2012 (V)

**THE NATIONAL AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF SRI LANKA  
ACT, No. 53 OF 1998**

REGULATIONS made by the Minister of Fisheries under Paragraph (C) of Subsection (2) of Section 37 of the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka Act, No. 53 of 1998.

Minister of Fisheries.

Colombo,  
01st February, 2023.

**Regulations**

1. These regulations may be cited as Mariculture Management Regulations of 2023.
2. Mariculture in approved areas in Sri Lanka waters shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of these regulations.



3. No Mariculture farm shall be established at or or around any declared protected natural or historical sites or in any area declared by any law as protected areas or fisheries and tourism navigation areas.
4. No part of cultured live organism shall be discharged to the sea or environment surrounding the sea without a written permission issued by the Authority.
5. Culture materials and methods used for farming shall be in accordance with the project proposal approved by the Authority for the purpose.
6. Any marine finfish cage and farm cage culture unit shall be operated within a minimum of one (1) Kilometer distance from each culture unit as determined by the Authority according to the carrying capacity, species and scale of operation.
7. Every Mariculture farm shall comply with the waste management regulations made by the Central Environmental Authority or Marine Environment Protection Authority.
8. The Authority shall monitor and degradation of benthic habitat or materials used in sites and shall take mitigatory measures in respect thereof.
9. A person shall not discharge any pollutant to the environment which spoils water quality and harm the environment, fish or human health.
10. The Authority shall maintain a register of approved chemicals.
11. A person shall not discharge any chemical which is not approved by the Authority to the environment.
12. Any person upon receiving the Aquaculture Management license issued by the Authority shall within six months from the date of issuing of such licence develop the area relevant to the Aquaculture Project and shall commence production on a commercial scale.
13. Any dead fish or cultured organism found in any Mariculture farm shall be disposed to approved sites, regularly.
14. The authority shall have the power to exercise control over the production areas of Mariculture for the purpose of auditing, taking samples and making analysis in such areas.
15. Any owner of a marine fish farm shall when a disease outbreak is observed or suspected, inform such situation to the Authority and the Authority shall take necessary quarantine measures to control the situation.
16. Every Mariculture farm shall submit quarterly (3 Months) status reports describing the species farmed, farm sites in use, stock volume, production achieved, sales channel (i.e whether sold domestic or exported), diseases or mortalities encountered, feed used (brand), and number of staff.
17. Any Mariculture farm shall use only the disease screened juveniles or the seeds certified by National Aquaculture Development Authority (NAQDA) or any other authority recommended by the National Aquaculture Development Authority or Department of Animal Production and Health, for the purpose.
18. Every Mariculture farm shall follow the Best Management Practices (BMP) prepared by the Authority.
19. Every Mariculture farm shall be registered under any Aquaculture Association of the area or Investors Association of the area.

20. In these regulations –

“Authority” means National Aquaculture Development Authority established under Section 2 of the National Aquaculture Development Authority of Sri Lanka Act, No. 53 of 1998;

“Central Environmental Authority” means the Central Environmental Authority established under Section 2 of the National Environmental Act, No. 47 of 1980;

“Mariculture” means, culturing of any species in any culture methods in sea area;

“Marine Environment Protection Authority” means the Marine Environment Protection Authority established under Section 2 of the Marine Pollution Prevention Act, No. 35 of 2008.

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