

## **MSSC Meeting 24 March 2020**

- References.   A.     Micro Sampling Report to Month Ending Feb 2020.  
              B.     Elevated Micro Results Jan – Mar 2020.

### **Microbiological Monitoring**

#### **Overview of 2019 Classification Monitoring programme:**

A total of 1598 (95% of target) microbiological samples were taken by Sea Fishery Protection Officers during 2019 as part of the Microbiological Monitoring of Bivalve Mollusc Production Areas.

A further 20 microbiological samples were taken in a number of areas seeking Classification or a Classification review.

In 2019, SFPA detected a total of 58 out of range results (3.6% of all classification monitoring samples taken), from the national classification monitoring programme, an increase over the 42 out of range results detected during 2018 and an increase on the previous 10 year average of 51 per year or approximately 3.2% of samples taken.

#### **2020 January – March:**

Annex A lists the Microbiological Samples submitted for the period ending February 2020. 275 shellfish samples were submitted by SFPA and Loughs Agency as part of the official monitoring of Classified Bivalve Mollusc production areas in Ireland.

A number of these samples were submitted under a series of bacteriological surveys as part of the Sanitary Survey reports for Gweedore (4 x samples), Drumcliff (8 x samples Mussels and Cockles) and Sligo Bay (3 x samples).

Annex B gives details and summary of out of range or elevated results reported to FSAI/ISA/BIM during the period Jan – March 2020.

In brief, there were 11 out of range results to date during 2020, approximately 4.2% of samples taken.

A comparison for the previous two years is also included.

### **Biotoxin Sampling Frequency wef 19 March 2020**

- ✓ Weekly sampling frequency for Mussels on all coasts.
- ✓ Fortnightly sampling frequency for Scallops from classified areas.
- ✓ All other production areas - Monthly sampling frequency for all shellfish other than Mussels

## 2020 Review of Classifications

- ✓ Dataset files completed with associated recommendations.
- ✓ Currently with MI for review.
- ✓ Review date to be decided.