

Outbreaks of Koi herpesvirus (KHV) disease in 2020



KHV is a serious viral disease of fish and is a listed disease in the United Kingdom. It affects all varieties of common and ornamental carp species (*Cyprinus carpio*) and can result in large scale mortalities. Fish with KHV disease may show the following signs, especially when water temperatures are between 16 to 28 °C:

- necrotic (white or brown) patches on the gills
- rough patches on the skin and sloughing mucous
- sunken eyes

You must [contact the FHI](#) if you suspect an outbreak of KHV. This includes fish with the above signs, or deaths of carp or carp hybrids.

There is no risk to public health.

Confirmed designation

If a notifiable disease is confirmed, FHI places controls to limit the spread of disease (these are known as confirmed designations). The following conditions are applied under disease controls:

- No person may, without the previous consent in writing of the FHI, move any aquatic animal including eggs, and gametes, into, out of or within a confirmed designation area.
- Disposal of dead aquatic animals, including eggs and gametes, must be by an approved method for disposal of Category 2 animal-by-product waste in compliance with local Environmental Health department requirements
- Notify the Fish Health Inspectorate immediately should mortalities re-occur or spread to other waters within the designated area.
- Ensure the disinfection of all angling equipment such as unhooking mats, nets and weigh slings, prior to being removed from the designated area (exclusion of rods, reels and fishing line accepted). For this purpose, maintain on-site facilities for the disinfection of angling equipment upon exit from the designated area, as directed by the Fish Health Inspectorate. Maintain efficacy of disinfectant solutions in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions for use.

- The use of dedicated angling equipment supplied by the fishery is permitted, for sole use within the designated area.
- Display disease control zone signage on site for public information, as issued by the Fish Health Inspectorate.
- Notify the FHI in advance of all intended physical changes to sites within the designated area – such as site boundaries, number or size of waters, use of the site. FHI written permission will be required beforehand for all such changes.
- All requests for consents required under this Confirmed Designation Notice must be submitted to the FHI with a minimum of 5 working days' notice.

New outbreaks

When laboratory testing confirms KHV disease at a site, the FHI place statutory controls to limit the spread of the disease. These controls restrict movement of aquatic animals and ensure equipment is disinfected.

Sites with KHV disease must undergo a formal monitoring programme for the duration of the calendar year immediately following the outbreak. The FHI visit these sites to look for evidence of disease and to inspect compliance with the conditions of the statutory controls in place. The controls are removed if the disease doesn't reoccur during this period.

Some sites choose to cull and disinfect their stocks, rather than undergo monitoring.

Diseases controls lifted at:

- [Sims Tropical Fish Limited, West Sussex – 18 March 2020](#) (PDF, 166 KB, 2 pages)
- [Tylers Common Fishery, Brentwood, Essex – 3 July 2020](#) (PDF, 520 KB, 1 page)
- [Churchmere Pool, Oxfordshire – 11 September 2020](#) (PDF, 378 KB, 1 page)
- [Brookfield Fisheries, Warwickshire – 17 September 2020](#) (PDF, 301 KB, 1 page)
- [Waterloo Farm Leisure, Leicestershire – 22 September 2020](#) (PDF, 228 KB, 1 page)
- [Ringles Reservoir, Kent – 23 September 2020](#) (PDF, 437 KB, 1 page)
- [Harpers Hill Fishery, Leicestershire – 25 September 2020](#) (PDF, 172 KB, 1 page)
- [Eden Fishery, Lincolnshire – 28 September 2020](#) (PDF, 155 KB, 1 page)
- [Castle Ashby Fishery Lakes, Northamptonshire – 28 September 2020](#) (PDF, 238 KB, 1 page)
- [Kimber View Pools, Devon – 28 September 2020](#) (PDF, 262 KB, 1 page)
- [Paradise Fisheries, County Durham – 25 September 2020](#) (PDF, 392 KB, 1 page)

Further information

You can:

Background

Koi herpesvirus disease (KHV) is a listed disease under [The Aquatic Animal Health \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2009](#). KHV outbreaks have been subject to statutory controls in the UK since 2007. The UK maintains a surveillance programme for this disease.

When the FHI confirm an outbreak, they take steps to control and, wherever possible, remove the disease. This may involve movement controls on susceptible species in the affected area, enhanced biosecurity, culling of fish, and cleaning and disinfecting of the premises.

Once statutory controls are in place the site operators must write to the FHI to get permission to move live fish into, out of, or within the designated area, and to make material changes to the site or site activities. This also applies to fish eggs and gametes.

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Last updated 15 February 2022 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 15 February 2022

Controls are now lifted at: CD02.2020 – Tylers Common – EW009-B-335
CD03.2020 – Churchmere Pool – EW086-C-296 CD04.2020 – Brookfield
Fisheries – EW105-W-114 CD05.2020 – Waterloo Farm Leisure – EW041-D-369
CD06.2020 – Ringles Reservoir – EW056-G-374 CD07.2020 – Swan Farm
Fishery (formally Harpers Hill Fishery) – EW105-Q-108 CD08.2020 –
Paradise Fisheries – EW080-T-957 CD09.2020 – Eden Fishery – EW105-T-111
CD10.2020 – Castle Ashby Fishery Lakes – EW042-W-012 CD11.2020 – Kimber
View Pools – EW105-C-250 List updated to reflect this change.

2. 28 September 2020

A new confirmed designation published CD11.2020

3. 28 September 2020

Two new confirmed designations listed and CD08.2020 amended

4. 25 September 2020

A new confirmed designation listed CD08.2020

5. 25 September 2020

A new confirmed designation listed CD07.2020

6. 24 September 2020

2 new confirmed designation listed

7. 22 September 2020

CD04.2020 map up-dated

8. 18 September 2020

A new outbreak of KHV listed for 2020

9. 14 September 2020

Listed edited to include confirmed outbreak of KHV disease at Churchmere Pool.

10. 3 July 2020

Changes to include the control conditions to sites that have a CD in place.

11. 20 May 2020

Change in listed outbreak sites

12. 20 March 2020

First published.