

Assessment Sheet for Auditors: Marine Eco-Label Japan (MEL) Aquaculture Management Standard Ver.2.1

Item No.	Standard	Indicator	Judgement for the Principle	Judgement for the Standard	Judgement for the Criterion	Bases of Judgement
Principle 1. Social Responsibility in Aquaculture Operations						The lowest score for each criterion is used as the score for the principle (A, C, or D).
Criterion 1.1 The aquaculture operations shall be conducted in compliance with all the relevant laws, regulations and ordinances of national and local governments where the aquaculture site is located.						A: All indicators are met. D: Any of the indicators is not met .
1.1.1	Aquaculture farmers shall carry out production in compliance with all the relevant national and local laws and regulations, including but not limited to: • Fishery Act (Act No.267 of 1949), Act on the Protection of Fishery Resources (Act No. 313 of 1951), • Sustainable Aquaculture Production Assurance Act (Act No.51 of 1999), • Act on Promotion of Inland Waters Fishery (Act No.103 of 2014), • Act on Securing Quality, Efficacy and Safety of Pharmaceuticals, Medical Devices, Regenerative and Cellular Therapy Products, Gene Therapy Products, and Cosmetics (Act No. 145 of 1960), • Act on Safety Assurance and Quality Improvement of Feeds (Act No.35 of 1953), • Food Sanitation Act (Act No.233 of 1947) and Food Safety Basic Act (Act No.2003), • The laws and regulations of local governments where the aquaculture site is located.	A: Applicants have prepared and maintained documents listing required procedures in accordance with relevant laws and regulations.			Conformity / Non-conformity Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Conditional conformity: Although the documents are not listed, implementation can be proven with a written procedure, etc. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.	
		B: Specific actions are properly conducted to meet Indicator 1.1.1 A.			Conformity / Non-conformity Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.	
1.1.2	Aquaculture farmers shall obtain the requisite licenses and permissions, and the aquaculture site and target species shall be in accordance with the licenses and permissions.	A: Requisite fishery licenses and other relevant permits are obtained. The actual aquaculture production matches the requirements in the permit.			Conformity / Non-conformity Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.	
		B: Where regulations of fishery rights are set by the local government or fisheries cooperative, farmers understand the contents of the regulations correctly, and aquaculture production is carried out in accordance with the regulations.			Conformity / Non-conformity Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.	
1.1.3	Workers shall be treated fairly, with appropriate wages, welfare, and working conditions in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations. A proper health management and working environment shall be secured for them.	A: Workers are provided with appropriate wages, welfare, and working conditions in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations.			Conformity / Non-conformity Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.	
		B: Proper health management of employees (e.g., regular health checks) is carried out and recorded.			Conformity / Non-conformity Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.	
1.1.4	The use of child labor or other illegal labor is strictly prohibited.	Illegal labor practices, such as child labor or employment of illegal foreign workers, are not conducted.			Conformity / Non-conformity Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.	

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Principle 2.Consideration for the Health and Welfare of Aquatic Animals						The lowest score for each criterion is used as the score for the principle (A, C, or D).
Criterion 2.1 The aquatic animals shall be managed under the suitable environment to minimize stress on them and the precautionary measures against diseases shall be planned and executed.						A: All indicators are met. C: Most of the indicators are met, but some are not met (when Indicator 2.1.2 C is not met). D: Any of the indicators is not met.
2.1.1	Aquaculture farmers shall use proper water in accordance with Water Quality Standards for Fisheries based on the type of target species and their life stage.	A: The dissolved oxygen level, necessary for the healthy growth of aquaculture animals, meets the water quality standards for fisheries. (see Appendix 3)			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B:Contamination indicators, such as COD (Chemical Oxygen Demand), and total nitrogen level, as well as levels of COD and TS (Total Sulfide) on the bottom, meet the water quality standards for fisheries. (see Appendix 3)			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C:Procedures for dealing with adverse impacts on aquaculture, such as red tide and pollution, include information collection, record of conditions, and countermeasures are provided.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.1.2	Aquaculture farmers shall provide sufficient cage space and a suitable rearing density to maintain satisfactory environmental conditions at the growing site.	A: Cages in mariculture farms are located at intervals for maintaining sufficient circulation of seawater.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: The numbers of aquaculture animals for each rearing unit are recorded.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: Aquaculture animals are reared with proper density.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.1.3	Aquaculture farmers shall monitor the environmental conditions of the farming site by using proper indicators. Appropriate procedures shall be established for dealing with deteriorating conditions.	A: Monitoring of the environment suitable for aquaculture animals is planned and implemented accordingly.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: The monitoring results meet the standards in these Guidelines.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: Necessary improvement measures are taken in case the results are not met.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: Improvement of water quality is ensured as a result of taking measures.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.1.4	Aquaculture farmers shall use suitable feed matched to the nutritional requirements of aquatic animals, with proper quantities for maintaining their healthy condition.	A: Feed used at the aquaculture farm is properly stored to avoid quality deterioration.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Proper feed is used at the aquaculture farm.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

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		C: When there is a concern about the health of the aquatic animals, vitamins and other feed additives are properly used in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations as necessary.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: The amount of feed given to the aquatic animals is recorded for each rearing unit.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		E: In line with the stipulated procedures, observing bite condition, proper amount of feed is adjusted and given to the aquatic animals.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

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Criterion 2.2 Aquatic animals shall be maintained under appropriate management to prevent disease outbreak and spread.						A: All indicators are met. C: Most of the indicators are met, but some are not met (Indicator 2.2.4: when the rearing history of the aquaculture seeds is stored and only fish without disease are introduced, but the items B and C are not conformed with). D: Any of the indicators is not met.
2.2.1	Aquaculture farmers shall monitor the health condition of aquatic animals regularly with appropriate indicators.	A: Procedures for regular monitoring of the health condition of aquatic animals are provided.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Monitoring is conducted by following the procedures and the results are recorded.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: The records are regularly reported to the officer of the Fisheries Experimental Station for review and recommendation.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.2.2	Aquaculture farmers shall establish a procedure for the collection and treatment of dead and moribund aquatic animals, and shall treat them properly in accordance with the decided procedure.	A: When dead and moribund aquatic animals are found, the animals are immediately removed into special containers and the number of such animals is recorded.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Procedures for the proper treatment of moribund aquatic animals are established and implemented.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.2.3	Aquaculture farmers shall manage their facilities to prevent escape, and shall not release diseased aquatic animals intentionally.	A: Diseased aquatic animals are not released intentionally.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Aquaculture farmers remove organisms attached to facilities when the organisms may serve as a breeding ground for pathogens, and regularly repair the nets to avoid spreading diseases through the escape of diseased organisms.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.2.4	Seed shall be certified free from specific or material pathogens before introduction to aquaculture sites.	A: The rearing history of the aquaculture seeds before introducing them into the site is confirmed and recorded.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Seeds are inspected as necessary and properly kept in a separate site until the test results are obtained.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: If disease was discovered in the testing, disposal or treatment is conducted by following the instructions of experts.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: In case seeds were imported from other countries or were purchased from an area where a specific disease occurred in the past, the certificate of non-disease infection has been obtained.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.2.5	Aquaculture farmers shall manage the aquatic animals properly by effective preventive measures and vaccination throughout all the rearing stages.	A: When a fisheries vaccination is certified, such vaccine is actively used to prevent diseases. The vaccine is properly used in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Disinfection and other measures to prevent spreading of the disease specified in the Guideline for the Countermeasures against Specific Diseases are conducted as needed. Preparations have been made for such activities.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

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Criterion 2.3 In the case of disease outbreak, the aquatic animals shall be treated in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.						A: All indicators are met. C: Most of the indicators are met, but some are not met (e.g. 2.3.1 B or 2.3.1 C is judged non-conformity due to the observation that proper measures are not taken to prevent spreading of diseases, pharmaceutical products are stored after their expiry date, etc.) D: Any of the indicators is not met.
2.3.1	Aquaculture farmers shall establish and implement procedures for responding to disease.	A: Procedures for diagnosis and cure of diseases in case of disease outbreak are provided.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: The procedures include measures to prevent the spread of diseases.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: Treatment is implemented in line with the procedures above mentioned.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.3.2	Aquaculture farmers shall treat diseases in accordance with the diagnosis and decision on treatment under the supervision of Fish Epidemic Prevention Officers.	A: Diagnosis and decision on treatment of diseases are conducted based on the results of examinations conducted by Fish Epidemic Prevention Officers, etc.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: When antimicrobial agents are used, procedures (e.g., instructions for the use of fisheries antibacterial agents) are followed and documented.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: As special cases where the farm starts disease treatment to avoid disease spreading without the results of the examinations conducted by Fish Epidemic Prevention Officers, etc., the procedures are followed on instructions.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.3.3	Aquaculture drugs shall be used in accordance with the Act on Securing Quality, Efficacy and Safety of Pharmaceuticals, Medical Devices, Regenerative and Cellular Therapy Products, Gene Therapy Products, and Cosmetics (Act No. 145 of 1960) and other relevant regulations. Aquaculture farmers shall establish procedures for drug usage to minimize any impact on the environment.	A: In case medicines are used, proper measures are taken to prevent the contamination of other aquaculture animals and the spilling of medicines into the environment.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: When medicines are used, the cage where the medicines are used, the name and dose of medicines, the date of medication, and the period of cessation are recorded.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: Information is recorded on aquaculture drugs such as records of purchase, manufacturer and retailer, serial numbers, date of production, purchase, and use, and administrated dosage in stock, etc. Aquaculture drugs are stored properly to prevent deterioration in their quality.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: Aquaculture drugs are disposed after the expiration date.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
2.3.4	Antimicrobial agents shall be used in accordance with the Principles for Responsible and Prudent Use of Antimicrobial Agents in Aquatic Animals of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code.	Standards 2.3.1 to 2.3.3 are confirmed.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Standards 2.3.1 to 2.3.3 are all met. Non-conformity: Any of the indicators of Standards 2.3.1 to 2.3.3 are not met.
2.3.5	Aquaculture workers shall be trained, educated, and competent to manage aquatic animal health. Workers shall have high awareness of these matters and shall act responsibly.	The aquaculture farmers participate in training sessions on fish diseases provided by the Fisheries Experimental Station and others.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

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Principle 3. Assurance of Food Security						The lowest score for each criterion is used as the score for the principle (A, C, or D). When the aquaculture farm is authorized as an aquaculture farm for export of marine products for the EU, the judgement for this principle is omitted and "A" score is given.
Criterion 3.1 Aquaculture activities, environment, materials and equipment shall be managed properly to minimize the risks to human health.						A: All indicators are met. D: Any of the indicators is not met.
3.1.1	The aquaculture site shall be selected in consideration of proper risk assessment of pollution at the site and the surrounding environment.	A: The location of the aquaculture farm and the number and arrangement of cages are documented.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: The location of agricultural farms and factories and the inflow of rivers around the aquaculture farm are documented. The potential sources of contamination of the aquaculture farm are evaluated.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
3.1.2	Aquaculture farmers shall conduct hazardous substance monitoring at the aquaculture site to prevent hazards to human health.	A: Monitoring plans are established for existing risks, and the level of contamination is not harmful.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
Criterion 3.2 Aquaculture medicines shall be managed properly in accordance with procedures for preventing drug residues.						A: All indicators are met. D: Any of the indicators is not met.
3.2.1	Aquaculture medicine shall be used based on the expertise and accurate diagnosis of Fish Epidemic Prevention Officers to optimize its medical efficiency, and records of drug usage shall be kept.	A: Compliance with this indicator is confirmed by compliance with Criterion 2.3.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Items in the standards 2.3.1 to 2.3.5 are all met. Non-conformity: Any of the indicators of Standards 2.3.1 to 2.3.5 is not met.
Criterion 3.3 Feeds shall be properly managed to minimize any risk of contamination.						A: All indicators are met. D: Any of the indicator A, B, C, or D is not met.
3.3.1	Feeds, feed additives and feed ingredients shall be used responsibly to prevent chemical contamination. Traceable record on feeds used for each aquaculture unit must be kept.	A: Information on feed is recorded, such as the place of origin (whether the identification of the fishing site is traceable), provider, fish species, quantity, and date of purchase; and records of purchase are kept.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Information on manufactured feed and feed additives is recorded, such as the manufacturer, provider, name of the product, serial number, quantity, date of purchase, composition, etc.; and records are stored.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: For manufactured feed and feed additives, documentation is obtained and kept showing conformity with the Act on Safety Assurance and Quality Improvement of Feeds and the origin of manufactured feed ingredients (for fish meal, oil, etc., the species of the raw material fish, and whether the identification of the fishing water is traceable).			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: The types and amounts of feed given to the fish are recorded for each cage.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		E: Feeding equipment and other tools are regularly cleaned and disinfected and managed hygienically.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		F: Feeding-related works, such as preparation of feed, feeding, and changing of nets, are properly conducted to prevent contamination with harmful chemical substances, such as machine oil or paint.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

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		G: Feed is properly stored to prevent contamination with harmful chemical substances or other contaminants.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

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Criterion 3.4 The landing of bivalves shall be performed in hygienic conditions and traceability shall be assured at all the rearing stages of the mollusks.						A: All indicators are met. C: Most of the indicators are met, but any are not met (when any of the indicators 3.4.2, 3.4.4 or 3.4.5 is not met). D: Either the indicator 3.4.1 or 3.4.3 is not met.
3.4.1	The growing areas of bivalves shall be monitored and managed to prevent microbiological contamination, hazardous chemicals, and shellfish poison.	A: The nursery areas are monitored for shellfish poison. When shellfish poisoning occurs, the closing and opening of the ocean area is notified and shipping is controlled accordingly. It must be confirmed that products cultured outside the areas designated for aquaculture of products to be eaten raw are not shipped as products to be eaten raw.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
3.4.2	Bivalves shall be purified if necessary and the purification equipment shall be properly maintained.	A: The methods and frequency of maintenance of the purification facility are established and implemented.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
3.4.3	At the time of shipment, detailed information about the products such as the growing area, landing site, species, quantity, transportation method, the name of the farmer, etc. shall be confirmed and recorded. Identification marks shall be explained to the shipping destination to enable product identification.	A: The method is established for providing the necessary information on the products to the consignee.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
3.4.4	Equipment, machinery, and packing materials for shipment shall be maintained in hygienic conditions.	Same as the standard (left).			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
3.4.5	The shipping process is decided and carried out in hygienic conditions to prevent deterioration of the products.	Same as the standard (left).			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
Criterion 3.5 The landing of aquaculture products shall be performed in hygienic conditions and traceability shall be assured at all the rearing stages of the products.						A: All indicators are met. C: Most of the indicators are met, but some are not met (when any of the indicators is not met except for the items regarding procedures to ensure traceability and development and storage of records). D: Any of the items regarding procedures to ensure traceability and development and storage of records is not met.
3.5.1	Cultured fish shall be managed per cage, and daily aquaculture activities shall be recorded.	A: When seeds are introduced, the date of landing and the total weight (or number of individuals) are confirmed and recorded for each rearing unit.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: When seeds with different origins are reared in one rearing unit, the conditions of mixed rearing are clearly recorded.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: When seeds are separated into another rearing unit with growth, the transfer history for the aquatic animals, as well as the total weight (or number of individuals) after separated rearing, are confirmed and recorded for each rearing unit.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
3.5.2	Detailed information about the cultured fish such as landing date, the number of fish landed, weight, shipping destination, etc. shall be recorded. Identification marks shall be explained to the shipping destination to enable product identification.	A: A product identification method is established for identifying one rearing unit as one lot.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Procedures are established for submitting information on the production history at the request of buyers.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
3.5.3	Equipment, machinery, and packing materials for the shipment shall be maintained in hygienic conditions.	A: Screening tables, tying equipment, fish tanks, containers, and equipment, etc. used for shipping are cleansed and kept in hygienic condition.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

Assessment Sheet for Auditors: Marine Eco-Label Japan (MEL) Aquaculture Management Standard Ver.2.1

Item No.	Standard	Indicator	Judgement for the Principle	Judgement for the Standard	Judgement for the Criterion	Bases of Judgement
		B: Water used in the fish holds and containers is sanitary, and the ice used for storage is made from potable water.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: Measures to prevent contamination are taken for the fish holds and containers (e.g., using containers with a cover).			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: Equipment, machinery, and packing materials used for shipping are properly stored to prevent contamination with vermin.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
3.5.4	Procedures for shipping shall be established and implemented.	A: Procedures are established for carrying out shipment work hygienically.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

Assessment Sheet for Auditors: Marine Eco-Label Japan (MEL) Aquaculture Management Standard Ver.2.1

Item No.	Standard	Indicator	Judgement for the Principle	Judgement for the Standard	Judgement for the Criterion	Bases of Judgement
Principle 4. Consideration for Environmental Conservation						The lowest score for each criterion is used as the score for the principle (A, C, or D).
Criterion 4.1 Aquaculture activities shall be carried out in accordance with suitable operating procedures established to minimize environmental impacts caused by aquaculture equipment and materials, excretions of aquatic animals, and feed residues.						A: All indicators are met. C: Most of the indicators are met, but some are not met (where the indicator 2.1.2 C is not met). D: Any of the indicators is not met.
4.1.1	The aquaculture equipment, cages and vessels shall be maintained regularly and painted not containing heavy metals and hazardous chemicals to prevent contamination of aquaculture facilities and surrounding areas.	A: Lists are kept of lubricating oil, paint, and detergent used for the maintenance of cages, boats, feeding equipment, etc.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Lubricating oil, paint, and detergent used for equipment in seawater are used properly to avoid adverse effects on the environment.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: The lubricating oil, paint, and detergent are properly stored to prevent deliberate or accidental inflow into the environment.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: Antifoulant for nets and substances in the paint used for boats do not contain any organic tin compound.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		E: When antifoulant for nets or paint for boats is used, each use is recorded and managed.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		F: Unneeded equipment (broken fishing nets, etc.) is disposed of by appropriate methods and not left in the aquaculture farm.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
4.1.2	Water used for aquaculture shall be utilized in compliance with relevant laws and regulations. Salinization of fresh water and wastewater treatment shall be controlled to maintain water quality at the aquaculture sites and surrounding environment.	A: For mariculture, the rules regarding fishing rights, farm improvement plans, etc. are complied with and aquaculture operations are conducted within the permitted area.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Observance of the farm improvement plan is monitored.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: Environmental indicators shall be maintained within the standards of Guidelines.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: In-land aquaculture facilities obtain the rights of water usage from local government and use the amount of water within the permitted range.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		E: The quality of the wastewater satisfies the wastewater standards at in-land aquaculture facilities.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		F: In case seawater fish aquaculture is conducted at in-land aquaculture facilities and wastewater is drained into freshwater areas, the concentration of chloride ion in the vicinity of drainage outlet shall be less than 200mg/l.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

Assessment Sheet for Auditors: Marine Eco-Label Japan (MEL) Aquaculture Management Standard Ver.2.1

Item No.	Standard	Indicator	Judgement for the Principle	Judgement for the Standard	Judgement for the Criterion	Bases of Judgement
4.1.3	The density of fish shall be controlled adequately, and organic matter shall be monitored to prevent increased sedimentation of organic matter and occurrence of de-oxygenated water.	A: The amount of production is properly controlled to meet the environmental capacity.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: The environment of the aquaculture farm is regularly monitored to confirm that the farm is in a healthy state.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: Procedures for treating residual feed are properly established and implemented.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
4.1.4	Waste disposal from aquaculture operated in closed water shall be managed properly to prevent negative impact on the benthic environment.	All waste that may affect the benthic environment is properly disposed of on land.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

Assessment Sheet for Auditors: Marine Eco-Label Japan (MEL) Aquaculture Management Standard Ver.2.1

Item No.	Standard	Indicator	Judgement for the Principle	Judgement for the Standard	Judgement for the Criterion	Bases of Judgement
Criterion 4.2 Feed shall be used properly to optimize the health of aquaculture animals as well as to minimize impact on natural resources.						A: All judging items are met. D: Any of the indicators is not met.
4.2.1	Feed, feed additives, and feed ingredients shall be used in accordance with the Act on Safety Assurance and Quality Improvement of Feeds (Act No. 35 of 1953) and other relevant laws and regulations. Feed used for each aquaculture unit shall be recorded and traceable.	A: This indicator can be conformed as standards 2.1.4 and 3.3.1 are conformed.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Indicators 2.3.1 to 2.3.3 and the items B, C and D of Indicator 3.3.1 are all met. Non-conformity: Any of Indicators 2.3.1 to 2.3.3 and the items B, C and D of Indicator 3.3.1 is not met. Even if the item D of Indicator 4.2.3 is not met, if the item E is met, judgement of "conformity" is given.
4.2.2	The species and origin of fish used to produce fish meal and fish oil shall be traceable. The fish oil and fish meal shall not originate from endangered species or from Illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fisheries.	A: Under the limited conditions where moist pelleted feed (hereinafter called "moist pellet") is used, for the feed ingredients of moist pellet, the fish species, fishing area, provider, quantity of purchase, etc. are recorded and records of purchase are kept.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Information on manufactured feed and feed additives, such as the manufacturer, provider, name of the product, serial number, quantity, date of purchase, composition, etc. is recorded and records of purchase are kept.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: Warranty documents are obtained for manufactured feeds and feed additives showing conformity with the Act on Safety Assurance and Quality Improvement of Feeds, the origin of manufactured feed materials (fish meal, oil, etc., must be traceable to identify the species of the raw material fish and fishing area), or records are made of oral representations by suppliers and are kept.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: The written policy for responsible procurement of feed ingredients is obtained from the feed manufacturer.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		E: Only feeds that do not originate from illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) sources are used. Necessary information can be obtained from the catch certificate in accordance with EU's IUU regulation, or the origins of the feed used are verified and traceable.			Conformity / Conditional conformity / Non-conformity	Compliance: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Conditional Conformity: The origin of material is identified and traceable, but it cannot be readily verified whether the materials are not from IUU fishing at this point, and policy for future compliance is specified. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof for implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		F: The fish used as a material for fish meal and fish oil are not endangered.			Conformity / Conditional conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Conditional Conformity: The origin of material fish is identified or traceable, but it cannot be readily verified the specification of fish species, and policy for future compliance is specified. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof for implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
4.2.3	In principle, the unprocessed fish such as whole fish caught, mollusks, crustaceans, etc., shall not be used as a direct feed source during the rearing stage of cultured fish. The protein sources of feed shall not be the same species and genus as the species being farmed.	A: Unprocessed fish shall not be used as a direct feed source.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Moist pellet is not continuously used for feeding during the rearing stage. In the case of exceptional use, moist pellet is prepared and fed in accordance with the methods that meet all the specified conditions.			Conformity / Conditional conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Conditional Conformity: At present, it cannot be said that the indicator is met, but a policy for future compliance is specified. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof for implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: Use as feed of the same species or same genus as the cultured fish is prohibited.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
4.2.4	The amount of fish meal and fish oil in feed shall be reduced appropriately during the rearing stage of cultured fish.	A: Manufactured feed containing low amounts of fish meal is used during the rearing stage of cultured fish.			Conformity / Conditional conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Conditional Conformity: At present, it cannot be said that the indicator is met, but a policy for future compliance is specified. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof for implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

Assessment Sheet for Auditors: Marine Eco-Label Japan (MEL) Aquaculture Management Standard Ver.2.1

Item No.	Standard	Indicator	Judgement for the Principle	Judgement for the Standard	Judgement for the Criterion	Bases of Judgement
		B: Efforts are made to reduce the proportion of fish oil used to the extent that it can be substituted by fish oil from fishery processing residue or vegetable oil and fat.			Conformity / Conditional conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Conditional Conformity: At present, it cannot be said that the indicator is met, but a policy for future compliance is specified. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof for implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

Assessment Sheet for Auditors: Marine Eco-Label Japan (MEL) Aquaculture Management Standard Ver.2.1

Item No.	Standard	Indicator	Judgement for the Principle	Judgement for the Standard	Judgement for the Criterion	Bases of Judgement
Criterion 4.3 Seed use should be used properly to minimize any impact on the natural resources.						A: All judging items are met. D: Any of the indicators is not met.
4.3.1	Hatchery-raised seed shall be used preferentially at the aquaculture site where the seed is available.	A: Hatchery-raised seed are used preferentially at the aquaculture site when the seed is available.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Seeds to be introduced are examined as needed, and the seeds are separated in a proper manner until the results are available.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: When seeds are imported from a foreign country or from a region where a specific disease has been observed in the past, a non-disease certificate and test results are obtained.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
4.3.2	The use of wild seeds shall be justifiable when the seeds were collected legally without negative impact on natural resources and the environment.	A: Information about the rearing history at the seed production facilities is confirmed and recorded before the introduction of seed into the aquaculture farm.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: Where wild seeds are used, proper resource assessment is conducted on the species of seeds.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: The fisher, provider, fishing ground, fishing method, dates of catch and purchase, average weight and total weight (or number of individuals), and other necessary information are confirmed and recorded.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		D: The seeds are caught properly and legally by a certified fisher in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		E: The impact of bycatch on natural resources is considered.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
4.3.3	Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited without proper implementation of environmental assessment.	A: Same as the standard (left).			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
Criterion 4.4 Aquaculture shall be operated properly to minimize any impacts on the aquaculture sites and surrounding environment.						A: All indicators are met. D: Any of the items is not met.
4.4.1	Aquaculture shall be operated in compliance with the relevant laws and regulations on habitat and biodiversity, and the result of environmental assessment. In case sensitive habitat is identified, recovery of resources shall be carried out.	A: The area of the aquaculture operation is not, or is not adjacent to, a habitat of endangered species.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: If the area of the aquaculture operation or its surrounding area is or is adjacent to a habitat of endangered species, proper measures are taken to prevent impact on the habitat.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		C: The number of aquaculture animals escaping from the aquaculture sites is recorded during the transfer of animals or in a natural disaster (e.g., typhoon).			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.

Assessment Sheet for Auditors: Marine Eco-Label Japan (MEL) Aquaculture Management Standard Ver.2.1

Item No.	Standard	Indicator	Judgement for the Principle	Judgement for the Standard	Judgement for the Criterion	Bases of Judgement
		D: Proper measures are taken to prevent the escape of aquaculture animals.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
4.4.2	In case a hazardous organism belongs to an endangered species, the species shall be eliminated through non-lethal measures, except when there is concern about the safety of workers or when priority is given to euthanasia of a moribund organism.	A: Animals harmful to aquaculture production are identified. When an animal is identified, the status of the animal (e.g., endangered species) is determined.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.
		B: When harmful animals are designated as an endangered species, the animals are removed by proper methods.			Conformity / Non-conformity	Conformity: Requirements are properly implemented, proof of the implementation exists, and a system for continuing implementation is shown. Non-conformity: Requirements are not properly implemented or proof of implementation is not shown and it cannot be said that a system for continuing implementation is shown.