



**Freshwater Fisheries
Society of BC**

Corporate Office

101 - 80 Regatta Landing
Victoria BC V9A 7S2
tel: 250.414.4200
fax: 250.414.4211
toll free: 1.888.601.4200
fish@gofishbc.com

gofishbc.com

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Boris W. Tyzuk, Q.C.
Ministry of Attorney General
Legal Services Branch
Resource, Environmental & Land Law
1301 - 865 Hornby ST
Vancouver BC V6Z 2G3

Dear Mr. Tyzuk:

Re: Response to Gregory McDade's enquiry of FFSBC Fish Health Case 2010-1100

The Fish Health Case you refer to (2010-1100) is not a positive finding for *Gyrodactylus salaris* but rather a programming error in the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC (FFSBC), Production and Release Information System (PARIS). When the Fish Health component of the PARIS system was built just over 1.5 years ago, an error in the drop down menu allowed for the selection of two *Gyrodactylus* tests: 1) *Gyrodactylus spp*, and 2) *G. salaris*. A FFSBC administrative staff member entered the information for this case report and was unaware of the difference between *Gyrodactylus spp* and *G. salaris*. In this specific case (2010-1100), the wrong test was selected (*G. salaris* instead of *Gyrodactylus spp*.) and this resulted in the *G. salaris* test being printed in the "TEST" section of the report. This programming error was fixed (April, 2011) and the *G. salaris* test does not show up in any FFSBC Fish Health case report.

Gyrodactylus spp. are common ectoparasites that occur in fish that are reared in earthen ponds or lake netpens in BC freshwater. We are well aware of the implications of a positive finding of *G. salaris* and that it is a reportable disease.

In the "Comments" section of the report you will read under the "Results" that *Tryconophyra spp*. was the actual parasite identified. As well, you should also note in the same section under the "Presumptive Findings" that Bacterial Gill disease was determined to be the cause of the mortality in the submitted samples. I hope this explanation clarifies the reporting error and as a result provides a justification for why the CFIA was not contacted.

Sincerely,

cm Zarelli

for

Tim Yesaki
Vice-President, Operations
Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC