

## BIO-SECURITY IN FISH FARM

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**D**isease is an inevitable part of aquaculture production. Some pathogens are always present in farmed stock and only cause disease when the right conditions occur such as when animals are stressed or when environmental conditions are suitable. The purpose of an aquaculture biosecurity plan is to: reduce the risk of diseases being introduced into your farm (entry-level biosecurity), reduce the risk of diseases spreading within your farm (internal biosecurity), reduce the risk of diseases escaping from your farm (exit-level biosecurity), have emergency response protocols in place for serious disease outbreaks (all three levels of biosecurity), Critical control points are the physical locations or production steps at which the fish may be exposed to disease pathogens. Pathogens can enter aquaculture systems: (fish, water, the environment, other organisms and commercial feeds or live or frozen foods). Biosecurity plans need to be fit for purpose and balance practicality, cost and regulatory requirements.

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