

Bivalve molluscs: reference laboratories for monitoring bacteriological and viral contamination

1997/0182(CNS) - 25/06/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: the proposal for a Decision aims to develop new types of checks for viral and bacteriological contamination of bivalve molluscs. **SUBSTANCE:** in order to ensure an effective virus monitoring system, the Decision lays down that a national reference laboratory is to be designated in each Member State to coordinate the performance of the required analyses. In order to ensure a standard inspection system in the Community, the laboratory of the Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science, in Weymouth (United Kingdom), is to be designated as the Community reference laboratory, responsible for coordinating the inspections for bacteriological and viral contamination of bivalve molluscs carried out by each national reference laboratory. The proposal lays down the responsibilities of the Community reference laboratory and the conditions for its work; the laboratory's management is to undertake to carry out the responsibilities laid down in the Decision.