

## Conditions for the import of live crab for culture purposes

1. Applicant should have a fish monger's licence.
2. An import permit is issued per shipment against payment of an import fee of Rs 2,000 and is valid for a period of four months as from the date of issue.
3. The importer shall have facilities approved by the ministry for the purpose of quarantine.
4. The animals shall have to be subjected to a quarantine period of at least 30 days where access shall be prohibited to unauthorized persons. Appropriate facilities (footbath, hand wash and equipment disinfection) shall have to be provided.
5. The importer shall have an appropriate water right for using seawater.
6. Effluents from containers and from washing of crabs shall have to be treated with chlorine prior to discharge in a pit. No effluents shall be discharged into culture ponds or any other water bodies.
7. The importer shall inform this Ministry at least three **days** in advance of the carrier, flight number, date and time of arrival of the consignment to enable arrangements for Quarantine clearance at the airport.
8. Each consignment have to be accompanied by the original official **Health Certificate** duly signed by an authorized Officer of the country of origin certifying that the animals are free of diseases and parasites of human or animal origin.
9. Live crab shall be exported by an establishment approved for export by the Official Veterinary Services (Approved no. of establishment to be mentioned).
10. The live crabs in accordance with the import permit shall be dispatched free from soil, mud and plant material under the supervision of the competent authority of the country of origin.
11. The competent authority shall certify that the live crabs have been caught from a disease free area.
12. The live crab shall be handled under hygienic and sanitary conditions and packed in sterile containers prior to shipment.
13. The date and number of the import permit, the name of the importer, the vessel/carrier transporting the consignment, the scientific name and common name of the specimen, the number of packages and the quantity shipped must be stated on the Health Certificate.
14. The importer shall provide sterile containers for the transfer of the live animals at the Port of entry where they will be treated with disinfectant on arrival.
15. The animals shall be kept in confinement separate from local species and under no circumstances shall be released into the environment.
16. All packing material used for transportation shall have to be burnt.
17. Any crabs found dead shall be disposed of in the same manner as stated at para (16) above without any compensation.
18. Should any epidemic disease be observed to develop after clearance of the consignment, the importer shall inform this Ministry immediately for checking and disposal by burning under the supervision of an authorized Officer.
19. If any one of the above conditions is not complied with, the consignment may be destroyed without any compensation.
20. This import permit does not exempt any clearance needed from other concerned authorities for rearing/culture of the live animals.
21. The above conditions may be modified or new conditions added at any time should such a need arise.