

Akoya Oyster Disease

Disease agent: Unknown. Some evidence suggests Akoya Oyster Disease may be due to infection by an undescribed virus.



Presence in Australia: Exotic

Presence in Queensland: Exotic



Akoya Oyster Disease has never been recorded from any State in Australia, and is considered exotic.

Signs of Disease:

Molluscs infected with this disease may exhibit the following signs:

- Stunted growth and weak shell closing reflex
- Watery appearance, shrunken soft tissues and reddish/brown coloured adductor muscle
- high mortalities (>80%) in oysters >1 year old during summer at water temperatures >20°C



Infection with Akoya Oyster Disease:

Left. Japanese pearl oyster affected by Akoya Oyster Disease. Note the reddish/brown coloured adductor muscle in the oyster at the bottom with Akoya Oyster Disease. The oyster at the top is normal.

Photo: S. Akamatsu (Ship and Ocean Newsletter No. 86, March 2004).

Host Species affected may include:

Japanese pearl oysters (or Akoya oysters, *Pinctada fucata*)

Imported seafood including:

Japanese pearl oysters

At risk fisheries in QLD may include:

East Coast Pearl Fishery

Introduction Pathways to avoid:

Do not translocate pearl oysters of unknown disease status from areas where Akoya Oyster Disease is known to occur.

Basic decontamination information:

There is currently no information available regarding inactivation of any disease agents which may be associated with Akoya Oyster Disease.

What to do if this disease is suspected:

If you suspect this disease is present please contact the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (13 25 23) or the National 24 hr Emergency Animal Disease Hotline (1800 675 888) immediately.

How to collect and store samples for diagnosis:

If you are taking samples to help authorities to test for this disease, whole molluscs should be provided alive (if possible) or chilled and on ice.

Learn more

For more information about other diseases of aquatic animals of significance to Australia, download the **Aquatic Disease Field Guide App** available for iOS, android and windows devices at these locations:

IOS

<https://goo.gl/9UJNp9>

ANDROID

<https://goo.gl/T4Tn1X>

WINDOWS

<https://goo.gl/Y8Vibj>

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