



YOSHIKIGOI QUARANTINE & SALE PREPARATION PROTOCOL

Yoshikigoi Facts:

Koi dealers selling Yoshikigoi have an advantage over other UK dealers and need to keep the facts that support this in mind. Hobbyists buying Yoshikigoi could challenge the measures taken on the farm to produce healthy koi free of the risk of the current viral diseases that can be contracted by koi. No claim is made that Poland is free of fish viruses, the claims and certification are in respect of the farm and its Bio Secure, officially sealed compartment status.

All water used on the farm is taken from a deep onsite bore hole which is regularly inspected and tested. The Yoshikigoi Farm is open to inspection should any dealer wish to visit. The Farm is a trade outlet only, but dealers may bring parties to the farm to hand select koi on dealer organised trips.

The status of Yoshikigoi is that all fish produced are free of Spring Viremia of Carp, Carp Edema Virus, and Koi Herpesvirus and this is supported by a regular testing regime and all test results are certified.

Once koi have left the confines of the Farm, they can never return. All shipments of koi are managed by a licensed livestock haulier appointed by Yoshikigoi UK Ltd, or by Yoshikigoi Koi Farm itself with its own vehicles, and once the shipment is loaded on a vehicle, it cannot be off-loaded until the vehicle clears customs in the UK. Shipments enter the UK by Road Transport through Dover and are delivered to a number of receiving points within the UK.

Future Breeding Project:

Currently there are no koi on the Yoshikigoi farm from any other koi producer for breeding purposes. A facility is under construction at another location that will in time be used solely for breeding. Broodstock may be imported from countries whose fish production is not completely free of viral disease. Therefore, all broodstock will be housed in this facility and the practices in use for breeding will conform to a strict biosecurity protocol that will ensure the farms virus free status.

Quarantine Requirements:

1. It is the dealers' responsibility to rest the koi after the stress of transit to the UK, and to prepare the fish for sale.
2. The Yoshikigoi should be quarantined for a minimum of 3 weeks and this period should allow for mucus layer regeneration if chemical treatment is required as per item 17 below.
3. The health status of Yoshikigoi means there is no requirement for the fish to be heat ramped as no possible contact with any viral disease can take place on the farm.
4. Each tank used for Yoshikigoi should be adequate for the number of fish to be housed avoiding overstocking and therefore water quality issues that can lead to health problems. Each tank should have an independent filter system and use only dechlorinated water.
5. If koi from any other koi producer have been held in the tanks that are now designated to house the Yoshikigoi a health concern arises. A carrier of a viral or other serious disease could have been in the tank irrespective of whether an outbreak of disease occurred, and DNA could be present. Sterilisation of the tank, filter system, and all equipment used is therefore necessary.
6. The sterilisation precaution is vital to preserve the reputation of every dealer who sells Yoshikigoi. If one dealer experiences a problem due to a hygiene oversight this could reflect on others as well as the farm and therefore the Yoshikigoi brand.





7. Dealers will need to mature the filtration systems having carried out the sterilisation of tanks and filters or installed new ones. The ideal method is to use several small Yoshikigoi to mature each filter system before importing a larger volume of fish. The alternative is to use ammonia-based products to start up biological filtration in advance of the delivery of fish.
8. If koi from any other koi producing farm or any other source are stocked in addition to Yoshikigoi viral disease is a concern. No contact can take place between such fish and Yoshikigoi.
9. When fish other than Yoshikigoi are stocked in the same sales area all equipment such as nets and pumps must be kept separate and never shared between the tanks. The tanks holding Yoshikigoi should be positioned or protected so water splashing is not possible from tanks in which fish from other sources are housed.
10. When the transit bags are opened on delivery of Yoshikigoi the chemistry of the water the koi have travelled in will differ with the water in the tanks. The fish can be floated in the water from the bag in large bowls and tank water gradually introduced to the bowls to avoid any sudden change of temperature or pH that can shock the fish. When the koi are released into the tanks this should be done with a net or koi sock. The water in the bag should not be poured into the tank as it will be polluted.
11. Once in the tanks the koi will excrete a large volume of ammonia due to the conditions in the transit bag. Ammonia tests and water changes will be required until the dumping of excessive levels of ammonia is over.
12. Observe the behaviour and condition of the koi and ensure they are all eating. Hospital tanks should be available in case any fish has not travelled well. If the fish do not recover from transit, contact :- Ashley Dart Yoshikigoi Management UK Ltd.
Telephone / WhatsApp: +44 (0)7939 278 791
Email: ashleydart@yoshikigoimanagementuk.com
13. On the basis that the Yoshikigoi have not been mixed with fish from other sources Yoshikigoi will investigate a health issue and a site visit can be arranged if required. However, Yoshikigoi must be notified of any health issue within 7 days as they have no responsibility for the fish 7 days after delivery as the fish are then the dealer's responsibility.
14. The fish are treated for parasites 21 days before shipping that does not mean they will be parasite free on arrival as this is impossible to achieve in any koi farm due to the high stocking density. In addition, netting, bagging and transportation will inevitably trigger stress which can lead to health issues.
15. The use of salt at 3 kilos per 1000 litres with acriflavine is often used by dealers for new fish as a precaution. This use is optional and will depend on filter maturity in the tanks that are new or have been sterilised.
16. Once the fish appear healthy mucus smears should be taken from a sample of fish. In every 20 koi 5 or more should be examined. It is better to take several small smears from different parts of the body rather than a single smear from one place as parasites favour different areas of the body. Treat the fish only if parasites are found as the filters may not be mature enough for chemical treatment if new or sterilised at the time of the first Yoshikigoi shipment.





17. If parasites are found and treated with a chemical product that removes the mucus layer this must re-establish before the fish are sold. The mucus layer is the first stage of the immune response in koi and when missing the koi are at a disadvantage. If sold too soon after treatment such koi can be the weakest koi in their new pond without a mucus layer. This precaution supports the fact that most koi do not live in a well-managed pond and hobbyists often regard the last fish purchased as the likely cause of any koi health issue.
18. If ozone is used in the premises the Yoshikigoi should not be exposed to it. This ensures the fish can live in the average koi pond in which ozone is not in use.
19. During quarantine Yoshikigoi need regular check-ups to ensure they are healthy. There should be no indication of a parasite infection such as irritation and the skin should not have any abrasions or discolouration. Isolate any fish that may be unwell in a hospital tank it should not be on display.
20. All water parameters should be tested regularly for ammonia, nitrite, pH, KH and dissolved oxygen for the well-being of the fish. Carry out small frequent water changes with dechlorinated water.
21. Yoshikigoi should be fed twice per day and ensure all the fish are feeding. The tanks should not be polluted by waste matter or uneaten food when the premises are open to the public.

Precautions

22. Note that if a customer brings sick fish, water samples for testing, or pond equipment that needs repair or replacement such as a pump into the koi sales area this is a cross-infective risk and so are the customer's hands.
23. After sale koi travel home far better in a box placed transverse across the axle and covered by a lid, and this is well proven. Customers can be encouraged to bring a box when buying koi and it is a good principle for dealers to stock a few boxes.
24. Hobbyists are unaware there are carriers of Koi Herpesvirus in many UK ponds as it is endemic in this country. Outbreaks of Carp Edema Virus can be serious and cause mortalities. Yoshikigoi will be vulnerable if introduced to such ponds. For any new koi keeper, the ideal is a pond stocked only by Yoshikigoi.

**This protocol has been created for
The Yoshikigoi Koi Farm (April 2024)**

By

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