

To: Trade and Industry representatives (on attached list)

11 January 2008

Reference: FSH/0020

## **Fish Decontamination Products**

Dear Sir or Madam

Further to my letter of 21 December (copy attached for ease of reference), I am writing to inform you of further developments.

By way of further amplification, I would emphasise that the approval requirement established by Article 3(2) of Regulation 853/2004/EC relates only to substances used to decontaminate products of animal origin (fish and fishery products in the case in point) within the terms of that Article. At the time of writing, no substances have been approved under these provisions.

I should also like to clarify the position in relation to one of the products marketed by XyRex, namely "Prawnfresh™". The active ingredient this product is 4-hexylresorcinol, which is an antioxidant (E586) approved in EU legislation for use in fresh, frozen and deep-frozen crustaceans. It may therefore be used for the purpose approved, and otherwise in accordance with the additives legislation.

We are liaising closely with the XyRex company in relation to the whole range of their products, and further information will be issued in due course.

This information is being circulated to all local authorities in the UK.

Should you require further explanation please do not hesitate to contact me or Tracy Boshier (Tel: 020 7276 8944; email: [tracy.boshier@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.boshier@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk)).

Yours faithfully,

*By email*

**Dr Kevin Hargin**

Head, Fish and Shellfish Hygiene Branch  
Primary Production Division

## **Copy list**

The Association of Sea Fisheries Committees of England and Wales

Grimsby Fish Market

Chilled Food Association

The Worshipful Company of Fishmongers

National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations

Prins & Dingemanse (Fruit de Mer Specialist)

British Frozen Food Federation

Billingsgate Market

British Trout Association

UK Association of Frozen Food Producers

Sea Fish Industry Authority

National Association of British Market Authorities

Shellfish Association of Great Britain

Scallop Association

Cumbrian Seafoods