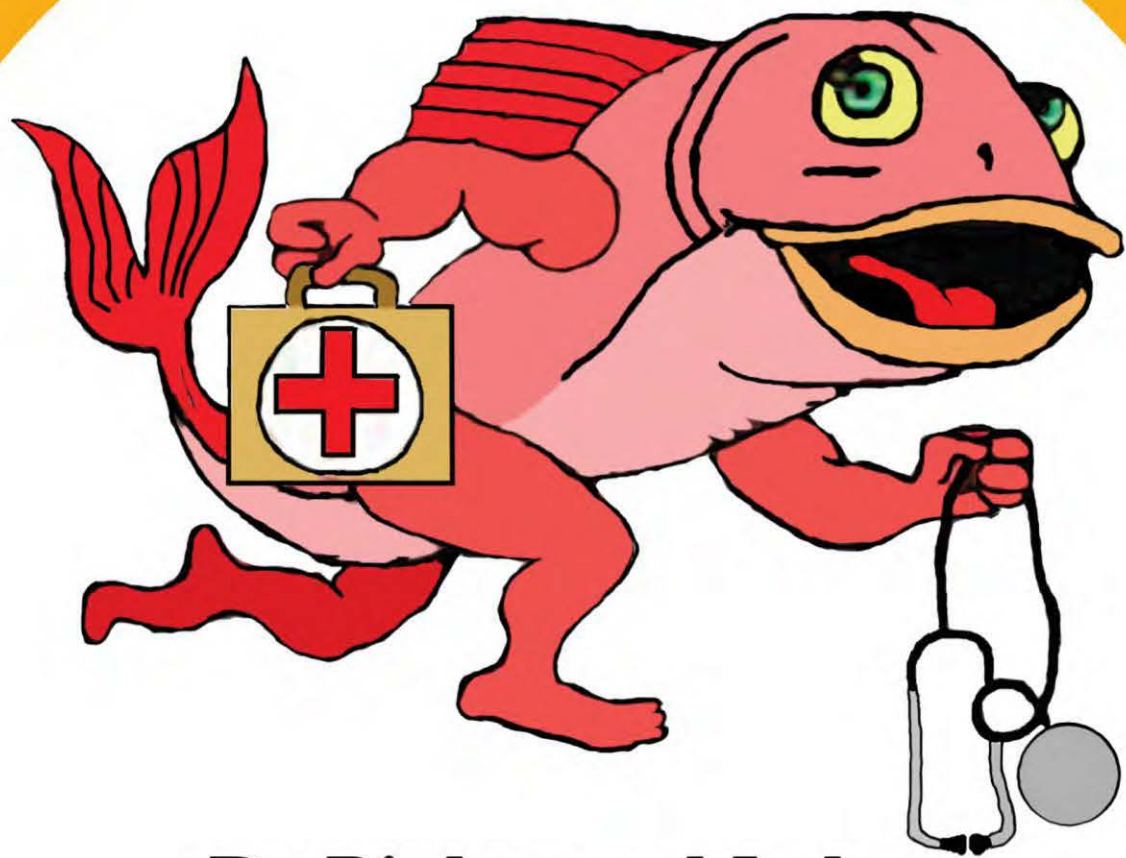


FISH VETTING ESSENTIALS



**Dr Richmond Loh
&
Dr Matt Landos**



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FOREWORD

This is a revised version of the self-published “Australian Fish Vetting Essentials” (2007) by Drs Richmond Loh & Matt Landos. The purpose of this manual is to collate the knowledge that aquarists, aquaculturalists, public aquaria, local fish shops and veterinarians already have, and to filter out misinformation and then provide this information in a readily digestible form. The information contained in this publication has been in the process of compilation since 2001. This manual is not prescriptive, but rather, it is a collection from our combined knowledge to promote to the industry that veterinarians are best equipped to deal with aquatic animal health.

Worthy of note is that many diseases found in aquatics can be classified as emerging diseases since an “emerging disease” is one that has appeared in a population for the first time, or that may have existed previously but is rapidly increasing in incidence of geographic range.

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Dr Richmond Loh

Dr Loh has always been interested in animals, nature and medicine, so naturally he studied to become a veterinarian at Murdoch University. However, his passion for all things fish was strong and so his first job was as a veterinary fish pathologist for the Tasmanian state laboratory, providing diagnostic services for the large aquaculture farms including species such as salmon, trout, ornamental fishes, abalone and oysters. At the same time, he was offering veterinary services to owners of ornamental fishes.

In 2006, he passed the examinations for Aquatic Animal Health for the Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS). In the same year, he was awarded a Master of Philosophy degree for cancer research in Tasmanian devils, publishing the seminal papers on Devil Facial Tumour Disease in Veterinary Pathology. To increase his depth of knowledge in the area of diseases, he studied for and passed the examinations for Pathobiology for the ANZCVS in 2009.

So far, he has given numerous talks at seven National Veterinary Conferences and also to the Pet Industry Australia Association delegates and at the New Zealand Companion Animal Conference. He regularly writes for aquarium and pet publications. These are an initiative to generate interest within the respective professions and industry to apply scientific reasoning for the better health and management of fishes. Through his veterinary career, he has appeared on TV (Creature Features, Stateline, Catalyst, ABC news), been interviewed on radio (Curtin FM), appeared in newspapers (The Sunday Times UK, Herald Sun, The Examiner, Sunday Tasmanian, The Cairns Post, Canning Times), magazines (Australian Aquarium Magazine, Aquarium Keeper Australia, TIME Australia Magazine, Your Pet Magazine, Woman's Day, Pets – Taking Care of Your Family's Best Friend, Animals' Voice) and appears on several local and international websites (ABC Online).

He is the consultant veterinarian to AQWA (the Aquarium of WA), is an adjunct lecturer at Murdoch University, is a founding member of the World Aquatic Veterinary Medical Association (WAVMA), is the secretary for the Aquatic Animal Health Chapter of the ANZCVS and provides advice on fish health and welfare to several universities and the RSPCA. His clients are diverse and range from individual pet fish owners, to retailers, farmers (ornamental and food cultured fishes) and exporters.



Dr Matt Landos

Dr Landos is the Founding Director of Future Fisheries Veterinary Service, is an honorary lecturer in aquatic animal health and associate researcher at the University of Sydney, Faculty of Veterinary Science and in 2011 he was the president of the Aquatic Animal Health Chapter of the Australian & New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists.

Dr Landos commenced his consultancy practice in aquatic animals in 2005 after a 5 year stint with the NSW DPI as the Veterinary Officer in Aquatic Animal Health. The client base is located throughout Australia, and it ranges from small native fish hatcheries to 3,000 tonne sea cage operations. He works with all aquatic species including molluscs, crustacea and finfish. He reviews emergency disease preparedness plans and develops health management plans for aquaculture industries. He has had a prominent media profile in recent years associated with investigation of the impacts of environmental pollutants on fisheries in relation to the notorious two-headed Australian bass larvae case from the Noosa River.



CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	3
ABOUT THE AUTHORS.....	5
ANATOMY AND FUNCTION.....	19
Skin & scales	19
Total length	19
Fork length.....	19
Body and fin shapes and gastrointestinal tracts.....	20
Gills	22
Kidney	22
Eyes	23
Lateral line	23
Reproduction.....	23
Nervous system.....	24
CATEGORIES OF FISH.....	25
Cyprinids	25
Goldfish	25
Carp	25
Barb	25
Danio	25
Rasbora.....	25
Miscellaneous	26
Characins.....	26
Tetra	26
Headstander	26
Hatchetfish.....	26
Silver dollar	26
Anabantoids.....	26
Gourami	27
Fighting fish	27
Paradise fish	27
Cichlids	27
Angelfish	27
Discus	27
Other cichlids	28
Miscellaneous	28
Livebearers.....	28
Guppy	28
Swordtail	28
Platy.....	28
Molly	28
Catfish.....	29
Corydoras	29
Loricariids	29
Shark catfish	29



Loaches	29
Botia	29
Loach	29
Others	30
Rainbowfish.....	30
Killifish.....	30
Eel.....	30
Goby	30
Archerfish	30
Lungfish.....	30
Saratoga	30
AQUARIUM SET-UPS	31
AQUARIUM EQUIPMENT	31
Fish tank/ aquarium	31
Heater	31
Thermometer	32
Lights (incandescent, fluorescent, metal halide, other)	32
Filter	32
Water pump	32
Air pump	32
Air stone	33
Plastic tubing, connections, valves	33
Cover glass	33
Gravel / shell grit / crushed coral	33
Water conditioner.....	33
Water test kits	33
Protein skimmer	34
UV steriliser	34
Ozone injector.....	35
Carbon dioxide injector	36
Reverse osmosis unit.....	36
Denitrification filter.....	36
FILTRATION	37
AERATION vs CIRCULATION	37
POND SET-UP	38
Richmond's Ultimate Pond Design.....	38
NITROGEN CYCLE & BIO-FILTERS	39
<i>The Nitrogen cycle.</i>	39
<i>Effects of various medications on the nitrogen cycle</i>	41
WATER PARAMETERS	43
Temperature.....	43
pH.....	44
<i>pH levels and their consequences.</i>	45
<i>Optimal pH for different species.</i>	45
Ammonia	46
Nitrite	48



Nitrate	49
Hardness	50
<i>Carbonate Hardness (KH) or Alkalinity</i>	50
<i>Alkalinity supplements & their properties</i>	50
<i>General Hardness (GH)</i>	51
<i>Descriptors for water hardness (General Hardness)</i>	51
<i>Optimum GH requirements for different species.</i>	51
Salinity	52
<i>Classification of water salinity expressed in different ways</i>	52
<i>Elements in sea-water</i>	53
<i>Seawater – special considerations</i>	53
<i>Seawater – Using natural seawater</i>	53
<i>Seawater – Long-term studies of water chemistry in recirculating systems</i>	54
<i>Seawater – Long-term storage guidelines for seawater</i>	54
Oxygen	55
<i>Approximate solubility of oxygen in water at different temperatures and SGs at 760mmHg</i>	55
<i>Use of Hydrogen Peroxide as an Oxygen Source</i>	56
<i>Oxygen Tablets</i>	56
Carbon Dioxide	57
<i>Deriving CO₂ concentration based on the relationship between KH (as carbonate hardness) and pH.</i>	57
A Note on Gas Supersaturation	59
Chlorine/Chloramine	60
Phosphate	61
Heavy Metals	62
<i>Acceptable & toxic levels of heavy metals in water.</i>	62
Pollutants	64
<i>Acceptable & toxic levels of pollutants in water.</i>	64
WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS FOR POPULAR GROUPS OF AQUATIC ANIMALS	66
Freshwater	66
<i>Tropical community</i>	66
<i>Amazonian (soft, acid)</i>	66
<i>Africans (hard, alkaline)</i>	66
Freshwater – Specific Species	67
<i>Discus</i>	67
<i>Koi</i>	67
<i>Murray cod</i>	67
<i>Silver perch</i>	67
<i>Salmonids (Salmon & Trout) – Freshwater phase</i>	68
<i>Axolotl</i>	68
<i>Yabby</i>	68
Brackish	69
<i>Scats & Monos</i>	69
<i>Barramundi</i>	69



Marine.....	70
<i>Abalone</i>	70
<i>Seahorses</i>	70
<i>Clownfish</i>	70
<i>Coelenterates</i>	71
WATER SAMPLING AND PROCEDURE.....	72
<i>Method/containers for water collection for water testing</i>	72
Parameter	72
<i>Dissolved oxygen (DO)</i>	72
<i>Biological oxygen demand (BOD)</i>	72
<i>pH</i>	72
<i>Salinity</i>	72
<i>Ammonia, nitrite, nitrate</i>	72
<i>Solids</i>	72
<i>Calcium</i>	72
<i>Metals</i>	72
<i>Pesticides, other organo-chemicals</i>	72
<i>H₂S</i>	72
<i>CO₂</i>	72
<i>Alkalinity</i>	72
<i>Faecal coliforms</i>	72
DIET AND NUTRITION	73
Storage	73
<i>Dry food</i>	73
<i>Frozen</i>	73
<i>Ideal thawing conditions</i>	73
Particle size.....	73
Feeding Quantity & Frequency	73
<i>Special considerations for coldwater fishes</i>	73
Variety	74
Protein.....	74
Carbohydrate	74
Fat.....	74
Ballasts	74
Vitamins.....	75
Additives	75
<i>Spirulina</i>	75
<i>Carotenoids</i>	75
<i>Glucans</i>	75
<i>Oregano Essential Oil</i>	75
<i>Appetite stimulants</i>	76
Miscellaneous notes.....	76
<i>Recipe for nutritional supplementation for sharks in public aquaria.</i>	77



FISH DISEASE INVESTIGATION.....	79
Taking complete history	79
<i>Living environment.....</i>	79
<i>Temporal epizootiology.....</i>	79
<i>Water Quality.....</i>	80
Clinical examination	80
<i>Behavioural abnormalities</i>	80
<i>Physical abnormalities/External gross pathology</i>	80
Parasitology	81
<i>Skin scrape.....</i>	81
<i>Gill biopsy</i>	81
Bacteriology.....	83
<i>Common bacteria Genus based on Gram staining properties.....</i>	83
<i>Bacterial culture media</i>	83
<i>Diff Quick</i>	84
<i>Gram stain</i>	84
<i>Ziehl Neelsen stain</i>	85
<i>Modified Ziehl Neelsen stain.....</i>	85
Haematology & Serum Biochemistry.....	86
Water Chemistry.....	87
Algology	88
<i>Non-motile unicellular microalgae</i>	88
<i>Motile unicellular microalgae</i>	88
<i>Unbranched septate filaments</i>	89
<i>Simple branched septate filaments</i>	89
<i>Siphonous filaments</i>	89
<i>Filamentous algae</i>	89
<i>Whorls of branches.....</i>	89
<i>Soft or firm colonies</i>	91
<i>Sheet or blade</i>	91
<i>Cyanobacteria</i>	91
<i>Netted</i>	91
<i>Crust.....</i>	91
Algal Problems.....	93
Basic ways of ridding the algae	93
How Algal Treatments Work	94
<i>UV clarifiers.....</i>	94
<i>Flocculants</i>	94
<i>Ion-exchange Resins</i>	94
<i>Chlorine Solutions</i>	94
<i>Algicides</i>	95
<i>Coloured Pigments</i>	95
<i>Barley Straw.....</i>	95
<i>Biological Control.....</i>	95
<i>Competitive inhibition</i>	96
<i>Reduce lighting</i>	96
<i>Water exchange</i>	96
Mycology.....	97
Internal gross pathology.....	98
Histology	98



Fixatives	99
<i>10% Neutral Buffered Formalin (fish, freshwater invertebrates)</i>	99
<i>Seawater Formalin (marine shellfish and crustaceans)</i>	99
<i>Davidson’s Fixative (marine shellfish and crustaceans)</i>	99
Virology	99
Molecular Biology	99
<i>FISH DISEASES</i>	<i>101</i>
Physical Injury - Fighting, Predation, Rough Handling, Parasites	102
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	102
<i>Diagnosis</i>	102
<i>Treatment</i>	102
<i>Prevention</i>	102
Carp Pox, Fish Pox	103
<i>Treatment</i>	103
Herpesviral haematopoietic necrosis	104
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	104
<i>Diagnosis</i>	104
<i>Treatment</i>	105
Lymphocystis (Iridovirus Infection)	106
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	106
<i>Diagnosis</i>	106
<i>Treatment</i>	107
Columnaris disease, bacterial gill disease (Flavobacter columnaræ)	108
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	108
<i>Risk Factors</i>	108
<i>Diagnosis</i>	109
<i>Treatment</i>	109
<i>Prevention</i>	109
Finrot & Ulcer disease- Aeromonas spp., Pseudomonas spp., Cytophaga spp.	110
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	110
<i>Risk Factors</i>	110
<i>Diagnosis, Treatment & Prevention</i>	111
Wasting Disease & Fish Tuberculosis (Mycobacteriosis)	112
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	112
<i>Diagnosis</i>	112
<i>Risk Factors</i>	113
<i>Treatment</i>	113
<i>Prevention</i>	113
Fungal Disease - Saprolegnia, Achlya.	114
<i>Clinical signs</i>	114
<i>Risk Factors</i>	114
<i>Diagnosis</i>	115
<i>Treatment</i>	115
White Spot Disease (‘Ich’)	117
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	117
<i>Transmission</i>	117
<i>Diagnosis</i>	118
<i>Treatment</i>	118



Velvet disease or coral fish disease	120
<i>Clinical signs</i>	120
<i>Risk factors</i>	120
<i>Diagnosis</i>	121
<i>Treatment and prevention</i>	121
Chilodonella (freshwater), Brooklynella (saltwater)	122
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	122
<i>Diagnosis</i>	122
<i>Treatment</i>	122
Trichodina	123
<i>Clinical signs</i>	123
<i>Risk factors</i>	123
<i>Diagnosis</i>	123
<i>Treatment</i>	124
Uronema (marine) & Tetrahymena (freshwater)	125
<i>Clinical signs</i>	125
<i>Risk factors</i>	125
<i>Diagnosis</i>	125
<i>Treatment and prevention</i>	126
Ichthyobodo (Costia)	128
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	128
<i>Diagnosis</i>	128
<i>Treatment</i>	129
Hole In The Head Disease	130
<i>Diagnosis</i>	131
<i>Treatment</i>	131
Neon Tetra Disease	132
<i>Clinical signs</i>	132
<i>Diagnosis</i>	132
<i>Treatment</i>	133
Monogenean flukes - Dactylogyrus & Gyrodactylus	134
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	135
<i>Diagnosis</i>	135
<i>Treatment</i>	136
Digenetic trematodes flukes	137
Nematodes - Camallanus	138
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	138
<i>Diagnosis</i>	138
<i>Treatment</i>	138
<i>Prevention</i>	138
Anchor Worms (Lernaea cyprinacea And Other Spp.)	139
<i>Clinical signs</i>	139
<i>Risk factors</i>	139
<i>Treatment and prevention</i>	139
Fish Lice (Argulus Spp.) & Gill Maggots (Ergasilus Spp.)	141
<i>Clinical Signs</i>	141
<i>Risk Factors</i>	142
<i>Treatment and Control</i>	142
Sudden Death	143



Miscellaneous Conditions – Hikui in Koi.....	144
<i>Clinical signs</i>	144
<i>Risk factors</i>	144
<i>Treatment and prevention</i>	145
Miscellaneous Conditions – Sleeping Sickness in Koi.....	147
<i>Clinical signs</i>	147
<i>Diagnosis</i>	147
<i>Risk factors</i>	147
<i>Treatment and prevention</i>	148
MEDICAL CORNER.....	149
Useful conversions.....	149
Estimating fish body weights by length	150
Standard tank sizes & their volumes	152
Routes of administration.....	153
Topical	153
Parenteral.....	153
<i>Intramuscular (IM)</i>	153
<i>Intraperitoneal (IP)</i>	153
<i>Intravenous (IV)</i>	153
Per os	153
Capsule sizes	154
Gastric intubation	154
In-water medication	155
Dip	155
Bath	155
Prolonged immersion / permanent bath	155
Factors Affecting Drug Selection.....	156
Legislation	156
Pathogen	156
Host	157
Environment	157
Other comments	157
THERAPEUTIC PROTOCOLS.....	160
<i>New Introductions Protocol</i>	161
<i>Skin injury protocol</i>	162
<i>Bacterial infection – General information</i>	163
<i>Bacterial infection - Superficial</i>	163
<i>Bacterial infection - Abscess</i>	163
<i>Bacterial infection – Systemic</i>	163
<i>Protozoal - General</i>	165
<i>Protozoal - Flagellates</i>	166
<i>Dinoflagellates</i>	167
<i>Microsporidian</i>	167
<i>Fungal infection</i>	168
<i>Helminth - Trematodes</i>	169
<i>Helminth – Cestodes</i>	170
<i>Helminth – Nematodes</i>	170
<i>Crustacean Parasitism</i>	171
<i>Viral</i>	172
<i>Toxicities – Chloramine/Chlorine</i>	173
<i>Toxicities – Ammonia</i>	173
<i>Toxicities – Nitrite</i>	174
<i>Toxicities – Heavy metal</i>	174
<i>Environmental - Hypoxia</i>	175



<i>Immunostimulants</i>	176
<i>Disinfectants</i>	178
<i>Adverse Drug Reactions Log</i>	179
PRACTICAL ANAESTHESIA	181
Role of anaesthesia	181
Basic Procedure	181
<i>Direct Application to the Gills</i>	181
<i>Artificially Ventilated, Pump Flow, Gill Irrigation Anaesthesia</i>	181
Drugs to dissolve in water –	182
<i>AQUI-S (iso-eugenol)</i>	182
<i>Benzocaine</i>	182
<i>Isoflurane</i>	182
<i>MS-222</i>	182
<i>Alfaxalone</i>	182
Injectable Anaesthesia	183
<i>Stages of Anaesthesia</i>	183
In Case of Emergency	184
Pre-Surgery Considerations	184
Surgery Venue	185
SURGERY	186
Surgical Risk	186
Analgesia	186
Equipment	186
Patient Preparation	186
Procedures	187
Closure	188
Post-op Recovery	188
MISCELLANEOUS PROCEDURES	189
Microchipping	189
<i>Fish</i>	189
<i>Amphibia</i>	189
<i>Reptiles</i>	189
EUTHANASIA	191
Fish	191
Crustacea	191
DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING	193
Radiography	193
Ultrasonography	193
REPRODUCTION/BREEDING	195
Background	195
Handling fish	195



Broodstock Selection & Timing of the Hormonal Injection	195
Hormonal induction.....	196
Stripping fish.....	198
Storage of gonads.....	199
Fertilisation	199
Water quality.....	200
Hatching & feeding.....	200
<i>AQUARIUM PET ADVICE FORM</i>	<i>201</i>
ADDITIONAL TESTS.....	201
PRELIMINARY TESTS.....	201
<i>PACKAGING DIAGNOSTIC SAMPLES</i>	<i>203</i>
<i>SUSPICION OF A NOTIFIABLE AQUATIC ANIMAL DISEASE INCURSION</i>	
<i>.....</i>	<i>205</i>
Notify.....	205
<i>Local authorities</i>	<i>205</i>
<i>Consulting Veterinarian</i>	<i>205</i>
<i>Supplier</i>	<i>205</i>
Collect diagnostic samples.....	205
<i>Fish</i>	<i>205</i>
<i>Water and other fluids</i>	<i>205</i>
Waste disposal.....	205
<i>Fish</i>	<i>205</i>
<i>Water and other fluids</i>	<i>205</i>
<i>EXOTIC DISEASE INCURSION</i>	<i>206</i>
Ornamental Fish Diseases of Quarantine Concern	206
<i>Goldfish haematopoietic necrosis virus (herpesvirus).....</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>Iridovirus of freshwater ornamental finfish</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>Spring viraemia of carp virus</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>Aeromonas salmonicida ('typical' strains and exotic 'atypical' strains)</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>Dactylogyrus vastator & D. extensus</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>Argulus foliaceus & A. coregoni.....</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>Lernaea elegans.....</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>EXOTIC ANIMALS & THE LAW.....</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>IMPORTANT CONTACTS.....</i>	<i>207</i>
Notifiable Aquatic Animal Disease.....	207
<i>National Emergency Disease Watch Hotline.....</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>Australian Animal Health Laboratory.....</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>Australian Capital Territory.....</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>CSIRO</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>New South Wales</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>Northern Territory.....</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>Queensland</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>South Australia</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>Tasmania.....</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>Victoria.....</i>	<i>207</i>
<i>Western Australia</i>	<i>207</i>



Fish Veterinarians.....	207
<i>The Fish Vet</i>	207
<i>Future Fisheries Veterinary Consulting</i>	207
Commonwealth & State/Territory Conservation Departments	208
<i>CSIRO's Australian Animal Health Laboratories</i>	208
<i>NSW Department of Primary Industries</i>	208
<i>Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment– Tasmania</i>	208
<i>Northern Territory Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development – Primary Industries</i>	208
<i>Department of Primary Industries and Resources, South Australia</i>	208
<i>Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries</i>	208
<i>Victorian Department of Primary Industries</i>	209
<i>Australian Capital Territory</i>	209
<i>Department of Fisheries, Western Australia</i>	209
Miscellaneous	209
<i>Ambulance</i>	209
<i>Poisons Information Centre</i>	209
<i>Materials Safety Data Sheets</i>	209

