

To: Directors of Public Protection

11 January 2008

Reference: **ENF/W/08/002**

Fish Decontamination Products

Dear Director,

Further to my letter of 21 December (ENF/W/07/070, copy attached for ease of reference), I am writing to inform you of further developments.

By way of further amplification of that letter, 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 those provisions.

I should also like to clarify the position regarding one of the products marketed by XyRex, namely "Prawnfresh™". The active ingredient in 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.



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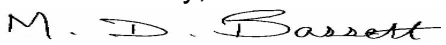


We are liaising closely with the Xyrex company in relation to the range of their products, and further information will be issued in due course.

This information is similarly being circulated to enforcement authorities in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland, and to industry representative organisations.

Should you require further information on issues arising from this letter, please contact myself regarding enforcement queries (Tel: 029 20678922; email: Mike.bassett@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk) .

Yours Sincerely,


Mike Bassett
Head of Imported Food Branch