

**International Symposium on Koi Herpesvirus Disease**  
**- Strategy for Koi Herpesvirus Disease Control -**  
(Saturday, 13 March 2004, Pacifico Yokohama Japan)

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On behalf of Fisheries Research Agency (FRA), I, “Kawaguchi: President of FRA”, would like to give my most sincere welcome thanks to all participants to be here from Fisheries Agency, universities, and private concerned, especially to all scientists from foreign countries as well as Japan.

About middle of October 2003, the outbreak of mass mortality of carp in Lake Kasumigaura and Kitaura of Ibaraki Prefecture was observed. Throughout scientific investigations, the first occurrence of koi herpesvirus disease (KHVD) was confirmed in Japan. As a consequence, KHVD was designated as a specific disease under the Law to Ensure Sustainable Aquaculture Production (LESAP) in June 2003.

And appropriate preventive measures against KHDV spread are now taken according to LESAP. But just it starts and further research for KHDV control will be hope to responsibility.

Under on-consignment of Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), FRA has conducted imminent research studies on tracing KHVD infection and its impact on common carp and koi. National Research Institute of Aquaculture (NRIA), FRA, gives the guideline which provides etiological information, symptom, diagnostic procedures and other important characteristics of the disease through the technical training (seminar) held in NRIA due to learn a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) procedure for koi herpesvirus (KHV) detection. After that, PCR inspection for KHV infection was established to do in accordance with the chart in the guideline. Detailed report will be presented later by NRIA’s scientists.

Meanwhile outbreaks of KHVD in Israel, United State of America, Europe and Indonesia etc., give a serious impact on common carp and koi as shown of mass mortality. The present situation of KHVD impact will be reported here by all scientists from various countries as invited speakers. I am great gratitude and hope for very valuable information will be given in this symposium.

For a proper management measures against KHVD, it is necessary to grasp current situation of KHVD infection at first, and then to develop the preventive measures against KHVD. To achieve this purpose, this symposium will provide and disseminate the latest information about KHVD impacts from various countries. And it is primary important that we should discuss further research activities

on the base of common knowledge about KHVD. This International Symposium is organized for aiming appropriate preventive measure against KHVD spread.

We can hold this symposium under the guidance of the Fisheries Agency Japan (FAJ), SEAFDEC, and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). Without their collaboration and support, this symposium can not be achieved.

Finally, I would like to give my most sincere thanks to all organizations to be here, and also to express my hope that this symposium will help prevention and control of KHVD with the dissemination and exchange of information from all participants.