



KRISTINEBERG MARINE RESEARCH STATION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ROUTINES

Routine for handling foreign species

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Approved by Station manager 06-04-2020

Aim:

To minimise the risk of spreading foreign species into the sea.

Definitions:

The term foreign species refers to species, populations, proveniences or genes, which have not previously occurred in an area, but have been transported there from their natural dispersal area by humans, knowingly or unknowingly. Foreign species often come from other countries, but domestic species that by humans have been moved to a new biogeographic region within the same country are also foreign species in their new environment. (From the Convention on Biological Diversity, CBD)

To be classified as a foreign species the organism must be introduced by a human vector. If the organism has spread to an area naturally it is not a foreign species. However, if the organism first has been introduced to an area by humans and then continues to spread on its own, it can be labelled as foreign species. (Naturvårdsverket) <http://www.naturvardsverket.se/>

Responsible:

All researchers, Phd students, lab assistants and students working with species which are not locally indigenous.

Procedures:

All foreign species shall be kept in closed systems. The systems shall be kept in the foreign species room at the culture house where the drainage is plugged. You should see to that all organisms in the waste water are killed off with a proper method (see Handling of waste water from tanks containing foreign species). All other work with foreign species (cultures, microscopy, filming etc.) should be done where there is no risk of spreading them to the ocean. Special rules and risk assessment for handling foreign species should be kept in the respective laboratories. A risk assessment of the work should always be carried out prior to an experiment. The risk assessment shall include which organisms are to be worked with, what risky situations might occur and what method is to be used for handling the waste water so that no living foreign species can be spread. You are under no circumstances allowed to let any of these organisms out into the sea. More information on foreign species can be found at; <http://www.aqualiens.tmbi.gu.se/>