

Look deeper

Aquaculture services overview guide

A fresh approach to certification

LRQA

Safe and sustainable aquaculture

With demands from consumers for safe and responsibly sourced seafood, it is becoming increasingly essential for fish farmers to ensure the safety and quality of the seafood they produce. This, alongside the need to reduce environmental impacts and ensure the welfare of those employed in the sector, means businesses must provide assurance across their supply chains.

Aquaculture services

Combining the in-depth knowledge and technical expertise of our specialist teams, LRQA can provide end-to-end solutions for assurance of safe and sustainable aquaculture.

We have global knowledge and experience from 30 years of working with all major farmed species groups (finfish, molluscs, crustaceans, seaweed) as well as associated fish farming production systems.

Our services include:

- Assessment and certification against the full range of accredited and GFSI approved aquaculture schemes available in the global market from primary production and associated feed, processing, and supply chain requirements.
- Tailored audit and assessment on behalf of sustainability policies and standards.
- Full and on-going surveillance assessments of supply chain traceability and accredited Chain of Custody (COC) standards, as well as tailored supplier management schemes.
- Ability to provide tailored management system reporting and dashboarding of key data.





Aquaculture schemes & standards

We work closely with our clients to identify the right standard and scheme to suit their business needs, including tailored assurance solutions.

Aquaculture Stewardship Council Farms Standard (ASC)



ASC aims to be the world's leading certification and labelling program for responsibly farmed seafood. The ASC's primary role is to manage the global standards for responsible aquaculture, which were developed by the WWF Aquaculture Dialogues.

LRQA was an early adopter of ASC's Farm Standard and worked across the globe to provide audits for salmon, trout, sea bass, sea bream, mussels, and shrimp producers.

A breakthrough standard in its sector, with wide industry backing, it is designed to minimize the environmental and social impact of commercial fish farms through the promotion of continual improvement. Increasingly sought after by major retailers, ASC certified products can also be traced from producer to plate via the supporting Chain of Custody standard.

[Find out more about ASC certification →](#)

Best Aquaculture Practice (GSA BAP)



From its inception, the Global Seafood Alliance made the decision to work with all stakeholders to bring the ethos of responsible aquaculture development to as many producers as possible.

To do this, they created the Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) facility certification standards that are rigorous and comprehensive.

LRQA is one of a select number of service providers able to deliver GSA BAP certification for feed mills, hatcheries, farms, and processing facilities.

One of the fastest growing international aquaculture standards, GSA BAP focuses on areas such as animal welfare, food safety and environmental responsibilities to ensure the business involved meets the highest possible standards. Interested parties can apply directly to GSA or contact LRQA to discuss how we can help you gain the certification you require.

[Find out more about GSA BAP →](#)

Aquaculture schemes & standards

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GLOBALG.A.P. Aquaculture Standards

GLOBALG.A.P.

GLOBALG.A.P. offers 16 standards for three scopes: crops, livestock and aquaculture.

With more than 530 certified products and over 170,000 certified producers in more than 120 countries, GLOBALG.A.P. have a sound foundation that is both solid enough to build trust and integrity and flexible enough to spur innovation and excellence.

LRQA can offer audits across all GLOBALG.A.P. aquaculture species scopes for finfish, crustaceans and molluscs at both hatcheries and farms. In addition, LRQA can audit and certify compound feed manufacturers producing aquaculture feed as well as Chain of Custody (CoC) requirements.

Certification examines food safety, occupational health and safety, animal welfare and environmental care cross the entire production process.

[Find out more about GLOBAL G.A.P →](#)

The MSC- ASC Seaweed Standard)



The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) have co-operated in the development of a new environmentally sustainable and socially responsible Seaweed Standard.

The ASC-MSC Seaweed (Algae) Standard applies globally to all locations and scales of seaweed operations, including both harvesting of wild population and cultured seaweed production (farms).

LRQA is accredited to provide assessment and certification against this new and increasingly popular standard.

[Find out more about MSC →](#)



Why choose LRQA?

We offer a wide range of internationally recognized specialist audits and inspections. Our team of aquaculture specialists have extensive practical industry expertise working across the sector including feed production, single site and multi-site national and international production companies, all major farmed species groups, and aquaculture production systems globally.

From certification to advisory services, training, and innovative online solutions, we work in partnership with our customers to tailor the service we provide to address the issues that they are likely to face.

We have over 30 years' experience as the major provider of certification services to the Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation, including the Code of Good Practice for Scottish Finfish Aquaculture, the Label Rouge standard for Scottish Farmed Salmon and the Protected Geographic Indication (PGI) for Scottish Farmed Salmon. Our knowledge means we can help our customers ensure that their products maintain the highest quality when sold to global markets.

We are the first accredited body to provide GLOBALG.A.P. IFA Aquaculture and Compound Feed Mill and we are the leading provider of certification to this aquaculture standard.

LRQA pioneered the delivery of combined audits and schedules, both on farm and in the processing facilities, to multiple standards to reduce audit time on site and manage cost for clients requiring certification to multiple standards.

At LRQA, we understand our customer's challenges, which we take a robust but pragmatic approach. Our services are focused on delivering client value through a range of associated benefits.

- Technical expertise and deep sector specific insight by an experienced team who understand the practicalities and nuances of the food and beverage sector.
- Competitive advantage against your competitor by choosing certification against one or more of the leading standards available in your sector.
- Market leading technology delivering you far greater compliance oversight and insight efficiently and cost effectively.
- License to operate to meet increasing retailer and consumer demands. In addition, many standards like ASC and GSA BAP introduces environmental disciplines that may assist with legal compliance, both now and in the future.
- Integrated assessments that can save you time and cost.
- Brand reputation and risk management can assure safety of your products, regardless of where you are in the supply chain.





Fresh thinking

About LRQA:

Bringing together unrivaled expertise in certification, brand assurance and training, LRQA is one of the world's leading providers of food safety and assurance solutions. Working together with farms, fisheries, food manufacturers, restaurants, hotels, and global retailers, we help manage food safety and sustainability risks throughout supply chains and have become a leading global assurance provider.

We're proud of our heritage, but it's who we are today that really matters, because that's what shapes how we partner with our clients tomorrow. By combining strong values, decades of experience in risk management and mitigation and a keen focus on the future, we're here to support our clients as they build safer, more secure, more sustainable businesses.

From independent auditing, certification and training; to technical advisory services; to real-time assurance technology; to data-driven supply chain transformation, our innovative end-to-end solutions help our clients negotiate a rapidly changing risk landscape – making sure they're shaping their own future, rather than letting it shape them.

Get in touch

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