


**ISSC 2023
Committee Report**

Committee Name: Biotoxin
Chairperson: Bryant Lewis
Date of Meeting: Multiple Conference
Calls 2020-2023
Recorder: Various

Approved 
By: _____
Printed Name: Bryant Lewis

Committee Members Present:

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bryant Lewis
(Chairperson) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Bott | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emily Marquis | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maggie Broadwater
(NOAA) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meredith Zahara | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andy Haines | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Fleiger | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Schillaci
(NOAA Advisor) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Kennedy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ian Jefferds | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacey Wiggins
(FDA Delegate) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Greg Feister
(NOAA Advisor) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Taylor | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Egerton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ron Benner
(FDA Advisor) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Dowell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heather Merritt | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Stryker | | |

Charges

Charge 1: Continue providing guidance and recommendations to the ISSC Executive Board concerning Biotoxin issues.

Findings/Conclusions: The Executive Board requested the Biotoxin Committee consider whether the NSSP should include freshwater HABs and toxins which mix with estuarine and ocean shellfish growing waters. Amongst possible toxins for consideration are: cyanobacteria cyanotoxins (MC, CYL, ANA, STX, NOD, and BMAA), microcystin, cylindrospermopsin, anatoxin-a, saxitoxin, nodularin, and anabaenopeptins.

The Biotoxin Committee researched and discussed the charge producing a document for the Executive Board detailing the discussion and recommendation.

Recommendations: The Biotoxin Committee does not recommend specific proposals for freshwater harmful algal blooms (HABs) or their toxins to be considered for the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) at this time. Instead, the Biotoxin Committee recommends the Executive Board foster and/or fund scientific research and technical assistance to fill the outstanding knowledge gaps that would need to be addressed prior to considering NSSP requirements specific to freshwater HABs or their toxins. (See attached)

Charge 2: Continue to identify new laboratory methods and technologies that could enhance the ability of the NSSP in addressing Biotoxin issues associated with shellfish consumption.

Findings/Conclusions: No requests were received to review or research specific new laboratory methods or technologies that could enhance the ability of the NSSP in addressing Biotoxin issues associated with shellfish consumption.

Recommendations: N/A

Charge 3: Proposal 19-123: Marine Biotoxin Control – Public Health Reasons

Findings/Conclusions: The Committee reviewed Proposal 19-123 and developed significantly updated language for “Marine Biotoxin Control” within Section III Public Health Reasons and Explanations.

Recommendations: The Committee recommends Task Force I adopt Proposal 19-123 as amended. (See attached)

Charge 1: Proposal 19-124: Marine Biotoxin Control – Guidance Document

Findings/Conclusions: The Committee reviewed Proposal 19-124 and developed significantly updated language for “Guidance for Developing Marine Biotoxin Plans” within Section IV Guidance Documents.

Recommendations: The Committee recommends Task Force I adopt Proposal 19-124 as amended. (See attached)