

Pennsylvania Aquaculture Advisory Committee  
c/o PennAg Industries Association  
2215 Forest Hills Drive, Suite 39  
Harrisburg, PA 17112-1099  
Telephone: (717) 651-5920

Date: October 1, 2014

To: All registered propagators and bait dealers

From: Jennifer Reed-Harry, Aquaculture Coordinator

RE: Overview of the PA Fish & Boat Commission on Crayfish

Effective January 1, 2015, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission has ruled:

1. No crayfish species shall be approved for open-system propagation and introduction into the waters of the Commonwealth. The culture and propagation of crayfish will still be permitted in closed systems, if the participant is registered for artificial propagation with the Bureau of Animal Health and Diagnostic Services.
2. There is a restriction on the sale of all live native and non-native crayfish in this Commonwealth, except when they are sold for testing and scientific purposes, or restaurant consumption. The point of origin and destination must be documented with every delivery. It will be illegal to sell live crayfish in pet stores and bait shops.
3. Licensed anglers may still harvest 50 crayfish/day. The crayfish head must be immediately removed behind the eyes upon capture unless the crayfish are used as bait in the waters from where they were taken. If an angler wishes to transport the crayfish from the waters from which they were collected, the angler must remove the head from behind the eyes.

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To learn more about this rule, visit the PA Fish and Boat Commission website at [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us) or contact the Ms. Laurie Shepler, Esq. at the PA Fish and Boat Commission at (717) 705-7810.