

Agenda Item 14.3.3

Implementation of the ASCOBANS Triennial
Work Plan (2007-2009)

Review of New Information on Bycatch and
Other Causes of Mortality

Post-mortem and Stranding Schemes

Document 18

**Information Submitted by Parties in
Response to the Post-Mortem
Research Questionnaire
f) Germany**

Action Requested

- take note of the information submitted
- comment
- decide on the reporting format and frequency
for future meetings

Submitted by

Parties



NOTE:
**IN THE INTERESTS OF ECONOMY, DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED TO BRING THEIR OWN
COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING**

Secretariat's Note

Attached are, as separate documents in order to minimise the need for revisions, the responses received on the Post-Mortem Research Questionnaire, as submitted by the ASCOBANS Parties.

Questionnaire
on post mortem research schemes
within the ASCOBANS Agreement area

Name and address of reporting institution	LS: Lower Saxony Federal State Office for Consumer Protection and Food Safety – Institute for Fish and Fishery Products, 27472 Cuxhaven SH: Schleswig-Holstein (North Sea and Baltic Sea coast) Forschungs- und Technologiezentrum Westküste (FTZ) Werftstr. 6, 25761 Büsum, Germany
Name of respondent	LS: Dr. Michael Stede SH: Dr. Ursula Siebert
What data are recorded routinely?	LS: Basic zoological data regarding the state of decomposition including results of pathological investigations and other additional laboratory investigations SH: Species, location of finding, date of finding, circumstances, finder, by-catch/stranding/life stranding, state of preservation, estimated age, frozen before necropsy or dissected freshly
Description of methods and units of measurement used	LS: c-g-s-System; standard pathological examination methods, laboratory methods regarding the analytical target of concern SH: Post mortem examination were performed according to the Proceedings of the First ECS Workshop on Cetacean Pathology (Kuiken and Hartmann, 1993, Siebert et al. 2001). Measurement were taken in metric system. Kuiken, T. and Hartmann, M. G. (1993). Dissection techniques and tissue sampling. <i>Proceedings of the ECS Workshop</i> , Leiden, 39 pp.
List of tissue samples usually taken	LS: Blubber, muscle, liver kidney & possibly tissue samples for histology, parasitology SH: All organ systems were examined macroscopically and samples of lesions and different organ systems, including lungs, trachea, stomach (1 st , 2 nd , and 4 th compartment), intestine, esophagus, liver, pancreas, thyroid gland, adrenal gland, kidney, urinary bladder, testis, uterus, ovary, spleen, thymus, pulmonary and intestinal lymph nodes, retropharyngeal lymph nodes, heart, aorta, skeletal muscles, rete mirabilis of the intercostal musculature, skin, blubber, brain, spinal cord, eye, bone, bone marrow, and tissue of the aural peribullar cavity, blood, urine etc.
How are the samples preserved?	LS: Deep frozen and formaldehyde-solution SH: Formalin, alcohol, other special fixation, frozen at –20-30°C or 70-80°C, OCT etc.
How are carcasses disposed of?	LS: Rendering plant beside museums of nature conservation or other specially approved institutions according valid legal regulations SH: Incineration
Are data recorded in a computer database? Please describe	SH: Data base on important biological parameters of harbour porpoises from the German North an Baltic Sea (e.g. morphometrics, genetics, chemical analyses, stomach content, age, reproductive data, pathological data)
How many data sets (by species) do you have?	SH: Between 1990 and 2007 the following number of data sets has been collected per species: Phocoena phocoena: 2162 Delphinus delphis: 5 Lagenorhynchus albirostris: 25 Lagenorhynchus acutus: 1 Stenella caeruleoalba: 1

	<p>Delphinapterus leucas: 1 Delphinapterus ampullatus:1 Physeter macrocephalus: 6 Balaenoptera acutorostrata: 6 Balaenoptera physalus:6 Globicephala melaena: 3 Tursiops truncatus: 1</p>
Which computer software is used?	SH: MySql, Postgresql, Access, Excel
Do you foresee any problems (e.g. regarding intellectual property rights etc.) related to a central database?	<p>LS: Who is paying that central database? Who will be entitled to use it and what are the conditions; questions of copyrights. SH: Data should be put in an international data base after publication. Use and interpretation of data sets should be restricted</p>
What advantages would you expect from a central database?	SH: Exchange and comparison of all data collected in different countries. This will give a more precise picture of the different subpopulations of harbour porpoise.
Additional Information (e.g. website addresses)	<p>LS: Michael.stede@laves.niedersachsen.de SH: Would be useful</p>