


Decision Tree for Facilities Seeking Certification Under BAP Hatchery Standard Issue 2.1

BAP Multi-Star Claim

BAP certified processing plants are permitted to claim up to 4 stars based on the BAP certified facilities in their production chain. For a processing plant to claim a “hatchery star” at least one of the types of facilities described in the BAP Hatchery Standard must have successfully completed an external CB audit to the full scope of the Hatchery Standard. Please refer to the definitions given for facility types in the introduction to the Hatchery Standard (broodstock/maturation facilities, hatcheries, nurseries, or integrated multi-phase hatcheries). Typically, the “hatchery star” will be derived from the stage of production immediately preceding the transfer or sale of stocking animals to a grow-out farm. The decision tree diagram included in this document is intended to provide guidance to determine what part of a seedstock supply chain must be certified to achieve the BAP hatchery-related Star.

Although BAP does not require seedstock suppliers “upstream” in the production chain (the certified hatchery’s source of stocking animals) to become BAP certified, such suppliers must nonetheless at least have been qualified through a supplier approval system that includes an annual internal review by the certified hatchery of each of its seedstock suppliers using any **one** of the three following approaches.

1. The supplier(s) are currently certified under the BAP Hatchery Standard.
2. The certified hatchery conducts annual internal audits of each of its seedstock suppliers against the full scope of the BAP Hatchery Standard (note that such audits can be conducted remotely or onsite). Certified facilities must confirm that there are no substantial or critical failures to comply with food safety, legal, social, environmental, or animal welfare issues and that there are no risks to the integrity of the BAP standards.
3. The certified hatchery has in place a Supplier Approval program and shares with the CB (copied to BAP) at the time of its annual audit a detailed report using a [supplemental checklist](#) that will be provided by BAP, describing at a minimum for each supplier (This option does not apply to hatchery suppliers to BAP certified nurseries).
 - a. the name of each seedstock supplier;
 - b. the claims each seedstock supplier makes concerning stock characteristics, such as whether purchased stocks are hybrid, triploid, sterile, sex-reversed, all-female, all-male, rapid growth rate, feed efficiency, specific pathogen free or specific pathogen resistant status, or other characteristics;
 - c. the evidence provided by each supplier of disease testing performed on purchased stocks prior to shipment;
 - d. the biosecurity measures applied by each seedstock supplier;
 - e. descriptions of any physical or chemical interventions such as eyestalk ablation, hormone treatments, vaccinations, etc., are used in the production of purchased seedstock;

	BAP - Decision Tree for Facilities Seeking Certification	Issue Number 2.1	Effective Date: 31-January-2024 Published Date: 31-January-2024
Group Program Integrity	Status External	Page 1 of 5	

- f. documentation demonstrating that the seedstock suppliers are meeting the legal requirements for operation within the country where they are operating, including:
 - i. current and valid documents to prove legal land and water use by the hatchery.
 - ii. current and valid documents to prove all business and operating licenses have been acquired.
 - iii. current and valid documents to prove compliance with applicable local and national environmental regulations for hatchery siting, construction, operation and liability for environmental damage.
- g. evidence of any current third-party certifications the supplier has obtained

For the hatchery-related Star to transfer legitimately to BAP-certified farms, there cannot be any gaps in the production chain between certified hatcheries and the certified growout farms to which they supply seedstock. When the hatchery supply chain involves changes in ownership of products between separate companies, the stage immediately preceding transfer of live aquatic products to a farm **MUST** be certified for the hatchery-related Star to transfer through to a BAP-certified farm. In vertically integrated, multi-phase hatchery operations, all “attached” stages (meaning located within a 30-minute radius of one another) must be included in the hatchery audit. More remote facilities “upstream” in the supply chain of integrated operations may at BAP’s sole discretion be allowed to be excluded from the annual onsite audit but in such cases at a minimum the information specified under point 3 above must be supplied.

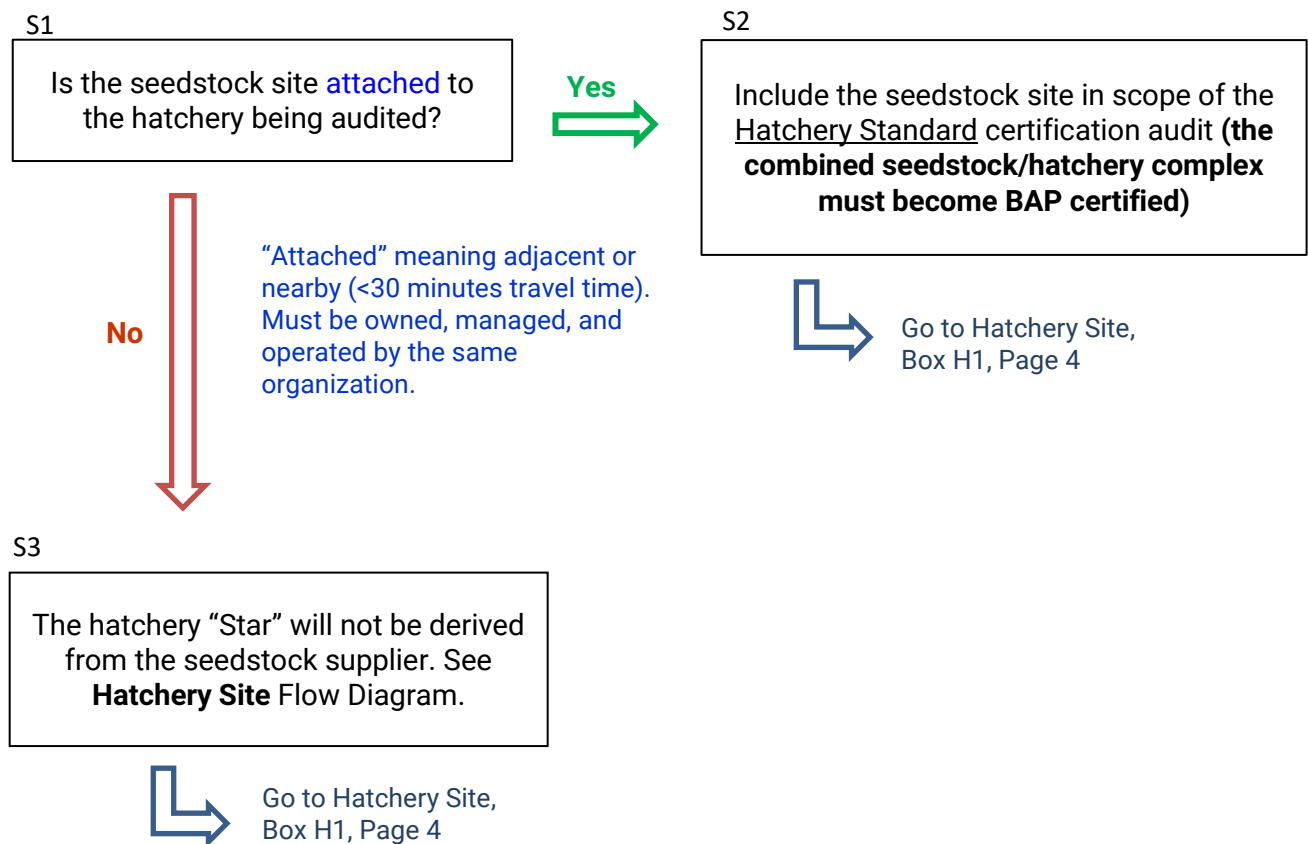
A multi-tiered production process often occurs in salmon farming companies, which may include saltwater-based broodstock cages, freshwater land-based spawning, egg incubation, hatching and early rearing phases, followed by a marine smolt production phase and finally the marine growout phase to market-sized salmon. When salmon smolt net pen operations are located in marine environments (greater than 25 ppt) close to the sites where final growout occurs, and also report operationally to growout farming management (rather than to hatchery management), such sites must become fully certified under the scope of the BAP Salmon Farm Standard, rather than the Hatchery Standard. For salmon farms, the hatchery-related “Star” will be derived from the land-based hatchery phase that precedes the transfer of smolts to saltwater, not from the smolt operations themselves.

Commercial penaeid shrimp hatchery operations often rely upon imported stocks of either adult broodstock for direct use, or upon in-country Broodstock Multiplication Centers (BMC’s) that import parent post-larvae (PPL) from geographically distant Nucleus Breeding Centers (NBC’s) which are then grown in highly biosecure facilities to broodstock size and subsequently sold to local commercial hatchery customers for production of post-larval animals for sale to growout farm customers. In most cases it is these local commercial shrimp hatcheries that must seek BAP certification for the “hatchery star” to be awarded, but the suppliers of the seedstock to such BAP-certified hatcheries must be qualified under one of the three approaches listed above. BMC’s that supply broodstock to BAP-certified hatcheries must at a minimum provide details obtained from their overseas NBC suppliers of PPL’s concerning the supplier’s genetic improvement goals, as specified under point 3)c above.

BAP will consider on a case-by-case basis as needed, any special situations (such as some vertically integrated multi-phase breeding operations) that may not clearly fit within the audit scenarios described in this document. If facilities or Certification Body auditors are uncertain how to determine the required unit of certification for a particular seedstock supply chain, please contact BAP’s Program Integrity department at programintegrity@globalseafood.org for guidance.

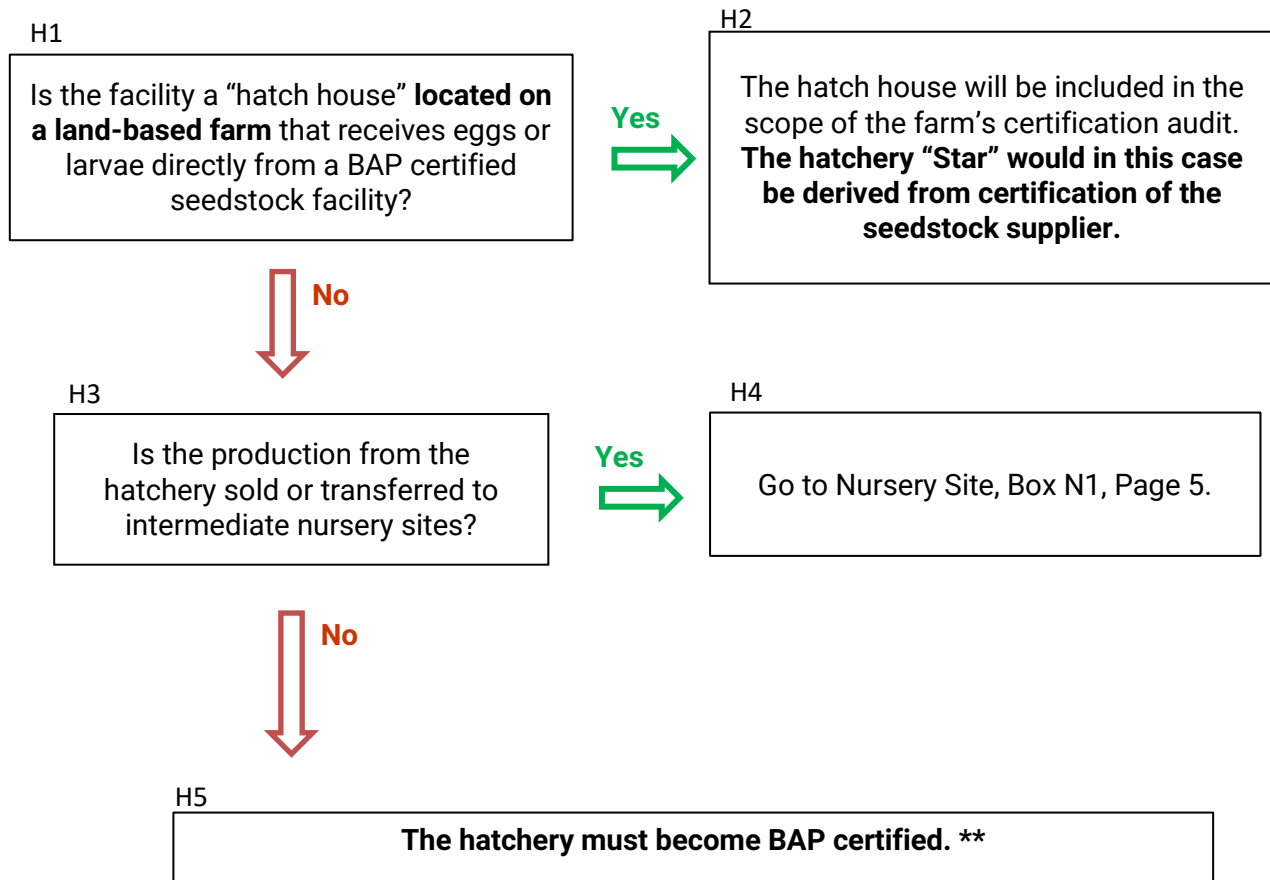
Operation: Seedstock Site

For the sake of the BAP Hatchery Standard and this Decision Tree document, the term “**Seedstock**” will be used as a universal term to refer to the live aquatic animals a hatchery obtains or maintains for the purpose of producing the juvenile stages that are sold or transferred to growout farms. “Broodstock” and “maturation” facilities are characterized as a location where broodstock populations are kept. Nucleus Breeding Centers (NBC’s) are specialized broodstock facilities typically very far removed from other hatchery operations.



Operation: Hatchery Site

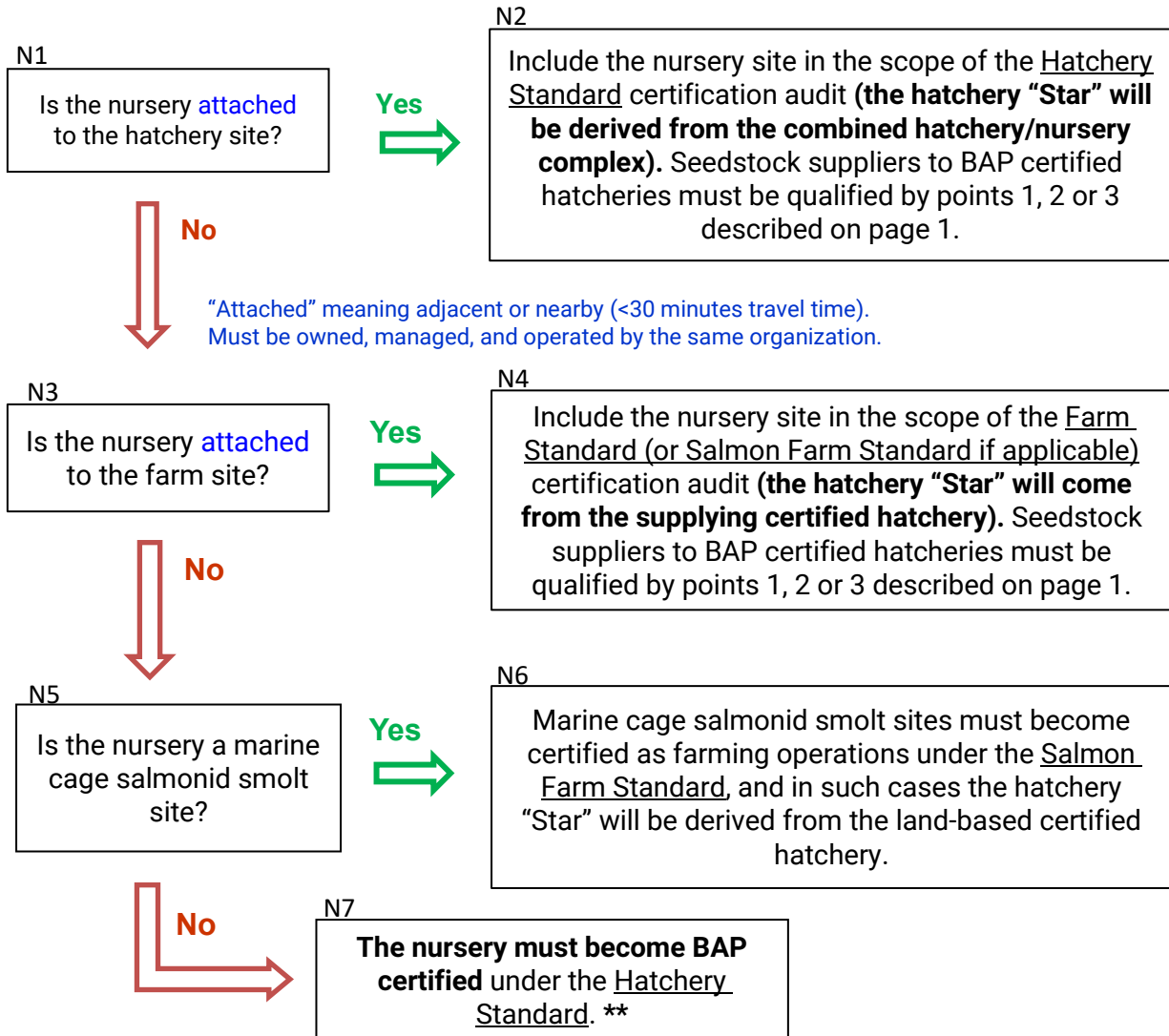
Hatchery site refers to operations such as: maturation, incubation/hatching, eggs and fry or fingerlings for fish are grown to commercially accepted/customer-specified stages for transfer or sale to nursery and/or grow-out facilities. It can also be a “hatch house”, a term used to describe systems located within a farm facility where eggs are hatched, typically in incubators and then the fry/larvae are reared to a size suitable for stocking at the farm or for transfer/sale to other farms.



**** Seedstock suppliers to BAP certified hatcheries must be qualified by either: 1) annual internal audits, or 2) implementation of an **Approved Supplier System**. Records shall be available at the time of the CB Audit of the hatchery. **Note: if the seedstock suppliers to certified hatcheries are already themselves BAP certified, neither of these alternative approaches is required.****

Operation: Nursery Site

Facility where fish fry or salmon smolts or shrimp post larvae are grown to an intermediate size prior to transfer or sale to a grow-out facilities where the animals are grown until final harvest size for the market.



**** Seedstock suppliers to BAP certified nurseries must be qualified by either: 1) annual **internal audits**, or 2) implementation of an **Approved Supplier System**. Records shall be available at the time of the CB Audit of the nursery. Hatchery suppliers to BAP certified nurseries must be qualified by an annual internal audit. **Note: if the seedstock hatchery supplier to certified nurseries are already themselves BAP certified, neither of these alternative approaches is required.****