

PIRFO Draft Competency Standards

NEW PIRFO 3 - 6.05	Carry out biological catch sampling in accordance with a pre-determined sampling protocol
Prerequisites: Descriptor This module requires candidates to understand the protocols of a biological sampling program, correctly identify anatomical parts of a fish, and participate in a pre-determined biological sampling program through accurately collecting and recording samples as required by the sampling protocol	
Learning Outcome	Assessment Criteria
1. Demonstrate knowledge of established sampling programs employed in regional Pacific tuna fisheries	1.1 The main sampling programs used in regional tuna fisheries are outlined 1.2 The use of information obtained from sampling programs is summarised
2. Show awareness of fisheries observer roles and tasks in relation to regional sampling programs	2.1 Roles and tasks in sampling programs are summarised and include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fish tag reporting and recording • stomach contents collection • otolith and other hard part identification and removal • tissue sampling 2.2 Demonstrate knowledge of the importance of compliance with sampling program protocols and record keeping standards
3. Awareness of fisheries observer roles in tagging programs	3.1 Fisheries Observer roles in relation to marine and fish species tagging programs are understood
4. Identify key internal organs and fish body parts commonly collected in sampling programs	4.1 Internal fish anatomy is correctly described 4.2 Key internal organs are identified and located 4.3 Methods for determining fish sex are described
5. Demonstrate practical biological fish sampling skills	5.1 Demonstrate safe use of the tools that are used to carry out biological sampling of fish 5.2 Selected organs or body parts are removed from fish samples, and stored and recorded in accordance with specified procedures

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Evidence and Assessment Guide

Context and Method of assessment

Assessment is to be conducted at the workplace or in a simulated workplace environment.

The following assessment methods are suggested:

- practical exercises
- written or oral short answer testing
- observation of practical demonstration.

Resources for assessment may include:

- fish samples
- sampling protocols specified by the Regional Observer Program

Underpinning knowledge

Candidates are required to demonstrate general knowledge of sampling programs in place regionally in Pacific fisheries and the roles of fisheries observers in relation to these sampling programs.

Candidates need to be able to correctly identify the internal organs of fish species that are the target of these sampling programs

Learning Outcome	Evidence Guide
1. Demonstrate knowledge of established sampling programs employed in regional Pacific tuna fisheries	Candidates should be aware of port sampling initiatives and the type of information collected in such programs. They should also be aware of regional tagging programs and the ways in which information from tagging programs is used
2. Show awareness of fisheries observer roles and tasks in relation to regional sampling programs	Candidates should be familiar with the roles of fisheries observers in relation to sampling programs. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the requirements for fish tag reporting and recording • sampling programs for stomach contents collection • otolith and other hard part identification and removal • tissue sampling. Candidates should also demonstrate an understanding of the importance of sampling program protocols and accurate record keeping.
3. Awareness of fisheries observer roles in tagging programs	Candidates should know how to record and report the landing of a tagged fish, bird or marine mammal.
4. Identify key internal organs and fish body part commonly collected in sampling programs	Candidates should be able to identify and locate the main internal organs and otoliths in selected fish species Candidates to know the established methods for determining sex in selected fish species
5. Demonstrate practical biological fish sampling skills	This element requires candidates to carry out practical dissection demonstration using correct techniques to cut fish, identify and remove selected organs or hard parts. Candidates should also demonstrate correct methodology for labeling and recording samples.

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Practical skills

The essential skills a person needs to perform work to the required standard include:

- The ability to correctly dissect selected species and remove selected body parts
- The ability to record data and store samples in accordance with agreed protocols

Literacy skills used for:

- Interpretation of information about sampling programs
- Collection of data and information
- Accurate completion of forms

Numeracy skills used for:

- Recording data

Critical aspects of evidence

Assessment must confirm an ability to:

- Record the information required for a tagging or sampling program
- Correctly identify the sex of selected species of fish
- Dissect a fish to identify and remove key organs

Assessment must confirm awareness of:

- The main sampling and tagging programs of Pacific fisheries
- How sampling and tagging information is used and why it is important
- Characteristics of key internal body parts of selected species