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A lot has been asked about the initial source of KHV infection, and we want to share what we know with you.

Koi and Butterfly Koi at the Kernersville quarantine & shipping facility at the time of this incident can be grouped into three categories:

1. Koi and Butterfly Koi from Blue Ridge's production farms
2. Biosecure, indoor-grown Koi and Butterfly Koi from Aquamade
3. KHV-vaccinated, outdoor-grown Koi and Butterfly Koi from Aquamade

Here is what we know about the KHV status of fish from each source:

1. Blue Ridge Koi and Butterfly Koi

Some Blue Ridge Koi and Butterfly Koi **from the Kernersville facility** that were initially tested for KHV returned positive results.

Samples from **all** of Blue Ridge's production farms have been sent in for multiple rounds of testing. **All tests performed to date on fish from Blue Ridge production farms are negative. There are no symptoms or mortality present on any of Blue Ridge's production farms.**

[< Blue Ridge production farms' negative test results >](#)

Given that there are no symptoms or mortality on Blue Ridge's production farms and that all tests to date from Blue Ridge's production farms have returned negative results, we feel extremely confident that the virus is not present anywhere on any Blue Ridge Koi production farm.

2. Biosecure, indoor-grown Koi and Butterfly Koi from Aquamade

We have had biosecure, indoor-grown Koi and Butterfly Koi on the Kernersville farm for more than 10 years. Prior to this event we have had no KHV or other virus issues at any time from any biosecure, indoor-grown fish from Israel.

Six samples were tested from two Kernersville greenhouses that contained only biosecure, indoor-grown Koi and Butterfly Koi. All six tests returned negative results.

The biosecure indoor facilities used by Aquamade are 100% enclosed buildings that operate under a very strict biosecurity protocol. Fish never enter the building; fish only leave the building. Each facility

is tested routinely and confirmed to be KHV negative by the State of Israel Ministry of Agriculture. Each facility is issued a certificate from the State of Israel, certifying the facility as KHV-free. These facilities have each been in operation for up to 20 years and have never had a positive KHV test.

[< KHV-free certificates for biosecure, indoor-grown Koi >](#)

Given all of this evidence, we feel extremely confident that the infection did not originate in the biosecure, indoor-grown fish. Our confidence in the health and safety of biosecure, indoor-grown Koi and Butterfly koi remains unbroken. Each facility has agreed to perform additional testing to provide another layer of assurance, and we will share those test results when available.

3. KHV-vaccinated, outdoor-grown Koi and Butterfly Koi from Aquamade

After much deliberation, we made the decision in Spring 2024 to purchase KHV-vaccinated, outdoor-grown Koi and Butterfly. No KHV-vaccinated, outdoor-grown Koi or Butterfly Koi were purchased or brought onto the Kernersville facility prior to 2024.

The first shipment of KHV-vaccinated, outdoor-grown Koi arrived at the Kernersville facility in the first week of April. The first indications of any issue originated in unvaccinated fish that were in tanks that shared the same system and water with vaccinated Koi.

Given the evidence, we believe, with a high level of confidence, that the vaccinated Koi were the initial source of infection. We were assured repeatedly that KHV-vaccinated fish are not carriers and cannot transmit the virus to other fish. We now believe that is not accurate, and we are profoundly sorry for all the trouble our decision has caused. We are here to do everything that we can to help you recover. Needless to say, we will not be carrying vaccinated fish ever again.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Casey LeFever', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Casey LeFever