

**SCOTTISH
SALMON WATCH**



CHEMICALS

HRH Prince of Wales
Clarence House
London
SW1A 1BA

20 May 2020

Dear Sir,

[Bee-killing Neonicotinoid Imidacloprid 'Field Trial' by Royal Warrant Holder Mowi](#)

Scottish Salmon Watch would like to alert Your Royal Highness to the [proposed use of the toxic neonicotinoid insecticide Imidacloprid by royal warrant holder Mowi in Loch Ailort](#).

I understand [via your work with the Prince of Wales Charitable Trust and Waitrose's Duchy Originals](#) that Your Royal Highness has concerns about the use of Imidacloprid ([banned for use in terrestrial farming in 2018 following scientific concerns re. bees and other insects](#)). As an organic farmer I am sure you are aware that the Soil Association is [vehemently opposed to the use of Imidacloprid and other neonicotinoids](#). Do you support the use of Imidacloprid at Ardnish or any other salmon farms in Scotland?



Don Staniford
@TheGAAlA

Does [@RoyalFamily](#) support the use of the bee-killing toxic neonicotinoid Imidacloprid by royal warrant holder [@MowiScotlandLtd](#)? Prince Philip visited Loch Ailort in 1974 leading to pharmed salmon supplied to Buckingham Palace [#WorldBeeDay #WorldBeeDay2020](#) tinyurl.com/ycn2nqrf



Clarence House and 7 others

10:45 AM · May 20, 2020 · [Twitter Web App](#)

Ardnish in Loch Ailort was the [first salmon farm in Scotland set up by Unilever in 1965](#) when the company was known as Marine Harvest (the name was changed to Mowi in 2019 [despite objections from the Mowinckel family](#)). Salmon Business described Ardnish as "the little-known cradle of the British salmon farming industry" [reporting in 2017](#) how the Duke of Edinburgh visited there in 1974 leading to farmed salmon being delivered to Buckingham Palace and a Royal Warrant adorning Mowi's fish boxes:

But Ardnish, which even to this day is the world's most visited marine farm, has long been the object of much attention.

In 1974 Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh visited the site here.

"We have maintained relations with the Royal family, and we are the only ones that deliver fresh salmon to Buckingham Palace," said Corrigan with obvious pride.

During Queen Elizabeth's 60th Coronation Anniversary celebrations in 2013, Corrigan, his boss Steve Bracken and a handful of staff at Lochailort were invited as guests to Buckingham Palace in London. For the past three decades *The Royal Warrant* seal has adorned Marine Harvest's fish boxes.



"Mowi harnesses nature to produce nutritious, tasty and supreme quality food from the ocean," [claims the Royal Warrant Holders Association web-site](#) (omitting to mention Mowi's proposal to use a banned neonicotinoid insecticide in Loch Ailort). "As a result of its ongoing innovation and sustainable development it is the world's largest supplier of farmed Atlantic Salmon - satisfying one fifth of global demand."



The
ROYAL WARRANT HOLDERS
Association

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MOWI SCOTLAND LIMITED T/A MARINE HARVEST SCOTLAND
Food & Drink




Mowi harnesses nature to produce nutritious, tasty and supreme quality food from the ocean. As a result of its ongoing innovation and sustainable development it is the world's largest supplier of farmed Atlantic Salmon - satisfying one fifth of global demand.

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By Appointment to:



HM The Queen
Suppliers of Fresh Scottish Salmon

Company contacts

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Scottish Salmon Watch understands that you have previously taken an interest in Mowi's salmon farming operation [in your capacity as the Duke of Rothesay when you visited Marine Harvest's Loch Leven salmon farm in 2016.](#)

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The Duke of Rothesay visits Marine Harvest Scotland's Loch Leven Fish Farm

13 OCTOBER 2016

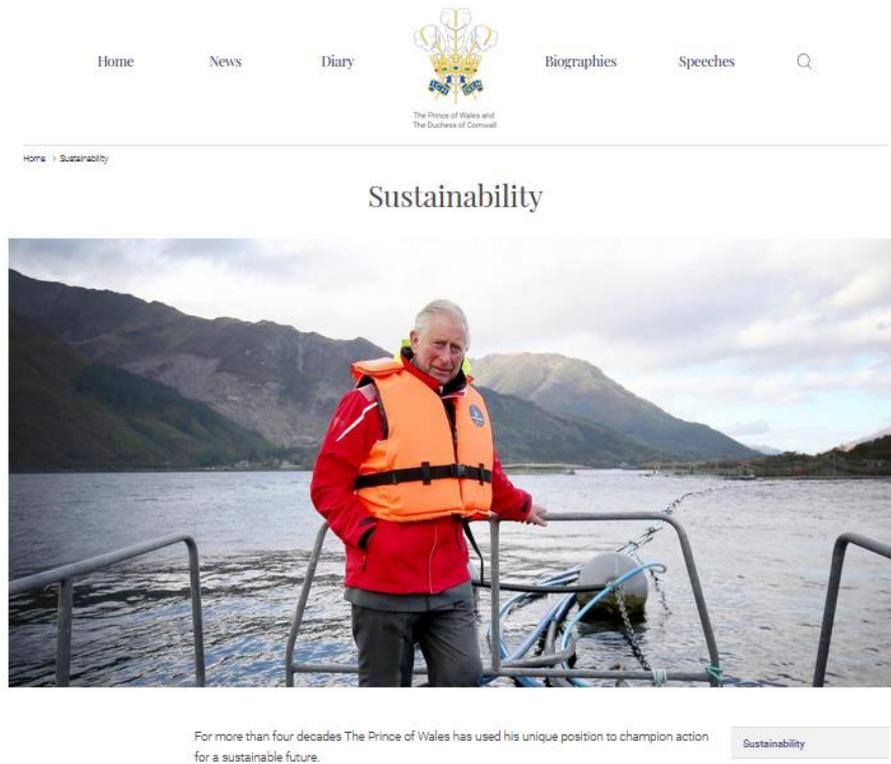


The Duke of Rothesay visited Marine Harvest Scotland's Loch Leven Fish Farm today to find out about sustainable salmon farming. His Royal Highness took a short boat ride out to see the salmon pens and toured the on shore facilities during the visit.



Scottish Salmon Watch would be only too happy to brief Your Royal Highness in more detail on [why salmon farming is inherently unsustainable](#) and [how the toxic salmon farming industry is chemically embalmed](#).

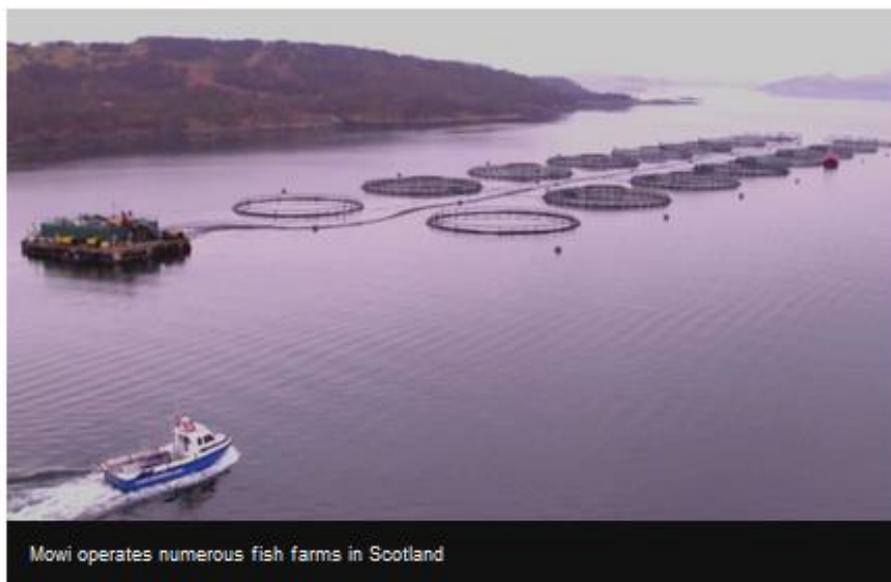
Suffice to say that I take issue with Your Royal Highness [standing in front of a Mowi salmon farming when addressing the issue of 'Sustainability'](#).



I understand that via the [Prince of Wales's Business and Sustainability Programme](#) you have been briefed on salmon farming issues by, *inter alia*, my former PhD supervisor [Professor Tim O'Riordan from the University of East Anglia](#). Sadly, I did not complete my PhD but instead became an [environmental campaigner](#) using the scientific research for [various reports](#) and [presentations](#) including a chapter in the book '[Stain Upon the Sea](#)' called "[Silent Spring of the Sea](#)".



Exactly one year ago, [BBC Panorama reported](#) that Mowi ([who changed their name from Marine Harvest in 2019 due to negative consumer perception](#)) was one of several salmon farming companies "under investigation for possible misreporting of chemical use".



The world's biggest salmon farming company is one of a number of firms under investigation for possible misreporting of chemical use.

Would you be willing to meet up at Mowi's facility in Loch Ailort to discuss the issue of toxic chemicals used by salmon farms? You could see at first-hand how Benchmark and Mowi plan to use Imidacloprid to kill sea lice via '[CleanTreat](#)'.

Last year, Scottish Salmon Watch [visited Mowi's Loch Ailort salmon farm at Ardnish](#) (controlled by [Norway's richest man John Fredriksen](#) - [recently ranked 20th on The Sunday Times 2020 Rich List with a wealth of £6.63 billion](#)).



The issue of salmon farming is obviously fraught with controversy and the Royal Family has been [caught up in several media spats](#) and [revelations](#).

Queen caught up in row over Scots farmed salmon

By **Derek Lambie**

THE Queen has been embroiled in an environmental row after it emerged salmon served at her Highland estate comes from controversial fish farms.

Special guests invited to dine at Balmoral might well presume the fine smoked salmon on offer was caught fresh from the waters of the royal estate.

But it has emerged supplies come from a fish farm hundreds of miles away sparking concern from experts who claim salmon farms have been linked with serious damage to the marine environment. The news may also alarm Prince Charles, who has lobbied against factory farming of salmon.

CONCERN: A controversial salmon farm, above, and the Queen



By **Michael Blackley**
Scottish Political Editor

A SALMON farm praised by Prince Charles failed to comply with environment protection measures and lost its accreditation as a 'best practice' operator.

Following a site visit to a farm on Loch Leven in 2016, the Prince said it had 'set the benchmark for the Scottish fishing industry'.

But it has now emerged that, three months earlier, the Marine Harvest facility was rated 'poor' by the environment watchdog because it had failed to secure appropriate accreditation, despite a previous warning.

It also lost its Aquaculture Stewardship Council accreditation recognising it as a responsible farm.

Campaigners said the revelation was 'embarrassing' for Prince Charles and urged him to remove an entry about the fish farm from his website.

Don Staniford, director of the Scottish Salmon Watch campaign group, said: 'In the latest available assessment for compliance, this fish farm is rated poor and this is embarrassing for Prince Charles as he was standing there in 2016 lauding it and praising it. His website talks about how

Salmon farm that won plaudits from Prince failed water inspection

sustainable it is, yet we now know it was failing.'

Prince Charles visited the Loch Leven facility in October 2016. An entry on his website states: 'In 2015 it became the first farm in the UK to be approved by international organisation Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC), who set strict guidelines on issues such as environmental impact.'

However, documents released by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) in response to a freedom of information request show it was one of 51 fish farms which failed to comply with environmental protection meas-

ures. It was one of nine facilities owned by Norwegian firm Marine Harvest on the list.

A SEPA document shows that the Loch Leven farm was rated 'poor' during a 'compliance assess-

'We now know it was failing'

ment report'. SEPA said a 2017 assessment, which has not yet been published, shows the Loch Leven site is now compliant.

Documents published by the ASC also show the salmon farm's

certification lapsed in February after a site inspection revealed three 'major' and six 'minor' non-conformities.

A Clarence House spokesman said: 'At the time the Prince of Wales visited Loch Leven fish farm it was certified by the International Aquaculture Stewardship Council as a responsible farm. It is disappointing to hear that is no longer the case.'

Ian Roberts, of Marine Harvest Scotland, said: 'We aim to comply with all regulations, and where non-compliance is identified, will work with SEPA and others to quickly address the issue.'



Praise: Prince Charles at farm

News

Thousands of fish poached alive in lice treatment bungle that could hit Christmas salmon prices



Prince Charles visiting a Marine Harvest fish farm, run by the same firm which owns the plants where 175,000 salmon were killed CREDIT: JANE BARLOW/PA

In an email, Loch Greshornish's site manager Bill Wright reported to Marine Scotland's senior fish health inspector that there had been more than 115,000 salmon deaths at the farm between July 3 and September 9 this year, "all due to treatment losses".



The Prince of Wales during his visit to a Loch Leven fish farm facility in October CREDIT: PA WIRE

Please note that further information in relation to the use of Imidacloprid (Ectosan/BMK08) in salmon farming has been posted earlier today via [Secret Trials: Scottish Salmon Doused with Bee-Killing Insecticide Imidacloprid?](#)



Your personal intervention in this vital issue - especially today which is World Bee Day - would be much appreciated.



Yours faithfully,

Don Staniford

Director, [Scottish Salmon Watch](#)