

INDIANA AQUACULTURE ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

Volume 9 Number 3 June 1995

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am happy to announce to the IAA membership that our application for Value Added grant monies to develop an aquaculture plan for Indiana has been approved by the Value Added Grant Program, Indiana's Office of Commissioner of Agriculture. The agreement and accompanying forms have been signed and returned to the Value Added Grant Program office for processing. The grant is for the next fiscal year which begins July 1, 1995.

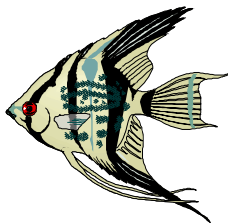
This is a very important event for IAA and we need to give our best effort to using this funding and opportunity to get the greatest return for the aquaculture industry in Indiana. The Board of Directors will be meeting in the near future to formulate our course of action.. The Board will be calling on many of you for help in accomplishing this undertaking in the months to come.

This is a great opportunity and carries with it a great responsibility for all IAA members. I am confident that the IAA will be successful in completing this project. The purpose of an aquaculture plan is to address the status of aquaculture in Indiana and formulate the direction in which to move to progress this industry in our state. The completed aquaculture plan will evaluate the present status of the industry in the state, identify the barriers facing the producers, and develop the appropriate plan that gives direction to a systematic approach to deal with these barriers. Aquaculture has a promising future throughout the United States. By identifying the concerns within Indiana and beginning the process of addressing them, we can build a new and viable agriculture industry in our state.

David A. Hoover

In This Issue:

- President' Message
- From the Editor
- Experimental Ponds Approved for Purdue University
- Aquaculture Included in 1995 Farm Bill
- Animal Science Workshop for Youth Continues to Grow
- INADS Coordinator Named
- Herbicides Tested
- Seafood Inspection Postponed
- Award Winning Catfish Recipe
- NMFS Fishery Market News Fax-on-Demand Service
- Calendar of Events
- New Technical Materials
- Sustaining Members
- IAA Board of Directors



Experimental Ponds Approved for Purdue University

Paul B. Brown

Department of Forestry and Natural Resources

Funds have been allocated and plans are underway for experimental ponds at Purdue University. The first phase of pond development will consist of 12 0.25 acre ponds for aquacultural research. Construction is to begin this summer.

This first series of studies designated for the ponds will be growout of either bluegill or hybrid bluegill using diets developed at Purdue. Those studies will be funded by the USDA North Central Aquaculture Center. Several ponds will be used for larval rearing in each of the next two years. Future research will include culture studies with hybrid

striped bass and yellow perch.

Additionally, LaDon Swann will be hosting workshops on pond construction as the ponds are under construction and pond culture methods once studies begin.

This first series of ponds will be followed by two additional sets of ponds. The next series of 12 ponds will be 0.10 acre larval rearing ponds. The final set will be 12 0.25 acre ponds for crayfish research.

All ponds will drain into an experimental wetland. Effluent quality will be monitored to evaluated wetlands as a method of improving aquacultural effluents.

From the Editor

Welcome to the June edition of the IAA Newsletter. The last three months have been as exciting as any I've experienced. During April I spent a month working with Egyptian fish farmers who were raising as many as four species of Tilapia and a couple species of mullet. Farmers everywhere appear to be the same hard working, friendly people that I have learned to respect. Some of the farms were huge with as many as 2,000 acres of water and individual ponds up to 200 acres each. It was quite a contrast to what I have seen in the past. The challenges facing Egyptian fish farmers are simply a lack of understanding of proper pond fertilization practices and how to maximize plankton production without jeopardizing acceptable water quality.

The Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant Program is preparing exhibits for the upcoming Indiana State Fair and Farm Progress Show. Our display will focus on production of food species with the greatest potential. For more information on either event contact your county Cooperative Extension Office.

Preparations are underway for the Bi-State Aquaculture Conference the first weekend in November. The workshop promises to have something for everyone. A hybrid striped bass workshop sponsored by the NCRAC will occur in conjunction with the Bi-State Conference.

Finally... Aquaculture Mentioned in the President's 1995 Farm Bill Proposal

Aquaculture is finally reaching mainstream agriculture and the attention of the President. Aquaculture appears on Page 85 of the Administration's Farm Bill Proposal as follows:

Issue

Aquaculture is poised to become a major growth industry. Global demand for fish and seafood is projected to increase sharply over the next several decades, while harvests from wild-catch ocean fisheries are stable or declining. A dramatic increase in aquaculture is needed to meet future fish and seafood demand, to offset a multi-billion dollar U.S. fisheries trade deficit, and to offer consumers abundant supplies of high quality, safe, wholesome, and affordable fish and seafood.

Discussion

The United States has an important opportunity to develop a globally competitive aquaculture industry to serve national needs and the international market. Sustainable, environmentally responsible aquaculture development holds particular promise for rural communities. New aquaculture technologies can create challenging, rewarding new jobs and foster rural economic

development by stimulating new business ventures among small, rural and/or minority-owned companies.

Reauthorization of the Regional Aquaculture Centers and reauthorization of the National Aquaculture Act of 1980 would greatly improve prospects for this growing sector of the food and fiber industry.

Guidance

Reauthorize the Regional Aquaculture Centers and the National Aquaculture Act of 1980 with the following provisions.

- Establish private aquaculture as a form of agriculture.
- Authorize USDA as the lead Federal agency, working in close cooperation with other Federal agencies, for the development, implementation, promotion, and coordination of national policy and programs for private aquaculture.
- Include aquaculture in all authorities for USDA research, education, and extension.

Establish a program to accelerate the transfer of promising research and technical advances, including environmental technologies, to commercial aquaculture applications.

Animal Science Workshop for Youth Continues to Grow

The 1995 Animal Sciences Workshop for Youth was held at Purdue University June 14-16. This year 17 high school students attended the aquaculture species session. Over the two days the students were introduced to aquaculture that they can easily apply at home. The workshop was very hands-on and focused on setting up aquaria, spawning ornamental fish and cage culture. Steve Collins also provided the students a tour of Indianapolis Zoo. The tour has become one of the highlight of the workshop.

IAA's support for the last four years has been greatly appreciated. The donation has been used to purchase materials for cage construction.

Each year we have had a slight increase in attendance. We have room for up to 30 students, so if you have high school students I encourage them to attend next year's workshop.

If you have events you want included in the IAA Newsletter contact: LaDon Swann, Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant Program, 1026 Poultry Building, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907-1026

Rosalie Schnick Named National Coordinator for Aquaculture New Animal Drug Applications

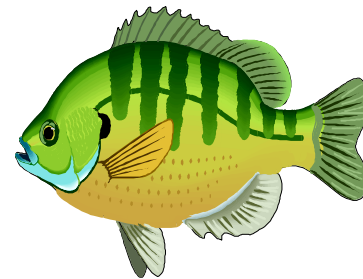
The joint Subcommittee on Aquaculture has identified the need for a National Coordinator for Aquaculture New Animal Drug Applications (NADAs). This individual will support the growth of U.S. aquaculture by facilitating the process of obtaining approvals for safe and effective new animal drugs for aquaculture. Specifically, this individual would:

- Coordinate and advocate data development efforts;
- Reduce duplication efforts and deter waste or inappropriate research;
- Organize the partnerships needed for successful NADAs;
- Act as liaison with Federal agencies including FDA, USDA, the NRSP-7 Minor Use Animal Drug Program, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Biological Service and various state agencies;
- Work closely with the aquaculture industry, the scientific community, veterinarians, and other aquatic animal health specialists;
- Assist the industry and pharmaceutical and chemical companies in the preparation and submission of

NADA applications. A part-time (less than 15 percent) Coordinator position was funded in FY 1993 and 1994 with support from USDA and FDA. Based on that experience, the decision was made to seek substantial additional funding to support at least a half-time position. To date over \$100,000 in funding commitments have been received from 15 government agencies, private associations, and other organizations.

A position description and job announcement were distributed in late January. Applications from candidates were evaluated and ranked by a screening committee representing the aquaculture industry, technical community, and Federal government. Based on this review, Ms. Rosalie Schnick was selected for the position. Ms. Schnick recently retired from the National Biological Service, where she was a Registration Officer at the Upper Mississippi Science Center in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Ms. Schnick has 28 years of professional experience with aquaculture drug approvals and registration of chemicals used in fish culture or fisheries management. She is well

known and highly regarded by the international aquaculture community. Ms. Schnick began her duties in May 1995, on the three-quarter time basis. She can be contacted by telephone through December 1, 1995 at 608/781-6200, 6235, or 2205, and after the date at only 608/781-2205. Her Internet addresses are: roz_schnick@nbs.gov and rozschnick@aol.com.



The United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization reports that aquaculture now accounts for 15 percent of the total worldwide production of fish and seafood with 20 million tons of edible seafood coming from fish farms.

Effects of Herbicide Drift on Pond Plankton Tested

Peter Perschbacher, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor, UAPB

Fish farmers have expressed concerns that drift from the aerial application of herbicides might negatively impact the plankton in their fish ponds. Herbicides that are either directly toxic to algae or that inhibit photosynthesis could cause critical reductions in the oxygen supply for fish.

Research work conducted by Dr. Peter Perschbacher and Columbus Higgins, a UAPB student, has established that four common soybean herbicides do not have measurable short-term effects on pond plankton. Dr. Gerald Ludwig at the Fish Farming Experimental Laboratory and Dr. Charles Guy of University of Arkansas at Monticello collaborated with Dr. Perschbacher on this study. Funding was provided by the Soybean Promotion Board and the Fellowship Program.

The four herbicides tested were bentazon (Basagran®), imazaquin (Septer®), fomesafen (Reflex®), and acifluorfen (Blazer®). Rates tested included full strength and drift rates of 1/10 and 1/100 of labelled rates. The effects of these herbicides on catfish pond plankton in outdoor tanks were evaluated

for the period up to 48 hours after application. No significant differences were found in the phytoplankton or zooplankton, primary productivity or dissolved oxygen production when treated pond water was compared to water in control tanks.

Propanil, commonly used for weed control in rice, has been shown to inhibit photosynthesis in pond plankton, according to the results of work at the Delta Branch Experiment Station, Mississippi State University. Additional testing of other commonly applied herbicides has been proposed to provide more information on potential impacts of herbicide drift.

FDA Seafood Inspection Regulations Postponed

FDA has announced at various meetings that the mandatory seafood inspection regulation will not likely be released until this fall. The previous release date was June 1995. There are also efforts within Congress to initiate legislation to reduce federal regulatory influences on private businesses.

Egypt Ridge Catfish

Mary Steele Lawler
Benoit, Mississippi

Ingredients

1 lb. Farm-raised catfish
1 Tbsp curry powder
1 heaping Tbsp. salt
1/2 ts cayenne pepper
1/3 scant cup flour
1 large red onion, sliced
1/3 cup raisins
1/3 cup honey
1/3 cup cider vinegar
1/3 cup vegetable oil
2 Tbsp. peanuts (garnish)
1 Tbsp chopped parsley (garnish)

Directions

Unwrap catfish and place on paper towels. Assemble ingredients, measuring all dry ingredients into a plastic bag. Heat oil in skillet to high heat.

Slice catfish into 3-inch lengths. Shake in bag to coat with flour mixture. Brown catfish on both sides, about 3 minutes per side. Drain on fresh paper towels. Add onion to pan, stir to distribute oil. Turn heat to low and cook until limp, about 2 minutes. Stir in raisins, cook 2 minutes. Add vinegar, cook 2 minutes. Add honey, cook until mixture comes to a boil, about 2-3 minutes.

Add catfish pieces back to pan, coat with sauce, cover pan and warm the catfish or wail and reheat later. Serve catfish and sauce with steamed white rice and a salad or green vegetable. Serves 4.

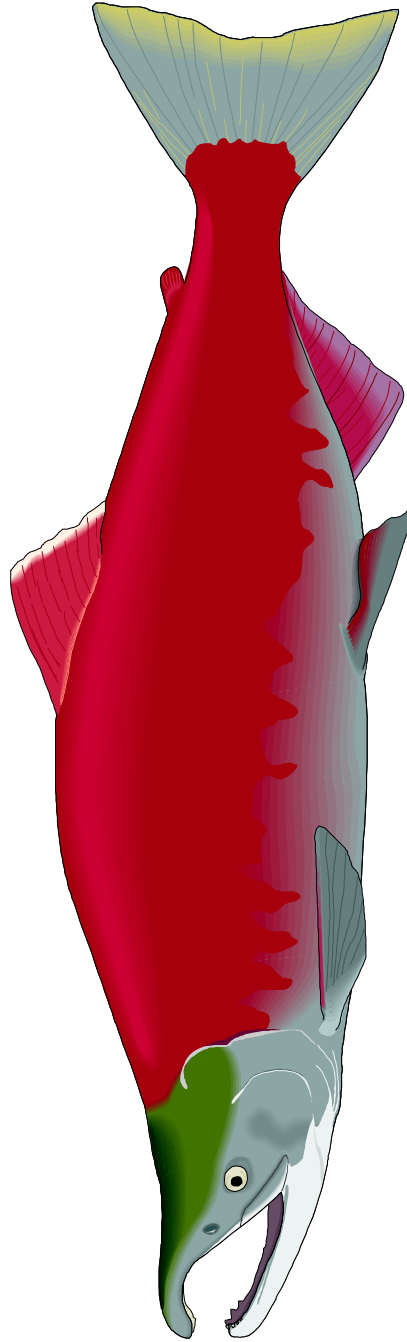
NMFS Fishery Market News Fax- on-Demand Service

The National Marine Fisheries Service has developed a fax on demand service to provide members of the seafood industry with up-to-date seafood industry market information (e.g., weekly trade leads, daily Fulton Market fresh fish prices, daily Boston Auction prices and other seafood market information).

To use the service, you will need to place your call from a fax machine phone. Dial 301/713-1415. At the mailbox prompt, enter 200 followed by the # (pound) key. Then select item 1 followed by the # (pound) key for a menu of available faxes. A fax message will automatically be sent to the fax machine that you are dialling from.

Other than your long distance telephone charge for the call, the service is free. Note, some fax machines may not be compatible with this service.

For more information on the Fishery Market News Fax Service, contact Bill Utley at (301) 713-2328.



**This is the 30+ pounder that Roberta and I DID
NOT catch on our recent vacation to Alaska**

Calendar of Events

July 1995

Rainbow Trout Production: Indoors/Outdoors. July 8, Piketon Research and Extension Center. Contact: Jim Ebeling, 614-289-2071.

Aquaculture Water Reuse System Workshop. July 10-14, Cornell Animal Science and Teaching Center, Ithaca, NY. Contact: 607-255-2280.

August 1995

Indiana State Fair, August 9-20. There will be a Purdue Aquacultuer display in the Our Land Pavillion.

September 1995

Farm Progress Show. September 26-28, Terre Haute (Jarvis Farms, Inc). There will be an aquaculture display.

November 1995

Illinois-Indiana Aquaculture Conference. Champaign - Urbana, Illinois, November 4-5. Contact: LaDon Swann, 317-494-6264 or lswann@hub.ansc.purdue.edu

Hybrid Striped Bass Workshop. Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, November 4, 1995. Contact: Chris Kohler, 618-453-2890.

New Technical Materials

Aquaculture Directories
Missouri Aquaculture Directory. Contact: Bob Hines at 314-729-4383.

Wisconsin Aquaculture Directory. Contact: Bud Sholtz at 608-224-5137.

Videos

"Diseases of Warmwater" Fish and "Trout Diseases." Robert Durborow and Clint Goins. 1994. Contact: Bob Durborow, State Specialist for Aquaculture, Cooperative Extension Program Facility, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Hormone-Induced Spawning of Grass Carp. University of Florida, January 1994, 23 minutes, \$15. Contact: IFAS Publications at 904-392-1764.

Sustaining Member

(Support them when possible)

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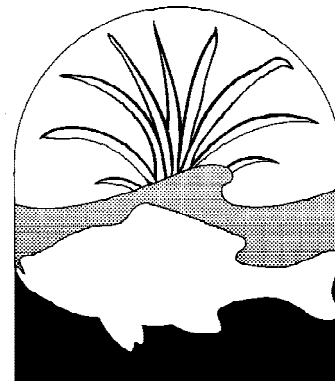
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