

AQUA Dept NEWS

Internal Newsletter of the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department

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Sustainability of SEAFDEC discussed



Platon

AQD Chief Dr. Rolando Platon attended the "Senior Officials Preparatory Meeting for the 35th

SEAFDEC Council Meeting on the Sustainability of SEAFDEC" from February 13 to 14 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Discussions during the meeting included the proposed short-term (emergency arrangement) solution on SEAFDEC's financial problem caused by the reduction of Japanese Government's contribution in 2003, and a proposal on the sustainability of SEAFDEC.

In preparation for the Senior Officials Preparatory Meeting, the SEAFDEC department chief's

meeting was convened from February 11 to 12, also in Bangkok, to pre-discuss important issues. These issues included policy considerations on sustainability of SEAFDEC, implementation plan and budgetary allocation for the 2003 Japanese Trust Funds, quarterly progress report of SEAFDEC programs, preparation for the 5th Meeting of the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Fisheries Consultative Group (FCG) Mechanism, and preparation of the 35th SEAFDEC Council Meeting.

Improved egg quality of cultured species achieved



milkfish broodstock

The program of AQD on **Managing broodstock and improving seed quality** addresses problem areas related to broodstock management, genetic improvement, and development of im-

proved hatchery production technologies of major cultured species.

The top priority concern is the improvement of egg quality through nutritional manipulation. Broodstock of snapper, milkfish, and grouper are fed with nutritionally defined diets based on available information on their nutritional requirements.

In one study conducted under this program, the influence of Vitamin C supplementation in milkfish broodstock diet on egg production and quality of spawned

eggs was assessed. Milkfish broodstock fed diet without Vitamin C supplementation (control) had the highest number of spawns and egg production in April to July, than broodstock fed diets containing 1.0% and 0.1% vitamin C. However, broodstock fed diet containing 1.0% vitamin C had the highest egg viability, hatching, normal larvae developed, cumulative survival of eggs to normal larvae, and vitamin C levels in eggs.

In another study on mangrove

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Job opportunity with FAO

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) will be shortly implementing a TCP Pilot Project on “**Promotion of Home Gardens for Improved Nutritional Well-Being**” in Lao People’s Democratic Republic.

The project aimed to develop a model for household or community nutrition garden production, including livestock and aquaculture. It is expected that this viable model of home gardens to diversify food consumption will ultimately serve for suitable replication at the national levels.

Position:

TCDC/retiree scheme consultant

- on small-scale fisheries
- two visits, three months total

For enquiries:

Enquiries should be sent by email (accompanied by a current CV and current e-mail contact address) to Simon Funge-Smith (Simon.FungeSmith@fao.org), with a copy to the Technical Assistant Fisheries Group, FAO Regional Office Asia and the Pacific - Pornsuda David (Pornsuda.David@fao.org).

For more information:

<http://www.fao.org/GENINFO/partner/en/TCDC> FONT SIZE=2
FACE="TAHOMA">-e.htm

“TCDC Consultants – TCP/LAO/2902 – Pilot Project for the Promotion of Home Gardens for Improved Nutritional Well-being”

Egg quality... from page 1

red snapper broodstock fed a formulated diet had the highest total egg production, and number of spawns from April to October than broodstock fed diet without squid meal, and the control (unformulated). Although, broodstock fed diet without squid meal had less number of spawning, highest egg collection per spawn was recorded. Hatching, normal larvae developed, and cumulative survival of eggs to normal larvae were highest for broodstock fed unformulated

diet.

Histological and biochemical changes in the ovaries of wild- and pond-sourced mud crab, *Scylla serrata*, broodstock in relation to five ovarian stages were also determined. Ovarian crude protein, fat (including total lipid), and ash increased with maturation in wild mud crabs. Polar lipid is higher than neutral lipid in stage II ovary; neutral lipid became dominant (mainly triacylglycerides) at ovarian stages III to V. Phosphatidylcholine content of ovaries was also found to increase with maturation. Total monoenoic and n-6 fatty acids increased until stage

IV, but only saturated and n-3 fatty acids continue to accumulate until stage V. Thus, ovarian n-3 fatty acids were higher than n-6 fatty acids. It was also found out that ovarian vitamin C in both wild- and pond-sourced broodstock increased as maturation advanced. These results together with information on other nutrients such as amino acids, and carotenoids will serve as the bases in improving mud crab larval and broodstock diets.

Larval stages of three species of mud crabs (*S. serrata*, *S. tranquebarica*, and *S. olivacea*) were collected to develop technical identification keys as a guide for wild seed collectors. Morphological features during growth and gonadal development in three species of pond-reared mud crabs are being determined.



grouper

***Give light, and the
darkness will dis-
appear of itself.***

***Desiderius Erasmus,
1466 - 1536***

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