

BFAR, SEAFDEC conduct mobile training for fishfarmers

The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources of the Philippines and the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department will undertake a mobile training program for fishermen and fishfarm operators in the Philippines to be implemented immediately and covering an initial five-year period.

Called the BFAR-SEAFDEC Mobile Training and Extension Program, the joint undertaking seeks to accelerate the training, *in situ*, of subsistence fishermen and small fishfarm operators on appropriate aquaculture technologies; set up strategic demonstration projects in various regions of the country; and contribute to the national effort of increasing food production.

Following surveys conducted by the Asian Institute of Aquaculture on training needs and technology desired in the regions to be served, BFAR and the Department will implement the program in phases. Phase 1 will be implemented in the Central Visayas, Eastern Visayas, and the Bicol regions this year. It will cover pond development and the farming of milkfish and prawns in five-day sessions targetted to serve from 250 to 350 participants or 50 to 70 farmers per training site. The sites that have been initially chosen are Tacloban City, from November 6 to 10; Tanjay, Negros Oriental, November 9 to 13; Calape, Bohol, November 12 to 16; Cebu City, November 15 to 19; and Sorsogon, November 17 to 21.

Participants attending the program will shoulder their travel, board, and lodging expenses. The Bureau will select and prepare the training sites, select the partici-

pants, and make available its extension facilities through its regional centers. The Department, on the other hand, will produce all training materials and will share with BFAR other training costs. Resource persons from the Aquaculture Department, BFAR, universities, fisheries schools, and aquaculturists of pond owners associations will be tapped to provide lectures, demonstrate proven technologies, and supervise practicum activities. A joint management team composed of the heads and representatives

of AIA and BFAR will oversee the conduct of the training activities and the evaluation of the program.

Subsequent phases of the program will cover other regions in Luzon and Mindanao.

The joint program also calls for the Department to conduct a trainers' training program for BFAR extension workers early next year in anticipation of their heightened role in the mobile training program, and a special training for sel-

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Chinese Mission at SEAFDEC

The Peoples' Republic of China mission visited the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, 17-18 October. Led by Deputy Minister Shih Lin (center) of the Ministry of Economic Relations with Foreign Countries, the mission is shown touring the research facilities of the Department and those of the University of the Philippines in Iloilo at the Leganes station.

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BFAR, SEAFDEC conduct mobile training *(from p. 8)*

fishfarmers. Demonstration has to be more regular with a genuine extension service which intervenes most often. Technical assistance will be provided by trained extension officers or instructors and by the monitors and assistants. They are responsible at the same time to provide fry of *Tilapia nilotica*, free of charge, to individual fish-farmers as well as to dispense advice on feeding and fertilizers suitable for fishes. Fishfarmers have to provide their own feeds and fertilizers. Up to the present, no particular disease has been reported. However, if they do occur in the future, health inspection and disease control will be undertaken through the laboratory of the Maritime and Lagoon fishing directorate or of the hygiene service.

The budget for the experimentations and the pilot demonstrations is provided annually by the Government. Extension has to be more compact and continue with the private or rural fishfarmers since the present extension personnel is still very insufficient despite all the good intentions. Thus, it is urgent to train extension agents to be able to implement genuine aquaculture extension services to achieve the objectives projected in aquaculture. □

Information source for the article is the report, "National Aquaculture Development Plan in Ivory Coast," which was translated from the original French text to English by Weena Sornchai of the Asian Institute of Aquaculture.

SEAFDEC nursery

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density of 100 to 200 fry per m². At a 45-day period per operation, including pond preparation, the set-up is therefore capable of undertaking about 6 to 8 operations per year which means it can accommodate from 15 to 40 million fry in the same period, Apud reported.

For inquiries on the construction and operations of the nursery pond, communicate with Florentino P. Apud, Jr., P.O. Box 256, Iloilo City, Philippines, 5901. □

ected BFAR personnel from all regions in the country on small-scale prawn hatchery operations preparatory to the setting up of demonstration village-level prawn hatcheries in BFAR training centers.

BFAR is the agency of the government of the Philippines, under the Ministry of Natural Resources, which is responsible for the development of fisheries and aquatic resources in the country. Headed by Director Felix R. Gonzales who is the current chairman of the SEAFDEC Council of Directors, the Bureau has regional stations strategically located for the conduct of various training programs, some of which have complete facilities for continuing research.

Meanwhile, the Aquaculture Department has just completed a 4-day training in prawn culture (*Penaeus monodon* F.) in Zamboanga City, Southern Philippines

involving 50 pond owners and their technicians, from October 25 to 28. Topics discussed by resource persons from the Department included prawn broodstock development, small-scale hatchery, pest and predator control, feeding and diets, as well as problems and potentials in prawn farming. Held under the auspices of the Asian Institute of Aquaculture, the training was conducted on the request of milkfish pond owners in the area who have taken interest in farming *P. monodon* as existing ponds for milkfish are readily converted to grow this crustacean. Agencies which assisted in the training were BFAR, the Mindanao Regional School of Fisheries, the Armed Forces of the Philippines South Command (AFP Southcom), and pond owners' associations in the area. □

Ferrocement tank for sugpo *(from p. 5)*

To insure a uniform distribution of dissolved oxygen, a piping system that distributes water equally in the tank was needed.

The project also required a filter system to improve water quality and at the same time provide a substrate for the prawn broodstock. Another need was to have an adequately illuminated area in the tank into which the broodstock can be drawn and examined for ovarian maturation.

The total cost of materials for one unit whose components include the ferrocement enclosure, PVC piping system, electrical system, filter system as well as finishing amounted to ₱5,363.90 (₱1.00 = US\$0.137).

The enclosure cost ₱1,785.40, the piping system which made use of PVC pipes was ₱2,593, the electric system came up to ₱784, the filter system ₱90.00 and finishing was ₱110.50.

Details of the design and construction methods may be requested from Engr. R. T. Solosa, SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, P.O. Box 256, Iloilo City, Philippines 5901. □

OI, SEAFDEC in joint R & D

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through interest in both basic research and the practical needs of today's demanding society; maintain the quality of life of man through the study of aquatic plants and animals and preserve the heritage of the sea for future generations through education and management of resources.

The Aquaculture Department of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center is a treaty organization established on July 9, 1973 among six nations, namely, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines and Japan and is charged with the responsibility of developing aquaculture in Southeast Asia. It has succeeded in completing the life cycle of the prawn, *Penaeus monodon*, from broodstock development, breeding, and larval rearing under controlled conditions and culture in ponds and pens to marketable size. It has also succeeded in induced breeding and larval rearing of milkfish, *Chanos chanos*, under controlled conditions and artificial breeding and larval rearing of *Scylla serrata*, *Portunus pelagicus* and others. □