

AQUA Dept NEWS

Internal Newsletter of the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department

Vol. XV11 No. 37 September 16, 2002

Senator Magsaysay holds presscon at TMS

Senator Ramon Magsaysay and Congressman Alfredo Marañon gave a press conference on agriculture and fisheries modernization at TMS on September 10.

Senator Magsaysay and Congressman Marañon are the Chairpersons of the Committee on Agriculture and Food Modernization in the Senate and Congress, respectively. Also present were high-ranking personnel of government agencies, such as



R Buendia

Senator Ramon Magsaysay (left) and Congressman Alfredo Marañon (right) during the press conference on agriculture and fisheries modernization in TMS.

Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) and Department of Agriculture (DA).

During the press conference, Senator Magsaysay emphasized the need for the government to attract young people into agribusiness by giving them necessary factors for production like land, labor, capital, and most importantly farm management technologies. "No matter how much money you have, produc-

to page 2

Madagascar nationals on study tour at AQD



R Buendia

Engr. Pastor Torres briefed the three Madagascar nationals on the current programs and activities of AQD.

Three Madagascar nationals participated in the study tour on methodologies in shrimp research at TMS starting September 7 until October 4.

The three participants are Ms. Hanitra Ratsimbazafy, Mr. Mamy Nirina Rajaonarivelo, and Dr. Jean Dominique Randriamialy. They are staff members of the Faculty of Science of the University of Mahajanga, Madagascar.

The study tour program introduces concepts, principles and management of prawn culture in ponds; feeds and feed-

to page 2

tion would still be low if you have poor management," Senator Magsaysay said. "We (the government) want agriculture to be globally competitive through sound management practices," he added.

In his turn, Congressman Marañon emphasized that "we should not strive to be the No. 1 but we should strive to be the only one," with respect to agricultural production.

DA Director Ricardo Oblena discussed the major problems and constraints in agriculture during his presentation on crop, livestock and poultry, and fish productions in Region VI. The means to increase production were also tackled during the open forum.

After the press conference, the guests were toured to TMS facilities: Integrated milkfish broodstock and hatchery complex; construction site of Biotech Wet Laboratory; Nutrition Building Wet Laboratory; and abalone hatchery. Ms. Grace Garcia and Dr. Wenresti Gallardo explained the developed technologies and current activities/researches on seahorses and mollusk (top shells and abalone), respectively. "Very good, very good," Senator Magsaysay exclaimed after the tour.



Senator Ramon Magsaysay examining the sea horse while Ms. Grace Garcia and Dr. Rolando Platon explained AQD's ongoing researches on sea horses during the tour of facilities.

ing; diseases; and hatchery operations and management. It also includes current commercial production methods and practices in pond systems.

The participants are being briefed on the current programs, activities, and research projects of AQD. They are also being given opportunities to consult with scientists who have been or currently working on shrimps, to observe laboratory and field experiments, to attend video showing, and to conduct library work.

Field trips to various commercial prawn farms in Iloilo, Negros, northern Panay, Cebu, and in Luzon are included to allow them to interact with shrimp farmers and managers and to observe the different shrimp culture systems and facilities in the Philippines.

The participants toured AQD experimental facilities including Dumangas brackishwater ponds.

The study tour program was organized and designed by AQD.

Jokes



I have always been apprehensive on joining a chat room for fear of doing something wrong.

One day after my son, Jeff, had gotten off the computer, I logged on to the Internet to play

a game. Suddenly a screen popped up saying, "Your friend is online." Apparently Jeff had forgotten to sign off, and I took the opportunity to chat with someone I probably knew.

Jeff's friend assumed he was still chatting with Jeff, and I was having fun with the situation.

After a few minutes, however, Jeff's friend typed: "Who is this?" "Why do you ask that?" I responded. The reply came across the screen: "Because Jeff doesn't spell that good." - **Betty Warner (www.rd.com)**

I am teaching computer courses and my students often call me at home with questions.

One morning, I was on the phone explaining in technical terms the solution to a problem while a man repairs my refrigerator.

After an endless stream of *C colon, backslash, greater than, CD, backslash, DOS, C colon* and so on, I hung up and found the man staring at me.

"Lady," he asked, "are you a spy?" - **www.rd.com**

SEAFDEC/AQD at Fisheries Investment Forum in Davao



AQD will participate in the Fisheries Investment Forum to be conducted by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) Region XI on September 28 at the Davao Trade Convention Center, Davao City.

This is in coordination with the Davao City Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. The said forum will be the highlight of the Davao Agri-Fisheries Trade Ex-

hibit.

An AQD team will serve as resource person to discuss several culture technologies appropriate for Region XI. The Department of Trade and Industry and Quedan Corporation will also discuss market and export potentials, and financing schemes, respectively.

Consultation session will follow the lecture series. This would allow potential investors to discuss further with the resource persons the topics of their interest. AQD Chief Dr. Rolando Platon will be the keynote speaker during the opening ceremony.

Davao, despite its vast potential for aquaculture has yet to improve its fish production. Its

marine area is safe for mariculture because it is not within the typhoon belt. It has also abundant freshwater supply making it ideal for pond culture.

The province also offers a great support to fisheries in terms of resources, infrastructure, education and training making it advantageous for business entrepreneurs. Aquaculture is a promising business industry considering the high market demand of aquatic produce.

Due to the dwindling fish production not only in the country but also around the world, the forum is also one way for Region XI to be able to improve its present contribution to the total fish production.

AQD employees invited to join Beach Cleanup



All AQD employees are invited to join the **AQD Beach Cleanup** on Saturday, September 21 at 7:00 to 11:00 in the morning. The cleanup will cover a one-kilometer stretch of beach from Buyuan Creek to Nanga Creek, Tigbauan, Iloilo.

This event is in line with the International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) activity, where AQD first participated in 1998, to promote

the conservation of the ocean's biodiversity, productivity, and beauty, and the reduction of marine debris and pollution.

Those interested to join are requested to sign up with Teodora Bagarinao of FishWorld, or with unit and section heads, and other coordinators. Other ICC coordinators are the following: Jurgenne Primavera; Aurelio de los Reyes,

Jr.; Rex Tillo, Sr.; Romeo Buendia; Ilda Borlongan; Mila de la Peña; Eva Aldon; Agnes Lacuesta; Greg Genzola; Ma. Teresa Mallare; Luisa Pacino; Imelda Olaguer; Sylvia Corro;

and Neri Fernandez.

On the cleanup day, participants are requested to bring (for personal use) rubber shoes, hats or caps, drinking water, litter-free snacks, work gloves, and big used shopping bags to collect garbage.

The ICC is a global initiative

organized in 1986 by the Center for Marine Conservation in Washington DC. Activities include training and seminars about the marine debris crisis, coastal and underwater cleanup, and quantifying the trash collected by means of standard data cards. Cleanup events have been conducted in the Philippines during the past five years, coordinated by the International Marinelife Alliance. About a million Filipinos join the ICC every year.

Round-up

Hired:

Engr. Raymundo Austria as Mechanical and Electrical Services Unit (MESU) Supervisor, Engineering Section, effective September 10.

Transferred:

BFS researcher **Angelito Gonzal** to TECTAS effective August 8.



Above: Engr. Salvador Rex Tillo, Sr. signs the turn-over documents (left) and examines the Biotech Lab keys (right).

Below: AQD scientists and Engineers with Taisei personnel pose for a souvenir photo.

A portion of the Biotech Laboratory at the second floor of Nutrition Building at TMS was turned-over by Taisei Corporation to AQD on September 9.

AQD Engr. Salvador Rex Tillo, Sr. and Taisei Corporation Project Manager Yukiyasu Nishimaki headed the event. Tillo signed the documents to signify formal agreement of Biotech Lab turn-over. Signatories for Taisei Corporation are Fumio Matsumoto and Nishimaki, Resident Consultant of CRC Overseas Cooperation Inc. and Project Manager, respectively. Keys for the facilities were presented to AQD.

Construction on the other half of the second floor of the Nutrition Building will begin thereafter.

Perhaps the greatest social service that can be rendered by anybody to the country and to mankind is to bring up a family.

George Bernard Shaw
(1856 - 1950)

AQUA DEP'T NEWS is published weekly by DEVCOM, TID at the Tigbauan Main Station. **Editor this issue:** CB Lago; **Circulation:** E Gasataya