



Regional e-Notes ~ May 2017

Volume 9, Issue 5

Letter from the Director

Aloha!

Earlier this month, CTSA released our FY 2017 Request for Pre-Proposals via our website and through other distribution channels. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to our stakeholders who provided input on priority areas for regional aquaculture research and development.

REQUEST FOR PRE-PROPOSALS
Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture
Due Monday, June 5 2017

The Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture (CTSA) requests pre-proposals for applied research and extension that addresses problems and opportunities in the regional aquaculture industry.

CTSA stakeholders have identified the below strategic areas and species as the top aquaculture development priorities. Pre-proposals that target these strategic areas and priority species will receive highest preference. However, pre-proposals that do not fall under specific priority areas but address CTSA's mission will be considered in our development process. Our main focus is on funding projects that will have immediate, positive impacts on the regional aquaculture industry.

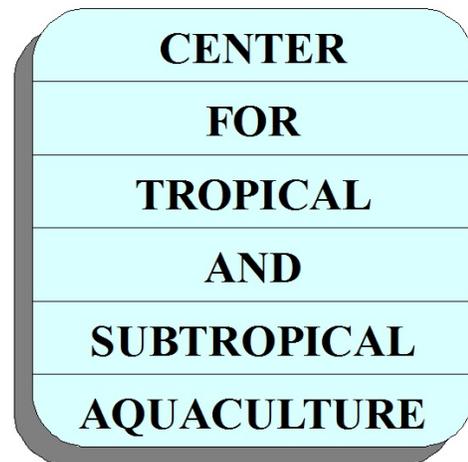
I ask our readers to please share the announcement with anyone who may be interested in submitting a project idea. We also welcome and encourage suggestions from those outside of aquaculture who have technology that may benefit our industry. With growing concerns about the health of the ocean, we need to work together to employ innovative approaches to securing our future seafood supply.

On a similar note, I just returned from a volunteer assignment in Myanmar, where I had the pleasure of communicating with local farmers. I was pleased to see farmers... [Read More](#)

CTSA FY17 Request for Pre-Proposals

CTSA released the [FY17 Request for Pre-Proposals](#) through our website earlier this month. Pre-Proposals are due to CTSA on Monday June 5.

CTSA's mission is to support aquaculture research, development, demonstration, and extension education in order to enhance viable and profitable aquaculture in the United States. The FY17 Request will list the top priority areas and species as identified by industry stakeholders in Hawaii and the U.S. Affiliated Pacific Islands. Our main focus is on funding projects that will have immediate, positive impacts on the regional aquaculture industry.



FY 2017 Strategic Areas & Priority Species include Mangrove Crab, Shellfish, Sea Cucumber Farming Technology, Cost Effective Locally-Made Aquatic Feed, and... [Read More](#)

CTSA Project Update: Establishing

Coral Grouper Production in Palau

The culture of high value marine fish (such as grouper) is rapidly expanding in Asia. In particular, the high demand for live grouper in the Hong Kong market commands wholesale prices of up to US\$100 per kilogram. Groupers have been cultured in South East Asia for over 30 years, yet current culture methods still face very low hatchery survival (~1%) in some of the most commercially important species, such as the coral grouper *Plectropomus leopardus*, largely due to inadequate larval feed items. Copepods have been found to significantly improve larval survival in many grouper species but, due to their inherent production challenges, have failed to become integrated in most grouper rearing protocols.



Coral grouper settled juvenile at 30 days post hatch

To address this issue, CTSA is supporting the project "Establishing Coral Grouper (*Plectropomus leopardus*) Production in Palau through the Application of Intensive Copepod Production Technology," which just completed its second year, to apply and expand intensive, copepod based larval rearing technology developed at the Oceanic Institute (OI) at Palau Community College (PCC) hatchery facilities. The goals of Year Two of this project were to continue to monitor the maturation and spawning of recruited coral grouper broodstock, conduct a training workshop for local stakeholders on intensive copepod production, and to establish a feeding protocol for Coral Grouper larvae. We are pleased to report that all of these goals have been successfully accomplished.

At the conclusion of Year One, researchers successfully recruited Coral Grouper broodstock, but they had not yet started spawning. At the onset of Year Two, natural spawning began and the production of eggs has since been excellent. The fish began spawning in March 2016, producing over 3 million eggs in peak months. The mean number of "good" eggs (those that resulted in viable embryos) was approximately 170,000 per spawn. However, peak production of "good" eggs was over 500,000 in several spawns in the subsequent months. We currently have approximately 20 broodstock, divided equally into two tanks. The fish have continued to consistently spawn naturally each month, normally peaking around... [Read More](#)

AquaClip: Fishmeal substitute passes taste test

Sashimi derived from yellowtail fed a diet containing a novel fishmeal replacement has passed a consumer taste test with flying colors.

The trial was conducted by KnipBio, a Massachusetts-based biotechnology company, along with its collaborator Kampachi Farms, and involved samples of yellowtail (*Seriola rivoliana*) that had been fed diets containing up to 7.5% of the microbe-derived KnipBio Meal (KBM). The trial was conducted at the Food Innovation Center at Oregon State University.

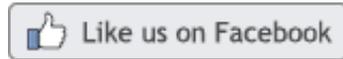
Dr Larry Feinberg, CEO of KnipBio, explained: "As we move forward in our efforts to develop KBM into a premium substitute for fishmeal, it's vitally important that fish raised on a diet containing KnipBio Meal have the same taste and texture profile as their counterparts fed fishmeal-based diets. To ensure this is indeed the case we devised the most rigorous test we could - a side-by-side comparison of Cabo Kampachi sashimi."

The scientists at Oregon State's Food Innovation Center recruited more than 70 adults who regularly eat sashimi to be the subjects. A triangular test methodology was used, where each subject was given a plate containing two pieces of Cabo Kampachi sashimi from fish raised on KnipBio Meal, and a control sashimi piece that had been fed a standard diet. The testers were asked to identify which piece was different in terms of taste, colour, and texture. The results indicated that the group was statistically unable to discern any difference between the KBM-fed

samples and the control fishmeal-fed sample.

Source: [The Fish Site](#) / [Read Article](#)

www.ctsa.org



The Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture (CTSA) is one of five regional aquaculture centers in the United States established and funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) under grants 2012-38500-19566, 2014-38500-22241, and 2016-38500-25751. The regional aquaculture centers integrate individual and institutional expertise and resources in support of commercial aquaculture development. CTSA was established in 1986 and is jointly administered by the Oceanic Institute of Hawaii Pacific University and the University of Hawaii.

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