



Regional e-Notes ~ April 2019 ~ Volume 11, Issue 4

Letter from the Director

Aloha!

As I reflect on the annual celebration of Earth Month (and Earth Day), my thoughts center on the importance of using our precious natural resources wisely and effectively.

Aquaculture plays an increasingly essential role in the global food supply. As our aquaculture industry continues to expand, we have many opportunities to impact the planet, and it is up to us to ensure that those impacts are positive. One area that CTSA has paid increasing attention to is extending the lifetime and value of all available resources. A recently completed project utilized nutrient-rich effluent water from tofu production to produce a fungal biomass ingredient for aquaculture feeds. The ingredient proved to be viable, and the tofu producer was pleased to have a new product from the effluent water that would otherwise have to be treated before discharge.



If we are going to reach our full potential as an industry, we must create new ways to use underutilized resources. A great example of this in the aquaculture value and supply chain is chefs who cook with seafood parts that are typically considered unusable.

Just as communities should strive to reduce single-use plastics and other unsustainable products to help preserve the environment, the aquaculture industry should strive to reduce waste in its production and development efforts. I encourage you to think about innovative ways to do this and hope you will consider sharing your thoughts with us.

This month's issue contains the FY19 Request for Pre-Proposals, and I am hopeful that some of you will submit project ideas aimed at innovative and effective use of... [Read More](#)

CTSA FY2019 Request for Pre-Proposals

CTSA is pleased to announce the release of its FY19 Request for Pre-Proposals, available for download on the CTSA website. Pre-Proposals are due to CTSA on Friday, June 14.

CTSA's mission is to support aquaculture research, development, demonstration, and extension education in order to enhance viable and profitable

REQUEST FOR PRE-PROPOSALS
Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture
Due Friday, June 14 2019

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.

It is important to note that CTSA has a limited budget for new projects during this funding cycle. The amount is lower than most other years due to CTSA's commitment to fund succeeding project years of multi-year projects that were approved under the FY18 Plan of Work. In consideration of this funding limitation, **projects exceeding \$50,000 per project year will receive additional scrutiny during this FY19 funding cycle.**

CTSA stakeholders have identified the below strategic areas and species as the top aquaculture development priorities for this unique funding cycle. 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.

aquaculture in the United States.

The FY19 Request lists 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 2019 Strategic Areas & Priority Species include Cost Effective Locally-Made Aquatic Feed, Marine Finfish and Ornamental Farming Technology, Disease Diagnostic... [Read More](#)

AquaClip: Ichthus Unlimited building closed-cycle bluefin tuna operation in California and Mexico

A former university lecturer and Fulbright Scholar is aiming to build on pioneering efforts by Japanese scientists and remove bottleneck issues for closed-cycle bluefin tuna farming in North America.



Alejandro Buentello, president of Ichthus Unlimited (IU) LLC, told SeafoodSource the five-year project will demand cutting-edge science and may cost as much as USD 50 million (EUR 44.4 million).

Despite the possible challenges, Buentello told SeafoodSource he believes IU has the potential to revolutionize the highly competitive - and lucrative - market for bluefin tuna, a species with an estimated annual trading value of around USD 2 billion (EUR 1.8 billion).

"Not even caviar pays as well as top-quality bluefin tuna pays, but natural populations are extremely imperiled," he said. "The Pacific bluefin tuna (*Thunnus orientalis*) is subjected to extreme fishing pressure and recent assessments indicate that the stock now stands at around 4 percent of historical levels. Other bluefin tuna species are also classified as vulnerable or critically endangered by international management agencies."

Buentello is a fish nutritionist and physiologist and his background includes time spent as a lecturer at Texas A&M University, as director of Archer Daniels Midland's Animal Nutrition Research Division, and as senior scientist at a joint Canadian, U.K. and Japanese tuna ranching venture in Baja, Mexico. He also served as co-editor of "Advances in Tuna Aquaculture," which provides a detailed overview on the current status of tuna fisheries, fattening, and farming practices, as well as advances in closed-cycle tuna aquaculture.

Source: SeafoodSource.com / [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.