



American Samoa - Guam - Hawaii - Palau - Northern Mariana Islands - Marshall Islands - Micronesia



The Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture (CTSA) is one of five Regional Aquaculture Centers (RACs) established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Guided by industry and under the expertise of various technical advisors, the RACs produce annual programs of directed research that target industry priorities.

CTSA funds efforts to increase local supplies of sustainable seafood and simultaneously restore ecosystems, relieve pressure on wild fisheries, and educate the next generation of environmental stewards across the Pacific region. Administered by the University of Hawai'i (UH) College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR), CTSA was established in 1986 and operates from the University of Hawai'i Manoa campus.

CTSA Works With Farmers to Solve Industry Problems

- ◆ CTSA has supported two decades of the necessary groundwork to establish bivalve farming in Hawai'i, which has grown into one of the most essential industry suppliers for mainland oyster growers facing ocean acidification. In addition, CTSA has supported projects to remediate oyster health issues impacting local farms.
- ◆ CTSA projects on moi, amberjack, nenu, milkfish, threadfin, rabbitfish, tilapia, mullet, and others have helped increase the variety of finfish species available for local farming.
- ◆ CTSA supports the creation of circular food systems and reduction of feed imports, including research to convert agriculture products and by-products that might otherwise be considered 'waste' into usable ingredients for aquatic feeds.
- ◆ From disease prevention and mitigation to helping the aquaculture industry import and export desired species, CTSA supports critical aquatic health services such as maintaining pathogen-free shrimp production in Hawai'i addressing tilapia import and export regulations, and servicing aquatic animal health needs with a USDA-certified Disease Lab.
- ◆ Recent projects on yellow tang, coral grouper, and other marine ornamentals are working to supply the marine aquarium industry.
- ◆ CTSA proudly supports capacity building including hands-on training for students and aquaculture technicians across the region.
- ◆ Several projects have helped establish farming of sea cucumbers, mangrove crabs, pearl oysters, and other important species in the Western Pacific region.

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and get
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