



Letter from the Director

Aloha!

Earlier this month, I had the pleasure of attending the blessing ceremony for the new Shrimp Improvement Systems Hawaii (SISH) facility at NELHA in Kona. SIS, which started in Florida in 1998,



SISH Management Team Receiving Governor's Declaration

produces "Specific Pathogen Free" brood stock of Pacific white shrimp for shrimp farming operations across the world. I am thrilled that the company is doing well and has decided to expand its breeding operations in Hawaii, the origin of most SPF Pacific white shrimp (as a result of USDA Shrimp Consortium

research conducted at Oceanic Institute). With over 3 million metric tons produced from shrimp farming globally in recent years, the demand for SPF shrimp broodstock has already and can continue to increase and generate significant revenue for Hawaii's aquaculture industry.

In order to thrive, our industry needs new opportunities like those brought by SISH, which leads me to my next point. I truly believe that CTSA sponsored projects can help to expand the role that aquaculture has as a regional source of seafood and/or aquatic animal stock. However, in order for the program to have the greatest impacts possible, you -- our stakeholders -- must express your opinions.

In this month's issue, we encourage you to review the priorities we included in last year's RFP-P and send us any new recommendations you may have by April 15. This issue also features an article about our upcoming aquaponics workshop in American Samoa, and a summary of the recent IMTA event in Hawaii.

Mahalo,
Cheng-Sheng Lee
Executive Director, CTSA

CTSA FY2014 Priority Area Development

As valued stakeholders of our program, we ask that you please take a moment to provide your input

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As valued stakeholders of our program, we ask that you please take a moment to provide your input on our priority development for our FY2014 Development Cycle.

[Please click here](#) to review the priorities that were included in last year's RFP-P, and let us know your recommendations for new and/or updated priority areas **by April 15**. Also, please do not hesitate to let us know if you feel a specific priority area should no longer be included. We appreciate your valuable feedback. We will start our call for FY14 Pre-Proposals shortly.

Contact mbrooks@ctsa.org with recommendations.

CTSA Aquaponics Workshop in American Samoa: April 23-24

On April 23-24, CTSA and the American Samoa Departments of Agriculture and Marine and Wildlife Resources will host a collaborative aquaponics workshop. The purpose of the two-day workshop is to transfer aquaponics technology to island residents who would likely use the technology themselves, either in their own backyards, through commercial farming, or at schools. It is open to all interested stakeholders, particularly potential farmers, existing farmers, and school teachers. Several noted speakers from Hawaii and American Samoa will present on various topics including human nutrition, aquaponics basics, postharvest and food safety, aquatic feed preparation, aquaponics system construction and management, and aquaponics in STEM education.

Aquaponics has the potential to catalyze a drastic improvement in food security on the small island. Currently, a majority of food and other commodities are shipped in from thousands of miles away, an unsustainable and unreliable practice. Furthermore, obesity and overfishing are serious issues affecting the health and stability of the American Samoan population; providing a healthy and environmentally-friendly source of protein and fresh vegetables can go a long way to help solve these problems.

The workshop is being held as part of the ongoing CTSA-sponsored project "Adaptation of Aquaponics Systems for Use in the Pacific Islands." The project is largely responsible for the development and success of a new commercial aquaponics farm in the village of Taputimu. What began as a small demonstration system has developed into a larger-scale commercial enterprise that is now providing food for the local school lunch program. The May issue of e-Notes will feature a detailed interview with farmer Apela Afoa, as well as an event wrap-up. The April issue of e-Notes will feature a reminder about the workshop and detailed information on event location, etc.



Apela Afoa on his farm with Dr. Harry Ako

For more information and/or to register for the workshop, please contact mbrooks@ctsa.org

Seminar Summary: US-Korea 'Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture' Research Information Exchange

CTSA hosted the US-Korea Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) group's annual research information exchange this year in Hawaii from Feb. 27 to Mar. 5. During group field visits to Big Island Abalone and Kualoa Ranch, IMTA members and our local aquaculture farm operators had the opportunity to exchange valuable information on the culture of macro algae. They also shared tips to extract nutrients from water to produce additional revenue crops and, at the same time, preserve the environment.

Aside from their group meeting, IMIA members held a presentation to the public on Feb. 28 at the Oceanic Institute of Hawaii Pacific University conference center. Prof. Ian Bricknell from the University of Maine presented "Diseases In IMTA systems, a forgotten component?"; Dr. Jang K. Kim from University of Connecticut presented "Nutrient Bioextraction by the warm temperate rhodophyte, *Gracilaria tikvahiae* and the oyster *Crassostrea virginica*: a case study in Waquoit Bay, MA"; Dr. Young Dae Kim from National Fisheries Research and Development Institute in Korea presented "Development of a fishing village tourism type integrated multi-trophic aquaculture technology using fishing ports"; and Vernon Sato from Hawaii presented "Hawaiian Fishponds- 600 years ecosystem management." In addition, on Mar. 2, Dr. Miseon Park presented "Development of the regional specialized integrated multi-trophic aquaculture technology" at Magoon Facility at University of Hawaii.

At the end of the weeklong exchange, Dr. Yarish provided the group with the following link to his report on culturing macroalgae: "New England Seaweed Culture Handbook-Nursery Systems:"

<http://seagrant.uconn.edu/publications/aquaculture/handbook.pdf>

The companion video series is available on the following website: <http://s.uconn.edu/seaweedplaylist>

AquaClip ~ Prevent Disease With Sustainability

By SeafoodSource Staff www.SeafoodSource.com. March 16, 2014

Seafood farmers who worry about the emergence or spread of disease in their stocks can reduce the threat by following guidelines for sustainability that already exist.

That was the core message behind a panel discussion Sunday afternoon, geared toward what lessons the industry can learn from recent high-profile disease outbreaks like white spot, infectious salmon anemia and early mortality syndrome (EMS).

EMS has been running rampant in shrimp pens in southeast Asia for several years, and even with a cause emerging in 2013, the threat is far from over. In the panel, chaired by SeafoodSource Editor Sean Murphy, speakers including Matt Thompson, aquaculture project lead at the conservation department of the New England Aquarium, spoke of the connection between disease prevention and sustainable practices. Iain Shone, director of sourcing at Lyons Seafoods, noted that he was not an expert on EMS, but had to learn quickly how to deal with the threat of the disease.

And Flavio Corsin, senior manager of the aquaculture program at IDH, pointed out that sustainable trade initiatives such as IDH are already promoting sustainable practices, even for companies that worry they won't be able to afford it. Corsin then noted that planning for a disease outbreak is just good risk management common sense, summing up the message of the panel by noting, "There will always be plenty of diseases."

[Click here to read the full article.](#)

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 2008-38500-19435, 2010-38500-20948, and 2012-38500-19566. 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 and the University of Hawaii.

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