



Regional e-Notes ~ April 2018 ~ Volume 10, Issue 4

Letter from the Director

Aloha & Happy Earth Month!

As I reflect on the annual celebration of Earth Day/Month, my thoughts center on the delicate relationship between humans and the limited natural resources of our planet.



To adapt to the unique circumstances in the Pacific region, we need to continually develop food production technologies that effectively use our limited natural resources. We also need to consider using alternate resources that are available in abundance. To this end, CTSA regularly supports research efforts to utilize local waste products as resources for aquatic feeds. For example, an ongoing project is using brewer's waste to produce a fungal-based feed for fish and shrimp. What other innovative technologies could we utilize? During a recent conversation, a friend mentioned an impressive and innovative aquaculture practice in Singapore, where expired human food is converted into fish food, thereby reducing food waste and producing valuable protein for human consumption.

Investing in this type of development can help our communities reduce carbon footprint and increase resilience in the face of a changing climate. It can also improve food security and decrease our reliance on imported seafood. We import more than 50% of the food consumed in our region, including seafood. Securing our food supply and concurrently reducing our carbon foot print and wastes should be our common goal. During my recent visit to the...[Read More](#)

Request for Stakeholder Input on CTSA Priority Development: Be a Part of the Solution!

CTSA is preparing for the FY18 development cycle. A hallmark of the Regional Aquaculture Center program is that we are industry driven; accordingly, we are requesting stakeholder input on priority areas to include in our next Call for Pre-Proposals.

The primary goal of our program is to have meaningful impacts on the regional aquaculture industry. Your input in this critical stage of our development process is essential to the success of that goal. Therefore, we ask you to share your input on challenges and opportunities, and/or reach out to your fellow industry stakeholders for their input.

Participate in the CTSA development process!

Take the FY18 Priority Areas Survey

What species and/or technologies could benefit from additional regional research and/or extension efforts? Please take a few moments to [visit this link and participate in our short survey](#). You can also email your suggestions to mbrooks@ctsa.org. Comments must be submitted by Friday, May 4.

The CTSA FY18 Request for Pre-Proposals is scheduled to be released on May 15 via the [CTSA website](#), so be sure to keep an eye out for it! An announcement will also be included in the May issue of e-Notes.

Last year's '[FY17 Request for Pre-Proposals](#)' is available for review.

Aloha to Senator Daniel Akaka

Senator Daniel Akaka passed away earlier this month at the age of 93. CTSA would like to express our sincere gratitude for Senator Akaka for all of his tireless work on behalf of Hawai'i and his advocacy on behalf of the regional aquaculture industry and the Regional Aquaculture Center program, which may not be in existence were it not for Senator Akaka.

"From the beginning, the Senator was a very strong supporter of aquaculture, particularly marine aquaculture," stated Dr. Cheng-Sheng Lee, CTSA Executive Director. "When he was on the House Agriculture Appropriations sub-committee, he was instrumental in getting the initial funding for a wide range of programs, including shrimp, feeds, Regional Aquaculture Centers, and the milkfish program among some of them. He also personally went to Chairman Whitten late at night to secure several million dollars in funding to support aquaculture in Hawai'i."



Senator Akaka was the first Native Hawaiian to serve in the U.S. Senate. He was a pioneer and champion for the State and people of Hawai'i, and a strong supporter of education and research initiatives.

"He was a great and humble man," concluded Dr. Lee.

Senator Akaka served more than 35 years in Congress as a House member and senator before retiring in early 2013. His spirit of Aloha will be missed by the people of Hawai'i and all who knew and worked with him.

Request for Applications: USDA NIFA Aquaculture Research Competitive Grants Program



USDA NIFA requests applications for the Aquaculture Research Competitive Grants Program (henceforth, Aquaculture Research program) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. The amount available for support of this program in FY 2018 is approximately \$1.2 million. The deadline for applications is 5 p.m. Eastern Time on May 17,

United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

2018.

The NIFA Aquaculture Research program will fund applied aquaculture research projects that directly address major constraints to the U.S. aquaculture industry; and focus on one or more of the following Program Area Priorities: 1) Genetics of commercial aquaculture species; 2) Critical disease issues impacting commercial aquaculture species; 3) Design of environmentally and economically sustainable aquaculture production systems; or 4) Economic research for increasing aquaculture profitability.

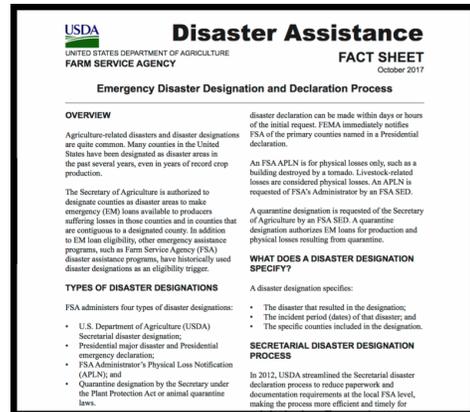
The purpose of the Aquaculture Research program is to support the development of an environmentally and economically sustainable aquaculture industry in the U.S. by generating new science-based information and technology to address industry constraints... [Read More](#)

USDA Farm Service Agency Issues \$34M in Disaster Assistance for Farmers and Ranchers

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) will issue \$34 million to help agricultural producers recover from 2017 natural disasters through the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-raised Fish Program (ELAP), which covers losses not covered by certain other USDA disaster assistance programs.

ELAP aims to help eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, certain adverse weather events or loss conditions, including blizzards and wildfires. Producers with operations impacted by natural disasters and diseases in 2018 are encouraged to contact their local USDA service center to apply for assistance.

Payments are now available, and they are part of a broader USDA effort to help producers recover from hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, wildfires and drought. A large portion of this assistance will be made available in federally designated disaster areas... [Read More](#)



AquaClip: Massive underreporting of deep-sea fish catch revealed in new study

A new study, using data gathered by the Sea Around Us project to reconstruct the fish catch at global scale, reveals that in the past 60-plus years, the practice of towing giant fishing nets along the seafloor has caused the extraction of 25 million tons of fish that live 400 meters or more below sea level, leading to the collapse of many fish populations in a "boom and bust" pattern of exploitation.

The study, which highlights research done by University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Biology Professor Les Watling and colleagues, was published this week in *Frontiers in Marine Science*. It examines the historical catch by bottom trawlers around the world of 72 deep-sea fish species, many of which are exploited to unsustainable levels and several that are no longer commercially viable.

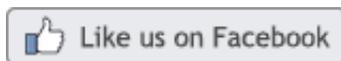
The new estimates suggest that 42 percent more fish have been caught by countries than they reported to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

The impact of trawling goes beyond the capture of fish populations. As they are dragged on the seabed, trawls remove sponges, corals, sea stars, sea cucumbers and anemones, all of which play important roles as food source or habitat for fish. They destroy seamount communities and other fish homes, turning former thriving habitats into large cleared areas.

The massive under-reporting of catch "means that much more biomass of fish and habitat-forming species have been removed from the deep sea than we thought. This has altered the ecosystem in ways that we have yet to understand," Palomares said.

Source: University of Hawai'i News / [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.

Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture, 41-
202 Kalaniana'ole Highway, Waimanalo, HI 96795

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by mbrooks@ctsa.org in collaboration with

Constant Contact 
Try it free today