



Regional e-Notes ~ January 2019 ~ Volume 11, Issue 1

## Letter from the Director

Aloha,

Yesterday we held our annual CTSA Board of Directors (BOD) meeting. I am happy to report that our entire Board was able to attend this year's meeting. In addition to reviewing recently completed and ongoing CTSA projects, the Directors discussed and voted on the FY18 Plan of Work at the meeting. Per our standard procedure, CTSA will now forward the Board-approved Plan of Work, comprised of seven proposals, to NIFA for final approval. Another meeting accomplishment worth mentioning is that BOD members emphasized the importance of working together to sustainably drive aquaculture development in the region. I look forward to increasing our partnership with different institutions and researchers within and beyond our region.



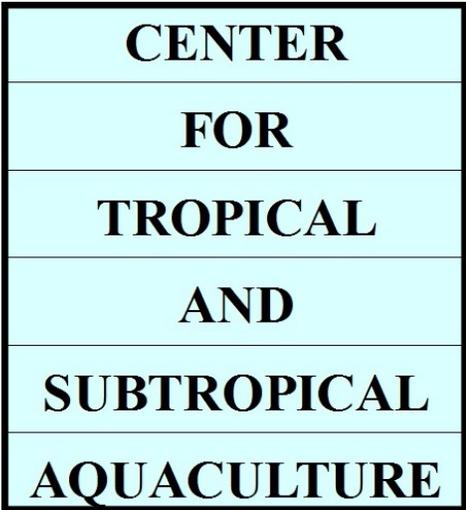
This year's meeting was held just down the hall from our new office on the University of Hawaii campus in Manoa. In case you missed our big news during the last couple of months, we are now officially operating out of the CTAHR Agriculture Sciences building. My team and I are grateful to everyone who helped us make the transition from our longtime CTSA offices at the Oceanic Institute and in Gilmore Hall on the UH Manoa campus. I would like to thank the Oceanic Institute for serving as our host institution for the last 30 years. Moving three decades of materials is a challenging and bittersweet task that brought back fond memories of our years on the beautiful Makapu'u campus. From this point on, CTAHR will serve as our host institution; I extend our sincere appreciation to Dr. Comerford and all CTAHR colleagues who have helped to make this transfer as smooth as possible. Looking to the future, we are excited for... [Read More](#)

## CTSA 2018 Annual Progress Report Summaries: Available for Download

As part of our reporting requirements, CTSA must submit a comprehensive Annual Accomplishment Report to the USDA.

This 100+ page report features full progress reports of ongoing CTSA-supported projects, as well as final reports of projects that were completed during the calendar year.

In an effort to consolidate information for our stakeholders, CTSA has prepared a 2-page summary of each project that was active during 2018. Each



summary provides a brief description of the project, as well as the anticipated benefits, impacts, and current progress of the work being done. The summaries are available for download on our website... [Read More](#)

## Research Resources: New Studies Find Supplements Can Improve Health of Tilapia and Performance of Low-Fishmeal Aquatic Feeds



In a recent study published in [Aquaculture](#), researchers found that including vegetable choline in feed improves growth performance, energetic metabolism, and antioxidant capacity of Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*). Vegetable choline in the feed was able to improve hepatic energy metabolism of tilapia fingerlings, as well as antioxidant/oxidant status. Vegetable choline also reduced free radical and oxidative reactions in the liver. Researchers recommend a dose near 800 mg/kg to improve performance.

[Click here](#) to read the study abstract.

In a separate study, researchers found that a blend of dietary protease, carbohydrase and organic acid salts (OAS) improved the growth of shrimp fed a low fishmeal diet. The study, published in [Aquaculture](#), concluded that the combination of the three additives showed more positive effects than their individual supplementation.

[Click here](#) to read the study abstract.

## AquaClip: Fiji is Focusing on Aquaculture to Boost Economy and Food Security

The Ministry of Fisheries is planning to seriously shift its focus on aquaculture which it believes will benefit Fiji's economy and food security.

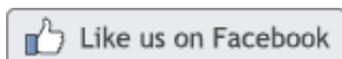
Minister for Fisheries Semi Koroilavesau said Fiji imported about \$25 million worth of seafood from Asian countries annually.

"Our second programme is to provide emphasis on aquaculture. Basically, breeding fish, prawns and shrimps within Viti Levu and Vanua Levu will generate a lot of money," Mr Koroilavesau said.

"If we can have this running efficiently, it will benefit us by reducing our foreign exchange spend on importing these products."

Source: Fiji Sun / [Read Article](#)

[www.ctsa.org](http://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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