CENTER FOR TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL AQUACULTURE

Regional e-Notes ~ December 2024 ~ Volume 16, Issue 12

Letter from the Director

Aloha and Happy Holidays,

As a valued member of our aquaculture community and friend of our program, CTSA wishes you and yours a joyous and peaceful holiday season. It is our hope that you are able to take some time to rest and rejuvenate during this season as we prepare for the new year ahead and the opportunities it will bring.

2024 was a productive year for CTSA. In addition to our standard USDA-funded research and development programming, we have completed two extramural grants to help address the regional aquaculture challenges of feed and education / workforce development. Early in the year, we wrapped up our NOAA Sea Grant Education project, and we are now closing out our Sea Grant Feedmill project. Although the grants are done, the work continues as we expand partnerships to develop local feeds,educate the next generation of the aquaculture workforce, and change public perceptions of aquaculture to increase the reach of our industry.

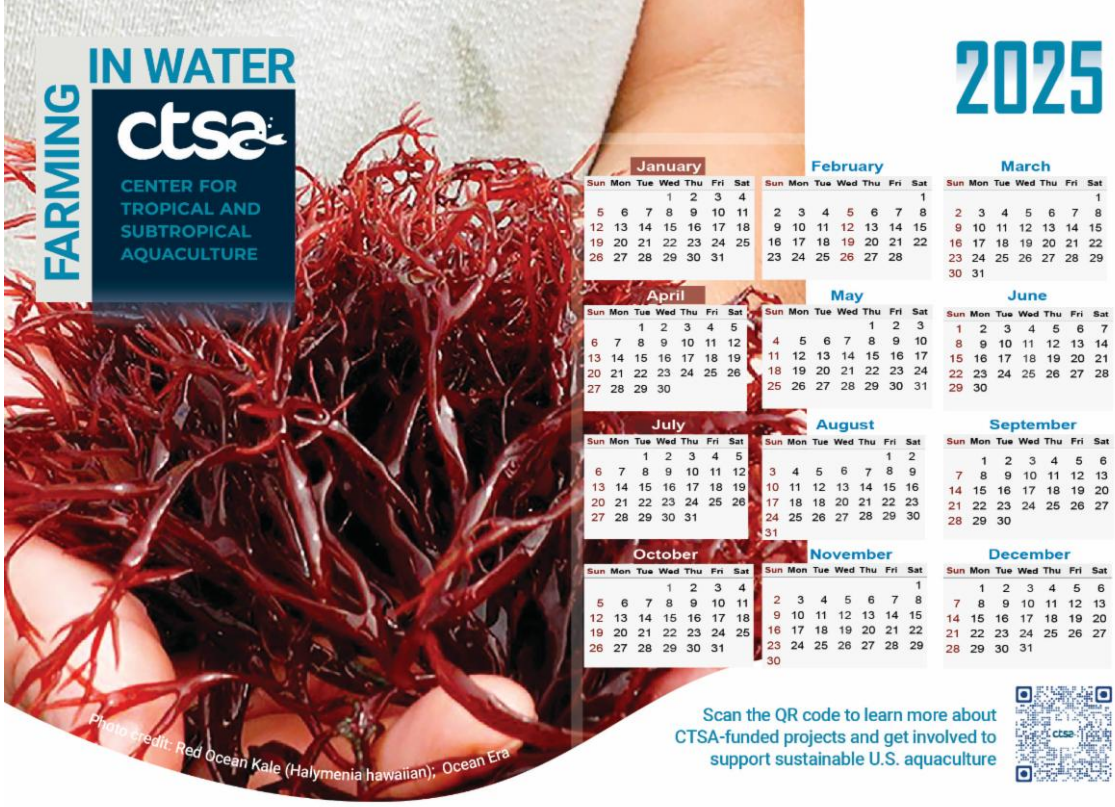
Among other accomplishments, I am pleased to report that our Feedmill project has concluded that there is strong potential to create local feeds by leaning into the concept of a circular economy. While it is is costly to produce feed in our remote island region, we have the benefit of surplus agriculture byproducts that can be used as high quality feed ingredients. This not only reduces our reliance on imported resources, but also reduces the amount of waste going into our island's finite landfills. Furthermore, local producers are investigating the use of commercial fishing byproducts as an alternative to traditional fishmeal with promising preliminary results. These unique opportunities to recapture 'wasted' nutrients from current economic drivers -agriculture and commercial fishing- should not be overlooked, and must instead be utilized to increase our regional food security.

Creating a circular food economy will encourage us to develop local feeds and address this decades-long challenge with a 21st century solution. The key to our success will be teamwork. As I often remark, collaboration is essential to address the major challenges our region faces including food security and environmental preservation. We know that our remote region is limited in manpower, and we must share and innovatively utilize the resources we have to achieve our food security goals. This includes establishing networks within the global aquaculture community; to this end, we are excited to integrate our partnerships with Dr. S. Alavi at Kansas State University and Dr. W. Sealey at USDA ARS Bozeman Fish Technology Center into our collective feed development efforts. We also invite you to partake in this endeavor in whatever ways you can!

On that note, and for the second year in a row, we are closing out our annual stakeholder engagement with a short survey to gather your input. Please click here and take a few moments to complete the survey and help us help our region achieve its goals for sustainable aquaculture development.

We also share the calendar below for you to either print or use as a screen background, to remind us all that each day of 2025 is a new opportunity to work together. We look forward to seeing and collaborating with you in the new year.

Mahalo,
Dr. Cheng-Sheng Lee
Executive Director, CTSA



Aquaculture Announcements

REMINDER: All Published Work Must be Reported to USDA via PubAg

Earlier this year, the USDA implemented a new policy that all subawards must report any/all published work that is wholly or partially funded by USDA (including CTSA projects) via submission on PubAg. Additional information is available on the NIFA website: Public Access for NIFA-Funded Work | NIFA (usda.gov) including How to Submit Publications to PubAg, and Frequently Asked Questions.

Federal Judge Issues Nationwide Injunction Suspending CTA Reporting

The deadline for millions of businesses across the country to report ownership information under the Corporate Transparency Act, or CTA has been suspended. The pause comes as the result of a court injunction issued Dec. 3, less than a month before a major CTA reporting deadline. Established to combat financial crimes such as money laundering, the CTA was originally enacted in 2021 as part of the National Defense Authorization Act. Under the law, most corporations, limited liability companies, or LLCs, and similar entities are required to disclose their “beneficial owners” — individuals who own or control at least 25 percent of the business or exercise significant decision-making authority. The ruling by U.S. District Judge Amos Mazzant in the case Texas Top Cop Shop, Inc. v. Garland determined that the “CTA is likely unconstitutional as outside of Congress’s power. Because the Reporting Rule implements the CTA, it is likely unconstitutional for the same reasons.” Click here to learn more.

RAS workshop at Aquaculture 2025

The U.S. Aquaculture Society (USAS) is offering a Continuing Education Recirculating Aquaculture Systems (RAS) Workshop at the upcoming Aquaculture 2025 meeting in New Orleans, LA (meeting dates March 6 – 10, 2025). Recirculating Aquaculture Systems or “RAS” is the future of an exponentially growing aquaculture industry. RAS provides the ultimate control of your environmental parameters and can be modified to grow a multitude of species. RAS is a great way to grow aquatic animals in areas without a large water source. With technology improving by the day, there is potential to grow any aquatic species in any part of the world using RAS. This workshop will teach you the basics of RAS, such as how to design your system and how to maintain your system. It will also cover animal husbandry and rearing techniques to achieve optimum success with your product. Click here to learn more.

AquaClip: White House National Science and Technology Council Finalizes New Aquaculture Plan, First in 40 Years

For the first time since 1983, the United States is releasing an updated National Aquaculture Development Plan. It will strengthen U.S. commitment to food security, climate resilience, and the protection of threatened and endangered marine and freshwater species.

In a changing climate, aquaculture is becoming increasingly important as a climate-smart and healthy means of food production. Seafood farming, if done responsibly—as it is in the United States—is one of the most environmentally sustainable ways to produce healthy food.

In addition to providing a sustainable source of American-raised seafood, aquaculture plays an important role in fisheries restoration. Hatchery-reared fish (seedstock and fingerlings) are released into the wild to help bolster populations of wild marine species. Aquaculture has helped more than 70 endangered or threatened species, including Pacific salmon, white abalone, and queen conch. In addition, it's helped restore habitats and mitigate the impacts of climate change. Read the full announcement at the link below.

Source: NOAA Fisheries // Read Article

This newsletter is written and prepared by the CTSA Information Specialist Meredith Brooks.
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 active grants 2020-38500-32559 and 2022-38500-38099. 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 University of Hawaii and the Oceanic Institute of Hawaii Pacific University.

Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture
www.ctsa.org

Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture | University of Hawaii at Manoa 1955 East West Road, Ag. Sci. 216 | Honolulu, HI 96822 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!