



Regional e-Notes ~ Volume 10, Issue 1 ~ January 2018

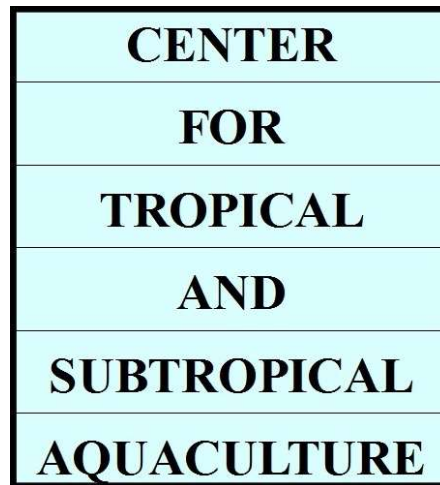
Letter from the Director

Aloha,

As the new year begins, we are in the process of wrapping up the CTSA FY17 development cycle and looking forward to the upcoming FY18 cycle. The annual development cycle begins with the Industry Advisory Council (IAC) setting priorities in the Spring, and ends with the Plan of Work approval by the CTSA Board and subsequently the USDA the following Spring.

As I have shared many times before, the cornerstone of CTSA and the Regional Aquaculture Center program is our industry-driven support for commercial aquaculture development. We are grateful to our IAC members for helping us identify both the broad and specific needs of the regional aquaculture industry, and then working with us to develop a Plan of Work that will most effectively address those needs.

Standard CTSA procedure is for the IAC to make funding recommendations to the Board based on the pre-proposals they discuss and rank during the IAC/TC meeting each summer. Some years, CTSA requests and receives more full proposals than we are able to fund. Other years, extenuating circumstances beyond our control (such as PI's electing not submit full proposals or submitting proposals of poor quality) result in additional funding to allocate. When this happens, we go back to the IAC for additional discussion on the priority areas, including any urgent issues which may be addressed with the remaining funds. If there is an issue identified, CTSA releases an out-of-cycle call for proposals or letters of intent, which is then vetted in the same way as the other proposals received earlier in the cycle. Typically, urgent issues are very specific and require a narrow focus. Accordingly, only... [Read More](#)



CTSA 2017 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 2017. 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](#)

Extension Support

Increasing Production and Improving Food Safety for Hawaii's New Bivalve Industry

Funding Level: \$83,306 (2 Years)
Lead Institutions: University of Hawaii at Hilo
Principle Investigators: Maria Hays, Ph.D.
Status: Completed on August 31, 2017

Summary
Bivalve shellfish aquaculture is distinguished from other forms of aquaculture in that sanitation is fundamental to producing safe products and molluscan sanitation is the most complex and costly form of sanitation for aquaculture products. While bivalve shellfish are among the healthiest food sources, their filter feeding habitats can cause pathogenic bacteria, viruses, heavy metals and radiation to accumulate in their tissues, representing serious threats to human health and safety. Shellfish sanitation is therefore the key issue confronting the new Hawaii bivalve industry. A second major obstacle to further development of the shellfish industry is the current remote reliance on being forced to buy large oyster seed due to the lack of remote setting capability and nursery systems. This project successfully addressed these issues through the design of a new model of depuration tank, design of a solar-powered RUPSI for use under typical conditions found at Hawaiian fishponds, and the development of testing capacity at two laboratories (DOH and UH) for Vv and Vp.

Target Audiences
Bivalve farmers in Hawaii and students.

Objectives
Objective 1: Design, develop and test depuration units that are suitable to local conditions, cost-effective and in compliance with the unique Hawaii DOH regulations. Year 1.
Objective 2: Determine if depuration affects oyster quality and determine if salting enhances the lepto-organic properties of oysters grown in Hawaiian fishponds. Year 1.
Objective 3: Quantify *Vibrio vulnificus* and *V. parahaemolyticus* in pond water and in oyster tissues before and after depuration. Year 1-2.
Objective 4: Design, build and test a nursery system that is suitable for conditions found in Hawaiian fishponds. Year 1-2.
Objective 5: Train farmers in two critical industry topics: 1) depuration and food safety; 2) and setting and nursery methods. Year 1-2.

Project Accomplishments
Researchers designed and built a new depuration system to provide increased ease of handling for the oysters being subjected to depuration and to increase capacity. The new unit can be used to depurate up to 1000-1500 oysters at a time.
Results from DOH testing show that the depuration tank was effective in eliminating common *Vibrio* levels (Standard Plate Count) at well below acceptable levels.
Researchers also designed and built a floating grower system (RUPSI) to provide better nursery capacity for improved *Polymesoda*. The new RUPSI houses five oyster bins each of which can hold approximately 200,000 oyster spat. The water flow rate is 1100 gallons per hour. The estimated cost is \$2,500.

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Stakeholder Input Requested in Aquaculture Outreach Survey

A brief survey has been developed for educators and institutions that specialize in ocean literacy and seafood businesses that provide information to their customers. It will provide a landscape overview of who is sharing information about marine aquaculture, the context in which they are doing so, and the channels through which they are disseminating it. This overview will, in turn, help shape recommendations which will lead to the development of tools and resources targeted to cohesive, science-based public education about marine aquaculture.



Aquaculture Outreach Survey

The survey was released by the Galway Statement Implementation Committee's Ocean Literacy Working Group and Aquaculture Working Group, and project collaborators include: The Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance project, Aquarium of the Pacific's Seafood for the Future program (SFF), European Commission Horizon 2020 projects (AORA-CSA, ResponSEable, SUCCESS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. SFF will collect and archive the data... [Read More](#)

AquaClip: Palau college hatchery delivers juvenile rabbitfish to Koror aqua farm

More than 2,000 hatchery produced rabbitfish (*Siganus lineatus*) juveniles from Palau Community College's multi-species hatchery at Ngermetengel, Ngeremlegui state were delivered to a newly established Aquapro Fish Farm in Koror on Jan. 11, 2018.

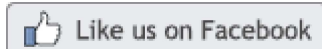
The release of these fingerlings is an offshoot of the recently concluded Palau aquaculture workshop, which created a partnership between the Bureau of Marine Resources, the Nature Conservancy and PCC to promote community livelihood and food security through aquaculture development in the country.

Currently, the country's Aquaculture Working Group is aiming to establish at least 20 pilot farms all over Palau in 2018.

Research on the refinement of the seed production technique for the two species of rabbitfish, "klesebuul" (*S. lineatus*) and "meas" (*S. fuscescens*), has been undertaken and demonstrated at PCC hatchery with the funding support coming from USDA-NIFA through the College of Micronesia Land Grant Program and Center for Tropical and Subtropical Aquaculture (CTSA)...

Source: HatcheryFeed.com / [Read Full 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.

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